

# the COOPERPOINT

The Evergreen State College Student Newspaper | Feb 24 - Mar 9, 2016 JOURNAL



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Wed 4 to 5 p.m.

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## 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.cooperpoint-journal.com](http://www.cooperpoint-journal.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 5 to 6 p.m every Monday and Thursday.

## WRITE 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](mailto: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. Thank you!



Student picketing on Farmworker Justice Day, Bayview Thriftway then joined the boycott of Driscoll Berries. SARAH BRADLEY.

## Workshops & Direct Action at Farmworker Justice Day

### STUDENTS PROTEST FARMWORKERS' UNFAIR WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS

By Sarah Bradley

**F**eb. 17 marked Jose Gomez Farmworker Justice Day at The Evergreen State College, organized by The Olympia Farmworker Justice Collective. The annual event, named in remembrance of a longtime Evergreen faculty member, brings farmworker's voices to the student body through panel discussions and workshops.

The day's events then culminated in a picket outside of Bayview Thriftway to boycott Driscoll's brand berries. The protest was successful and Bayview agreed to remove the product from the shelves, making one small victory in the context of a larger struggle for fair treatment of farmworkers.

This year's panel discussion was held in the lobby of the library and an estimated 800 people attended. The panel consisted of photojournalist David Bacon, activist and organizer Rosalinda Guillen, Familas Unidas por la Justicia union president Ramon Torres, and Evergreen faculty member Catalina Ocampo. Evergreen student Camila Rancon provided Spanish to English translation for the dis-

ussion. The panel included a question and answer session, allowing those in the audience to engage in the discussion.

The panel discussion was lively and provided information about both the history of labor struggles for farmworkers as well as information about ongoing efforts for justice among farmworkers. While the discussion was broad in its scope of farmworker issues and migrant worker justice, there was specific attention to migrant field workers in the North West and how to be active in the political process. The discussion was filmed and is archived at Evergreen's website for students who could not attend.

Photojournalist David Bacon, who worked as a union organizer for 20 years, shared

photographs depicting the lives and working conditions of field workers. Bacon calls himself a "participant photographer" meaning he is part of demonstrations and protests that he documents, as opposed to taking a neutral outside perspective. Bacon's photos provided a window into the reality of field-working conditions that people outside those communities are not always made aware of.

Rosalinda Guillen moved to Washington at age 10 as part of the immigrant farm labor community. She has been a longtime labor organizer with United Farmworkers. Guillen is the cofounder and executive director of Community to Community, a grassroots organization committed to strengthening alliances in lo-

cal and global movements while working towards social, economic, and environmental justice.

Representing Familas Unidas por la Justicia was Ramon Torres. Torres is the union president of Familas Unidas, an independent union of farmworkers from the Skagit Valley. They are fighting for fair wages and better working conditions for farmworkers and have called for a boycott of Driscoll's brand berries until they receive a fair contract.

While Farmworker Justice Day occurs at Evergreen to bring greater awareness to the student body, the issues discussed are part of larger ongoing struggles around the treatment of migrant workers. Many of the speakers and contributors to the day's events underscored this sentiment, urging students to stay active and remain aware of injustices.

There were two workshops held as part of Farmworker Justice Day following the morning's panel discussion. One workshop was on the history of boycotts in labor struggles. Facilitated by Rosalinda Guillen and Grace Cox, the workshop explained the effect that participating in a boycott has through examples of past boycott tactics, such as the successful boycott of one Washington's largest wine makers, Chateau Chez Michel. Guillen and Cox are both involved in the Driscoll's boycott.

The other workshop that occurred was a sign making workshop in which participants made posters to be brought to the picket at Bayview Thriftway.

Later that evening, students and activists lined both sides of the street outside of Bayview. The group held signs in support of the Driscoll's berries boycott, protesting the unfair treatment of farmworkers, and urging shoppers to consider where their food comes from and how it is made.

The protest began at 4 p.m. and continued through sundown—a time of day with high traffic for grocery shoppers and people passing by in cars or on foot. About 100 participants

were present for the protest. Food Not Bombs set up a table to provide food for the protesters, and there was pizza provided by Vic's.

Information about the protest was distributed to stopped cars and people walking past. The handbills provided by Olympia Farmworker Justice Collective contained a brief history of the ongoing boycott, illustrating the struggle for fair wages and treatment by Sakuma Brothers farm.

The flier said, "Driscoll's is the largest berry distributor in the world and has a history of repressing union organizing. They also supply berries from farms in San Quintin Mexico where over 30,000 farm workers went on strike this March over \$7 dollar a day wages, widespread sexual abuse, and child labor, and are continuing to fight for just treatment. Farmworker families in both WA and Mexico are asking people to stop buying Driscoll's Berries until they have legally binding union contracts that ensure justice and dignity in the workplace."

