

**Portland FREE Music Project Announces Summer Queer Music Festival**

The Portland FREE Music Project—a non-profit group dedicated to preserving and promoting Portland's vibrant music history—has announced plans for the First Annual Queer Music Festival, to be held July 30 at Red Cap Garage and Boxxes.

The festival—sembled by PFMP owner Samuel Thomas—is scheduled to feature a wide range of queer and queer-friendly bands, musicians and artists.

"We have decided to host this event to continue to promote and expand knowledge of LGBTQ musicians and the diverse talents they represent," explained Thomas. "We are reaching out to the community, including past festival organizers and activists, in hopes of creating a truly exceptional showcase of Portland music."

Organizers are currently accepting submissions for artists, bands, rappers, songwriters and more in every genre and style.

In addition, PFMP is accepting volunteer inquires and sponsorships. A more complete list of scheduling and details will be available soon.

Questions? Contact [samuel@theportlandfreemusicproject.com](mailto:samuel@theportlandfreemusicproject.com). Visit [portlandfreemusicproject.com](http://portlandfreemusicproject.com) for more information.

**Rev. Weekley, Wilkins to Attend HRC's Clergy Call Event in D.C.**

Oregon will be well represented at the Human Rights Campaign's "Clergy Call for Justice and Equality" event in Washington, D.C. May 22-24. The Reverend David Weekley—an openly transgender pastor at the Sellwood and Capitol Hill United Methodist Churches—along with the Reverend Tara Wilkins of the Community of Welcoming Congregations are scheduled to speak at the event, which

aims to reflect the vision and need for a faith-based movement in support of LGBTQ equality in America.

Weekley and Wilkins join over 300 religious leaders from across the country, representing more than 25 denominations and faith traditions at "Clergy Call" under the theme "Leadership for Justice in Complex Times."

Weekley made headlines in 2009 when he became the Methodist church's first openly transgender clergyperson. Weekley has since been on a mission to combat discrimination against transgender persons, as well as to advocate for the church to support and welcome the LGBTQ community.

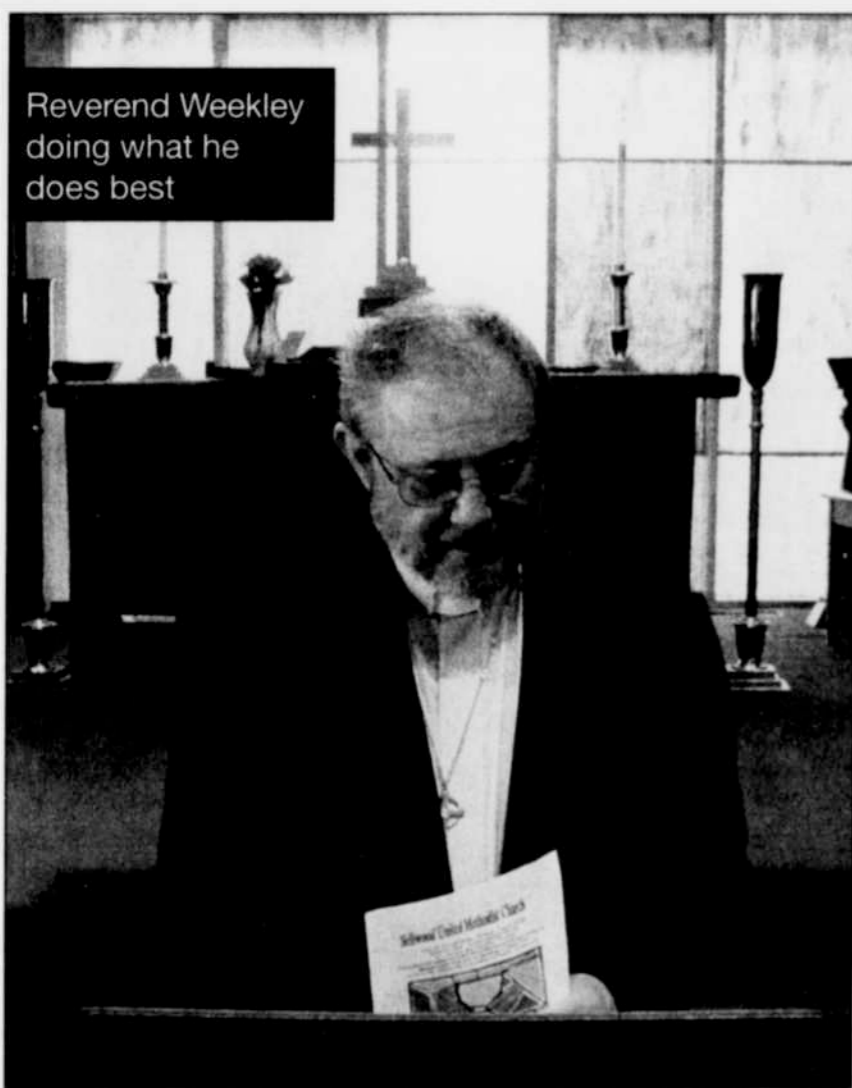
"There are continuous reports of abuse and physical violence against transgender persons," said Weekley via press release. "It is appalling to me that so many people continue to suffer such misunderstanding and persecution after all these years. I hope these stories and our voices will help make a positive difference in pending and future legislation."

In a progressive step for the Episcopal Church, Oregon bishop, the Right Reverend Michael J. Hanley, issued a statement May 18 through Basic Rights Oregon in support of marriage equality.

"I strongly believe in the inclusion of all persons in the life of the Church," read Hanley's statement. "Our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters in Christ deserve all the rights and privileges, including the right to marry and raise a family, which my wife and I have appreciated in our 30-plus years of marriage and in the raising of our two daughters. The time has certainly come to offer the gift of marriage and family to all who seek this honorable estate."

Integrity USA's Portland Chapter convener Andy McQuery also told *Just Out* that the bishop will be marching with the Integrity group in the Portland Pride parade this year, which is a first for Oregon.

For more information on HRC's "Clergy Call," visit [hrc.org/clergyall](http://hrc.org/clergyall). For more information about Integrity USA, and the Episcopal church's efforts in LGBTQ welcoming, visit [integrityusa.org](http://integrityusa.org).



Reverend Weekley doing what he does best

**Pride Foundation Announces Oregon Scholarship Recipients**

Pride Foundation has awarded 19 Oregon students a total of \$47,650 in educational scholarships. These annual grants are awarded to students who have shown a demonstrated commitment to LGBTQ equality.

A total of \$22,650 is going to students living or attending school outside the Portland metro area, with a diverse group, aged 18-38, representing varied ethnic backgrounds and sexual orientations. The Oregon scholars were among 101 total from Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington who will receive a total

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**Summer registration starts May 17th!**



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