



in Oregon; and **Peacock After Dark's** fourth annual benefit yielded \$10,000 in scholarships to eight LGBTQ individuals through the Audria M. Edwards Scholarship Fund, for which Peacock is the gala event.

- Representative **Tina Kotek**, the only openly lesbian member of the Oregon Legislative Assembly, was elected leader of the House Democratic Caucus in June.

- In LGBTQ youth community headlines, the **Living Room**, a weekly drop-in program for queer youth ages 14-20 at Oregon City's Atkinson Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church, celebrated two years of welcoming ways in July.

- The eighth annual **Power of One Conference**—a Northwest student leadership summit designed to encourage and empower LGBTQ college students, their allies and faculty—was held April 1-3 at Reed College for the first time.

- **Portland Community College's Rock Creek Campus** launched its new Queer Resource Center October 11, National Coming Out Day.

- **Portland State University** hosted the first annual **Queer Students of Color Conference** April 29-May 1, designed to provide resources, leadership, training and skills through a series of workshops.

- **The 30th Annual Lewis & Clark Gender Studies Symposium** focused on wide-ranging topics of progressive tolerance in the arts,



The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence welcomed sisters from around the world to Portland for **Conclave 2011**.

politics and school bullying via lectures, seminars, workshops and panels March 4 at PSU. World-renowned author, performance artist and gender theorist Kate Bornstein was a special guest.

- The second **Oregon Queer Youth Summit** hit PSU May 14, offering queer and trans-identified youth and their allies a full day of free peer-led workshops, caucuses and keynote speeches by local youth leaders.

- A whole host of regional organizations—including CAP, PFLAG of Southwest Washington and YWCA of Clark County—announced intentions to raise funds and community support for a **queer youth center in Vancouver**, Wash. in May.

- **SMYRC** partnered with **100th Monkey**

Studios for a Youth Art Show in early May.

- On August 17, the **Kennewick School District in Washington State** unanimously approved a new policy creating limits for all non-curricular school clubs.

The decision limited Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs) and all other non-curricular student clubs from access to school bulletin boards, recognition in the yearbook or in student newspapers, and use of public-address systems

to announce club meetings or events.

- From July 28 through 31, the **Old Lesbians Organizing for Change (OLOC)** held their regional conference in Tacoma, Wash.

- A surplus of Sisters descended on Portland for the **"Nuns 'N Roses" Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence International Conclave** August 15-21.

- The **Portland Gay Men's Chorus** took part in the 10th anniversary commemorations of 9/11, and the 10th anniversary of Oregon's Flight for Freedom efforts in September. PGMC performed "BraveSouls and Dreamers" during the Flight for Freedom-sponsored Peace & Unity Concert at New York's Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

- In more Pride news, **Iris Pride** took root

in **Lincoln City** for a superhero-themed event in September with performances by Glamazonia and The Superstar Divas. In October, a small group of citizens in the coastal city began an attempt to shut down the annual event, which mostly fell on deaf ears at the Lincoln City Visitor & Convention Bureau.

Statewide Pride events were rounded out by a salvaged pride celebration in Corvallis June 25; Mid-Columbia Pride in Pasco, Wash. July 10-17; Capitol Pride in Salem and the Umatilla Morrow Alternatives Multicultural Celebration in Hermiston, both August 6; and Eugene/Springfield Pride August 13. From August 5 through 14, **Oregon Leather Pride** week invaded almost every corner of Portland, packing 27 events into 10 days.

- The **Oregon Republican Party** voted by a slim majority to remove some anti-gay language from its 2012 platform following a push from younger delegates and a heated debate.

- The **Imperial Sovereign Rose Court** crowned His Most Imperial Majesty Rose Emperor XXXVIII, The Endearing Athens Scities Foxx, and Her Most Imperial Majesty Rose Empress LIII, The Legendary Monica Boulevard October 15 for a yearlong reign.

- The **first annual Portland LGBTQ Expo** was held September 10 at the Portland Expo Center, connecting LGBTQ consumers with businesses and nonprofits. Just a week later, the Portland Gay Men's Chorus presented the **third annual Gay Fair on the Square**. ☪

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