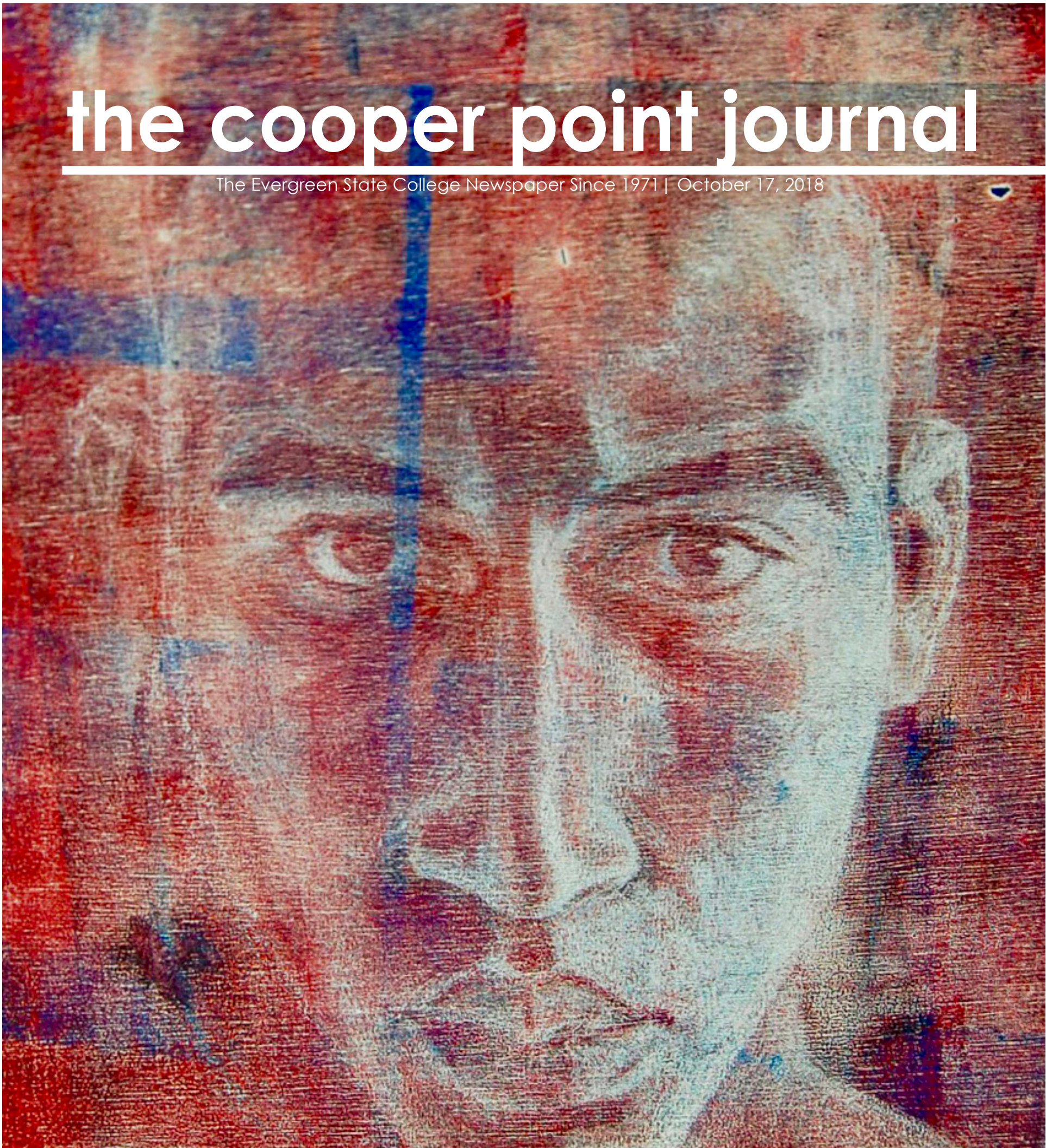


the cooper point journal

The Evergreen State College Newspaper Since 1971 | October 17, 2018



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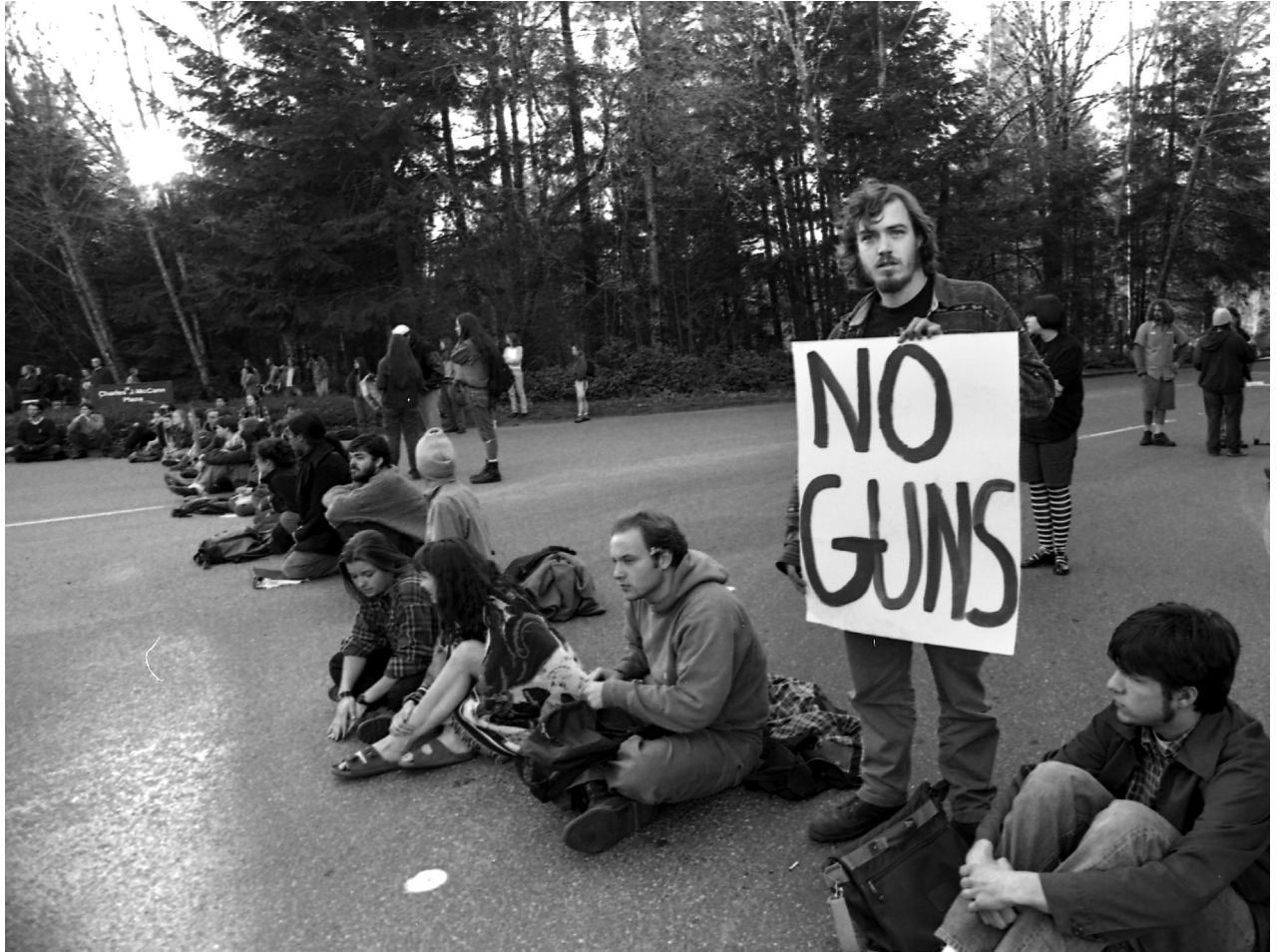
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FROM THE ARCHIVES Students protest arming Evergreen police with guns, 1995. by DEBRA GERTH

HOW WE WORK

The Cooper Point Journal is produced by students at The Evergreen State College, with funding from student fees and advertising from local businesses. The Journal is published for free every other Wednesday during the school year and distributed throughout the Olympia area.

Our content is also available online at www.cooperpointjournal.com.

Our mission is to provide an outlet for student voices, and to inform and entertain the Evergreen community and the Olympia-area more broadly, as well as to provide a platform for students to learn about operating a news publication.

Our office is located on the third floor of the Campus Activities Building (CAB) at The Evergreen State College in room 332 and we have open student meetings from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. every Wednesday. Come early if you'd like to chat with the editor!

WORK FOR US

We accept submissions from any student at The Evergreen State College, and also from former students, faculty, and staff. We also hire some students onto our staff, who write articles for each issue and receive a learning stipend.

Have an exciting news topic? Know about some weird community happening? Enjoy that new hardcore band? Come talk to us and write about it.

We will also consider submissions from non-Evergreen people, particularly if they have special knowledge on the topic. We prioritize current student content first, followed by former students, faculty and staff, and then general community submissions. Within that, we prioritize content related to Evergreen first, followed by Olympia, the state of Washington, the Pacific Northwest, etc.

