

abby's closet

Announcing...

THE DATES FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL PROM BOUTIQUE (Give-Away Event)

Lots of volunteers will be needed for the Prom Boutique! Please save these dates: **April 8-9, 2006** (Sat. and Sun.). We are excited to announce that we have moved the event to a larger venue, the **Oregon Convention Center**, and added one additional shopping day, so we can accommodate even more girls. We especially want to recognize and again thank the **Red Lion Hotel – Portland Convention Center**. They took a chance on us last year when we were a brand-new organization and sponsored our first Prom Boutique. We can't thank them enough for their partnership.

This year, we want to do an even better job of spreading the word about this program to high school girls who could benefit from it. If you would like to help with this effort, please email us.

Welcome!!

OUR NEWEST PARTNERS

This organization would not be able to function without the help of many partners. We are so appreciative. Please be sure to thank them and support their businesses. Welcome to our newest partners (dress collection drop-off sites):

Beaverton: **EMILY ANDREWS PORTRAIT DESIGN** (Emily Andrews)
Beaverton: **IVERSON & SPITZER CPA'S** (Diane Iverson)
E. Portland: **THE LAMPLIGHTERS** (Jan Saari)
Tualatin: **CURVES** - Tualatin
SW Portland: **LIVEWIRE** (Whitney Adams)

President's Corner

Happy New Year! We hope you and your family enjoyed the holiday season. The focus for our family was getting Abby (a junior at Univ. of Oregon) organized and packed up to study abroad in Australia for one term. She left Portland on Dec. 28 and rang in the new year at the Sydney Harbor (along with 1.5 million other people). Abby will be back in March, in time to help with final preparations for the second annual Prom Boutique (give-away event).

It's hard to believe that this organization has hit the one-year mark. It was a short time ago that

we were cleaning out Abby's closet before she left for college, and wanted to give her prom gowns to a high-school girl. When we couldn't find a local organization to accept them, we recruited family and friends to start our own nonprofit organization. Last year we collected over 1,000 gowns and hundreds of girls received free dresses at our first Prom Boutique. Our goal this year is to collect at least 1,500 prom (formal) dresses. We need your help. Please consider organizing a dress collection drive at your business, school, church, club, etc. It's easy to do. We will supply you with flyers, posters, tax receipts and suggestions. You can also help by forwarding this newsletter and an email to family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, etc. to ask for their help. You might also consider purchasing a prom dress and donating it to us (or send us the \$\$, and we'll do the shopping!). Donation drop-off sites are listed on our website. Please be sure to contact us if you have any questions or suggestions. Our mission is to help make girls' prom dreams come true.

Happy New Year!

Sally Egland

High School Dress Donation Drives

- We have 14 local high schools, so far, who have volunteered to sponsor a dress donation drive: Catlin Gabel, Central Catholic, Century, Cleveland, Franklin, Jesuit, Lakeridge, LaSalle, Oregon Episcopal, St. Mary's, Tualatin, West Linn, Westview, Wilson.
- We are so thrilled to have many girls who are eager to begin the process of helping other girls make their prom dreams a reality!! Let us know if you would like to organize a drive at your school.
- We are having a kick-off meeting on Thursday January 26th to meet all our school contacts for our dress drives! The volunteers will receive all the materials they will need to run a successful dress donation drive for Abby's Closet at their school!
- If you would like to be involved in our dress drives, please contact us at abbysclosetdonations@comcast.net.

Wish List

- Clothing steamer
- Rolling dress racks
- Standing mirrors

Abby's Words

Hey Everyone!

Happy New Year from the land down unda! If you don't know, I am in Sydney, Australia. I will be studying and traveling here for the next couple months. So far, I am having the time of my life. It's the most beautiful place I have ever seen, and the beaches are amazing :) You will definitely be seeing pictures when I get back in March. I feel bad not being able to help with Abby's Closet for a while, but I appreciate all of your volunteer efforts. Good luck with the start of the prom dress drives!! Talk to you soon.

Thanks again!!

-Abby Egland



Dates to Remember

January 1 – March 24: Dress donation drives
January 26: High school dress drive kick-off
April 8 - 9: Prom Boutique (give-away event) @ Oregon Convention Center

Thanks!

...to our continuing partners, including:
ADP, Blynda Barnett, J. Meyer Salon, Kuni BMW, Maunu Printing, NIKE, True Value Hardware - Sellwood, VanKirk's Florist, WorldRelo Realtors

One magical night. The music. The dancing. The memories. The dress....

Thanks for helping make Prom dreams come true!!

Helping prom dreams come true ...

Abby's Closet, Inc. is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. Our Mission: To collect prom dresses, and distribute them (free of charge) to girls in the Portland-metro area who might be unable to attend their prom due to the cost.

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