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Pride of the Rose Scholarship Breaks Record

The Pride of the Rose Scholarship Fund celebrated a profit of \$12,800 at its annual Touch of Class dinner, auction and show May 18.

Those funds pushed the total raised this year beyond the goal of \$30,000.

Scholarship founders Frank Schreckenberger and Allison Grey are celebrating their 30 years since being crowned Imperial Sovereign Rose Court Emperor and Empress and established a goal of giving away \$30,000 in scholarships this September. This is an all-time record in raising money for the fund.

The scholarship is administered through Equity Foundation. Applications are due July 31 and are available at www.equityfoundation.org.

from the entries collected at the next batch of Gay Pride festivals that it is co-sponsoring: Bend Pride, Southern Oregon Pride (Ashland), Capitol Pride (Salem), Eastern Oregon Pride (Hermiston) and Eugene Pride.

Oregonian Awarded Point Scholarship

Point Foundation, the nation's largest scholarship-granting organization for queer students of merit, announced June 10 its 2008 scholars. This year's diverse group consists of 27 undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate recipients.

Djamika Smith of Ashland received a 2008 Point Scholarship. Originally from Bali, Indonesia, she is pursuing a bachelor of arts in graphic design at Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore.

"I am consistently impressed with the high caliber and diversity of candidates who apply for a Point Scholarship," said founder and board chairman Bruce Lindstrom. Like last year, this class represents some firsts for Point Foundation: our first scholar attending a historically black college and our first U.S. military veteran."

Point Foundation provides financial support, leadership training and mentoring to queer individuals who are marginalized because of their sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression. In June 2008, 91 Point scholars will be enrolled in college and 43 Point alumni will have continued on to pursue their life goals.

In addition to an average direct scholarship award of \$13,200, Point also provides leadership training and mentoring. Through Point's mentoring program, all scholars are matched with successful professionals in each scholars' field of study. Point also conducts an annual Leadership Conference where scholars receive training in areas of leadership development,

accountability, community service, advocacy and philanthropy. Including monies spent on mentoring, leadership training and scholarships, the average amount of yearly support devoted to each scholar is greater than \$30,000.

For more information visit www.point-foundation.org.

Point Scholar Djamika Smith of Ashland will study graphic design at Maryland Institute College of Art.

Equity Foundation Lets You Award the Grants

Equity Foundation took a break from its regularly scheduled grant-giving to try out something new: letting a randomly drawn winner choose which of its favorite Portland-area queer-supportive nonprofits would win 500 bucks in cold hard cash.

Krista Hopkins from Silverton was the lucky winner; her name was randomly drawn from more than 200 entries collected at area Pride festivals during the past few weeks. She decided to designate her dough to Q Center, which is in the midst of a just-announced \$200,000 matching gift campaign.

According to Equity Foundation, Q Center executive director Kendall Clawson was happy to get the news: "This was especially good news for Q Center, because we are trying to meet a matching opportunity in order to get a bigger space for Q Center. This \$500 will actually turn into \$1,000 to help that effort."

Equity Foundation executive director Kevin Easton added: "It's our pleasure to be able to grant these funds to deserving organizations like Q Center. This contest inspires philanthropy and shows how generous the sexual and gender minority community is."

Equity Foundation will hold another drawing

Insurance Laws Deciphered for Domestic Partners

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners expanded its award-winning Insure U consumer education program June 3 with information specifically for domestic partners.

According to Oregon's Department of Consumer and Business Services, Oregon is in compliance with domestic partnership laws and anywhere that "spouse" is denoted on home, health, life and auto insurance, the law covers domestic partners also.

"I think we're way ahead of the game," said Ron Fredrickson, manager of consumer advocacy with the department's insurance division. "Oregon is quite specific in this area. As far as we're concerned, insurance that was going to cover a spouse is going to cover a domestic partner."

The Insure U curriculum provides insurance