

northwest

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munity, such as Toys for Tots and Food for Lane County. He is a graduate of Winston Churchill High School in Eugene, headed to Lewis & Clark College this fall.

Trail has been active in her school's Gay Straight Alliance, both serving as the president and helping in the formation of the club. She has served as a peer mentor, educator and leader for the overnight freshmen orientation and communication sessions run by her school. She has participated in Amnesty International, Key Club and the National Honor Society and has acted as an advocate for animal rights issues. Sage is a graduate of Ashland High School in Ashland on her way to Maryland Institute College of Art to study painting in the fall.

This marks the fifth year that PFLAG has awarded the scholarships, which are funded by the Palmer B. Carson Trust and other private donors.

"PFLAG is enormously proud to recognize these exceptional young leaders and to salute their hard work, academic achievement and community service," said Jody M. Huckaby, executive director of PFLAG. "Every day, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students and their allies overcome unimaginable obstacles to succeed and prosper in our schools. These honorees have not only fought those obstacles but have thrived and inspired their fellow students, teachers and families."

For more information, visit www.pflag.org.

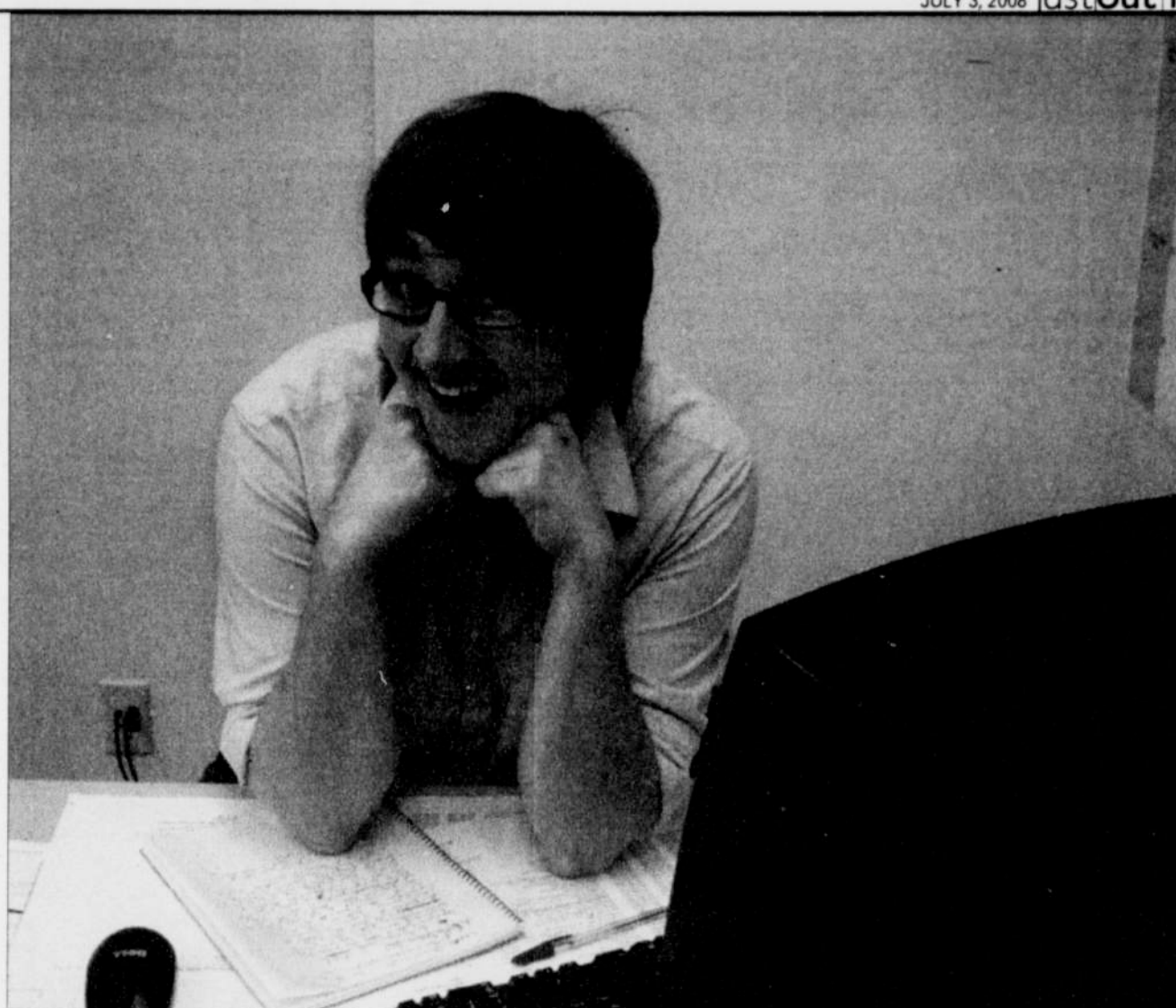
BRO Reaches Out with New Hire

As the new public education coordinator for Basic Rights Oregon, Kyndall Mason is already feeling at home with the organization and is excited for what lies ahead. The 29-year-old, who was raised in Houston, received her bachelor's degree in political science from Western Washington University in 2001.

