

BRO Luncheon Raises \$100,000

A crowd of business owners and their employees noshed at Basic Rights Oregon's annual Oregonians Against Discrimination luncheon April 23.

The "ask," hosted by "Portland's Will and Grace," Terry Bean and former Gov. Barbara Roberts, brought in approximately \$100,000, with \$20,000 of that total matched by an anonymous donor.

The luncheon took on a decisively celebratory tone, giving credit to some of those responsible for Oregon's nondiscrimination and domestic partnership laws.

Gov. Ted Kulongoski made an 11th hour change to the program when he insisted on introducing Paul Kelly, a member of his Task Force on Equality, instead of the other way around.

Kelly accepted an award on behalf of the entire task force. Other award recipients were the Portland Business Alliance and Oregon Business Association for endorsing both bills early and visibly. Longtime philanthropist and printer Bill Dickey also accepted an award.

BRO wisely took advantage of the gathering of local employers by tacking on a workshop to the luncheon. Presented by leading employment attorneys Ed Rives and Jennifer Middleton, approximately 40 employers learned how to implement Oregon's new nondiscrimination law.

"The majority, if not all, businesses that attend the luncheon have been very proactive," said BRO spokeswoman Karynn Fish.

PICA Announces TBA Fest Lineup

Time-Based Art is about to happen. In, oh, about 130 days.

The Portland Institute for Contemporary Art has announced the near-full schedule of 150-plus performances packed butts to nuts over 10 short days for its sixth annual contemporary meta-arts orgy, the Time-Based Art Festival, Sept. 5 to 14.

In his final time out with the festival, New York City-based TBA guest artistic director Mark Russell has assembled a typically delirious agenda for TBA-heads, ranging from the wet-your-pants

excitable (the Oregon Symphony with Antony and the Johnsons conducted by hot queer composer-of-the-moment Nico Muhly!) and safely envelope-pushing (Mike Daisey and Daniel Beaty in solo showings) to the nastily campy (foul-mouthed songstress Bridget Everett with Kenny



From left, pillars of Oregon's gay rights movement, Terry Bean, Barbara Roberts and Bill Dickey, celebrate victories at Basic Rights Oregon's annual business luncheon.

Mellman, of Kiki & Herb, at the keys) to the truly bizarre (the arty-smart French bad boys of Vivarium Studio are back—uh-oh).

"The Works," TBA's super-popular late-night boozy cabaret, is still looking for a home, which will be announced later this summer. Queer choreographer Mike Barber's evergreen *Ten Tiny Dances* is planned as a "Works" keynote offering.

Of interest to Oregonians in the 2008 festival: "On Sight" showings by Portland artists Corey Lunn and Justin Gorman; a new show from Portland's Sojourn Theatre at the South Waterfront Discovery Center; and a new music/dance collaboration with a trio of Portland dancemakers and Third Angle New Music around the sequence of spaces and fountains designed by landscape architect Lawrence Halprin.

The full lineup for the major performances is online at www.pica.org. Just Out will be previewing, reviewing and blogging about the festival online at www.justout.com.

A Class Act Attracts Dignitaries

Veteran gay rights activist Susie Shepherd carried on the work of her parents April 25 with A Class Act, the 14th annual benefit for the Bill and Ann Shepherd Legal Scholarship Fund.

Held in the majestic Old Church in downtown Portland, cellist Barbara Johnston, clarinetist Randy Dunn and pianist Jeffrey Payne entranced audiences for the first time as Trio de Novo.

After introductions and the concert, revelers indulged in a dessert bar that showcased the prettiest sweets from Portland bakeries and dessert shops, including Joseph's Dessert Company, Piece of Cake, Holiday Essence Quality Cake and Delightful, Delovely, Delicious.

The evening, which brought in approximate-



French-Austrian performance collective Superamas will get crazy at TBA '08.

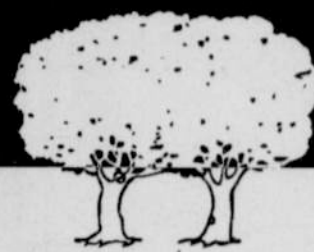
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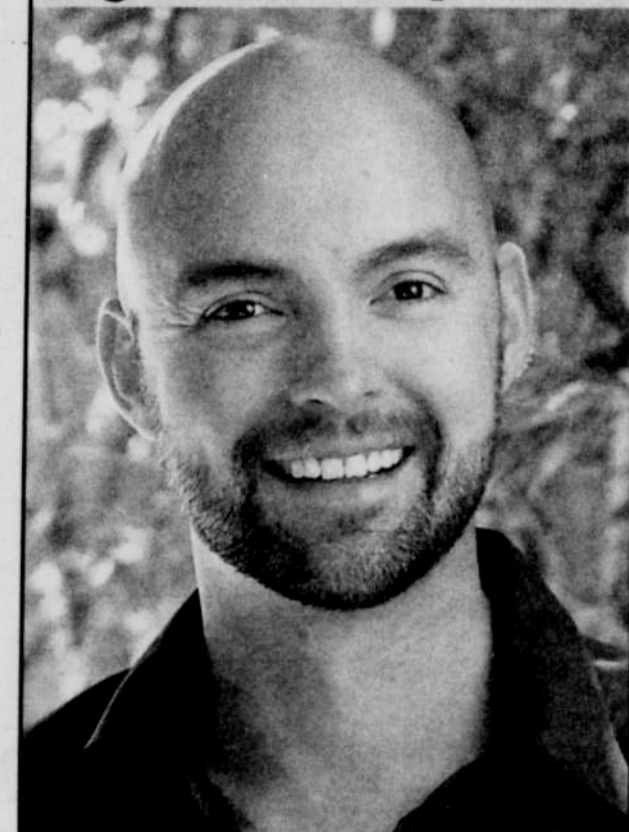
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