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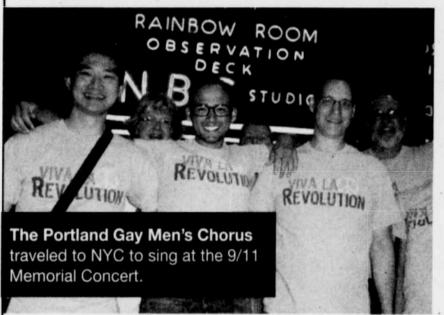
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Been off the planet for the last 12 months? Here's your crash course in queer.

THE YEAR IN

BY AMANDA SCHURR

its share of highs and lows unlike any other. we "Made It Happen" during an expanded National marriage equality victories, re- Portland Pride; we remembered life is a paggional advances, local realities. The end of eant, from Latin Look to La Femme Mag-"Don't ask, don't tell," the reintroduction of nifique. We Dined Out for Life and kept it ENDA to the Senate, the move away from close to home at the inaugural Market Q DOMA.



A governor took office, again, a mayor announced he would not attempt to. Portland bias crime headline.

From community discussions to a live played Sinead O'Connor. music series, Q Center continued its evoluthe past.

We came out, we Occupied, we were Gay Campaign and tipped our hats with the the Rose Festival Starlight Parade. Portland Area Business Association.

ing fight for LGBTQ equality. We held tout.com. hands across bridges and reached out to

2011. It was the best of times, it was the those on the opposite side of the pew. We worst of times—okay, so maybe not the persevered with another year of community worst of times, but our year in queer has had service from Q Patrol and In Other Words; and at local businesses. Gnerds united in

> comic book revelry, alternative publishing thrived, and Siren Nation and the Portland Oregon Women's Film Fest made their voices heard, their visions

> We got schooled, from Q Center's Telling Stories: The Art of Fact to Disjecta's Queer Academy, Jeffrey Horvitz's Queer Aperture at Pivot to Philip Iosca's debut solo exhibition at Pacific Northwest College of Art. We scored: Oregon universities received

high marks for its LGBT-friendly campuses. Portland lost the bid to host the 2013 Gay got an Office of Equity, and trans-inclusive Softball World Series, but we still played health care for city employees. We watched hard, be it the Rose City Rollers, the Fightas December was declared "Transgender ing Fillies or the Amazon Dragons. We Child Awareness Month" in Multnomah camped OUT on the coast for the 35th year County, and we shook our heads at the latest thanks to the YWCA. Thomas Lauderdale played Grieg, Kaia Wilson and friends

We represented: BearTown, statewide tion, with one executive director departing Leather Pride, the Rev. David Weekley and for the governor's office and another return- the Rev. Tara Wilkins to HRC's Clergy Call ing to Oregon to replace her. We looked to in the nation's capital, the Portland Gay the future with new and burgeoning youth- Men's Chorus to New York City. We led events and resources. And with archival mourned community figures who passed efforts and art exhibits by organizations like away-Ed Caduro, Don Drees, Gregg Ruf-Cascade AIDS Project, the Gay and Lesbian fin, Jean Harris, Anthanasios "Saki" Kat-Archives of the Pacific Northwest and the savopoulos, Kent T. Magionos, Richard Imperial Sovereign Rose Court, we revisited Ludt, Jose Israel Ornelas and Donald Baker Ross, to name but a few.

Lady Bunny and Joey Arias came to town, & Grey and Red Dress all over. Old Lesbi- so did George Takei and Kate Clinton, Big ans organized for change, the Sisters of Freedia and Erasure, and John Cameron Perpetual Indulgence converged for Con- Mitchell and his Mattachine party, twice. clave, and a new Stark Street institution We made movies and music and wrote books Crystallized. We made a day of it: Repeal, and plays and established record labels and Coming Out, World AIDS, Trans Day of organized new dance and performance Remembrance. We made a Night, too: nights and arts festivals. Poison Waters got SMYRC's Night of Noise, BRO's Ignite. roasted, "Team Darcelle" became a local We were farm-fresh for the Human Rights mantra—its namesake, the grand marshal of

And that's just for starters. In long, 2011 We moved (Triangle Productions!) or just wouldn't quit—and in these pages you'll prepared to (Our House of Portland). We find a rundown of the best and worst of the stood our ground (Seth Stambaugh) in one year in queer, with much more to be found of many "teachable" moments in the ongo- on a local, national and global scale at jus-

See you for another 12 in '12.