



Mandy Carter at General Mills with Greg Grinley and members of Betty's Family and Black Champions.

Mandy Carter visits with PFund and General Mills

BY ALFONSO WENKER, PFUND PROGRAMS MANAGER

On October 9, North Carolina resident and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Mandy Carter joined PFund staff and General Mills employees for an exciting conversation about LGBT social justice movements. Carter has a 41-year history in social, racial and LGBT justice organizing. She is one of the nation's leading African-American lesbian activists.

In an event organized with help from General Mills' LGBT employee group (Betty's Family) and its Black Champions Network, Carter led us in a conversation that analyzed where we have been as a movement, and where we are going. She emphasized the importance of capitalizing on the energy of the 2008 elections and working across social justice efforts and she brought a message we know well: To advance equality, we must understand and organize around the interconnectedness of race, gender and sexual orientation.

Many thanks to Mandy Carter and our friends at General Mills for hosting this important conversation.

Lavender Legacy League

PFund's Lavender Legacy League honors its 158 members who have made a commitment to LGBT and allied communities, now and in the future. These individuals and couples have included PFund in their financial planning efforts by designating PFund as a beneficiary in their will, insurance policy, retirement plan, IRA, or other asset.

These legacy gifts provide donors a way to ensure that for years to come PFund stays an effective and progressive organization. We thank our current members, and our newest members, listed here.

- > Anonymous (2)
- > Gregory Baskin
- > Catherine Croghan and Kathryn Robbins
- > Gary Domann and Brian Ellingson
- > Timothy Dordell and Kirk Ballard
- > Kathryn French
- > Mark Haynes and David Hettinga
- > Glenn Lindsey
- > Deborah Monicken and Sue Kattas
- > MaryAlice Mowry
- > Michael Muehlbach
- > Steve Pospisil and Brian Gilligan
- > Claire Selkurt and Dianne Legg
- > Robert Strusinski
- > John Sullivan
- > Wallace Swan
- > Bruce Taylor and Dennis Carey
- > Bill Venne

For more information or to join, please contact Greg or Susan at PFund.



why give?

BY SUSAN COGGER, PFUND DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

It seems everyone is thinking about giving at this time of year. Every day, we get letters or e-mails asking me (or my partner Terry) for contributions. Our church is conducting its stewardship campaign. Holiday bazaars abound. And, on behalf of PFund, I'm asking you for gifts. So I paused to think about why I give.

A number of years ago, in my first interaction with PFund, Terry and I attended one of Tracy Gary's "Inspired Philanthropy" workshops. Tracy leads people, LGBT in particular, in creating personal giving plans. This experience changed how we do our annual giving — we're now much more intentional. Of course, we still give to our best friend's favorite nonprofit. And we love to attend fun galas and dinners to benefit organizations. But mostly we give strategically, where our passions lie and where we feel we'll do the most good. We give 85 percent of all our donations to our church, the Women's Foundation of Minnesota, Project 515, and PFund. And, while we give throughout the year, we still sit down at year end and take stock.

Did we give as much as we wanted to? Did we follow our giving plan and give where our passions lie? Are there any other organizations we want to support this year? For me, it is important to support organizations that are working to improve the world, to make it safer, more secure, and more equal. And I like to give locally, to organizations where I see the impact and I know the people. We've heard from many donors that one of the reasons they give to PFund is that it feels personal, and they feel like they're making a difference.

individuals are our most important funders

PFund's fiscal-year 2009 sources of funding

- > Individual contributions: 88%
- > Corporate and foundation contributions: 12%

PFund's work, and the impact it has on our communities, speaks volumes: We are still one of a small handful of organizations across the nation funding and supporting LGBT causes. The just released report, "State of Funding: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Grantmaking in Minnesota," notes that grant dollars awarded to LGBT organizations and programs throughout the state constitute just one percent of the \$895 million awarded by Minnesota foundations. Only one-tenth of one percent of dollars went to LGBT people of color organizations and programs — all of it from just one foundation: PFund.

