

GLBT Pride/Twin Cities



# Pride Release Press

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Melanie Ostrowski Appointed as Interim Community Outreach Director**

MINNEAPOLIS, MN - Appointed at it's board meeting last night, GLBT Pride/Twin Cities is pleased to welcome Melanie Ostrowski back to the Pride Board of Directors as our new Interim Community Outreach Director. Ms. Ostrowski filled the same position on the Pride Board prior to the 2000 season.

"I see being back as Community Outreach Director a wonderful opportunity to bring many of the local and regional GLBT groups together for common goals," said Ms. Ostrowski.

The Community Outreach Director is in charge of several Coordinators that plan a number of the smaller events of the Pride Celebration including the Pride Art Show, Pride Picnic and the Pride Boat Cruise and GLBT Pageant. A new coordinator position in the Community Outreach department is the Affiliated Events Coordinator, which is responsible for forging relationships with other community groups to co-host and plan a larger and more diverse slate of events for the Pride Celebration.

Pride President Jim Kelley said, "Melanie has shown her dedication to Pride by volunteering for the festival for the past five years, working all day for both days. I really look forward to working with her as the Community Outreach Director."

The title of "Interim" Director is a new introduction this year to the structure of the Pride Board. To be eligible for election to a Director position, candidates must have three months of experience working in some capacity with Pride within the previous two years. For candidates that do not meet this requirement, they may be appointed to the position in an "interim" capacity, where they do not have a vote and are subject to oversight by the President. Upon successfully completing three months in an interim capacity, they are automatically elevated to full Director status and gain a vote on matters before the Board.

Celebrating its 32<sup>nd</sup> year in 2004, GLBT Pride/Twin Cities, the organizer of the Twin Cities Gay-Lesbian-Bisexual-Transgender (GLBT) Pride Celebration, began in 1972 with a small group of activists meeting for a picnic in Minneapolis' Loring Park and a short march down Nicollet Mall. Over the intervening years, the Twin Cities Pride Celebration has grown to be the largest GLBT Pride in the region and 3<sup>rd</sup> largest in the United States, with an

estimated combined attendance in excess of 400,000 people at seven events. GLBT Pride/Twin Cities is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization.

It is the mission of GLBT Pride/Twin Cities to commemorate and celebrate our diverse heritage, to inspire the achievement of equality and challenge discrimination.

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