After graduating, Mason moved to Portland and started canvassing for racial and economic justice campaigns in 2002. She accepted a position at Friendly House, a nonprofit organization that creates a community by connecting people of all ages through quality education and recreational services. She developed a successful after-school program for the organization that had five years of growth and progress before its cancellation because of budget cuts.

Mason then worked for the past seven months as the activities coordinator for Marshall High School before accepting the position at BRO. "I have just begun with BRO, but I feel very comfortable and love how our organization identifies not only our strengths but also our weaknesses in order to serve our entire community to the best of our ability," she said.

As public education coordinator, Mason meets with media outlets, business owners and community leaders to discuss the importance of the work BRO is doing. "I want to really organize the public education program so it is accessible for our entire organization and to set up new and better relationships with different sectors of the Portland community," she said.



Kyndall Mason has joined Basic Rights Oregon as its new public education coordinator.

Mason, who describes herself as a "social butterfly," loves nothing more than spending time with friends and family and thinks her outgoing personality and background will really benefit her in the position. "Growing up in a Southern Baptist family has definitely taught me a thing or two in regards to communicating with all types of people and opinions," she said.

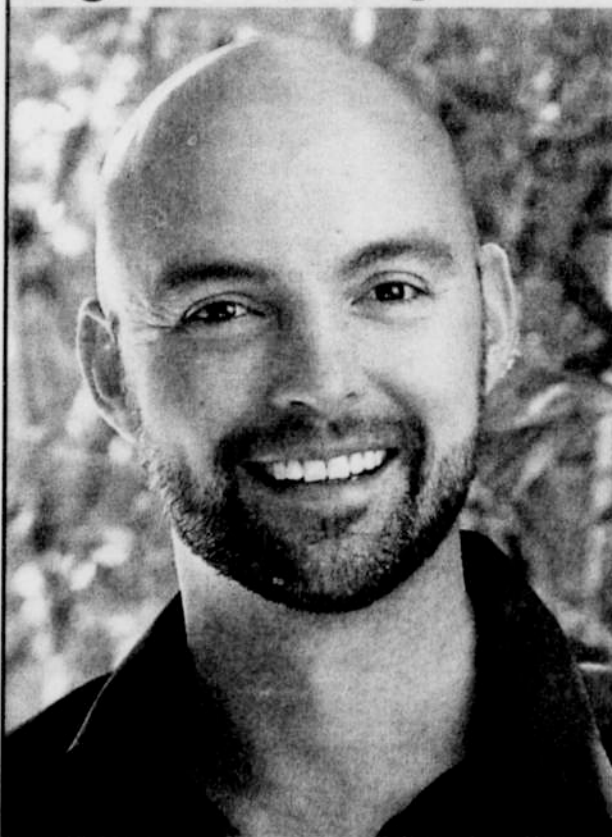
Working with education and youth for the past six years has helped Mason realize that knowledge can truly lead to power, and she hopes by speak-

ing about the importance of domestic partnerships and nondiscrimination laws, great changes can come.

"I cannot tell you how happy I am in this new position," she said. "My partner and I cannot wait to begin raising a family in Oregon, and knowing the work I am doing with BRO can help with our future rights as a family is such a fulfilling feeling." 10

By STEPHEN MARC BEAUDOIN, JAYMEE R. CUTI and JAMES MAXWELL

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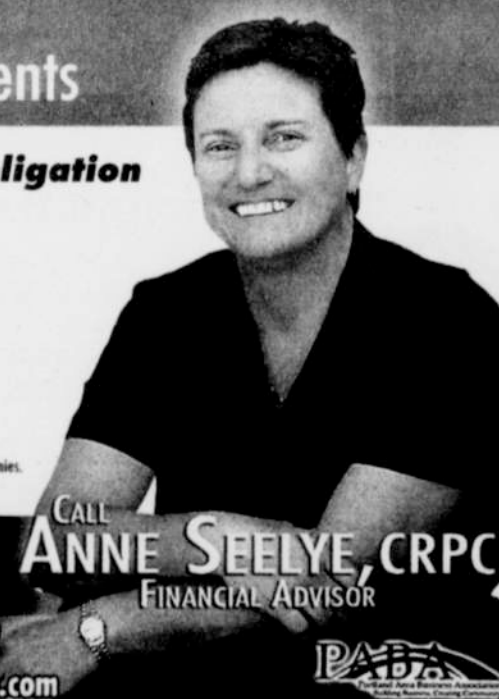
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