A lot of Evergreen students came out for the protest. For some students, it was their first time taking part in such a demonstration. First year student Deborah Bitanga is the daughter of a farmworker and told the CPJ she feels "privileged to be carrying out justice on behalf of her family."

Many people at the protest have been organizing and attending similar actions all over the region. To find out more about these events you can follow the boycott at boycottsakumaberries.com and by following the Olympia Farmworker's Justice Collective.

The Farmworker Justice Collective meets year round organizing projects to educate the community and advocate for the rights of farm and fieldworkers. The collective will be having an interest meeting on Thursday, Feb. 25 in CAB 3001 at 3 p.m. for people who would like to learn more about the collective and how to participate in future actions.

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## Winter Student Ballot VOTE ON A NEW PROPOSED FEE AND STUDENT UNION REFORM

By Chloe Marina Manchester

The upcoming Evergreen Winter Ballot will be available to vote on through your my.evergreen.edu account soon. Two of the items up for voting are a proposal to reform the Geoduck Student Union (GSU), as well as the Student Education Investment Initiative.

The Student Education Investment Initiative was created to provide additional financial resources for academics at Evergreen. The Student Education Investment Initiative was added to the ballot by student petition. According to the language of the proposal, "this vote would approve the creation of a fee-based fund overseen by an independent student-led committee." There are two options on the upcoming ballot.

Option one for the the Student Education Investment Initiative is \$5 per credit/per quarter. This fee would provide "additional financial resources for the student's academic program based on its per student/per credit enrollment." It would be broken down as follows. \$3.25 to program projects, guest speakers, field trips, and other in program activities. \$0.75 for the curricular planning budget to create "high quality programs." \$0.50 for faculty development opportunities informed by student feedback, and \$0.50 for "student-led committee stipends, reporting costs, and community outreach."

Option two is \$7 per credit, per quarter. The same monetary breakdown as laid out in option one with the additional two dollars per credit to be paid to student academic support positions such as an expansion of the summer undergraduate research fellowship program or program aides.

Two articles of the proposed Geoduck Student Union Reform Act of 2016 are also going to be on the Winter ballot. The first of these articles, Article III of the original proposal, is to do with the proposed establishment of independent services fee. The proposed fee would allow the GSU to have independence and further empower the representation of the students at TESC. It would also allow for more Services and Activities Board funding to be spread around other student groups. The starting amount of the GSU Services Fee is set at \$7.50. The fee will be opt-out. The GSU reserves the right to increase the fee by 5% every five years by a majority vote. The fee will be

operated by the chief financial officer of the GSU. If this passes the GSU will sever its financial ties with the S&A Board.

The fee will be divided between student stipends, programming, travel, supplies, membership in the Washington Student Association, and miscellaneous expenses. Through this breakdown there will be surplus funds. Until the College Activities Building renovation has been paid off, all surplus fees will go to that debt. Surplus fees after the debt has been paid off will be spent in a way determined by that year's GSU representatives.

The fee would be collected starting Fall quarter 2016 for use in the the 2017-18 academic year. The fee would always be used the year after its collection. If approved, this issue would come back to voting in ten years, for those students to decide to increase, decrease, rescind or maintain the fee as it stands.

Article IV (proposed constitutional amendments) of the GSU Reform bill will also be on the Winter quarter ballot. On the reforming of future bylaws changes (Article IX of the GSU Constitution), the following will be amended by adding the following line, "Any Bylaws of the GSU that are amended must be approved by three fourths (3/4) of all GSU Representatives present at the proposal of the amendment, beginning at the end of Spring Quarter 2016." On reforming decision making procedures the entire article of the GSU Constitution (Article VIII) will be revised with the article now reading, "All regular business, legislation, actions proposed and elections will be decided by a majority vote (50% +1) of Representatives present."

Also on the ballot is the issue of parking services, the previous Cooper Point Journal issue contains an article addressing that. Most issues on the ballot are voted on by members of the Geoduck Student Union. An exception to this is when issues are placed on the ballot following a student petition as is the case here with the Student Education Investment Initiative.



Students meeting with faculty members at Spring 2015 Mentoring Day. Photo courtesy of Evergreen Photoland.

## Workshops and Advice at Mentoring Day

By Felix Chrome

**E**vergreen's Mentoring Day will take place on March 2, at 1:30 p.m. beginning in the library lobby. The event is designed to help students navigate Evergreen by working with faculty and peers.

All undergraduate students are invited to attend workshops and meet with teachers to help advise them on their academic path and navigating Evergreen.