To submit an article, reach us at cooperpointjournal@gmail.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want to hear from you! If you have an opinion on anything we've reported in the paper, or goings-on in Olympia or at Evergreen, drop us a line with a paragraph or two (100 - 300 words) for us to publish in the paper. Make sure to include your full name, and your relationship to the college—are you a student, staff, graduate, community member, etc. We reserve the right to edit anything submitted to us before publishing, but we'll do our best to consult with you about any major changes.



POLICE SERVICES HAVE AR-15 RIFLES

PRESIDENT BRIDGES QUIETLY APPROVED PURCHASE IN 2017

By FOREST HUNT

Emails obtained by the Cooper Point Journal and subsequent investigation show Evergreen's Police Services quietly purchased AR-15 semi-automatic rifles in 2017 without notifying the campus community.

On Aug. 1, 2017 then Director of Police Services Stacey Brown requested the purchase of AR-15 rifles for police services on campus in an email to College President George Bridges.

On Aug. 15, despite Brown's subsequent resignation, Bridges granted her request. Two days later he approved new rifle procedures.

In one fell swoop, behind closed doors, Evergreen's Police Services had achieved a goal it has been doggedly pursuing in the face of mass community opposition since at least 2008.

Brown's email called for the purchase of five semi-automatic AR-15 rifles, projected

to cost \$12 thousand in total with a continuing upkeep of \$1 thousand per year. Four of the rifles would be stored in patrol vehicles with the fifth residing in the station. However, Police Services Standard Operating Procedures allows all officers to use "personally owned" rifles in place of the ones issued to them, allowing for the potential of ten additional rifles if each officer used their own. The procedures also permit each on-duty patrol officer to carry a rifle in their vehicle, meaning that each police vehicle could have multiple rifles depending on the number of on-duty officers present.

The AR-15 rifle was developed in the 1950s for the United States Military. The rifles use .22 caliber rounds shot at high speeds which are intended to cause serious bodily harm at large distances.

Brown called for a plethora of changes, including addi-

tional officers, communication staff, and mandatory active shooter orientations for new students, faculty, and staff. She requested crowd control equipment including OC-10 pepper spray and pepper balls, modernized radio infrastructure, door locking systems, and alarms. Brown also asked to expand campus surveillance systems beyond the current 55 cameras, including the addition of cameras to Red Square and body cameras for officers.

In his brief response, Bridges agreed to seek funding for all these proposals in a supplemental budget request, his only conditions being that additional surveillance systems be "discussed more broadly on campus" and office requests be made to the campus "space committee." Many of the requests lack budget estimations. Those that do include estimates add up to a one time cost of \$21 thousand and an

annual cost of \$393 thousand.

In an email to the Journal, President Bridges asked Sandra Kaiser, Vice President of Public Relations, to speak on his behalf "regarding this decision" and the "concerns" that led to it. Despite Bridges' request, Kaiser never explicitly spoke to details of the decision or external concerns that Bridges referenced.

When asked about consultation with the Board of Trustees regarding the decision, Kaiser said, "I'll have to check into that."

None of the publically available minutes from board meetings over the past two years make any mention of purchasing rifles. The Board has played an integral role in arbiting over



"There weren't campus forums or surveys for this decision"



Kaiser did say, "The decision making was by the President." There was no indication of consultation with Wendy Endress, Vice President of Student Affairs who oversaw Police Services at the time.

police services continuing requests for rifles in the past.

Last year's Police Community Review Board Chair, Dr. Kelly Brown said the Board was not consulted or

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involved in the decision to authorize police services to purchase rifles, which was confirmed by Vice President of Finance and Operations John Carmichael.

Dr. Brown was unavailable for further comment before press, and Carmichael flatly refused to offer an explanation as to why the Review Board was not consulted.

Carmichael, who Police Services presently reports to, spoke with surprising clarity to the secrecy of the rifle decision: "There weren't campus forums or surveys for this decision," Carmichael said.

safer from an active shooter if police had these arms, and, in the words of Carmichael, "We have come to a conclusion that if we are gonna have police on campus they are going to have police things."

Kaiser invoked the events surrounding student protests of spring 2017, referring to "turmoil", including the threat the college received from a New Jersey man which shut down the campus and lead to graduation being relocated at a cost of \$100 thousand. While first acknowledging he knew it would make some feel unsafe, Carmichael said,

happen on our campus, that was the day, and nothing happened," said Vavrus. "I remember when somebody got in a tower at the University of Texas 1966 and just started shooting on the campus... colleges didn't go and suddenly get rifles. There have been instances on colleges throughout the years where police being armed wouldn't have changed the situation."

Former Academic Budget Dean Ken Tubbutt did a back-of-a-napkin calculation in a 2009 email to faculty responding to an earlier rifle proposal, concluding that, "the probability of an event [involving a shooter] happening on a specific campus each year is $P(x) = 0.0003$ or once in every 3,140 years."

"I am not implying that an event only happens every 3,140 years - there may very well be an active shooter on the same campus two years in a row, or even in the same year," said Tubbett. "It is just an attempt to put the probability of these events in perspective."

Sarah Boucher, a student, worried that perceptions of Evergreen students as "scary and crazy" after the 2017 protests may have played a part in the decision. "Are they for us, or are they for intruders?" she wondered.

Another student H.L. said, "It seems like these rifles were purchased in defense of Evergreen as an institution instead of in defense of the students."

"The campus is a safer place than it was," insisted Kaiser, Vice President of Public Relations. "I would say that we have really good law enforcement officers on campus. They're very highly trained, they really care about the people on this campus."

This stands in direct contradiction to the testimony of many community members who brought up instances of concerning behavior and misconduct on the part of Evergreen police. Kay Kovac, a student and

former Resident Assistant, said police would "come in and stand there with their hands on their gun belts and just hover," and that she was worried they might use their weapons.

Vavrus recounted that the officer in spring 2008 in charge of taser trainings "chased an inebriated student into the forest and tasered that student." He also underlined a May 13, 2009 incident when Officer Brewster threatened to taser participants of a street theatre performance on campus "if it went too far."

H.L. said, "As a person of color, I must say, yes, people of color are in particular risk of fatal injury when police are involved. Black and brown people endure the possibility of brutal force when police are present, full stop. These are officers at a seemingly progressive institution, but this does not absolve them from implicit biases regarding race which are so pervasive in our society." They concluded, "You have to consider who's the most vulnerable at Evergreen." For these reasons, H.L. declined to give their name.

Several people pointed to the recent shooting of an unarmed black student at Portland State University and the efforts by students there to completely disarm their campus police. H.L. warned it's possible for what happened in Portland to happen at Evergreen.

Officers with Police Services deferred comment to

the college's Public Relations department, which did not respond on their assessed the college following campus protests in 2017 and declining enrollment.

While it did recommend campus wide active shooter trainings, increasing funding and "support" for police services, as well as "minimizing use of force," the report did not contain any specific mention of rifles. It did, however, call on administrators to ensure the college "restores a sense of trust and transparency among campus constituencies" and increases "opportunities for campus-wide engagement with the issues." It recommended "active in-person presence of leadership with the faculty, staff, and students" and "frank communication and bold leadership."

The report warns that not implementing these changes risks "a deterioration of the fabric of the campus community, characterized by feelings of mistrust and exclusion from the administration."



Next week we will publish a follow up article chronicling the communities reaction to this decision, if you have any comments send them to Cooperpointjournal@gmail.com.

H.L. is an Evergreen student who elected to use a pseudonym for this article



"I felt the police suffered from weapons envy."



When asked if there were any announcements, emails, public forums, polls, votes, or consultations with campus committees, unions, governance groups, including the Geoduck Student Union, Faculty Agenda Committee, or Staff governance structures, Kaiser answered, "Not that I know of."

Brandon Ellington, a Representative of the Geoduck Student Union, confirmed he had not been consulted, saying, "I should have had at least one significant conversation with administrators about this decision. Like several major college initiatives, I feel quite left out."

Steve Blakeslee, Chair of the Faculty Agenda Committee, confirmed, "The issue did not come before either the agenda committee or the faculty at large last year."

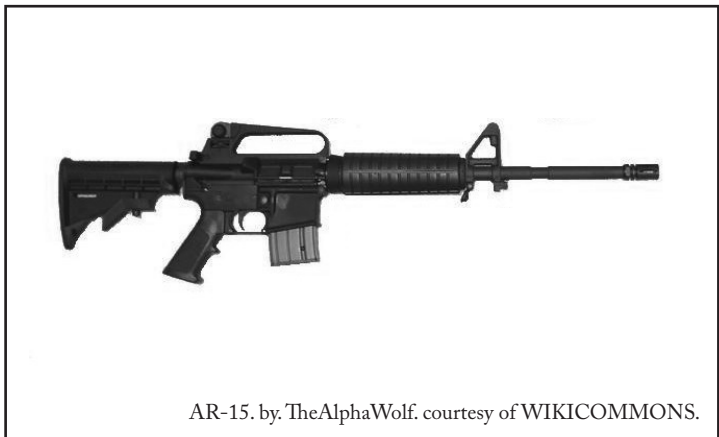
Senior members of the administration fell back on several recurring themes to justify the decision during interviews: rifles are present at all public colleges across the state, campus would be

"In some scenarios we were forced to contemplate last year, having police appropriately equipped with rifles is safer for the campus."

