

BY RYAN J. PRADO

### Victory Fund Celebrates 20th Anniversary in D.C. with Bean, Secretary Brown

Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund cofounder Terry Bean joined Oregon Secretary of State Kate Brown, Rhode Island Congressman David Cicilline, Massachusetts Congressman Barney Frank and others during the fund's 20th anniversary events held in Washington, D.C. March 19-20.

The Founder's Reception on March 19 at the House of Sweden included a forum of LGBTQ elected officials, many of whom had been elected thanks in part to the endorsement of the Victory Fund. The organization has grown from the brainchild of Bean and cofounder Vic Basille to help LGBTQ candidates get elected in order to represent a truer slice of the American populace. The visibility and financial backing from the Victory Fund has resulted in there now being some 500 out elected officials serving throughout the United States at every level—from local government to Congress.

Brown and Bean both spoke March 20 during the Victory Fund's Champagne Brunch at the Washington Hilton, where more than 1,200 guests were in attendance.

"I was extremely honored to speak at the Victory Fund brunch in March," Brown told *Just Out*. "I truly believe that I would not have won the race for Oregon Secretary of State without the significant support from the Victory Fund and its members."



Terry Bean speaks at the Victory Fund's 20th Anniversary celebration

Likewise, other LGBTQ elected officials in attendance were indebted to the Victory Fund's efforts. Sixty-five percent of those endorsed by the fund won their elections in 2010.

"The work of the Victory Fund is more than just electing folks to office," explained Brown, who identifies as bisexual. "While that is a worthy goal in and of itself, the impact of having LGBT folks in office is much broader."

Brown recalled witnessing the difference it made when the LGBTQ community had a seat at the table during her 17 years as a state legislator. But the difference didn't stop there.

"When I was Senate Majority Leader in 2007, I had the honor of witnessing the pas-

sage of domestic partnership legislation and a landmark civil rights protection bill," said Brown. "It took more than a decade and a lot of hard work to get these laws passed, but I was there pushing every step of the way."

"I'm so proud of what the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund has become," Bean told *Just Out*. "It has not only just made a huge difference in getting the LGBTQ community civil rights, but it also makes a huge difference in terms of young LGBTQ kids raising their level of self-esteem so they can grow up and hopefully one day be in the senate."

For more information on the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, visit [victoryfund.org](http://victoryfund.org).

### CAP's 22nd Annual Art Auction Goes Bigger, Better

Building on a perennially successful model that pits art and philanthropy in the same swanky event, Cascade AIDS Project is suiting up for its 22nd annual Art Auction Saturday, April 30. The 2011 event is held within the spacious digs of the Memorial Coliseum (300 N. Winning Way), and CAP expects upwards of 1,500 attendees at what will be one of the HIV/AIDS organization's biggest fundraisers of the year, and their biggest auction yet.

The Patron Event is held from 6 to 11 p.m. and includes dinner and both live and silent auctions of more than 300 juried artworks from local and regional artists. This ticket precedes the Grand Event, which continues with more culinary confections, entertainment, specialty drinks and more. The evening begins with cocktails, a three-course meal and a 15-piece live auction, chosen by curator Teri Hopkins of Marylhurst University's Art Gym.

Bluehour, Saint Cupcake and Pazzo Ristorante are but a few caterers helping set the sultry mood for performances by Storm Large, Pink Martini's Thomas Lauderdale and the massive pipes of the 130-member strong Portland Gay Men's Chorus.

For the Grand Event only, from 8 to 10 p.m., tickets can be purchased separately from the Patron Event tickets for \$100. Patron Event tickets are \$250. All proceeds go to support the vital work of CAP to prevent new

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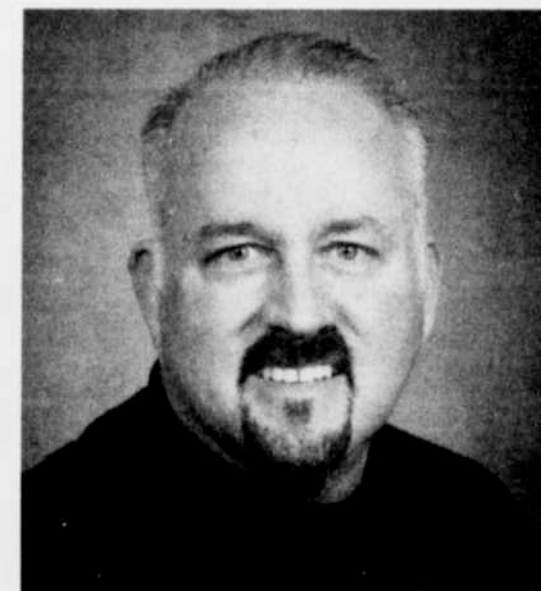
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