A large focus of the event is allowing students an opportunity to better understand the academic statement. This fairly recent requirement has students describe

in their own words the significance of what they have done at Evergreen, and introduce potential employers, graduate schools, and others to their transcripts. There is a general workshop about the statement, as well as two opportunities to get individualized faculty support on the academic statement process.

Students admitted after Fall 2013 are required to submit an annual Academic Statement, and a final draft for graduation. For students required to complete an academic statement, the 2015-16 draft is due March 12. Students admitted before the requirement may include an academic statement in their transcript, and the administration encourages them to do so.

After meeting for an opening session with live music, there will be two sessions of workshops on a wide range of topics. There are workshops specific to every department at Evergreen, from math, science, "Sustainability and Justice," to psychology, the humanities, and "Career Paths in Education."

Other workshops could benefit any Evergreen student regardless of discipline, such as the ones focused on independent learning. There will be a "Contracts and Internships" workshop in the first session which says it will "walk you through the process of deciding if an ILC or Internship is right for you and how to pursue one." This may be especially useful since there were changes to Independent Learning Contract requirements that went into effect this year.

In the later session, there is a workshop called "Autonomous Study at Evergreen" which asks "How do students intellectually and pragmatically conceptualize and structure autonomous study at Evergreen? How do students prepare for the demands of self-directed projects in rigorous, effective, and enlivening ways?" and will

present a panel upper-division students who have done independent work at Evergreen addressing these issues, as well as a question and answer session.

Mentoring Day is a unique opportunity for students to meet and speak with faculty members outside of their programs. As Shaw Osha, the chair of the Mentor Council, stated, "We have carved out time for mentoring around fields of study, pathways, and the various options of studying at Evergreen and to help make academic planning a collaborative endeavor where faculty help students assess what they are looking for and consider what offerings they encounter." Osha said this support and collaboration goes beyond just helping students choose programs or write statements, "We also are having conversations with them from a more holistic perspective wondering what we can do to support them as whole people."

Osha expressed that workshops are also designed to make Evergreen more accessible to all students by helping students understand and navigate through administrative and academic issues that may feel confusing or unfamiliar. "Mentoring Days is an opportunity for faculty and students to converge and discuss experiences, expectations and new possibilities. I see this work as increasing equity by offering more access to faculty and our pedagogy, which is especially important in an institution that admits students from such diverse backgrounds. Mentoring relationships are especially important for students traditionally underrepresented in higher ed."

### MENTORING DAY SCHEDULE

OPENING SESSION — 1:30–1:50 p.m.

CONCURRENT FACULTY ADVISING SESSIONS — 2:00–2:50 p.m.

**Notes, Notebooks, & Annotations** - Joli Sandoz and Lalita Calabria Library 2302D

**Arts at Evergreen** - Lynarra Featherly, Andrea Gullickson, Julia Heineccius, Caryn Cline, and Shaw Osha Library 3301

**Psychology: Research, Theory, Practice** - Mukti Khanna, Laura Citrin, and Janys Murphy Sem II A2109

**Navigating the Sciences at Evergreen** - Andrew Brabban, Mike Paros, Sara Rose, Adam King, Peter Impara, Paul Przybylowicz, and Jim Neitzel Library 1326

**Sustainability and Justice** - Steven Flusty, Shangrila Wynn, Peter Bohmer, and Russ Lidman Library 1005

**Career Pathways in Education** - Library 1540 - Sunshine Campbell, Grace Huerta, Lester Krupp, and Leslie Flemmer

**Contracts and Internships** - Library 2205 - Frederica Bowcutt, Ken Tabbutt, Karen Gaul, David Muehleisen, Steve Scheuerell, and Michael Vavrus

**Academic Statement** - Library 2207 - Kathleen Eamon, Sheryl Shulman, and Neal Nelson

**Individual Academic Statement Support** - Library 2200 - Alejandro de Acosta, Stephanie Kozick, and Tom Foote

**Undergraduate Research at Evergreen** - Library 1412 - Alison Styring, Clarissa Dirks, and Carri LeRoy

CONCURRENT FACULTY ADVISING SESSIONS — 3:00–3:50 p.m.