Michael Vavrus, Professor Emeritus and former member of the Police Community Review Board, thinks the decision boiled down to something simpler. "I felt the police suffered from weapons envy," he said. He added that the police's rhetoric felt like it was out of the Wild West, with officers imagining themselves "coming in on their white horses and rescuing people", and it felt like a "macho show."

He also responded to the suggestion that the events of spring 2017 necessitated this response by pointing out the college has gone through much tenses situations in the past, particularly when graduates invited Mumia Abu-Jamal to be their commencement speaker in 1999. Abu-Jamal was convicted for killing a Philadelphia police officer in 1982.

"If anything was going to



AR-15. by TheAlphaWolf. courtesy of WIKICOMMONS.

EQUITY SYMPOSIUM: CULTIVATING INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

By ZAE

This past week, The Evergreen State College held its first annual Fall Equity Symposium, designed to deepen the dialogue on equity and inclusiveness on campus. Held by Evergreen's Equity and Inclusion Department, the two day event was, "designed to empower the Evergreen community with tools to create a stronger sense of belonging on campus. Additionally, the symposium is designed to have a meaningful impact in communities beyond the collegial hemisphere. Participants will receive the opportunity to further develop their cultural-competency skills as well as their understanding of how they can contribute to fostering a more inclusive and equitable environment."

The Vice President for the Equity and Inclusion Department, Chassity Holliman-Douglas, envisioned the symposium as a space for the cultivation of inclusive excellence, a term she has coined from the work she has done in the department. Inclusive excellence looks at equity, diversity and inclusion through an egalitarian lens, which does not equate the student to a number, instead, identifies each individual in a holistic sense. The Vice Provost's work centers on identifying what the mind, body, and soul need, and caters unique resources as nourishment for each individual.

LaToya Johnson, former

Assistant to Vice President of Equity and Inclusion, worked intimately on the development and execution of the Fall Equity Symposium. When asked what attendees can expect to gain from the Symposium, Johnson hopes that people will leave with an understanding of inclusive excellence and the motivation to inspire others. The current Administrative Assistant to the Director of the Police Department states, "The reason why other colleges cannot get the student numbers [statistically] accomplished, is because they forget that they're working with real people, real students. Poverty is real; people of color and things that they go through are real; socioeconomic statuses, regardless of what their race is, are real; disabilities are real. That is a thing we forget on this campus a lot, is that there are visible and invisible disabilities that we are not adequately serving. We're focused on how we are [serving them], and less on how we are not [serving them]."

Johnson goes on to mention that this is a valuable opportunity for faculty and staff to understand their students needs. She believes it is important for faculty and staff to know what resources are available to help a student in need. In response, Thursday began with a Multicultural Networking and Resource Fair, where on and off campus departments and vendors

congregated to provide information and services to Evergreen students, faculty, and staff. TRiO, Police Services, The Veterans Resource Center, and The Health and Wellness Center were among many of the on campus support groups featured at the fair. On Friday, students, faculty, and staff had an opportunity to attend workshops on fields of study related to equity and inclusion.

Each day came to a close with a keynote speech set to define and inspire equity and inclusion. Dr. Terrell Strayhorn, Founding CEO of Do Good Work Educational Consulting LLC., gave the keynote speech Thursday evening. Dr. Strayhorn was introduced by President of Evergreen, George Bridges, who took a moment to honor the Squaxin Island Tribe for the stolen land on which the College resides. Bridges closed his introductions by stating, "We, as Evergreen, must change as society changes."

Strayhorn is an internationally-acclaimed student success scholar, renowned public speaker, and an accredited writer, whose research focuses on the prime policy issues in education, regarding student access and achievement; collegial impact on students; student learning and development; and issues of race, equity, and diversity.

The Professor of Urban Education at LeMoyne-Owen College

voices the importance of belonging, which is created through a sense of feeling and believing one matters. Studies show that students who feel as though they do not belong on their campus lack a meaningful connection to fellow students, faculty and staff, and the overall campus environment. A lack of connection directly impacts how a student interacts with their academia. This potentially harms students if one considers Strayhorn's point that, "Colleges and universities are training grounds for larger communities... they are the microcosms of larger communities."

"You have a story, each story is unique," Dr. Strayhorn states to the awestruck crowd. He believes the first task in cultivating inclusive excellence is in individuals admitting that they do not know anything about the people who differ from them. It is also in understanding the five admittances: race and identity still matter; our lives matter; opportunity is structured in this society, it is not distributed equally; that living together takes work; and mistakes will be made along the way.

"Where do we show up? Where do we not show up? What makes a person worthy of respect and dignity?" are all questions that prompted Strayhorn's research. "No one wants to feel lonely," he voiced, "everyone wants to feel like they belong." The goal is to create, "places of belonging where all people feel like they belong here... not tolerated but [that they] belong here." Strayhorn states that, education is liberation: "Pedagogy is liberating. It should unlock the potential of a student, that is exactly the job of the educator."

Strayhorn concluded his speech with a personal story on his own experiences in reclaiming his personhood in academic and/or professional settings. After many laughs, the audience was brought back to decorum to participate in an activity. Attendees were asked to turn to a neighbor in the crowd whom they do not know. Once people made introductions with their partner, they recited after Strayhorn the words, "You matter, you are enough, you are here on purpose, and you belong here." People also repeated these words to themselves, as an act of self-appreciation.

Dr. Strayhorn's parting words were, "When you are good to others, others are good to you." During the give back portion of the night, Attendees of Thursday night's keynote had the opportunity to give thanks to Dr. Strayhorn, for his insightful and passionate words. Strayhorn's speech was characterized as "validating, motivating, and personable," by those in the audience. Many people boldly shared their personal experiences in feeling marginalized, alienated and/or unaccepted in the Evergreen community. These individuals were so moved by Strayhorn's keynote, many noted that it empowered a new confidence within them to reclaim the community they so rightfully belong in.

After the workshops on Friday, a final keynote speech was presented. The Evergreen State College had the pleasure of engaging with Dr. Joy DeGruy, researcher, social scientist, and author of the critically-acclaimed book *Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome: America's Legacy of Enduring Injury and Healing*.

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“With over twenty years of practical experience as a professional in the field of social work, [DeGruy] gives a practical insight into various cultural and ethnic groups that form the basis of contemporary American society.” Dr. DeGruy conducts workshops on Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome; diversity training; healing work; culture specific models; community building; and gang and violence prevention. She is currently collaborating with Oprah on her upcoming seven part series, “Belief.”

Dr. DeGruy’s Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome, in theory and in text, analyzes the intersectionality between racism, trauma and American chattel slavery; its lingering effects of trauma on African descendents in the Americas. She works to educate and advocate the theory of Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome. Based on her research, DeGruy has “developed a culturally based education model for working with children and adults of color.”

When you bring up Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome in conversation, the individuals it discomforts have a visceral response to it, DeGruy begins. She states that people are far too often dismissive of the theory. “You can’t say slavery, but you can say holocaust... I don’t need permission to talk about my holocaust,” DeGruy boldly declares.

“This isn’t rare, unique or unheard, it simply is history... [and] you were miseducated,” DeGruy states upon providing the horrific evidence which supports her theory. She discusses the differences of American chattel slavery and other periods of slavery: the manner in which Africans were enslaved, the duration of enslavement (339 years), the treatment of enslaved Africans, and finally, how African slaves were per-

ceived in regards to their humanity. This history, DeGruy says, developed into the backbone of our entire economy.

“We have lots of dimensions to us,” DeGruy states. The Symposium offered multiple accounts and versions of identity erasure, showing how such erasures function for the majority who forcefully assume power. And so, how does one individually and collectively reclaim these stolen or dismissed identities? How does one probe such a change? Dr. DeGruy believes we are on the precipice of change. “America is a divine experiment,” she says, “The rest of the world is looking right now saying shame on you America, shame on you.”

The words of Dr. DeGruy and Dr. Strayhorn, along with the workshops and fair offered, mark the beginning of Evergreen’s most recent road towards realizing campus equity and inclusion. The hope is for attendees to walk away with a newfound spark of inspiration, motivation, and confidence. A big stride was taken last week in providing students, faculty and staff the resources to nourish their needs, and the many workshops offered insight for us to understand one another on a profound level.



OLYMPIA ARAB FESTIVAL

By STEPH BECK FEY

“Our goal is to bring Arab culture closer to home.” This is the mission statement from the program of the Olympia Arab Festival, hosted biannually during Artswalk by the Rachel Corrie Foundation for Peace & Justice.

This year marked the fourth festival since 2012, and “each year has been better than the last,” said Cindy Corrie, Rachel Corrie Foundation Board President and a main organizer of the event. As she put it, “one of the gifts of the festival is that we can make connections that can lead people to action, to learn what’s going on and to get involved, but at the same time we can celebrate things that are pretty universally enjoyable from all of these cultures.”

