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Girl4Girl Portland welcomes Dani Campbell from MTV's *A Shot at Love* to its first anniversary party Feb. 9.



JEREMY COWART

Garrison Starr performs Feb. 10 at Borders.



Mary McAllister (left), aka Mr Charming, and Aubree Bernier Clarke, aka DJ Snowtiger, celebrate Gaycation's second anniversary Feb. 2.

The Portland Feminism Meet-up welcomes female-identified participants to discuss pornography and eroticism at In Other Words. (6:30-8:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

MON • FEB. 4

Win special prizes during **Q Center Bingo** with Poison Waters! (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St. \$5 includes bingo card.)

The **Bisexual Community Forum** hosts a casual discussion group every first Monday at 3 Friends Coffeehouse. (7:30 pm. 201 SE 12th Ave. 503-285-4848.)

TUE • FEB. 5



Elder Resource Alliance takes a bus ride to Bob's Red Mill Natural Foods

Outlet in Milwaukie. Meet at Friendly House. (11 am-4 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave. \$5-\$6 for transportation. RSVP to Rachel at 503-224-2640.)

Portland Arts & Lectures presents poet and essayist **Mary Oliver** at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. (7:30 pm. 1037 SW Broadway. \$5-\$26 from www.literary-arts.org.)

Logo presents the second season premiere of **The Big Gay Sketch Show** featuring even more recurring characters from the gay comedy universe, celebrity spoofs and a few special guest stars. (10 pm.)

WED • FEB. 6

See what **Elder Resource Alliance** is up to during its monthly business meeting at Friendly House. (2:30-4:30 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave.)

Overwhelmed with your new year's resolutions? Come get a handle on your calendar during **Time Management 101** at Touchstone Coffee House. (6:30-9 pm. 445 NE 70th Ave. \$24 at the door, \$19 in advance from www.causeit.org.)

Do you experience vaginal pain during everyday activities? Is sex painful? The **National Vulvar Vestibulitis Organization** facilitated group provides support and awareness at In Other Words. (7 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Mary Gauthier performs with **Mark Olson** at Lola's Room. (8 pm. 1332 W Burnside St. \$20 from box office or Ticketmaster.)



Albina Green presents **Drums and Drag Night**. Bring a drum or come in

drag, and sing and dance the night away. (8-11 pm. 5128 N Albina Ave.)

THU • FEB. 7

In Other Words presents a **queer polyamory discussion group**. (6:30-8:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

YWCA welcomes all gender minorities to a 10-week **trans support group**. Call before attending; an interview is required to join. (6:40-8:30 pm. 333 NE Russell St. \$15 a session. Ian or Krystal 503-294-7401, ext. 2039 or 2012.)

Explore how fascism arises—and how people have successfully fought against it—during the 10-week discussion circle **A History of Working-Class Resistance to Fascism: Lessons for Today** presented by the Freedom Socialist Party at the Bread & Roses Center. (7 pm. 819 N Killingsworth St.)



The Men's Wellness Center continues its "Being a Better Boyfriend" series with **Beyond the Honeymoon: Making It Last**, a workshop focused on what to do when the going gets tough and how you can relight that dwindling flame of romance. (7-8:30 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

Holocene showcases Portland's best designers, artists, DJs and performers during the **Future Arts Festival**. (9 pm. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$8.)

Rotture presents **Mutation**, "a freetek dance party experiment of the Pan-Zen Conspiracy

Nett-Wyrk" featuring queer DJ Try My Cabbage. (9 pm. 315 SE Third Ave. \$5 donation.)

FRI • FEB. 8

In Other Words presents **Dirty Queer**, an X-rated open mike to celebrate sexuality and strut your creative stuff! Hosted by renegade writer and poet Sossity Chiricuzio, it promises to be an evening full of laughter and full-body shivers. (6:30-9 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St. \$1 donation. www.dirtyqueer.com.)

The Care and Feeding of the Gay and Lesbian Soul: A Conference on Spirituality features openly gay Episcopal priest Martin Brokenleg and the workshop "Reading from the Bible from a Gay Perspective" through Feb. 9 at The Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in Clackamas. (7 pm Friday [\$10 donation], 9 am-2 pm Saturday [\$25 donation]. 9300 SE Sunnybrook Drive.)