**Math at Evergreen** - Brian Walter and Rachel Hastings Library 2302D

**Studying the Humanities at Evergreen and Graduate School** - Diego de Acosta, Trevor Speller, Nancy Koppelman, Ann Storey, Geoffrey Cunningham, and Sarah Elantawi Library 3301

**Pathways to Careers in Health and Healthcare** Library 1412 - Carolyn Prouty

**Preparing for Graduate Study in the Sciences** Library 1326 - Abir Biswas, Erin Martin, Donald Morisato, and EJ Zita

**Sustainability and Justice** Library 1005 - Kathleen Saul, Savvina Chowdhury, Martha Rosemeyer, and Jeanne Hahn

**Studying Abroad** Library 2205 - Kristina Ackley, Bill Arney, and Bob Haft

**Transfer Students: Making Evergreen Work for You** Library 1540 - Marla Elliott, Lin Nelson, Sam Schrage, and Michelle Aguilar-Wells

**Individual Academic Statement Support** Library 2200 - Rebecca Sunderman, Walter Grodzik, and Tom Womeldorff

**Studying Foreign Languages at Evergreen** Library 2207 - Judith Gabriele, Elena Smith, Marianne Hoepli, Tomoko Ulmer, Hugo Flores, David Phillips, and Lin Crowley

**Autonomous Study at Evergreen** Seminar II A2109 - Toska Olson and Marianne Bailey

ACADEMIC FAIR (CRC GYMNASIUM) — 4:00–6:00 p.m.

## 2016 Liberal Arts Forum

### GUEST SPEAKER STEPHANIE COONTZ SPEAKS ABOUT CHANGES IN FAMILY STRUCTURE AND SOCIAL NORMS

By Aria Cummings

**T**he Liberal Arts Forum takes place every winter quarter, centered on a different theme deemed significant to students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members. This year's focus was the changing nature of the American family structure and how the idea of "traditional family" has evolved over time. The Liberal Arts Forum is put on by Evening and Weekend Studies program.

The guest speaker chosen to speak at this year's forum was Stephanie Coontz, a retired Evergreen faculty member who has written several books. Coontz taught history and family studies at Evergreen for more than 30 years, and is the author of *The Way We Never Were: American Families and the Nostalgia Trap*; *A Strange Stirring: The Feminine Mystique and American Women at the Dawn of the 1960s*; and *Marriage, A History: How Love Conquered Marriage*. She has also appeared on late

night television, talk shows, and several prime-time documentaries.

Coontz now serves as co-chair and director of public education at the Council on Contemporary Families, a nonprofit, nonpartisan association of family researchers and practitioners based in Chicago at the University of Illinois. Their website states their mission "is to enhance the national understanding of how and why contemporary families are changing, what needs and challenges they face,

and how these needs can best be met."

At the forum, Coontz talked about how American families have transformed away from nuclear families towards more diverse family structures. This includes cross-cultural families and LGBTQ families. She also focused on single-parent and working-parent families, as society has shifted away from the structure of stay-at-home moms and breadwinning dads. She not only observed the changes in families but discussed the cultural shift toward

these structures becoming normalized.

After Coontz spoke, the forum transitioned into a small group seminar in which groups were given a few questions to talk about regarding the changes in family structure and had the opportunity to ask Coontz questions that came up during the discussion.

Other questions Coontz answered were how she felt about government policies' influence on family structure. Coontz responded, commenting about how proud she was of those

who are advocating for LGBTQ rights, and specifically mentioned how lawmakers are taking steps towards enshrining more legal protections for the transgender community.

This forum challenged my ideas of what defines the "traditional" family structure is, and how it will keep on changing into the future, as culture norms shift and continue to incorporate more diversity.



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Jessica Schilke. Photo Courtesy of Microsoft.



The system Schilke uses to grow micro greens and other produce. Photo Courtesy of Microsoft.

## Urban Farming After Evergreen

EVERGREEN GRADUATE JESSICA SCHILKE GOES ON TO DIRECT THE URBAN FARMING PROGRAM AT MICROSOFT

By Devon Merriman

It's Happening, What Now? took place at Evergreen last month. The event is a series of presentations about climate change. Jessica Schilke stood in front of a room full of Greeners and spoke about her job growing fresh produce for Microsoft at its Redmond campus. Two years ago, she was a student here herself.

"I'm the Urban Farming Director for Dining at Microsoft, which is really not where I thought I would be heading when I was working at the organic farm," she said.

At Evergreen's farm, Schilke started by constructing a mid-sized aquaponics system. She went on to develop a larger hydroponics system at Microsoft, right in the middle of a cafe on campus. Everyday, Dining at Microsoft serves more than 40,000 meals.

The objectives of Schilke and her team are to engage guests and grow food in ways that reduce carbon emissions and water use. When done properly, hydroponics can use up to 90 percent less water than traditional farming. It

does this by recirculating the water back into the system. Having her system on the Microsoft campus also decreases waste by reducing transportation, thus reducing emissions and food spoilage.

"One of the reasons I came to Evergreen was to study more about food. They have a fantastic program at the organic farm and you can do independent studies and be supported as an undergrad." She also praised the school's support for student activities.

