



inspired by the film *Gimme Sugar*, a reality series that offers a provocative glimpse into the Los Angeles lesbian nightlife scene, premieres June 9 on Logo.



Profile Theatre Project concludes its John Guare season with *The House of Blue Leaves* through June 15.

Chicas" through June 8 at various locations throughout Portland. (For a complete schedule visit latinogaypridepdx.com.)

Oregon Bears present **Beartown 13: Evolution** through June 8 at various locations throughout Portland. (For a complete schedule visit www.oregonbears.com.)

GO OUT Win great prizes and support the work of Portland's feminist magazine during the **Bitch Pub Quiz** at Vita Cafe. Quizmistress Toni Tabora-Roberts will test your knowledge of women and pop culture with everything from general-interest questions to name-that-tune brainteasers. Up to six people a team. (6-9 pm. 3024 NE Alberta St. \$5-\$20 sliding scale.)

Mission Theater screens **12 Tiny Dances: The Movie** featuring one-minute-long solos, duets and trios for a 4x4 stage created by fifth-grade students under the direction of gay choreographer Mike Barber. Proceeds benefit Lents School arts programs. (6:30 and 6:45 pm. 1624 NW Glisan St. \$5-\$500 donation.)

Mississippi Studios presents a CD release concert by **Adrianne**. (8 pm. 3939 N Mississippi Ave.)

Crystal Ballroom presents **Pink Martini's FundFest 2008** with special guest **The Stolen**

Ground," the heartache is more personal. Sawicki's been 17 days since we fought. My legs have been not walking away, and the blue in my heart is still there. "Time Spent Lost" coincided with Sawicki's move to Portland after living in Brooklyn, N.Y., and attending school in Ithaca. "I was looking for a place with a small-town feel and a very green attitude," she says.

When she isn't on the road touring, Sawicki works remotely for a New York-based nonprofit called the Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services. "They are an amazing nonprofit that helps get young folks out of jail and prison and into more useful programming."

Although new to the Rose City, she has a following on the singer/songwriter circuit and has shared the stage with Melissa Ferrick, Edie Carey and Kris Delmhurst. Indie folksters will love Sawicki.

—Dale Schiff

Sweets. Proceeds benefit Outside In. (8 pm. 1332 W Burnside St. \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance from box office or Ticketmaster.)

FRI • JUNE 6

Elder Resource Alliance screens **The First Wives Club**—starring Diane Keaton, Goldie Hawn and Bette Midler as divorcees who plot revenge to get what is rightfully theirs—at Friendly House. Wear white and get a special surprise! Light refreshments served. (5:30 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave.)

Out Dancing's **intermediate rumba** class starts tonight and continues every Friday in June at Ankeny Street Studio. **Beginning salsa** class follows. (6:15-7:15 pm rumba [\$40 for month], 7:15-8:15 pm salsa [\$32 for month]. 975 SE Sandy Blvd. 503-236-5129. www.outdancing.info.)

First Unitarian Church presents a book reading and discussion for **What Becomes You**, Aaron Link's collaborative memoir about his transition from a female to male and from teaching scientist to theater performer. The author, along with his mother, documents the extraordinary medical, social, legal and personal process involved in a complete identity change. (7 pm. 1011 SW 12th Ave.)

GO OUT Hailed by *Newsweek*, *Today*, *Entertainment Weekly* and *This American Life*, **Mortified** stars everyday people reading aloud their most embarrassing, pathetic and private teenage diary entries, poems, love letters, lyrics and locker notes—in front of total strangers—through June 7 at Someday Lounge. This promises to be one of Mortified's funniest shows to date, with an entirely new cast of Portlanders (including Just Out columnist **Jim Radosta**) ready to share their shame on stage! (8 pm. 125 NW Fifth Ave. \$12 at the door, \$10 in advance from www.getmortified.com/live.)

Crystal Ballroom presents **Pink Martini's FundFest 2008** with special guest **Fjord Motor Company**. Proceeds benefit Bicycle Transportation Alliance. (8 pm. 1332 W Burnside St. \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance from box office or Ticketmaster.)

SAT • JUNE 7

First Unitarian Church presents a writing workshop with trans author **Aaron Link**, who will explore how family writing and personal stories can connect families with history. (9:30 am-1 pm. 1011 SW 12th Ave. \$35 from 503-228-6389, ext. 26, or ahinds@firstunitarianportland.org.)

Equity Foundation and Pride Foundation honor queer and allied youth leaders during the first-ever **QueerCore Youth Awards** at Q Center. (2-4 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Staver Station presents the sixth annual **pearlblossoms** featuring live and silent auctions, champagne and excellent wine, light fare by Pazzo Ristorante and performances. Proceeds benefit pear's capital campaign to create a permanent home for the nonprofit

Lesbians Fight for Their Rights in Oscar-Winning Documentary

The Oscar-winning documentary short **Freeheld** offers an important depiction of a long-term lesbian couple as, in the words of one of them, "average people who work and pay our taxes." The couple—New Jersey police officer **Laurel Hester** and her partner, **Stacie**, who are facing Laurel's impending death from cancer—is, indeed, compelling. But the other story, the one about the political game Laurel and Stacie are forced to play in the midst of their personal travails, is even more urgently relevant. It has enough power to give even the most unenlightened "defense of marriage" proponents pause for thought.