David York Ensemble presents *Funny Valentine*, a romantic evening of classic love songs with a champagne and dessert reception, at The Old Church. (8 pm. 1422 SW 11th Ave. \$25 from Brown Paper Tickets.)

Sweet Honey in the Rock creates music out of the rich textures of African-American legacy and traditions at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. (8 pm. 1037 SW Broadway. \$35-\$38.75 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Rotture presents **Neon: Nurave Nightlife Now** featuring Atole, DJ Koolaid, Pocketrock-It and Tre Slim. (10 pm. 315 SE Third Ave. \$3.)

Gettin' Out Alive

Few things are more primal than our bodily functions, and there's not much worse than being unable to find a restroom when you need one. But for transgender and gender-variant folks, locating a toilet isn't always the biggest problem. For some, every time they step into a public restroom they run the risk of discrimination, harassment, violence—even arrest—for using the "wrong" bathroom.

"I've experienced restroom discrimination for most of my life," says award-winning filmmaker **Shani Heckman**, whose documentary *Wrong Bathroom* was inspired by a Tribe 8 song as well as her own experiences. "I've had physical sickness from the thought of entering women's restrooms."

A masculine woman, Heckman says her experience illustrates that restroom discrimination affects gays and lesbians and "isn't just a transgender issue. It's also a single-parent issue. It's a human rights issue. It's inherently about access for all to public space in general."

For a decade, Heckman has been producing queer events in San Francisco, where she was honored in 2006 when *SF Weekly* named her "Best Tireless Performer of Thankless and Payless Tasks."

Heckman hits town this month to celebrate the Portland premiere of *Wrong Bathroom* at **Gettin' Out Alive**, a night of musical entertainment and prizes. The event will be a benefit for her forthcoming documentary *America's Most Unwanted: Stories of Hope from Former Foster Kids*.

A former foster kid, Heckman says her own experience was a living hell, but she wanted the documentary—which was partially financed by a Tee A. Corinne Prize for Lesbian Media Artists—to focus on post-foster care accomplishments by her



San Francisco filmmaker **Shani Heckman** says restroom discrimination affects gays and lesbians as well as trans folks.

peers. "I know that sharing my story can help others. It is important to not walk in the world as a victim...but instead turn these experiences into the passion that fuels the warrior within."

Catch *Wrong Bathroom* with DJs **Harmony** and **BrainEater** 7 p.m. Feb. 2 at Zaytoon, 2236 N.E. Alberta St. Admission is \$5-\$10 sliding scale.

—Jacob Anderson-Minshall

APLG Rings in Chinese New Year

The Year of the Rat officially begins Feb. 7, which is **Chinese New Year**. The rat is the first sign in the Chinese zodiac, and people born in this year are said to exhibit attributes such as strong leadership skills, charm, passion, cunning and a solid work ethic. They can be power hungry and controlling or cruel, depending on the situation. Like every animal in the Chinese zodiac, the rat comes around every 12 years.

Portland's **Asian & Pacific Islander Lesbians & Gays (APLG)** will celebrate the return of the Year of the Rat with their Lunar New Year Banquet and Annual Meeting from 5 to 8 p.m. Feb. 9 at Shenzhen Restaurant, 707 N.E. 82nd Ave.

"This is a good way to find out about the organization because this is where many of the members and friends and allies are at," said **Meei Lum**, a lesbian and former president of APLG. "It's also a good introduction to the Asian gay and lesbian community in Portland."

The event will feature a choice of 10 dinner courses, includ-

ing steamed fresh fish, Peking duck, as fresh vegetables and tofu, and enter their names in a raffle for therapists and fine eating experiences. Tickets to Portland's Japanese Gardens.

"This is a wonderful group that meets three times a year for different purposes; this is probably one of the best. APLG organizes a range of events each year such as outdoor activities, nights. Lum says she hopes for "growth, new directions, new organization."

Admission is \$30 at the door. 503-784-5388 or aplg_pdx@yahoo.com