Schilke took classes about food production and self-led studies on aquaponics and hydroponics. She also took a class on city design called Rethinking the Suburbs. "I

became fascinated with food because it's such a key component; it doesn't matter if you can build a great building or design a transportation system if you can't feed people," says Schilke.

When she learned about a man named John Todd and his closed loop system for processing human wastewater to drinking water, Schilke thought about other types of waste in our food systems. "I was like, 'oh my god, you can do that with fish!' And turns out there's already a name for that: aquaponics. I was really excited this was already a thing."

At that point, Schilke applied for a grant through Evergreen's Clean Energy Com-

mittee to build an aquaponics system at the TESC organic farm. About her time at Evergreen, she says, "I spent most of my time doing ILCs and leading a student group. I learned how to do stakeholder management, work with other students, do advertising and website design, and I wrote articles and spoke at national conferences—all of which tied into my independent learning."

When Microsoft needed someone to lead their hydroponics project, they called the school, who directed them to the organic farm. "Dining at Microsoft was looking for somebody doing hydroponics who had hands-on experience," she said. After her

many ILCs, Schilke was the perfect fit.

"The only way for me to get hands-on experience was the way I went about it. And Evergreen is really good for that," said Schilke. "If you're in a job interview and they ask, 'How do you know you can do this?', you can say, 'Well, I already have! Here's the pictures of what I accomplished.'"

"That's the cool thing about Evergreen", she said. "There's funding and support for hands-on learning so you can come away with real life experience, and push yourself into fields that maybe don't exist yet."

## COVER ARTISTS

# TAYLOR SIKORSKI

**B**laine Ewig is a poet and photographer. An Evergreen graduate, she used to work at the Cooper Point Journal as our Arts & Culture Editor, and you can find her photographs in many issues of the CPJ. Taylor Sikorski, also an Evergreen Alum, is a comedian, videographer, and photographer. She recently began organizing a comedy open mic focused on providing a platform for women and queer comedians, and works for the public television. After a couple beers, I sat down to chat with them over garlic fries as *Le Voyeur*.

**Cooper Point Journal:** What is your collaboration process like?

**Taylor Sikorski:** We both joked about how we are both pushovers but we can be really assertive when we want to be, so that's been really helpful, we're both pushovers and not pushovers. Usually we'll just text each other with weird visuals we get or ideas, it will be out of nowhere like, 'i just had this idea for a shoot i want to do' then we're like, 'fuck yeah! that sounds awesome!' And then we will just keep talking about it, and we will do it like the next day, it can be really short notice, and I think it's funner that way.

**Blaine Ewig:** Yeah, there is not usually a lot of intent or planning, one of us will just be like 'hey I want to do this thing, let's make it happen' and the other person will usually be on the same wavelength anyway, and is like 'okay let's make it happen' and then we do it.

**CPJ:** Have you collaborated on projects a lot before?

**TS:** Yeah, but very recently. It's worked out really well, because like you said we are on the same wavelength and I know exactly what you are visualizing. Let's go to the dollar store and get shit, and we are just like 'yes this will be perfect!' We found a bag of gold glitter and we were just like 'exactly, yeah we need this' and then like we know exactly what to do with it. Kind of. Like last night we bought a bag of gold glitter and we just started shoving it in our crotch to look like pubic hair. Just like 'yeah, that's what it was for.'

**BE:** Yeah, pubes, that was intentional. It's all about intent, you

know. [Laughing] Art is all about intent. I don't make art!

**CPJ:** Okay, Blaine, so last time you were in the Cooper Point Journal you said "I hate art and don't want to talk about it." What's your beef?

**BE:** Well I said I don't want to fucking talk about it. [Laughing] No, but art is some bourgie bullshit. I don't know. There's that whole thing 'does life imitate art or does art imitate life' and it's all fucking meaningless, so it doesn't fucking matter. And like, just fuck art. I don't know, that's not really a good thing to put in a newspaper.

**TS:** I love art!

**CPJ:** How do you reconcile making art with—

**BE:** It's not art!

**CPJ:** What's not art about it?

**TS:** I don't think about what we do as art, I think about it as relieving our creative desires. We just have an idea and we need to make it manifest physically, because that's the only way shit can be appreciated, if you have a physical thing to show for it. And it feels really good to see your thoughts or your visions recreated. And there are definitely limitations, but it is cool to see what you can make happen. But I love art. Sidenote, there have been some photo spreads that have changed my life, like I happened to pick up a magazine at the right time, and I'm like, 'fuck, my life is changed'. And I don't even know if that is considered art, it could be a fashion spread, or any photo.

**BE:** I feel like art proper is something that happens in the con-

finer of a weird critique room. There is a weird language around it and a bunch of weird self-referential bullshit. And I am not really into that.

