



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Local Musicians Band Together to Benefit Youth**

*New CD compilation "Safe Haven" features Portland's finest musicians*

PORTLAND, Ore. – This November, Sarah Dougher's independent recording label, Cherchez La Femme, will release the *Safe Haven for SMYRC* compilation CD to benefit the Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center (SMYRC). The CD features both national and local acts such as the Indigo Girls, The Decemberists, and Pink Martini who donated their songs to support this unique and crucial program for the Portland area's sexual minority youth.

"I feel when a musician chooses to make their life 'public', that person immediately has a social responsibility to use their visibility for change," said The Decemberists' band member Chris Funk. "By including ourselves on this CD, my band has chosen to stand up for an organization that is crucial for our city's children and young adults."

Funk, and other artists, went beyond contributing music to the project by helping to design cover art, publicize the CD and coordinate events.

Since 1998 SMYRC has provided a haven for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans-gendered, and Questioning (LGBTQ) youth. The CD brings together a diversity of artists including well-known local acts Ashleigh Flynn and Sneakin' Out, now-defunct electro pop stars Le Tigre, folksy spoken word hero Alix Olson, internationally known post-lounge band Pink Martini, Northwest rock giants The Decemberists, and classic lesbian duo Indigo Girls. *Safe Haven* also features a track by Sleater-Kinney, which gives this post-breakup CD the distinction of being one of the band's (and Le Tigre's) final releases.

"I'm 19 and have been attending SMYRC for three years," says one SMYRC youth. "SMYRC is important to me because in all honesty it has saved my life. It's given me a safe place where I can go and not have to worry about people calling me names or telling me that who I am is wrong."

At SMYRC, queer youth under the age of 24 can sink their teeth into expressing creatively through art, writing about their life experiences, learning how to cook healthy food, becoming a leader, and various activities that give them a chance to support each other, learn from mentors and find a sense of belonging.

A complete list of the songs, and artists, is attached. More information about SMYRC can be found online at [www.smyrc.org](http://www.smyrc.org). For more information about the CD, its release and events, please visit [www.cherchezlafemmeprojects.com](http://www.cherchezlafemmeprojects.com).

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## **SAFE HAVEN**

A compilation CD benefiting the Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center

### **Song, Artist**

"This Old Town", Ameer McCAA  
"House On Fire", Lara Michell  
"Sympatiqué", Pink Martini  
"Lidda Bidda Bliss", Cynthia Williams  
"The Poisoned Mine", Tara Jane O'Neil  
"You Got Love", Claire Bard  
"Ya Eyo Lubla", Irina Ryykin  
"Serendipity", Nicole Campbell  
"Augusta", Pamela Means  
"Leveled", Heathen Collective  
"DYKE", Tamara J. Brown  
"Keep On Livin'", Le Tigre  
"Sentimental", Bethany Lars/Spiraling Infinities  
"Step Aside", Sleater Kinney  
"Juanita", Anne Weiss  
"Puzzle", Vivian's Keeper  
"The Soldiering Life", The Decemberists  
"Maybe, Maybe Not", Ashleigh Flynn  
"Cool It", Sneakin' Out  
"Dairy Queen", Indigo Girls  
"Cute for a Girl", Alix Olson

Album produced by Dale Schiff, Haven Coffee Shop, with support from Chris Funk, Natalia Kay.

Mastering donated by Jon Cohrs, Spleenless Mastering  
([www.spleenlessmastering.com](http://www.spleenlessmastering.com))