So what inspires me? Is it statistics—probably not. Alfonso recently asked for updates from several PFund scholars that so moved me I wanted to share them (see page 4.) I hope they inspire you to give generously at this critical fundraising time of year for PFund. Thank you so very much for all that you do, giving of your time, your talent, and your financial resources.



cabaret 10

Save the Date

Saturday, May 8 is the date for the 2010 Cabaret. We're excited to share that It will be held at Guthrie Theatre's Level 9 Dowling Studio with Pohlady Lobby & Amber Box. Lori Dokken is again producing the entertainment. Don't miss Cabaret—On Stage!

save the date

In January 2010, the 20% Theatre Twin Cities brings *The Fresh Five*, a world-premiere of five, one-act plays directed by five local and emerging directors. Open your calendar and write that down. And we'll see you there.

GRANTEE PROFILE

all the world's a stage



Claire Avitabile

BY SUSAN RAFFO

If Shakespeare was right that all the world's a stage and we are but actors on that stage, then it matters that all of the actors are represented. But they aren't. Fully 83 percent of the plays that make it to production are written by men. However wonderful many of those plays might be, that's a lopsided statistic. Enter the 20% Theatre Company Twin Cities, a Minneapolis-based PFund grantee partner in 2008 and 2009.

The 20% Theatre Company Twin Cities believes in social justice education through theatre. This means educating audiences on topics that can change and even save lives — topics that can turn ignorance into understanding.

The theatre's inclusive efforts include how they choose their actors and how they select the works they produce. It recognizes GLBT artists, and specifically transgender artists, as severely misrepresented or underrepresented in American theatre. It is committed to only producing new and progressive work by female or transgender playwrights, and employing only GLBT and female allies in artistic positions of power behind-the-scenes.

Beyond traditional gender roles

Actors at the 20% Theatre Company come from everywhere, and represent the best person for each part. But what exactly does that mean? To start, the theatre takes the philosophy that gender is performative. Meaning, "femaleness" and "maleness" are concepts that are performed or expressed separately from biology. While most theaters assume that "male" or "female" roles look a certain way, the 20% Theatre does not. Its auditions



Standards of Care, funded by PFund, May 2008.



Standards of Care, funded by PFund, May 2008.



The Naked I: Monologues from Beyond the Binary, funded by PFund, February 2009.

show an ever-increasing number of transgender and gender-queer artists coming out to audition, alongside traditionally-gendered performers for the same "male" or "female" roles.

There is no "best" or "perfect" body to perform any particular gendered role. There is only the actor who can make that character live. And 20% Theatre productions have performers who do more than light up the stage, they light up our communities.

The 20% Theatre Twin Cities has earned rave reviews for performances of *The Second Coming of Joan of Arc*, *Hot 'n' Throbbing*, *Standards of Care* and *The Naked I: Monologues from Beyond the Binary*. Over the past several years, their work has been featured in publications including *Mpls./St. Paul Magazine*, *Star Tribune*, *City Pages*, *Lavender Magazine*, *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, and on MPR and KFAI radio stations. Nationally, they have been featured in San Francisco's *Bay Times*, New England's *Bay Windows LGBT Newspaper*, and in *Curve Magazine*, the nation's best-selling lesbian publication.

■ Learn more about the 20% Theatre Twin Cities online at www.tctwentypercent.org.

PFund scholars: Where are they today?

We recently asked several of our past scholarship recipients to give us an update on where they are today. Clearly, PFund and you, our donors, made a difference in their lives. No matter their age or where they went to school, one can see the power of possibility in their words. Enjoy!