**CPJ:** You said you usually start with an idea or vision, but there also seems to be a lot of playfulness, or silliness, in your photos. How much of any shoot is specifically planned out, and how much of it is just fucking around? How does your process go?

**BE:** We usually definitely start with a vision, or kind of a theme, like 'I want it to feel like this' or 'this is a shot I want to get'.

**TS:** And we work with what we have to do the best with what we have, because it is obviously not going to be what we pictured. It's nice that we have that intention, and then it's really cool to see what we use, like whatever little shit we do have we're like, 'oh we could use this as a prop!' 'oh yeah we could use this as a backdrop!' 'fuck yeah, it looks so good!' and I think our best photos are the ones we don't plan on. They are part of the same idea, but it is just what we come up with in the moment, and they usually end up being pretty goofy.

**BE:** I think it also has to do with how limited, or not, we are by the equipment we have. All we have is my camera and some clamp lights, and then we just fuck with those until they work. And that can turn out really cool, but we have done shoots where it didn't work. Like that time we went out to the mima mounds, and we were both feeling weird that day.

**TS:** There were also some creeps in the field.

**BE:** Yeah they were yelling at us.

**TS:** We did have a good idea behind that but we were both hav-





## & B L A I N E E W I G

ing bad body image issue days, which is totally real. Because we usually end up having to be the models and the photographers—we try to get people to come along but usually it's just us—if we are both having weird days, like feeling creatively constipated, or real fucking constipated, where you just like can't pose, it's not going to turn out well. And when we did it at the mima mounds they turned out cute, but it was just not what we were going for. And also there were creeps that were yelling to us.

**BE:** Oh yeah, we were taking all of our clothes off too.

**TS:** We were changing in the field, and there were gunshots going off because we were by the shooting range, and these dudes were yelling at us. I don't know, I think mima mounds have bad juju. I think the aliens are there. That's like a theory, that they are alien nests.

**BE:** I don't believe any of that shit.

**TS:** I'll believe anything.

**CPJ:** What inspires your ideas for shoots? Do you have artists that have really inspired you? Are there other places where you get your thoughts and ideas?

**BE:** I'm inspired by the spice girls. I'm half serious about that.

**TS:** Britney Spears

**BE:** Lisa Frank. Parties.

**TS:** We also joke about Terry Richardson but he's a creep. We're like, 'that looks very Terry Richardson, but he's a creep, soo...' That's what we say. We like it. But also he's a creep.

**BE:** I want to kill Terry Richardson.

**TS:** It sucks that Terry Richardson fucking capitalized on the flash.

**BE:** Yeah he ruined flash for everyone. Like if I take a picture of someone is it like sexually exploitive now? That's what it feels like, it's like 'ewww it's like Terry Richardson and you look hot, but since I'm a woman taking your photo is it different?' I think

about that a lot.

**CPJ:** Does it feel different to you?

**BE:** Yeah.

**CPJ:** What feels different about it? And what feels still the same and exploitive about it?

**BE:** Well, I think taking a photo of someone is like inherently exploiting them in some way, shape, or form.

**TS:** I agree.

**BE:** But it's different because I am not looking at it the same way. Usually when I am shooting another person who is not a man I am trying to put myself in their shoes, not getting off on it.

**CPJ:** Do y'all, either together or separately, ever shoot objects? And what do you feel like the difference is? Why are you interested in taking photographs of bodies, specifically?

**TS:** I usually shoot for candid moments. I am all about the people. I like landscapes a lot, I am an impressionist-loving person, that is why I say I love art, I love impressionism, I gotta love art because it make me cry. But usually I take pictures of people, of candid moments. I like to be the party photographer or the party videographer. I really like shooting people because there is already like an essence with that. [To Blaine] I know you take pictures of a lot of stuff too.

**BE:** Yeah. I am kind of on the same tip about capturing the essence of people. I think people are more interesting. There is the whole thing of how it is easier to use taking photos of people as a crutch and I have heard that a lot in critiques. I think that is bullshit because humans are so interesting to other humans and I think that is a great thing that should be embraced. That sounds so gushy, I want to like puke about it, oh my god. I shoot objects sometimes. I made a chapbook that all had closeups, macroshots, of canned food, and it was a weird chapbook, about my life, what was going on at the time, and anxiety. I shoot objects all the time,

but I also try to have something organic and human in it.

**CPJ:** What are you going to be working on in the future?

**TS:** We have another fun one we need to buy some props for, but it's going to be messing around with flash, and color, and some other cute ideas, people should just be on the lookout. We are going to have another fun one soon, we just need money to buy the supplies.

