



# Get Your Pride On!

Portland Pride expands with a full week of activities

by Malka Geffen

## Lions and Tigers and Bears, Oh My!

Nothing says family like a day at the zoo. Bring your loved ones big and small to the Oregon Zoo at Washington Park 10 a.m. June 10 for a day of animal watching and community celebration.

Haven't been to the Oregon Zoo lately? Take a trip around the world! Visit the rain forest and savanna of Africa, discover the Alaska tundra, meet the creatures of the Amazon, or get more familiar with our region at the Cascade Crest or Eagle Canyon exhibits. Not to be missed is a visit with Packy, Portland's star Asian elephant, and his pals. Reopening for summer 2006 is Winged Wonders, the zoo's walk-through butterfly aviary.

This kickoff event for Pride week festivities is open to the public and will feature a scavenger hunt, community barbecue picnic lunch and live entertainment. A free concert will showcase the bluesy folk rock of Lynn Frances Anderson and other special guests. Cost of admission for this day of fun is \$10 for adults and free for children.

## Welcome to Portland!

Whether you're new to Portland or just want to meet some new friends, come down to Q Center for its first welcome wagon 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. June 12.

Join Q Center crew and several local queer-friendly organizations in welcoming and welcoming queers to P-town. In attendance will be representatives from more than 20 organizations, including Basic Rights Oregon, Human Rights Campaign, Deaf & Hearing Out Reach, the Men's Wellness Center, Cascade AIDS Project, Breathe Free and Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

"It's an open house with more of a focus," says Gene de Haan, Q Center coordinator. In addition to finding a date to take to the parade, use the mixer as a networking opportunity to make business contacts, with cell phone and business cards in hand.

Chill to the sounds of a lounge DJ while enjoying some light refreshments from Dig It! Catering. This free event is located at the new community center, 1028 S.E. Water Ave.

E-mail de Haan at [info@pdxqcenter.org](mailto:info@pdxqcenter.org) for further information and volunteer opportunities.

## Noche de Familia y Mariposas

Celebrate the first Latino Gay Pride fiesta with *El Hispanic News* on its 25th anniversary. This special evening of familia y amigos will be held 6 to 9 p.m. June 13 at Jupiter Hotel, 800 E. Burnside St. Admission to this historic event is free, and all ages are welcome.

Portland Mayor Tom Potter will read a proclamation commemorating Latino Gay Pride. Also speaking will be Clara Padilla-Andrews, publisher of *El Hispanic News*; Roey Thorpe, executive director of Basic Rights Oregon; Tim Bias, open division commissioner of the Rose City Softball Association; and Oscar Fernández, board member of Equity Foundation.

The Portland Gay Men's Chorus will be headlining the program, which will also feature fabulous performances by Mr. and Miss Poder Latino 2006, Miss Gay Latina Oregon 2005, Miss La Femme International 2000 and Miss Portland La Femme Plus 2006. Following the program will be a dance featuring DJ Anselmo.

"We see this as a reflection of the increased visibility and presence of the LGBTQ community in Portland," says planning committee member David Martinez. "As proud gay Latinos and Latinas, we want to celebrate our role and contributions to the community."

Join the Latino Gay Pride planning committee for its last two meetings 10 a.m. June 4 and 11 at the Jupiter. You can also show support by coming out for Tequila & Tapas from 7 to 9 p.m. June 4 at Crush, 1400 S.E. Morrison St. The \$5 cover/loteria (Mexican bingo) gets you in for the great prizes, performances by "Las Reinas" and drink and food specials. All proceeds will go toward the Latino Gay Pride celebration.

For more information contact Melanie Davis at 503-228-3139 or [mdavis@elhispanicnews.com](mailto:mdavis@elhispanicnews.com) or David Martinez at 503-988-4435 or [david.martinez@co.multnomah.or.us](mailto:david.martinez@co.multnomah.or.us).

## Celebrate Pride in Elegance

You and your longtime partner are looking forward to a weekend of hot fun at Waterfront Park. How about a cool, romantic night on the river first? Celebrate Pride Week with a hump day dinner cruise on the Willamette River aboard Portland Spirit's custom-built yacht, the Willamette Star. Before the chaos of the weekend, pamper yourselves with the finest of Northwest river cruise dining.

Portland's 2006 Pride Cruise launches at 7 p.m. June 14 from Caruthers Landing boarding site, 110 S.E. Caruthers St. The yacht features a full-service bar and two climate-controlled decks for your pleasure and comfort. You and someone you meet tonight on board will lock lips before the breathtaking views of Portland's downtown skyline. (Note: "You" refers to the committed, single and promiscuous alike.) After

*Loving Annabelle* screens June 15 at 2006 Pride Film Night.

your choice of entree, dessert and wine, you will croon in your newfound love's ear to the sounds of Echo Trio.

"I can't imagine anything more spectacular than a summer night on the Willamette River in downtown Portland," says Rick Lewis, director of entertainment and marketing at Portland Spirit. The Willamette Star, one of Portland Spirit's more elegant midsize vessels, will sail along the skyline before turning around at Lake Oswego. "It's going to be a good, intimate evening for the gay community. And while it's a public dinner, it'll also feel like a private charter." With only 100 seats, tickets at \$60 a person are going fast. Visit [www.ticketleap.com](http://www.ticketleap.com) for tickets.

## See It First at Pride Film Night

What's better than getting to see new movies before anyone else? Not much, especially when we're talking about hot new queer films. Pride Northwest and the Portland Lesbian and Gay Film Festival are co-sponsoring the 2006 Pride Film Night 7 p.m. June 15 at Hollywood Theater, 4122 N.E. Sandy Blvd.

The first film beginning at 7 p.m. is *Loving Annabelle*, which is not slated to open in theaters until October. The movie tells the controversial story of a Catholic schoolteacher who has an affair with a female student. On the Internet Movie

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Mr. and Miss Poder Latino 2004 celebrate Portland's first Latino Gay Pride.

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JOIN US IN OUR SECOND ANNUAL CELEBRATION!

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