

# Q+A

EMILY PONASKI

**HOW DO YOU IDENTIFY?** Lesbian

**WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING?**

I am full time environmental engineering student. I choose to wait tables to pay the bills.

**WHAT DO YOU LOVE/HATE ABOUT PORTLAND?**

I moved to Portland from Montana in the summer of 2009. I love the bridges, sustainable practices, trees, bicycling, and culinary options. However, as green as Portland seems, I hate the amount of waste accumulated by the food cart phenomenon and to-go coffee cup/dining culture.

**WHAT'S YOUR MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT OR A PASSION YOU HAVE THAT NO ONE WOULD GUESS?**

Most people wouldn't guess that I would rather do homework than go out dancing on a Friday night. I love numbers, fantasy, unicorns, dragons, and equations.

**WHO DO YOU LOOK UP TO OR REVERE IN THE GAY COMMUNITY OR HISTORICALLY?**

Sally Ride, Frida Khalo, Daenerys Targaryen Stormborn the rightful heir to the Iron Throne, Joan Jett, Ani DiFranco, Rainbow Brite.

**HAVE YOU EVER EXPERIENCED GAY BASHING?**

I haven't experienced gay bashing on a personal level, but in Montana I was exposed to it more so than in Portland.

**HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION WITHIN THE QUEER COMMUNITY?**

I recently came out, so the discrimination I have faced hasn't necessarily been exclusive to the queer community.

**WHAT'S AN IMPORTANT TOPIC THAT THE LGBT COMMUNITY SHOULD BE TALKING ABOUT AND ISN'T?**

I think the LGBT label is a vague representation of a dynamic community, and even though we are all fighting for equality together, it only represents a portion of what kind of a person someone is. \$



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