Andrea Jenkins receiving Nancy T. Kelly Memorial Award and Kevin Winge Award for Community Leadership from Greg Grinley

Andrea Jenkins, PFund scholar in 2007:

I was especially gratified to have won PFund's Nancy T. Kelly Female Writer Memoria Award. It provided me with a sense of responsibility and obligation to the LGBT community — but not only that. It let me know that I am supported and nurtured by that same community. It connected

me to other scholars at various stages in their academic careers, and provided me an opportunity to mentor some of those young people. In particular, there is a young man who attends Macalester College with whom I've had lots of interaction since we were both honored as PFund scholars. I have been able to follow his career and just say things like "keep up the good work," and I think that helps.

Additionally, the scholarship has put weightiness on the work that I will ultimately produce as a poet and writer, in that it will always come out of that spirit of community-building.



Lenny Hayes receiving the PFund Wellness Award

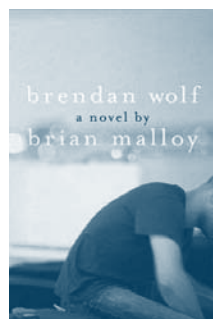
Lenny Hayes, PFund scholar in 2009:

Currently, I am finishing up the required internship hours that go towards my degree. I am pursuing a Master's in psychology, with an emphasis in marriage family therapy (Licensed Professional Counselor) and management consulting/organizational leadership.

I have had the opportunity to gain experience and to use my skills throughout my education at several sites. These sites include the

community in which I have a great passion to help. [I've completed] internships at the American Indian Family Center, Genesis II for Families Inc., and the Resource Center for Fathers and Families.

I would like the opportunity to thank the donors who awarded me PFund's Wellness Award. It is much appreciated and helped me tremendously financially. The scholarship has helped me continue my education and brought me closer to graduating. I look forward to putting my skills to work within the LGBT and Native American communities. There is such a need for Native American men to work within the mental-health field.



Brian Malloy, PFund scholar in 2004

I received my MFA in creative writing from the University of Minnesota and have published two novels. In the acknowledgments for *Brendan Wolf* (St. Martin's Press, 2007), I recognize the Atheists for Human Rights Award fund and the Linde-Ostrander Leadership Award. The book was a national

finalist for the Ferro-Grumley Award. *Twelve Long Months* (Scholastic, 2008) was my first young adult novel and it won the 2009 Minnesota Book Award for Young People's Literature.

My nonfiction essays have been published in *OUT* magazine and in an anthology, *The Man I Might Become: Gay Men Write about Their Fathers* (Marlowe & Company). The anthology won a Lambda Literary Award. Other contributors were Andrew Holleran, Felice Picano, Mark Doty, Bernard Cooper, and other gay writers I greatly admire.

I am education director at the Loft Literary Center and a member of the president's council of Defenders of Wildlife. In addition, I have taught creative writing at Emerson College (Boston), and in the MFA programs at the University of Minnesota and Hamline University.

I am very grateful for these scholarships and the support provided me by the donors and PFund.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO SUPPORT PFUND AS YOUR
“GIFT OF CHOICE.” IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SUGGESTING
PFUND AS A GIFT OPTION, OR HOSTING AN EVENT, PLEASE CALL SUSAN
COGGER, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS, AT 612-870-1806.

DONOR PROFILE

sharing and giving



Bill and Pam Werb with recipient of the Meuwissen-Werb Leadership Award, Joshua Stiles

BY RODERIC SOUTHALL

“We’ve always done this,” Bill and Pam Werb say in unison, “It’s how we were raised.”

The husband and wife say that being raised, separately, by parents who experienced the Great Depression firsthand put them both on a lifelong path of sharing their time, talent and,

when possible, treasure with others in their community. They say they do their part out of a sense that we are all a part of a common community.

One of the Werbs’ primary passions is helping to develop human potential. This often means helping organizations within social services. They’ve given to an organization where disabled persons properly recycled computers, provided tax preparation for low-income residents, and supported the Girl Scouts. Their support of PFund’s grant and scholarship program is in this mix of community sharing.