Walking into the Olympia Center for the event, the celebration of Middle Eastern culture and identity was strikingly front and center. The walls were colorfully decorated with the flags of Arab countries. The food truck outside the entrance sold halal gyros. The vendors’ tables showcased a variety of traditional arts and clothing. The bands played Moroccan reggae and Egyptian folk music, and when a band wasn’t on-stage, arabic pop music blared from speakers. Overall, the atmosphere in the main ballroom was appropriately festive and the sounds of conversation, commerce, and music all combined to make the relatively cozy space feel much larger than it was.

As Corrie suggested, all this celebration was not without its more serious elements of advocacy and education. At the vendors’ tables, organizations such as the Palestinian Heritage Group and A Piece of Peace raised money for Palestinian causes. Off to the side of the main ballroom, an art room exhibited Luke Somers’ “A Day In The Life of Yemen,” documenting both the joys and

suffering of the late photographer’s war-torn adopted country. Down the hall, even farther away from the ballroom, a quiet space was set aside for panel discussions on current issues in the Middle East as well as heady topics of history and identity.

Questions of identity in particular ran through almost all of the discussion. As the Arab world is made up of many individual nations with their own cultures, there was a distinct push-pull between identifying with a nation and identifying as Arab in a broader sense.

Discussing this divide at the “Arab Youth Culture” panel, student activist Samia Saliba described her own experience. “Growing up here in the [Arab] diaspora, I tend not to identify as Lebanese-American as much as just Arab-American,” she said. She expressed hope that connecting people from the Middle East with people from the diaspora could lead to a pan-Arab movement that “[recognizes] differences between experiences while building communities across borders.”

Building those communities is never easy, and the presentation immediately following came as a harsh reminder of that. In his presentation, “Embracing Yemen”, Dr. Mohamed Ali Alawadhi reviewed the recent history leading up to the ongoing Yemeni civil war as well as possible political solutions. Discussing Yemen’s current poverty, he emphasized the wealth of natural resources in the country and the industrial advantages it should theoretically have. “We’re not supposed to be poor,” he said. “This was done to us.” He went on to condemn international exploitation of Yemen’s resources and termed the Saudi intervention in the war “a genocide.” Dr. Alawadhi wasn’t speaking as an Arab in any pan-Arabist

sense; he spoke as a Yemeni concerned for his country. Discussing an intra-Arab conflict, national identity comes first — context is everything.

For the final presentation of the afternoon, “Contemporary Arab-African Relations,” Dr. Sarah Eltantawi (professor of comparative religion here at Evergreen) looked at that fungibility of identity in a specifically North African context. She said that, when she asks Egyptians whether they consider themselves “African,” a common joke she hears is that “when African teams do well in the World Cup, we are African.” After a presentation covering over a millennium of history and a multitude of current events, she said, for her own part as an Egyptian, “Of course I identify as African. And Arab. And a lot of other things at other times. But what does that even mean?” As the preceding few hours had demonstrated, that question never has just one answer.

The festival concluded with a performance on the main stage by Jafra Dabke, a troupe from Seattle that specializes in a kind of folk dance called dabke, common throughout the Levant. The dance was joyous and energetic and everyone clapped along. As the show ramped up, the performers began to dance off the stage until they were all dancing in a large circle around the room. As they danced, audience members began to get up and join. It was an exhilarating end to the event and a fairly on-the-nose metaphor for its mission of community-building through sharing culture.

After what seemed like both forever and no time at all, the dance ended, and the Olympia Arab Fest concluded with some brief closing words from the Master of Ceremonies. Hopefully the Fest will return in 2020, better than ever.

"Empowerment through Education" mural outside the new SEAL office. DANIEL VOGEL.



STUDENT EQUITY & ARTS LOUNGE OPENS

By MARTA TAHJA-SYRETT

After the long awaited move from the Library Building, the Student Equity and Arts Lounge (SEAL) is now located in a naturally-lit room on the third floor of the College Activities Building. The SEAL celebrated its grand opening on Oct. 4. I met with Samuel Silvestro, the peer coordinator for Transgender Support and Resources at the SEAL. We discussed events and activities connected to the space in addition to its role on campus.

What is the purpose that the SEAL serves?

"Well it's not only a meeting and gathering space in general for students that maybe don't have the easiest time navigating academia, or maybe, academia doesn't feel cut out for them. We prioritize minoritized students and it's also a really great place where intersections meet. So because of our merging with the Trans and Queer center and also the First People's Multicultural Advising, we're really just like intersectionality, kind of personified right now. It's a really great space for people to access multiple parts of their identities."

What kind of activities and events are associated with

the Student Equity and Arts Lounge?

"So we have weekly events, like Monday nights we have someone from the QuaSR Quantitative and Symbolic Reasoning Center. We have a tutoring time. There is an Unlearning White Supremacy Group that happens every week. There's specific groups for both women and men of color. We have identity-based groups and then we also have just different things that pop up. We have T4T4Tea which is a gender-blending mixer. It's for trans and gender non-conforming students and it's tea-party themed. If they're students of color, queer and trans students, both of course, that have ideas they could come to us and we can help make events happen."

The QuaSR, a tutoring center on campus, is devoted to helping students in subjects such as economics, general chemistry, organic chemistry, physics, mathematics, biology, and statistics. Their mission is "to promote retention and equitable outcomes across gender, race, socioeconomic status and background in science and mathematics."

Can you describe the merging

of the Trans and Queer Center and the Multicultural Center?

"I know that the Trans and Queer Center just started a couple years ago and that the First People's presence here has been almost since the college has started, starting with the Non-White Coalition, in I think the late sixties and the early seventies. And then there was the Third-World Coalition and then just with the way that academic language around race politics and stuff like that was changed it became the Multicultural Advising Center, and then First People's. So there's been all this development in both parts of campus in terms of support for students of color, and then trans and queer students. With this merging, we're trying to recognize the benefit that could happen from these inclusive spaces, from these intersectional spaces. They're important reasons that those offices were separate for a long time. Commitment to equity, actual equity — I think this space is just really on the forefront of that."

What do you think is valuable about having this resource available to people at Evergreen?

"Oh, it's huge. I moved to Olympia eight years ago and

didn't become a student until two years ago but knowing that there was a center on campus that even just had the name 'trans' in it is huge. And talking with new students during orientation week and people being like, 'I've never seen so many people that are out'— I mean even just the visibility is huge. I think having a space where people can just be comfortable, do homework, relax, seek resources. We have like herbal teas for stress time and all that stuff. If you just need a snack, if you just need to see someone that mirrors your experience because that can be hard to find sometimes in collegiate settings. And then there's like fun stuff too like when we're having a tea party or food-based events. We're going to have a ballot party just trying to make community engagement fun, too. So it's just a good space for what I said: community organizing, community building, personal identity development."

I saw on the web-page that the Lounge offers workshops and I was just was wondering what kind of topics will be discussed at the workshops?

"So it really is up to depending on who wants to do the workshops. I know the students that work here who were being encouraged to put on workshops. I was talking about doing a harm-reduction one, kind of like a harm-reduction 101, like what is harm-reduction, how does that apply not only in this space but in our communities at large. People were talking about doing just different kinds of skill-shares, whether it be art or computer stuff. Tonight there is actually going to be a grad school workshop on how to intern to grad school and how to apply and do all that gnarly leg work. So it's kind of all over the gamut. Some stuff is more political, some stuff is skill-based. The options are really kind of limitless."

Why did you choose to accept

this position?

"Well I think as a non-traditional student being able to plug in on campus felt hard for me at first, even in a place that is pretty liberal and diverse like Evergreen. Then I never even knew that the Trans and Queer Center really existed because it was kind of tucked away and I didn't come to campus during their normal business hours because I'm an evening and weekend student. When I heard that the merger was happening and then that there was student positions available I just was thrilled because I have a background in community organizing and working with trans and queer youth and just doing a lot of kinds of community-oriented work."

It just seemed like such a cool place to be able to work and have that opportunity as a student to work with other trans students. Things like that and to be able to offer support and resources. Even though Olympia is a really resourced place it can be hard to know where to find those resources and I have a lot of experience navigating that on my own, and it's just a cool experience to be able to offer that to maybe younger students that haven't lived here for ten years and haven't been trans for ten years and just need a little extra support. I was really excited to do that and then to also interface with other faculty and administration just to keep pushing for more and more equity on campus. It's been great to see the changes with more non-gendered bathrooms or gender-inclusive bathrooms, whatever terminology you want to use. ... I've seen that change in eight years since living here and it's easier for me to pee on campus because of it. If I can keep that momentum going for future gender non-conforming students, that just made it seem like the dreamiest job ever." ■

A full list of events sponsored by the new Lounge is available in the SEAL.



“In the industry that I’m trying to get into, it’s really about connection. At this point from what I’m noticing it’s not even about your skill anymore, because there’s so many great artists out there.”

YUKIM

artist interview by
Brittanyana Pierro

NOMOTO

How would you describe your art style?

