

Dunn and pianist Jeffrey Payne—will come together for the first time publicly as Trio de Novo. The reception will showcase sinful pastries from Portland's finest sweeteries, including Joseph's Dessert Company, Piece of Cake, Holiday Essence Quality Cake and Delightful, Delovely, Delicious, Portland's newest catering sensation.

The scholarship pays tribute to the contributions of Bill and Ann Shepherd, who founded what would become the Portland chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Their lesbian daughters, Jean and Susie Shepherd, honor their memory by producing the scholarship and benefit.

"Bill and Ann's passion for justice continues to be reflected in their belief that only through education do people exchange their bigotry for a heart of love and acceptance," the Shepherds said in a statement.

Honorary co-chairpeople are Charles Hinkle, Vera Katz, Norma Paulus, Cheryl Perrin, Tom Potter and Kathleen Saadat.

Tickets are \$35 at the door or \$30 in advance from Funny Bone/Balloons on Broadway, 617 S. W. Washington St. Last year's event sold out, so reserve tickets early and arrive on time. Call 503-286-1752 for more information.

### Q Center Storytelling Event Focuses on AIDS

Following on the heels of January's standing-room-only history event at Q Center, the "Our Stories" series continues in collaboration with Gay and Lesbian Archives of the Pacific Northwest. Q Center hosts the roundtable storytelling event featuring questions and answers, personal testimonials and community discussions designed around a variety of topics.

The next event, "Our Stories: A Quarter Century of AIDS," will be held from 7:30 to 10 p.m. March 29. The speakers will be Jack Cox, Khalil Edwards, Judith Rizzio and Annika Shore.

Cox has been an AIDS activist since 1987, producing *AIDS Forum Live* for cable, organizing People Living with AIDS and providing infrastructure for new, diverse organizations such as the HIV Advocacy Council, Positive Community Project, Q-LAND, the Imani Project and Chrysalis Ministries.

Edwards works toward HIV/AIDS prevention as the program director for Brother to Brother, a program focusing on gay black men within the Unity Project of Oregon. The Unity Project of Oregon is dedicated to serving the needs of queer African Americans, their family and their friends through social change, justice and equality.

Rizzio has been active in the Portland HIV community for more than 18 years. She spent 16 of those at Our House of Portland and is the volunteer coordinator at Cascade AIDS Project. Her first experience facing AIDS was in 1979 when she watched her actor and activist friends of the United Fruit Company, a gay theater company based in San Francisco, die from the disease.



Queer artist Nation's *Belladonna* is being auctioned to benefit Cascade AIDS Project.

Shore is the youth HIV education coordinator at Cascade AIDS Project and facilitates the youth peer education program Teen to Teen.

Q Center is at 69 S.E. Taylor St. For more information visit [www.pdxqcenter.org](http://www.pdxqcenter.org).

### 'Whimsical' Auction Benefits Cascade AIDS Project

Portland's premier art, food and entertainment come together April 5 at the Oregon Convention Center's Exhibit Hall C for the 2008 Art Evening & Auction benefiting Cascade AIDS Project.

The silent auction showcases 250 contemporary art pieces, surrounded by music, hosted libations and fabulous hors d'oeuvres and desserts from local restaurants and caterers. The event is being defined by its theme, "Cirque," meaning "whimsical."

In addition to the artwork showcased in a silent auction, 20 premier art pieces chosen by a guest curator will be highlighted in a live auction at a patron dinner. Some of these pieces include contributions from queer artists Bryan E. Schellinger, Leiv Fagereng and the late William Jamison.

The event is the largest annual contemporary art auction of its kind in Portland. It is CAP's most successful annual benefit, raising \$650,000 in 2007 and more than \$4 million in its 18-year history.

All money raised supports the work of CAP and assists people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in Oregon and Southwest Washington.

Doors open at 5 p.m. for the patron dinner, followed by an artist reception at 8. The Oregon Convention Center is at 777 N.E. Martin Luther King Blvd. For reservations and more information call 503-223-9255.

### Samaritan Counseling Center Has Gay-Specific Program

"Is pre-union counseling something queer Portlanders are interested in?" asked Linda Simpson, a lesbian licensed professional counselor employed by Samaritan Counseling Center.

Project EQUAL, an acronym for Enhancing Queer Understanding and Love, is a program offered by Samaritan, a nonprofit established in

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