The legacy of sharing in the Werb family is prompted by what they observed their parents do and receive. For example, Bill’s mother would be pleased to know that her post-church “lectures” echo in his mind and spirit as he and Pam have continued to gear their attention to helping make the community stronger. “Our parents taught us to leave the world a better place,” notes Pam.

They jointly recall that both had fathers who served in the military and received post-service education benefits. This sheds light on their decision to endow an educational scholarship at PFund. The endowment honors the spirit of their parents and rewards courage exhibited by LGBT students as they face intolerance. “They do the courageous work — courageous work in the face of intolerance,” says Pam. “We’re just the back line.”

“They are great volunteers,” says Susan Cogger, PFund director of development and communications. She cites the Werbs’ help on a diverse range of efforts, from assisting with mailings to staffing the PFund booth at Pride.

“It isn’t enough to give money and walk away,” Bill notes. “The lifting is easier if we all do our part.”

the perfect gift

BY SUSAN COGGER, DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

What makes the perfect gift? The fit, the color, or the thought? Sometimes the best gift is one that isn’t actually given to us, but donated in our honor to an organization that we support and are passionate about. Here are stories of two such gifts.



Charlaine Tolkien and Karen Hawley

A commitment to giving

Longtime PFund supporters Charlaine Tolkien and Karen Hawley wanted to celebrate Karen’s sixtieth birthday with a big party, and they wanted to use it as an opportunity to introduce their family and friends to three organizations they are passionate about: Tubman, the Women’s Foundation of Minnesota, and PFund.

Charlaine and Karen asked guests to donate to one (or more) of the organizations as a way to celebrate Karen’s birthday, and they sent an invitation with descriptions of each, and why they support the organizations. To sweeten the deal, Charlaine and Karen said they would match gifts to each organization, up to \$500 each. This proved to be compelling, and PFund received more than \$1,300.



David Skinner and Ryan Mckeever

Finding the perfect gift

David Skinner and Ryan Mckeever are newer PFund supporters. Ryan moved to Minnesota from Florida three years ago, and met David. As they started making friends as a couple, two of their new friends introduced them to PFund. When David and Ryan decided to have a commitment ceremony, inviting their family and friends, they thought of PFund right away.

“WE WANTED OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO CONTRIBUTE TO PFUND,” DAVID SAYS. “PFUND IS IN SYNCH WITH OUR BELIEFS AND VALUES.”

David and Ryan created a Web site with all the information about their ceremony. They included a message that, in lieu of gifts, they would like donations made to PFund, explaining why they support PFund. Their efforts introduced PFund to many new potential supporters, as well as generating close to \$1,000 for PFund programs.

A gift to PFund always fits, and never needs to be returned. In fact, it pays a return in changing lives and advancing equality. A perfect gift, indeed.



Lisa Kane and Anna Min at Evening with Music and Friends.

volunteer thank-you

Evening with Music and Friends

Thanks to our fabulous volunteers for making PFund's "An Evening with Music and Friends" a terrific thank-you event for our donors. The delicious food was prepared by **Richard Pietz** and **Ruth Mary Gens**,

and served with panache by super volunteers **Ryan Kroening** and **Michael Abdou**. Thank you, also, to PFund scholar **Anna Minn**, for sharing her story, and PFund scholar **Lisa Kane**, for entertaining us. And thanks to the talented **Kristen Frank**, who created a party mood at the piano.

Thanks to all, and to all of our donors and new friends who attended.

thanks for a garden party

This summer, PFund board member and donor **Tom Knabel** and his partner **Kent Allin** hosted a wonderful Lavender Legacy League party. The gardens at their home were delightful, and they filled us with fabulous food from their favorite caterer, **Scott Mackenzie**. We thank Tom and Kent for their hospitality. A great time was had by all.



Tom Knabel, Lois Carlson, Phil Oxman, Harvey Zuckman



Terry Williams, Alicia Cordes and Alfonso Wenker

PFund is a vital resource and community builder for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied communities by providing grants and scholarships, developing leaders and inspiring giving.

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