"I guess it's more towards realistic style because I do a lot of human figure drawing and studying human anatomy. But I guess there's a slight style to it, everyone has a style. Nothing's perfectly realistic ... I do mainly characters, people drawing."

What is your favorite art form in general and also to use? What influences your art?

"My favorite art form or art medium I guess would be digital. It's not my most comfortable yet. It's still a little hard to get used to. My most flexible, and one I find more comfort in would be you know drawing or um, just like pen drawing."

How has your art evolved?

"That's the interesting this is like, everybody assumes that I always drew people ... when I was a kid, but how I really started was I drew stick figures, like religiously... Hands down I drew more stick figures than anyone. I made like a little scene of war with like stick figures swarming toward each other, like little actions going here and there, each of them interacting with each other, punching each other, shooting each other. I drew cartoons, and then eventually I started looking at other artists, being inspired by doing what they're doing, and then I started kind trying to copy them a little bit, picking up on how they do things. Then I think maybe around 12 outta nowhere I remember I just started studying human anatomy, and I started taking it super seriously ... That kinda led to now, being able to draw people."

What inspires your art?

"I guess the only thing that kinda keeps me going and doing my art is kind of my dream of working in the entertainment industry. I went to an art high school my [sophomore] year, and I started seeing all the pre-production, the production of films and how they work."

Nomoto attended the Vancouver School of Arts and Academics (VSAA) from his sophomore year of high school until graduation.

"Considering how competitive it is today, you kinda have to be some of the best, or you need a connection to make it."

Nomoto is now a first year at Evergreen, taking a studio art program.

"My personal emphasis focus is in design, specifically entertainment design. My first year here I'm taking Studio Projects: Land and Sky."

Who are some artists that inspire your work?

"The people who kinda made it into the entertainment industry as artists or designers who have been very successful, I look up to them alot."

"Marco Neller, he's one of the few black designers

in the video game industry. He's designed characters for like mortal combat and stuff. He's really good, I look up to him a lot both as an artist and a designer. A more traditional artist would be Kim Jung Gi. He's kind of like... he's kind of seen as a master. He almost has a million followers on Instagram ... Andy park, he's another designer, I think he's like a lead designer for marvel. He does a lot of the covers but he also does a lot of the characters for all the superheroes. I look up to him a lot too. And they're all people of color, too. I study their art a lot, pick up their techniques a little bit, and I get better on my own and form my own style."

"In the industry that I'm trying to get into, it's really about connection. At this point from what I'm noticing it's not even about your skill anymore, because there's so many great artists out there."

Nomoto has recently become interested in film design.

"These days, even, like, superhero films, they're blowing up, they're super popular, but behind all that they all started from, you know, a lot of designers and creative people. They have to think about, you know, like how, all that came from comic books right, and there was a specific audience for that, but if you want to bring those comic books into a wider audience to blow up the way it does now, how everybody knows all the superheroes, they have to translate those comic book characters. Not what they might look like on the screen, while still being attractive to everybody. Some of the characters in the comic book, they look ridiculous. You can't have them dress up like that in the film. Nobody's gonna take it seriously so that's why you got people like Marco Neller or Andy Park designing those characters."

When you are drawing when do you most feel connected to your dream and the people who influenced that?

"Once I'm done drawing it and I step back and look at it."

Nomoto uses Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator for his graphic design work and other digital art.

"I get more commissions to do more graphic design work than drawing. I've done graphic design from cool prints, or like businesses' logos. And for those I use Adobe Illustrator."



To commission Nomoto's work, message his art Instagram @yukim.art, his OG Instagram @yukim.nomoto, or on his Snapchat @yukim_nomoto.



Letters & Opinion

TESC parking lot in 1990. From slide archive. COURTESY OF EVERGREEN ARCHIVES.



OPINION: PARKING SERVICES MISUNDERSTOOD

By JACK STROUD

In the winter of 2016 the Geoduck Student Union (GSU) put forth a vote to defund Evergreen's Parking Services.

Nothing came of this vote, and Parking Supervisor Susie Seip is glad. "Everyone would have paid a parking fee out of tuition whether you drove or not," said Seip. "If people choose alternatives and don't drive they shouldn't have to pay parking fees."

It is easy to overlook many of the ministrations performed by Parking Services and conclude that parking fees are extraneous, even if you do drive. It is easy to think of Parking Services as the agency one annually pays \$150 for permission to let their car rust.

The Washington Administrative Code (WAC) grants Evergreen's Board of Trustees — all appointed by the Governor of Washington — permission to implement traffic and parking regulations. Permission is the word to note here, as parking regulations are not mandated; our current Board of Trustees (and all prior) have used their authority to make parking permits a requirement.

In an assessment of the price of a new parking lot or garage, Washington State University concluded that

the cost per space could range from \$17,200 to \$76,300. Parking services has no say in this, they are merely the proverbial messenger who often experience the brunt of parking violation frustration.

The WAC also declares that Parking Services must be a self-sustaining organization. In an interview, Seip said "We're not allowed to get money from the college and we're not allowed to give it to them either."

Parking employee's benefits must be covered by parking revenue. The cost of benefits was one of the factors that led to an increase in the cost of parking fines and permits. These changes took place in 2015, when the cost of parking was raised, and then in 2016 when the cost of fines went up. Seip says that Parking Services "took a pretty hard hit before we raised our rates. Our expenses were more than our revenue. Now that we've raised the rates our budget is becoming more healthy." Individually, more expensive parking is undoubtedly unappealing. Collectively, as a college, parking fees that render an economically sustainable Parking Services is more beneficial to Evergreen's operations as a whole than a first glance allows.

Since Parking Services is a self-sustaining agency, they are required to pay other campus agencies for work done on their behalf. "If Facilities does work for Parking then they're gonna charge us x amount for that work, but if they did that same work for say, Academics, they wouldn't charge them because of the way Parking has to be separate," said Seip.

Parking Services oversees Evergreen's Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) program, an organization whose purpose is encapsulated within its name. This organization is fully supported by parking revenue and, rarely, grants. Seip said "there is lots that can be done to improve the CTR program but very little funding to do so."

Improving the CTR program is of mutual benefit to those at Evergreen and beyond. The estimates of carbon emission from privately owned vehicles vary widely, though it is clear they aren't auspicious to a greener world. A recent study conducted by RethinkX concludes that privately owned vehicles sit idle for 96% of their usable life; as frequent parking pass payer Josh McManus analogously put it, "I don't want to pay for the movie theater while I'm not there."

To correct for this disparity, Parking Services promotes carpooling, bike-riding and taking the bus as alternative commute options; unfortunately, these are chiefly acts of individual volition and convenience. Additionally, Parking Services has spearheaded such initiatives as the commuter lockers (which can be found in most buildings on campus), the bike share program (temporarily defunct for lack of skilled personnel), parking passports (which consist of 44 free parking days a year for faculty who find alternative ways to commute 3 days a week), bike pumps scattered around campus, free bus passes for staff and faculty, student bus passes (included in tuition for students), and the night-line bus schedule.

Seip has many plans for the future of the CTR program. "Its funny to think about, okay, we work for Parking but we're trying to reduce parking through the CTR program," she said, chuckling. She hopes that, rather than putting herself out of business, the work will change as parking becomes more and more a thing of the past. Some of her plans for a financially unhindered CTR program include "people being paid for not driving, say you take bus to school and home you get a dollar each way, even I would do it for that and I have a long commute," and an Evergreen, "fleet system — van or something — for picking people up."

So the next time you feel like cursing Parking Services up, down, and backwards for a relatively inconsequential albeit inconvenient fine or fee, remember that they are filling a gap that is a consequence of our current transportation system, or lack thereof. And ask yourself (as a presumably environmentally incentivized member of society), am I driving my

discourse? Am I taking advantage of the CTR services available to me? If parking is reduced at Evergreen, the cost of sustaining the department would go down and in turn allow more resources to be allocated to the CTR program, whose benefits and beneficiaries need not be restated.

As a final note to Evergreen parkers: if you receive any parking fine(s) that you feel unfair, Seip wants you to know that the best thing to do is get in touch with her or her department as soon as possible. "It's so much easier to help someone early on than if they let it go on for a long time."

She says that if you let your parking tickets go unattended for too long, you "are probably going to end up paying it."



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Array of burgers at The Greenery. DANIEL VOGEL.



HOW'S THE FOOD?

A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE FOOD IN THE GREENERY

By DJ PFEIFLE

We all know the Greenery doesn't have the best food, but what is the best of the worst exactly?

For you, dear reader, I embarked on a tireless journey to The Greenery to help you all understand what is good and what is bad. To make things simple, I've divided the food into four distinct categories: excellent, good, safe, and risky.

Before we begin, if you have an allergy please for the love of yourself and your doctor, remember to read the nutrition labels. The Greenery does not always mark allergens on their food, even though they probably should.

Excellent food in The Greenery is food that is generally better than the typical available in the Greenery. This food is available on a rotating basis — usually weekly — so you should get your fill while you can. In this category we have tater tots, corn dogs, chicken nuggets, and curly fries. Basically anything fried that is not usually available.