**BE:** We need a trampoline, and a strobe set up, and a backdrop, or kidding we actually just need a trampoline.

**TS:** Can we put a personal ad in the CPJ for someone with a trampoline? We'll come bounce around naked on it.

**BE:** Or just paypal me money. Or like, Taylor is trying to move to Detroit soon, paypal Taylor money. Also I am unemployed, paypal me money because I am unemployed.

**TS:** I got paid in weed tonight to do a comedy show. There are some fat nugs, to say the least.

**CPJ:** I feel like I should just ask you to tell me about yourselves, but that is such a rude question. But like, besides photography what else do you do? What other creative outlets do you have?

**BE:** Taylor does a lot of cool video shit that I wish I could do, and it's amazing! She's really good at it.

**TS:** Yeah, we have been planning on doing a video shoot, complementing a photography shoot, so that is something I am looking forward to. I also do comedy. I feel like that shows through a lot of the photos we take. Yeah, video and comedy, that's my shit. [To Blaine] You write poetry.

**BE:** I like to write poetry and bake stuff. That's not really artsy.

**CPJ:** I don't know, I think baking's an art.

**BE:** Well it's like art you can eat. So you're digesting art. Metabolizing art. Chewing it and ruining it. [Laughing]

-FELIX CHROME



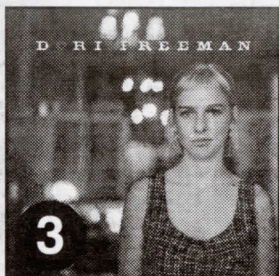
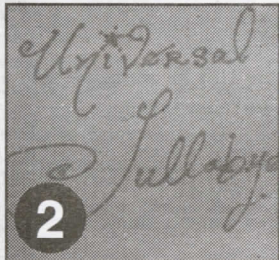
# Arts & Culture

## KAOS 89.3 FM TOP 20

Albums for the week of Feb. 7



- 1 **Tortoise** - The Castastrophe
- 2 **Geloey Galadrielle** - Universal Lullabye
- 3 **Dori Freeman** - Dori Freeman
- 4 **Sawtooth** - Post-Americana
- 5 **Wall** - Wall EP
- 6 **Wonky Tonk** - Stuff We Leave Behind
- 7 **Karsh Kale** - Up
- 8 **Hinds** - Leave Me Alone
- 9 **Dressy Bessy** - Kingsized
- 10 **Coldair** - The Provider
- 11 **Bourbon Express** - One Big Losin' Streak
- 12 **Sierra Hull** - Weighted Mind
- 13 **Black Sabbath** - Black Sabbath
- 14 **Globelamp** - The Orange Glow
- 15 **Fwy!** - CA '80s-'90s
- 16 **Wimps** - Suitcase
- 17 **Brian Andres** - This Could Be That
- 18 **Idiot Glee** - Idiot Glee
- 19 **Johnny Rawls** - Tiger In A Cage
- 20 **Carlos Timón** - Solar Rapé



*Women in the Trades* goes up outside photoland Mar. 2. Photo by BETTINA HANSEN.

## Spring Brings New Art to Evergreen

By Ruby Love

**M**arch is almost upon us, and with it (hopefully) will come a little bit of sun and the campus will start exiting its sad grumpy state of hibernation. Come out of your caves, Greeners! Don't be so sad! Sun or not, March also marks the beginning of new art exhibits around the Evergreen campus!

First off, if you haven't seen *Prison Obscura* at Evergreen Gallery, or *Selections from Captured Youth*, at Galerie Fotoland (along the wall outside Photoland), you have until Mar. 2 to catch them!

If you don't make it, though, don't worry, there will be more art soon! Evergreen Gallery is going to be hosting a show celebrating the anniversary of Evergreen's Longhouse, but they've been stingy with the details so far. All I can tell you is that it will be up sometime in March, and it'll be a cool look at some Evergreen history. Look out for coverage of this exhibit closer to its opening date.

I do have details about a photography exhibit going up at Galerie Fotoland, though. The series, *Women in the Trades*, features portraits of Washington State women working in the trades, meaning they have amazingly badass jobs like ironworker, lineman, butcher, and heavy-equipment operator.

*Seattle Times* photographer Bettina Hansen teamed up with writer Susan Kelleher to interview and photograph ten different women at their job sites. Hansen chose to use a four-by-five film camera in order to "slow the portrait process down and give it weight," resulting in timeless, incredibly detailed images.

The process of shooting with a 4x5 camera requires a lot of skill and careful atten-

tion. The bulk and vintage feel of the camera confers respect onto the subject, as they are required to sit for a formal portrait. I could write all day about this amazing process, but the point is it results in some amazing images with a lot of love and hard work poured into them.

