



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Groups Attacked by Ann Coulter Will Benefit From Her Xavier Visit

CINCINNATI, August 8, 2007 – In a surprising twist, groups typically attacked by controversial ultra conservative Ann Coulter are to see her visiting Xavier University in Cincinnati.

That's because they are asking for \$5 donations in the hopes of raising money for Xavier student groups who represent the values Coulter vilifies in her speeches and writings. Her speaking fees reportedly range from \$20,000 to \$30,000. That equals about \$5 for every student enrolled at Xavier University.

The groups leading the "counter Coulter" effort range from Xavier student groups to local groups like Equality Cincinnati to statewide organizations like Equality Ohio and ProgressOhio.org. National organizations like People for the American Way and the Human Rights Campaign have also joined in the effort. A full list of co-sponsoring organizations is listed below. On September 6th, the groups will be holding a special forum and presenting all the funds raised to date.

"Our goal was to empower student groups on Xavier's campus that seek to expand the conversation beyond divisive rhetoric," said Bo Shuff, Director of Education and Public Policy for Equality Ohio. "We hope the money helps students to promote real dialogue about American values like compassion and civil rights."

Coulter is a conservative columnist, a political commentator, and a best-selling author. Her controversial in-your-face style was described by one newspaper as "Rush Limbaugh in a miniskirt". Coulter was recently in the news for insinuating that presidential candidate John Edwards is a "faggot".

Daniel Drent, Vice President of Equality Cincinnati said, "Cincinnati is not the city it was a few years ago. With the repeal of Article XXII and the failed petition drive of last year, the people of Cincinnati have shown they do not support the beliefs of someone like Ms. Coulter. This a great opportunity, in positive and clear manner, to show that words she and others like her speak, are not what the people of Cincinnati believe in."

"Every protest and every heckler she attracts wherever she appears means more publicity for her and bigger speaking fees," said Patrick McNearney, President of the Xavier Gay-Straight Alliance. "We are glad to be able to do something different that is a win for the Xavier community."

"Whenever someone as divisive as Ann Coulter comes to our state, we can't just sit on our hands," said Brian Rothenberg, Executive Director of Progress Ohio. "We can stoop to her level, or we can take the opportunity to promote important values like diversity, compassion, and

or we can take the opportunity to promote important values like diversity, compassion, and equality. We chose the latter.”

To take part in this effort click here: <https://secure.ga4.org/01/thanksann>, or mail your donation to:

Thanks Ann

c/o Equality Cincinnati

318 East Fourth Street

Cincinnati Ohio, 45202

For more information on Equality Cincinnati, or if you would like to become a member please visit their website at www.equalitycincinnati.org.

Equality Cincinnati is a non-profit organization working for full equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people in the greater Cincinnati region.

Sponsors to Date

Equality Ohio
Equality Cincinnati
The Human Rights Campaign
Progress Ohio
National Organization for Women – Cincinnati
People for the American Way
Democracy for Cincinnati

Xavier Student Groups to Benefit to Date

Xavier's Gay-Straight Alliance
Amnesty International
Habitat for Humanity
Earthcare