The tater tots are satisfyingly crunchy and are, interestingly, more often available at breakfast instead of lunch as a replacement for hash browns. Curly fries, on the other hand, are better than standard fries because they

are well seasoned, and have a better texture than the regular ones. The chicken nuggets are possibly the best thing available in the Greenery: they are crunchy and have a good flavor (tastes like chicken, which it should in this case). The corn dogs are just nice because it's a change-up from the standard burger.

Good greenery food is your standard fare, what is available daily that is not too good, but not too bad. Here we have pizza, burgers, fries, and the salad bar. Pretty much all drinks, breakfast foods, and desserts also fall into this category.

The pizza is actually really good until you get to the crust. The crust is really dry and flavorless. Protip: leave a little of the actual pizza on the end or dunk it in ranch to make the crust taste better. Burgers are very okay. There are usually chicken and hamburgers. They're not great, but fine.

You can also order a vegan burger, garden burger, grilled cheese, or no cheese burger at the counter where the burgers are served by asking whoever is back there to hook you up. The fries, while tasteless, are well cooked. With a little ketchup or salt they're a nice compliment to just about anything.

The salad bar is possibly the best thing available daily, so if you want something good, it's a nice failsafe (it's off to the left by the dessert and soups if you still haven't found it).

Desserts are very hit or miss, but none of them are terrible. The cookies are dry but they taste good, and any of the cakes are usually fine.

The safe category refers to any foods that are rotated daily, and are generally tolerable. In this category we have the sandwiches and wraps, along with soups. The sandwiches and wraps are usually flavorful and well seasoned; on occasion they are a bit dry. The soups, while not amazing, are generally on the decent side of things. There's two options daily, so you'll probably like one of them okay.

Finally, there is the risky category. These are foods that are rotated, on a daily basis, and are usually bad, but there are some gems hiding in there. This mostly applies to the foods the Greenery labels "international." These are usually bland, and are very americanized versions of what they are trying to make. Additionally, anything that is not "white American" food is marked "international," which is bad. The pasta is often pretty good, though.

RULES & REGULATIONS (AGAIN)

By DJ PFEIFLE

So, it turns out those rules and regulations I discussed in our first issue of this year were more or less correct, but I was informed by a staff member at Residential and Dining Services (RAD) that I had gotten bits and pieces wrong.

Cut me some slack. Those documents are really long and boring, and it's not like you read them either. These are the things we got wrong, along with some clarification on things mentioned in that article.

Regarding smoking pits: not all of them are closed during quiet hours. This rule only applies to the one by the mods. The smoking area by the Housing Community Center (HCC) is open 24/7, however, quiet hours rules still apply. As for other smoking areas on campus, RAD has no jurisdiction there.

Another point had to do with RAD coming into your room for a scheduled inspections and/or cleanings. In those cases, they will give you 24 hours notice. However, for something like an emergency or extreme weather, they may come in without any warning. If it's a repair, there may be less notice. However, in that case, you asked them to come in.

With regards to the Greenery, while Aramark isn't using prison labor for the Greenery specifically, that doesn't mean they aren't using it at all. Much of the furniture in housing is made from prison labor. Besides, meal plans are too expensive and greenery food sucks, so avoiding Aramark is nice if you can.

I also got some rules about your room wrong. You may leave your room unlocked and your door open when you are both awake and inside it, however, you may not leave the door to your apartment or dorm floor open. The rule about mattress covers isn't really relevant anymore, as most beds don't have a cover. Anyhow, finally, you may not use your window as a door (e.g.

hopping in and out of them all the time). Windows don't lock from the outside, so it's sort of a hazard to just keep them open like that.

It turns out you do not have to report a cold to RAD. Instead you must report much more serious and contagious diseases. Something like a cold or flu is fine to just deal with and not tell anyone, but something like measles or chickenpox needs to be reported.

Drug paraphernalia is defined by RAD as anything with drug residue on it, so a hookah is not technically drug paraphernalia so long as there is no residue of anything illegal on it. Needles for diabetic use are also fine, but, like, I would hope so.

We finally got an easy explanation of what UL approved lighting is (hooray!). Anything that is UL approved will either have a sticker on the item itself indicating such, or on the box it comes in (or it did when you bought it). If you're not sure, a general rule of thumb is that if it was made relatively recently, it's probably approved. Also if an appliance you have is not on the approved or banned list of appliances, you will need to get it approved, email Dani Clark (clarkd@evergreen.edu) to inquire.

Finally, service animals and assistance animals have different rules about where they are allowed to be. Service animals are allowed anywhere the owner is allowed. Assistance animals however are only allowed in the owner's room and outdoors. This means you may bring your service animal who is trained to perform specific tasks to help you out in your daily life to class, but you have to leave your emotional support dog at home.



(Note: this is a correction to a previous CPJ article, the article can be found at: <http://www.cooperpointjournal.com/2018/09/19/all-those-regulations-you-didnt-read/>)

LaToya Johnson by LATOYA JOHNSON.

UP & COMING

THU. OCT 18

Cozy Karaoke Night

8 p.m. - 10 p.m., pajamas & snacks
HCC

POC Centered Art Night

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Student Arts & Equity Lounge

FRI. OCT 19

Poetry from Beyond the Binary, Open Mic

8 p.m., \$3-7 NOTAFLOF
New Moon Cafe

Poetry from Beyond the Binary, Open Mic

8 p.m., \$3-7 NOTAFLOF
New Moon Cafe

THU. OCT 25

Overdose Awareness & Narcan Training

6 p.m.
Providence Community Center

SAT. OCT 20

All Freakin Night

10 p.m. - 5 a.m., \$20 admission
Capitol Theater

WED. OCT 24

Jenn Champion: Single Rider

8 p.m., \$13 cover
Capitol Theater

SAT. OCT 26

Hocus Pocus Halloween Party

6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Student Activities, CAB 313

SUN. OCT 27

38th Annual Harvest Festival

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Evergreen's Organic Farm

Stonewall Youth's Bowl-O-Rama!

6 p.m. - 8 p.m., all ages
Westside Lanes

Bioluminescence & Spooky Creatures of the Deep

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
WET Science Center



LaToya Johnson PT.2

By BRITTANYANA PIERRO

For our last issue I sat down with LaToya Johnson, Administrative Assistant to the Director of Police Services and former Assistant to Vice President of Equity and Inclusion, to talk about her time here at Evergreen and her understanding of equity on campus. This is the continuation of that interview.

LaToya Johnson grew up and lived in New Orleans most of her life. She attended University of New Orleans for her BA in History, and later Southern Louisiana University for her MA in History. Currently, Johnson is enrolled in Southern New Hampshire University working on her second MA in the Science of Operations and Project Management.

After obtaining her first Master's degree in 2011, Johnson struggled to find jobs, only landing supportive and administrative assistant roles in her hometown of New Orleans. "Opportunity for people of color is not in abundance," Johnson said. Moving out to Washington was a big change for her family, but it presented the opportunity for Johnson and her husband to have better jobs and a better education for her three kids.

"My first job here was, again, being someone's assistant," Johnson said. She went on to a variety of support jobs, until landing at one that was more on track with her fo-

cus of interest. Unfortunately, due to budget cuts and overall miscommunication, Johnson was not able to advance in her career path in this job. At this particular time she had just recently moved to Olympia, and was unexpectedly jobless, trying to support her family of five.

During this period, Johnson landed the job of Assistant to the Equity Panel at Evergreen. Currently Johnson is another temporary support role as Administrative Assistant to Police Services on campus. Originally, Johnson would've been let go from her job at Evergreen in total, if it wasn't for John Carmichael, VP of Finance and Operations. Johnson said Carmichael was "Instrumental in me having continued employment at Evergreen."

When asked if the move was worth it, Johnson said, "It's not a waste, because my husband's thriving in culinary school, he goes to culinary school at SPSCC [South Puget Sound Community College], my kids are in school, they're getting a better education than they did in the South. I just feel like I'm stuck. I felt like I punished myself when I just became complacent, and I was nodding my head like, 'Oh sure I'll take this.'"

"A lot of time people of color, especially black women, we become comfortable. And we get scared of change, and you may watch people

not like you. You may watch white people making all these moves and you're sitting there and you're like, 'Well what am I not doing? We're talking about having this equity mindset and were talking about uplifting people, and uplifting people of color,' Johnson said. "I'm grateful I have a job, but I'm still thinking to myself, as a woman of color, surrounded by other people of color in positions that can make decisions: 'I don't feel so uplifted right now'."

Johnson went on to speak of her mother, a nurse, who didn't get a promotion at her job for almost 30 years. The bulk of her mom's struggle was because she "never sacrificed her authentic self," as Johnson said. The occurrence of this 'sacrifice', commonly referred to as code-switching, is a behavior used by marginalized groups in both professional and personal environments. Code-switching is known in communities of black and brown people as switching between one or more languages, or vernaculars, often to fit in with whomever is surrounding you.

"Women of color are always expected to be a certain way, to have a level of strength and all these certain things. It's even harder on me 'cause I know that expectation is there. And it's even harder when our own people are holding even a higher candle," said Johnson. "We're telling white people to uplift us, and be allies, but our own people are not stepping in."

