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Walt Whitman

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(\* indicates PFLAG support group)

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Thomas. "The problem is getting people out on weekends to patrol," Thomas said. "There's always a great initial response to what we do."

The group is seeking proactive LGBTQ citizen and allied volunteers for training and volunteering to help keep the streets safe from anti-gay discrimination and violence. Q Patrol was formed by concerned citizens, anti-violence organizations, city officials and others in 2010 in response to an increased number of gay bashings in downtown Portland.

For information on how to volunteer for Q Patrol, and to take part in trainings, visit "Qpatrol Portland" on Facebook.

**Q Center Eyes Another Busy August**

Q Center opens its doors to the public to show off its **new executive director, Barbara McCullough-Jones**, its staff and board of directors. An open house is planned for Thursday, August 11 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the community hub (4115 N. Mississippi Ave.). The event will double as a benefit for Esther's Pantry, as donations of canned food and nonperishable food items is encouraged.

Specifically, Q is seeking donations of shampoo, body wash, lotion, laundry soap, and toilet paper to stock Esther's cupboards and help those in the Portland metro area living with HIV/AIDS. RSVPs

the *Angry Inch* creator and his crew will make an afternoon stop at Q Center from 4 to 5 p.m.

Mitchell, along with ex-Portlander Amber Martin and Shortbus' PJ DeBoy and Paul Dawson, will be on hand to talk about their mission, their art, intergenerational queer activism and more, with a Q&A session to follow. This all-ages event is free, though Q welcomes donations at the door.

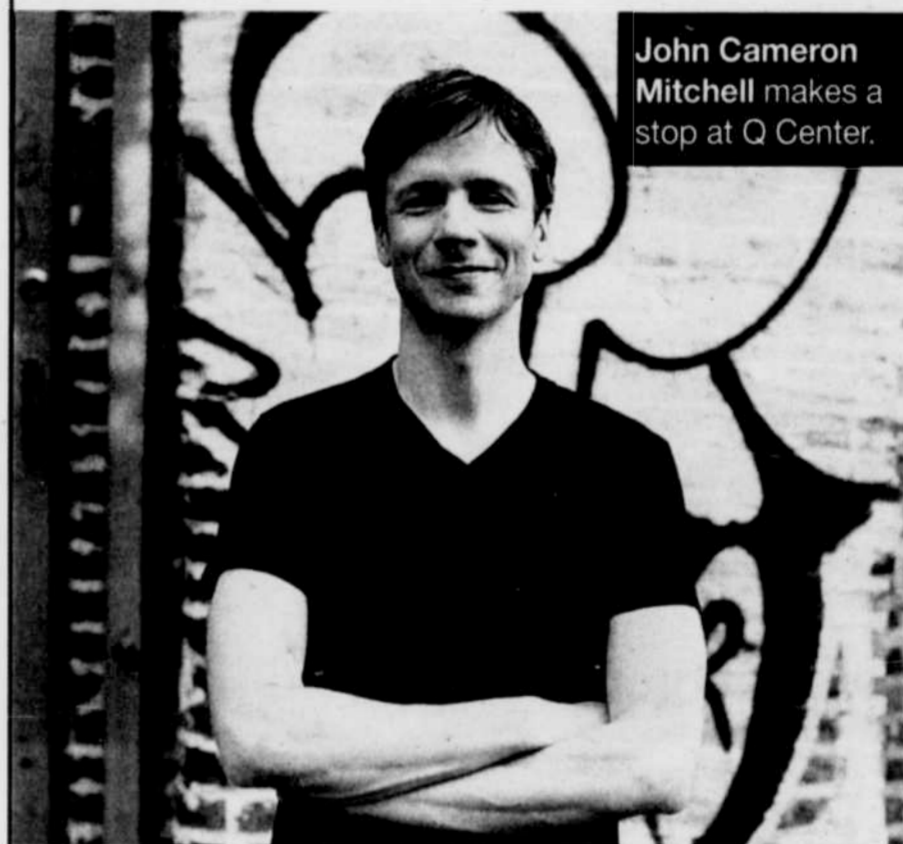
For more information on upcoming Q Center events, visit [pdxqcenter.org](http://pdxqcenter.org).

**Big Benefits Continue Through Summer Months**

With the sun's rays baking down on Portland with increased consistency, and so many worthy causes in need, it's no wonder the benefit brigade is in full force for summer. The first weeks of August are no exception.

In a sexy, sparkly **benefit for Esther's Pantry and Q Patrol PDX, Genderfucking Takeover** presents a dance party at Ella St. Social Club (714 SW 20th Place) Friday, August 5. For a cover of only \$3, witness the ever-entertaining antics of ChiChi and Chonga—performing as their alter egos A.K.A.—The Tampon Troupe, Nico Bella, Asia, Georgia Ray Babycakes and others, with music spun by Seattle's DJ Nark.

The following evening, Saturday, August 6, the Hawthorne Theatre (3862 SE Hawthorne Boulevard) gets hilarious with—what else?—**Hilarious at the Hawthorne**. Beginning at 8:30 p.m., Portland comics come together to yuck it up with a serious goal—to raise funds for Hilarious producer Belinda Carroll's brother Joe, whose house and possessions were destroyed by a recent fire. All of the funds raised go to benefit Joe Carroll's relocation efforts. For \$5 at the door, sample the comedic stylings of Fly Ass Jokes producer Ian Karmel, host Anne Cox, trans-comic



John Cameron Mitchell makes a stop at Q Center.

Whitney Streed, Carmen Trineece, Seattle's Jeremy Horn and more.

Wednesday, August 24 brings a **Marriage Strategy Meeting and Community Meeting** to Q's hallowed halls. Presented by the Human Rights Campaign and Basic Rights Oregon, the discussion will revolve around the impending decision about strategies moving into 2012 for a same-sex marriage push in Oregon. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

Before **John Cameron Mitchell's** Mat-tachine dance party hits Mississippi Studios (3939 N. Mississippi Ave., \$5) Saturday, August 6 at 10 p.m., the *Hedwig and*

Further down benefit boulevard, **Siren Nation is sounding a call to art** with the annual Paint Your Art Out! art show and sale Thursday, August 18 from 6 to 9 p.m. at The Secret Society Ballroom (116 NE Russell St.).

Featuring works from more than 50 artists all under \$100, Paint Your Art Out! includes live painting demos, a silent art auction and free swag bags for the first 50 attendees. There will also be a deejay and a cash bar to generate funds for Siren Nation, whose mission is to empower women