

Tuesdays

*5:30-7:15pm



Free & confidential walk-in HIV testing

Northeast Health Center | 5329 NE MLK Jr. Blvd. 2 Floor.

gay community"—and the white face paint, the Sisters are not only tough to miss, they're as adept at approaching people as they are at being approachable.

"The makeup really makes us anonymous," Moore says. "We can put things in a little more graphic... bar verbiage."

Take for instance the Sisters' Bliss Kits, which come complete with safe-sex education literature, lube and condoms. Sisters do their best to connect with community members who are out and about to ask questions, listen and above all ensure that those they meet who may be sexually active are being responsible. Moore says that some of their partners in the community, namely the Multnomah County Health Department and Cascade AIDS Project, have commended them on their ability to reach folks out on the town in a way that those organizations cannot.

"One of the first things [Multnomah County Health Department] said was, 'You can say and show things that we can't.' I can walk up to a table and say, 'Show of hands, who's gonna go home and get laid tonight?' A couple will raise their hands. Then I'll say,

'Show of hands, who's gonna go home and jack off?' And more will raise their hands and I say, 'Here, take this, there's some lube.'"

But Moore and the rest of the Sisters also encounter those who say they don't use condoms. Moore says they don't judge these people, but that the situation provides an opportunity for conversation, and to ask how they take care of themselves.

"That's the main thing... to give them the information they need. It's not just safe sex," Moore explains. "There are many times we deal with somebody who is in crisis, they may have just found out they tested positive. We help them to get to the resources they need."

Conclave 2011 will span all spectrums of the Sisters' work—from the social aspects to the serious. The weeklong itinerary includes three days of Sisters-only workshops. For these, Moore called on individuals outside of Sisters organizations to lead discussions on everything from HIV/STD 101 and crisis ministering to compassionate listening and nonviolent communication. This focus on dialogue, Moore says, is a cornerstone of the Conclave. However, the

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-SISTER MONA LITTLE-MOORE

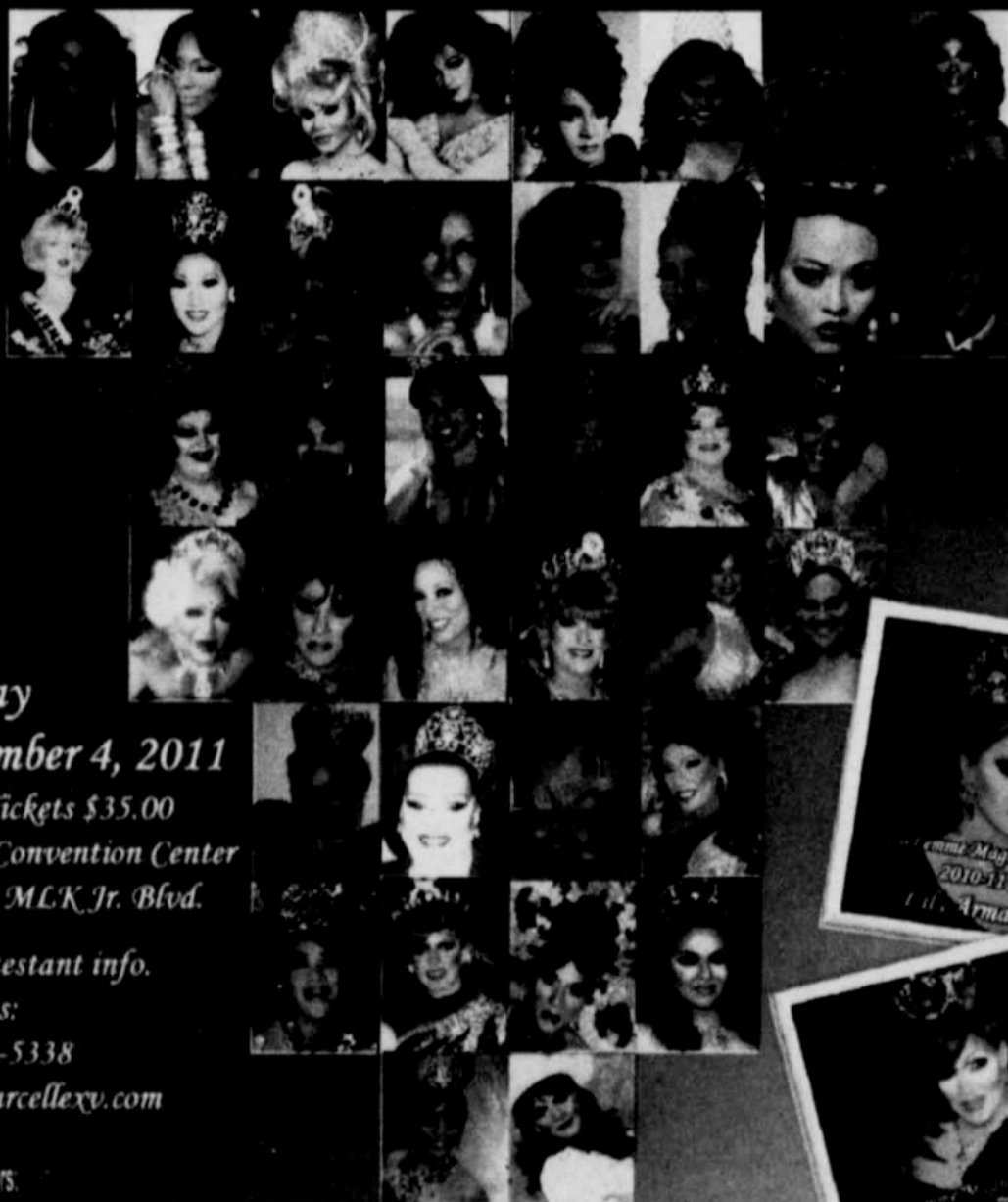


STRAUB COLLABORATIVE

Portland Sisters Ohna Fucking Tirade, Lola Gaggin, Dixie Rupt, Helen Baak, and Glory Glory Hole-lelujah pose it out.

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