The "Freeholders" (county commissioners) of Ocean County, N.J., have the legal option of extending same-sex domestic partner benefits to its employees, including Laurel, who was one of their most able and well-respected police officers. She and Stacie's struggle against the Freeholders' inexplicable refusal of this option forms the core of the film. The Goliath-like Freeholders are such stereotypical middle-aged Republican white males, they might not be believable as fictional characters; they hem, haw and obviously evade the issue in a way that would be laughable if it didn't represent the painfully serious failure of justice that Laurel and Stacie are trying to combat.

Filmmaker **Cynthia Wade** effectively documents the couple's relationship and struggle, along with an encouraging picture of the community of fair-minded heterosexuals and

strong, outspoken gay activists who rally to their aid. One leaves **Freeheld** with the sense that real, tangible change from oppression to fairness is entirely possible, however difficult. But the degree to which Laurel, Stacie and their pro-equality community have to fight for what are truly basic, equal rights is infuriating, causing the film to function as a political galvanizer as well as a tender, optimistic story. Despite their strong, persistent and defiant approach, it's abundantly clear that the system has rendered them second-class citizens, beggars for rights that the majority takes for granted. No fair-minded viewer will be able to witness that without being forced to question such a system.

—Christopher McQuinn



New Jersey police officer Laurel Hester (left) and her partner, Stacie, beg for equal treatment in *Freeheld*.

homeless youth agency. (6-9 pm. 2537 NW 29th Ave. \$75 a person, \$125 a couple from 503-228-6677 or www.pearmentor.org.)

Lily Tomlin performs at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. (7:30 pm. 1037 SW Broadway. \$20-\$115 from www.orsymphony.org.)

Suede and **Lisa Koch** perform at Aladdin Theater. (8 pm. 3017 SE Milwaukie Ave. \$25 from the box office or Ticketmaster.)

The Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center presents **Best of Goodwill**, its annual prom for all folks 23 and younger, at Q Center. Come dance, meet friends and try to win the costume contest! (9 pm-midnight. 69 SE Taylor St.)

SUN • JUNE 8

Q Center presents **Family Pride**, a time for kids to play, parents to socialize, arts and crafts, games and music. Bring a light-colored shirt to decorate and wear in the parade. (2-4 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

GO OUT JustOutPersonals.com presents **Single Boy Bunco** at Q Center. An absolutely great way to meet other guys, Bunco is a fun dice game that has everyone constantly moving around the room. (Don't worry if you haven't played

before; it's easy to learn.) (5:30-7:30 pm. 69 SE Taylor St. \$5.)

Maria and Poison Waters host the 13th annual **All Ages Show**, a nonsmoking, nonalcohol event featuring special youth entertainers, at Darcelle XV Showplace. Proceeds benefit the Audria M. Edwards Scholarship Fund. (7 pm. 208 NW Third Ave. \$5 donation.)

Holocene presents **Pride Prep Pop Tart** featuring Gay Deceivers; a tandem vinyl set from DJs Equestrian and Automaton (Swan Island); Rose City Sirens, Portland's only all-queer female burlesque troupe; River City Riders, Portland's newest drag king troupe; and a guest star performance on the dance mix from Sarah Adorable (Scream Club). (7 pm-1 am. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$5.)

MON • JUNE 9

GO OUT Grease your wheels during **Gay Skate Night** presented by Just Out at Oaks Park. (7-9 pm. 1 SE Spokane St. \$6 plus canned food items for Esther's Pantry.)

Logo premieres **Gimme Sugar**, a reality series that offers a provocative glimpse into the Los Angeles lesbian nightlife scene as five women launch their own weekly dance party for ladies who love ladies. (10 pm.)

TUE • JUNE 10

Elder Resource Alliance takes a "Fun Bus" ride to Tacoma Museum of Glass and with lunch at Gallucci's Café. Meet at Friendly House. (8:30 am-5 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave. \$10 plus lunch and museum admission. RSVP to 503-228-4391.)

In celebration of Gay Pride, **Gina Daggett** and **Kathy Belge** read from *Lipstick & Dipstick's Essential Guide to Lesbian Relationships* at Broadway Books. (7 pm. 1714 NE Broadway.)

GO OUT In Other Words presents **BurlyBama Craft Night**, a night full of glitter, hot glue and feathers galore with instructors leading a class in the how-to's of DIY in burlesque, from tasty and smell-good powder and pasties to home décor. (7-8:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St. \$5-\$10 sliding scale. RSVP to 503-869-3565 or burlesque-withbrains@gmail.com.)

Masu Sushi hosts **Salon Q**, a monthly mixer for men and women to network, chat, socialize, flirt, dish and kibitz in a smoke-free environment. (7-11 pm. 406 SW 13th Ave. www.salonqdx.com.)

WED • JUNE 11

In Other Words presents the **Bitch Magazine Pop Culture Debate Club**. (7 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)