She further discussed the intricacies of working in diverse spaces and dealing with a privilege disconnect based on wealth and status. "I think back to something a professor told me a long time ago," said Johnson. "We can all be one color, but we're not all one people...Privilege doesn't always mean color. I think sometimes people of color forget that you can be privileged within your own race."

(Johnson wants to clarify a phrase in the first part of this interview, in that she would not say the the police department has been specifically more welcoming than the equity council.)

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Harvest Festival**

October 27th, 2018
11 am - 5pm

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ANNOUNCEMENT!

Bodhi Stanberry, daughter of Daniel Stanberry and Shana Parker, and Patrick Stewart, son of Roger and Daphne Stewart, were united in marriage on August 18th, 2018, in the orchard of Stewart Manor on Bainbridge Island, WA.

The bride and groom both managed to amass, procure, wrangle up, or otherwise get their hands on sufficient credits to obtain Certificates of Completion from your very own Evergreen State College. They met while both employed by that bastion of free thought and unparagoned wisdom— The Cooper Point Journal. Bodhi lent her skills to the CPJ in 2013 and 2014 as news editor and distribution manager, while Patrick “worked” from 2012 to 2014 variously as letters and opinions editor, managing editor, and resident drunk.

They now reside in San Francisco, CA and as such, would appreciate any donations of canned goods or other non-perishable food-stuffs.

p.s.- This notice does not comply with the CPJ’s usual rigorous adherence to the AP style guide for the very good reason that the newlyweds have both forgotten what that is.



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INTERESTED IN BEING A VENDOR? EMAIL SANTILLI@EVERGREEN.EDU



Hello Body Party!

I have a problem. I met this really cute, sweet, tall boy who really, really makes me happy. When we spend time together I feel so sweet and nice and by the time we have to part ways, I get so bummed out. The thing is, I feel like things are going too fast ... Not because of him, but because of me! Every time I meet someone new and we start being sweet on each other, I get way too attached. I don't want to freak him out, and more so I don't want to set myself up for failure if something goes wrong! What do I do?

-A Big Mood for a Big Dude

Hello Big Mood!

Isn't it the worst? To love and be loved in return? To yearn for human intimacy, to crave to be seen, only to remain alone and individual at the end of the day? As much as we want to know others, we never truly will. We are born alone and, as such, we will die.

Haha, what a bummer! I totally hear you, though. Feeling such big feelings – no matter what they are – can be really freaky, and scary, and turn into something bigger than what they really are, really, really fast. Not know-

ing what to do with these feelings of fondness can lead to feeling frustrated and insecure. When we're feeling these huge emotions and don't know what to do the size of them, the intensity can quickly start to feel wild or unruly. To add to it all, feelings like crushes, sweetness, and longing can all be very vulnerable and leave us feeling soft and exposed. What starts as such a lovely and cutie mood can quickly snowball into a big mess of freaky doubt and angst. What's up with that?

As scary as these can feel, I have a secret for you, Big Mood. A life hack, if you will. It's maybe shocking and it's maybe hard to hear, so brace yourself. Here we go: they're just feelings! That sounds obvious, I know, but hear me out. As big as they feel, as freaky as they feel, feelings are different from reality. Obviously, right? But the sooner you practice making this differentiation in your mind, the sooner you'll be feeling better. Maybe? Let me explain.

The feelings we feel are different than an event or a thing in the world. For example, when I'm hangin' with my sweetie and they say they want to spend the night alone so they can finally do some homework, this makes me feel so majorly bummed. But

there's more to it, you know? I feel bummed, but I also feel maybe disappointed because I planned to stay the night there. Maybe I feel overlooked because I really want them to WANT to hang out with me, more than they want to write their essay even. I want attention, I want affection, I want affirmation! I want to make out! This is unfair.

But is it? This is where the distinction comes in for me. These wild-ass feelings make me think "Jeez, Body Parts, you're being a freak! You're too attached, you clingy animal! You always do this. A make out fiend on the loose!" but that's neither useful to think to myself, nor is it kind. So I stop!

It has got to be okay for a sweetie to draw a boundary in your relationship without it turning into an event.

Instead, I try to think of what's really going on in the most objective way possible. My sweetie isn't saying they hate me, they're not saying they hate hanging out or that I'm freaking them out by being too much. What they ARE doing is giving me a gift by letting me know what their boundary is. They're even letting me know where they're at by telling me that they just need space to write an essay, not because they think I smell or something. If they did think that, I know they'd tell me that. Until then, it's super unfair to turn the situation into something it's not.

It has got to be okay for a sweetie to draw a boundary in your relationship without it turning into an event, even if the event is an inward one. You know? It's good for you both to try really hard to not take a "no" personally. A "no" is a gift!

Next, I try really hard to figure out why I'm really feeling these things, if not because of this situation. I love hanging out with my sweetie, but I really am feeling disappointed and overlooked. Not because they're asking for some space, but because I re-

ally hate changes in plans and I really run on compliments. Maybe a personal issue, but whatever? What can I do to help those feelings? I can ask them what they think is cute about me :///) and I can ask for a little more notice when we change plans. Now, instead of spiraling into some weird depression hole when I go home, filled with dread and clingy shame, I can let my cutie know how I'm feeling and what I'm needing. They can use these loving tools to help build our relationship and I don't have to be a fucking freak about everything all the time. Everyone wins!

In short, Big Mood, it might be a good practice to see why you're feeling like too attached. What are you scared of? What are you wanting? Are those expectations reasonable? And if not, how can you confront these feelings and negotiate them to be something that is good for you and good for your relationship? Hm! It's easy once you get the hang of it. Trust me! And if you ever need to talk, you can always come by the CPJ office and I can make you coffee! Because I love ya~

Text me soon!,
Body Party

Each week, our anonymous resident Body Partier will take YOUR questions and answer them, judgement free! To have your questions answered in print, send us a Q at ask.fm/CPJBodyParty

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By MARIAH GUILFOIL-DOVEL

LIBRA 9/23 - 10/22

Trouble in paradise? It happens in all relationships. Libras love balance so when relationship issues come up it can be especially hard for them to deal with them. This week, it's time to take your medicine. What's the prescription? One massive chill pill. Stressing over your relationship will get you nowhere. Instead think on the good things that you have happening in your life and put your energy there. It also never hurts to apologize for any harsh or unloving words said in the heat of the moment.

SCORPIO 10/23 - 11/21

LIVE YOUR LIFE OUT LOUD. Stop dreaming and start dancing! That's right, this is the time for Sagittarius to dance in the rain (and in the sun, while it's still out). Situations will always be changing and shifting, but your ability to stay true to yourself is admirable. Staying true will prove your best ally in this time of new beginnings. Your truest self will be found when doing the things that you love the most. Create moments in your everyday life that incorporate your passions.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22- 12/21

Sagittariuses have the unique ability to see what is wrong in the world and the skillset to do something about it. Big or small, now is the time to go after the things that are on your heart! Step out of your comfort zone and try new things. When issues and problems rear their ugly head remind yourself you did not come this far to fail now. You are talented, and you will be surprised by the results.

CAPRICORN 12/22- 1/19

Let go of things of the past. They are not serving you anymore. Forgiveness is healing to the soul and soothing to the body. This week holds an exciting opportunity but you'll find it where you least expect it. Instead of looking for opportunities, start creating them for other people. You rise by lifting others up. Using your skills to bring others to the table will not only help them succeed but encourage you to keep going when times get cloudy. It's always darkest before the dawn. When the light shines through you will be standing victorious alongside the people you have helped along the way.

AQUARIUS 1/20 - 2/18

This is a time for new growth and new style. That haircut you've been too indecisive to get? Today is the day. That person you've been meaning to talk to? Time to take the leap. The job you've been dreaming of? Send out that resume! There is no better time to try new things. This season has you perfectly placed to go big or go home. Be careful of fear creeping in and trying to say you can't succeed. Don't listen to that voice. You've got this.

PISCES 2/19 - 3/20

Bring on the Abundance! Get ready. The stars are in your favor. This is a time to be open and honest with your friends. Opening up and being vulnerable will only bring you closer. Your friends will start to trust you more and your circle of influence will grow. Those connections and networks you pour your heart into will be with you for life. They will also be the help you need to take on new endeavors that are on the horizon.

ARIES 3/21 - 4/19

Your passions for people and the environment will be in full effect. Keep your eyes open for opportunities that will help your academic and work life grow in abundance. Never forget: you don't have to settle when it comes to what makes your soul come alive! Your peers are looking for you to step up and lead them. Don't shy away from group projects in school or work. You have a lot of knowledge to offer these communities.

TAURUS 4/20 - 5/20

Take time to develop the harmonizing and solitude loving side of yourself. Go for a walk or read your favorite book. This will help you live your best life. Life is fast, demanding, and will stretch you to your limits. Self love is an art and learning how to take care of yourself is the best investment you can make at this time of your life. Your future self will thank you for investing in quality self-care this week.

GEMINI 5/21 - 6/20

LOVE is in the air! Love of life, love of friends, love of family, and love for helping the world. Your calling is to be a walking love dispenser! Do not hold back. Give away compliments like candy. The best way to fill your love tank is to give it away when you see people in need.

