



Radical Latino authors Charlie Vazquez and Charles Rice-Gonzalez

The response to the literary quotient of the event—the inclusion of radical Latino authors Charlie Vazquez and Charles Rice-Gonzalez—proved to be positive as well. Martinez reported an engaged audience during the Escribir, Leer, Luchar literary night on June 3 at Aura. Latino Gay Pride organizers are already talking about bringing Rice-Gonzalez back to Portland this fall for the launch of a book tour to promote his newest tome, *Chulito*.

Mayor Sam Adams, County Chair Jeff Cogen and State Treasurer Ted Wheeler were on hand to give welcome remarks as well.

"From the committee end, we could not have asked for a better outcome," said Martinez. "Everyone's hard work paid off and we brought together such a diverse group of people."

Martinez also noted the importance in

this year's celebration of hearing more attendees speaking Spanish.

"Someone made the comment about the festival, 'I hear so many more people speaking Spanish this year.' It took me a second, but I realized the significance and why it shows how far we've come. Everyone is welcome to Latino Pride and it's a celebration of Latino LGBTQ culture and history. We want people to speak freely and share their language, experiences and to learn from each other. At our festival, and for five days, we accomplished that."

BRO Eyes One Big Fundraiser. Announces Another

Looming just after the Portland Pride weekend is another opportunity to support and raise awareness for equality, when the 11th Annual Bites for Rights event pairs your palate with your pocketbook.

Dubbed "Feast for Fairness," the statewide culinary communion takes place Thursday, June 24 at over 70 establishments in Oregon, with a generous portion of their proceeds going to benefit Basic Rights Oregon for their continued mission to ensure that all LGBTQ Oregonians experience equality.

"This year, we're encouraging folks to invite their friends and family to gather at

their favorite restaurant," said Juan Martinez, BRO development director via press release, "and to enjoy breakfast, lunch, dinner and even happy hour as a way to have fun while taking a stand for equality."

Diners can brandish their fundraising

forks as far south as Ashland at the Greenleaf Restaurant, as far west as Astoria at the Astoria Coffeehouse, T Paul's Supper Club and T Paul's Urban Café, and at various locations in Eugene, Manzanita, Beaverton, Corvallis and Salem, as well as all corners of the Portland Metro area.

A bit further into fall, BRO has announced the theme of its 28th Annual Dinner and Auction, set for Saturday, October 2 at the Oregon Convention Center. "Glee—Voices for Equality" will be another opportunity for Oregon's LGBTQ community and its allies to support equality, this time through celebration and song.

Individuals and businesses are invited to sponsor Oregon's premier LGBTQ event. Contact Juan Martinez at juan@basicrights.org, or call 503-222-6151 ext. 106 for more details.

For more information on Basic Rights Oregon, visit basicrights.org. A full list of participating establishments in the 11th Annual Bites for Rights event can be viewed at bitesforrights.com.

Northwest News in Brief

On Tuesday, June 15, the Libertarian Party of Oregon officially nominated **Marc Delphine** as its candidate for Democrat Ron Wyden's U.S. Senate seat. Delphine, the first openly gay man to run for federal



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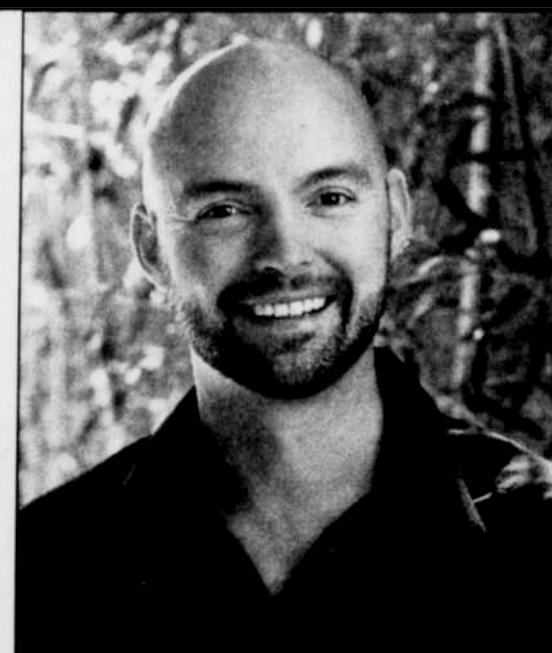


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