CANCER 6/21 - 7/22

Watch out world: Cancer has arrived kicking butt and taking names. This week forces will try to come against you, but giving up was never your style. Don't shrink away in times of trouble. Life is tough, but you are tougher. Speak love and stand strong. The goals you've been striving towards are just within reach!

LEO 7/23 - 8/22

Your flair for the dramatic can sometimes get you in trouble. However, with some focused energy, your dramatic flair can become your greatest asset. This season will put you in a place where you are tested to use your dramatic ways for good. Never underestimate your ability to sparkle. The spotlight can be fun. It's always better when used to lift others up out of darkness and shine with you.

VIRGO 8/23 - 9/22

You were made to do epic stuff. Put your phone down. Abandon any other distractions that have been keeping you from reaching your full potential. Some friends are real and some are fake. When you start living up to your potential they will start to show their true colors. Pay attention to the people who are there for you on your good days. Pay better attention to those who are with you on your worst days — those are your ride or dies.

reconciliation. I reconciled with the town in which I spent the first nine years of my life, and for seven years after my departure.

vn located in Shikoku, which is the smallest of the four main islands of Japan. My American e island as the "Alabama of Japan." Kochi people are conservative, very traditional, and not the rs. The people, the town, and the lifestyle was all I knew for the majority of my childhood. I tive Japanese people there, but not everyone felt the same way about me.

i in kindergarten and elementary school. After I emigrated and grew accustomed to American of critical comments about my eyes, my hair, or my Black-American mother by classmates and memories began to affect me more than I expected. I was a victim of racial prejudice. This fed ything Japanese. As I matured in America, the negative shift in my perception of my own people

r hometown for the first time in seven years. I stayed with my father, who is Japanese, at the was raised. During my two month stay, I gained my first job experience at a relative's ramen eek, I borrowed my father's bicycle and rode in the sweltering summer sun. I rode through the es on, reflecting upon my life. After living in Kochi, Ohio, and Alaska, I finally settled in een, I returned to the place I saw in my nightmares for years. Visiting rural Japan, I didn't have nies and social media, and I felt more attuned to my surroundings than I ever did in America. rice fields, I saw everything through the eyes of my younger self again. For the first time, I felt f. I saw the change I needed to see in the same children from my traumatizing memories, who ts. They were happy for me and my life in America, a drastic contrast to the tears and conflicts I Seeing no reason to continue letting the past affect me, I accepted the people and the town back free myself of the emotions which would have pushed me further away. I realized that I am

see the internal conflicts that lingered for years until I was stripped of the distractions, the media ed back in my hometown. As a Buddhist, there is a verse we often chant: "Constantly reflecting o live a life of gratitude." I never considered what it took to achieve this until returning to Japan. t, I focused and enjoyed "the now," instead of allowing my past to hold me back. I learned to "live pace that washed over me in that moment of reconciliation is a feeling I will never forget.

mental College because I believe that studying here will be the catalyst for me to achieve success. I creators of all kinds produce art, both efficiently individually and as a team, while taking inspiration s. I can see myself collaborating with other artists on the next successful movie for a major film

th leading entertainment studios, its professional artists, and a credible and strong Game Art eve will be the catalyst for me to achieve success.

y from Los Angeles, LCAD is at the center of the entertainment hub of the country, which is the piring artist like myself. Knowing that my best chance of "making it" into the field of game and he people behind the projects I've dreamt of working in, I know that this school will expose me e Game Art program offers a wonderful opportunity for portfolio development with game for students to showcase their work in person. I know that I will only work harder to attain a : exposed at the annual Industry Open House. Not only will the location allow me to create a rtainment companies, but I will also make relationships with fellow student artists within the school through its Game Art program.

it in the Game Art program that is being offered at Laguna College of Art and Design. Enrolling ncept emphasis course, I will practice the fundamentals of drawing, painting, and design while lge in visual story building and more advanced fundamentals of art, like composition and color. ls offer game art programs with the emphasis on specifically environmental design and character t like me, I aim to be a well-rounded concept artist. LCAD's Game Art concept emphasis course n for Games 1," "Environmental Design for Games 1," and "Animal Drawing for Games," which nd will benefit and prepare me as a professional concept artist.

of Arts and Academics, an art high school with a high reputation for its quality of education. I blic high school after coasting through freshman year with all As in order to attend a college a higher standard of academic and art education. The school offers many advanced placement students to enroll in Core, an art focused class to create month-long art projects individually, or n my current high school, my ability to maintain my exceptional grades and extracurricular l proves that I can manage time and work under pressure. The ability to manage a demanding paring oneself for college.

member of Oregon Buddhist Temple and a regular volunteer of community services. I have been ee years and have gained numerous community service opportunities, from packing food at the ding leadership and sharing insights during student led events.

ested community service hours toward creative projects, as well. Working with individuals and er School of Arts and Academics' National Honors Society, I have created event posters, logo lothes. I have also sold physical artworks of drawings and paintings. Working with these nizations, I have gained professional experience as a freelance artist.

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valuable skills and connections in my pursuit to becoming a successful concept artist.

I believe my childhood experience as a biracial citizen of Japan has had a significant r world, and will be a great addition to Occidental's diverse community. After emigrating to / spending three years in Ohio, two years in Alaska, and now settled in Washington state, I truly experience than most eighteen year olds. Befriending people all around the world and contin state to state, I have discovered communication to be the only thing that truly makes a grou The common definition of community is "a group of people living in the same place," but I bel a group of people may be, strong communication makes the difference between a community ar

One personal peculiarity I have is my observative behavior when entering social environmen moved many times, I was always "the new kid" attending numerous schools. Consequently, I h sorts of people, but I always had a strategy to do so. I sat back and studied people and how th while not completely being withdrawn. Once I was comfortable, I have always had "a lot to say My mother would mention how I have always been very observative as a baby, so quiet and something was actually wrong with me. I believe this reflects on me as a person who is patient people

I was very resistant when my parents decided to move to the United States. I loved the town questioned my experience growing up with other Japanese children as a biracial child. Fas America, the stories of my Japanese childhood my parents would share began to take a tur mentioning moments of racism and bullying while reminiscing about my childhood in Japan. I back at the end after putting together what I knew then with what I was learning now from m were soon shadowed by the prejudice I formed regarding my past and I felt as if my whole childhoes worth of deceitful. The discovery of a darker side to my joyous childhood was one of the most o life. It challenged everything I believed to know of my childhood. It was like a religion I toll event that forced me to become uncertain of what I believe. However, from this experience happens for a reason. Without the racial prejudice I experienced in Japan, I would have n forgiveness when I returned to Japan at the age of fifteen. Forgiveness was something I was not g I overcame exposed me to the significance of it.

I have listened to countless number of podcasts, lectures, and tutorials from professionals within th and I have learned a great deal about the field and its competitive nature. From this, I have coo most successful artists in the entertainment industry are not successful because of their ski connections within the field. Laguna College of Art and Design is the school for me because it v

activities outside the school proves that I can manage time and work under pressure. The ability to r workload is essential in preparing oneself for college.

Beside of school, I am a member of Oregon Buddhist Temple and a regular volunteer of community s tending the temple for three years and have gained numerous community service opportunities, from eason Food Bank to providing leadership and sharing insights during student led events.

As an artist, I have also invested community service hours toward creative projects, as well. Working r organizations, like Vancouver School of Arts and Academics' National Honors Society, I have created designs, and graphics for clothes. I have also sold physical artworks of drawings and paintings. V arious individuals and organizations, I have gained professional experience as a freelance artist.

At 43 years of age, you could say that Yukim Nomoto has contributed to the art of every big budgete that has been produced since 2021. At the age of 21, Nomoto was hired by Disney as a concept art Marlon Studier and dropped out of his Junior year of college. "I knew I was wasting my money, a Director says, "if you got paid doing what you love while learning to get even better from the be industry, wouldn't you drop out and take the job? Or are you stupid?"

After working at Marvel Studio for 12 years, Nomoto resigned to fulfill his life goal he set years ago. the world. "I wanted to see the world, learn about every civilization old and new." The former art dire every major cities of every country, growing his "visual library." An artist's "visual library," as Nomoto, is "a mental collection of visual designs, similar to how mathematicians study to learn and t A visual library can consist of the variation of clothing patterns, colors, and materials according to its c look of different types of landscapes." He states, "It is something you grow over time, through exper researching. This is what makes the difference between a good and a bad designer. I had an itch to world, and I knew that a trip would just make me an even better artist when I came back." D expedition, he continued creating and sharing art through the inspiration gathered from the culture immersed himself in. "I'm confident to say that I am one of the few in the entertainment industry v visual library, thanks to that trip."

Today, Yukim Nomoto is back working as a senior concept artist and art director for multiple studios, Light & Magic, Disney, and LucasFilms. He has also worked with leading game studios like Naughty Ubisoft. He is most recognized for his diverse styles of art, with a wide range of cultures reflected in l ends his interview saying, "I hope to represent those that are not represented enough on the movie se that may not be real."