Each print is accompanied by a vignette written by Kelleher. These words give insight into each woman's experiences in traditionally male-dominated spaces, emphasizing the empowerment they've found in their work. Many of the women remark on the tangible accomplishments they've made, and how these accomplishments give them a sense of purpose. Many went from minimum wage jobs and frustration with barely getting by or being dependent on spouses, to making a solidly middle class wage and having financial freedom, often for the first time in their lives.

One woman, a single mom, was able to put her two children through college and buy a home. Another remarked that she would, like her grandfather, be able to ride through Seattle and point to all of the buildings she'd helped construct.

You can see *Women in the Trades* Mar. 4 - Apr. 24. It's on the wall outside Photoland, so it's open whenever you can get into the Library!

# KAOS

## 89.3FM OLYMPIA

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## UP & COMING

WED. FEB 24

★ **Evergreen State College**

Red Square. 12:30 pm.

Rally in Solidarity with Leonard Peltier: Student National Day of Action!

**Obsidian**

414 4th Ave E. 6:30pm.

February Death Cafe

★ **Traditions Fair Trade**

300 5th Ave SW. 7pm.

Oly Really Free Market

**Le Voyeur**

404 4th Ave E. 9pm.

Vomity: "I Want to Be-Heave" ft. Rusty the Comedian

THUR. FEB 25

**Evergreen State College**

Flaming Eggplant Cafe. 5pm.

EGYHOP Workshop

★ **New Moon Cafe**

113 4th Ave W. 8pm. \$5

Yes Alexander, Aeon Fux, Freaky Pup, Doctor Sleep

FRI. FEB 26

**Obsidian**

414 4th Ave E, 9pm. 21+ \$7

HOM, Atlea, Military Bass, Resting Bitch Face

SAT. FEB 27

**Olympia Center**

222 Columbia St NW. 1pm.

Pie Fest 2016

**Le Voyeur**

404 4th Ave E. 10pm. \$3-5

Heat Shimmer, Boy Rex, Honeytooth

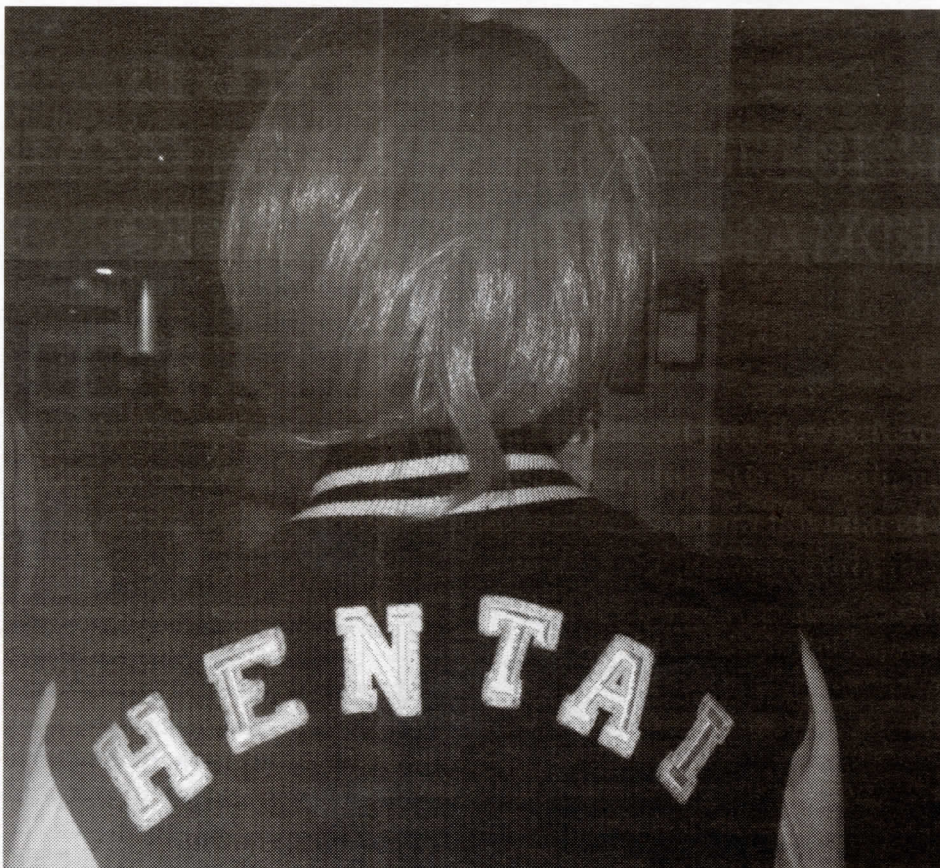
SUN. FEB 28

★ **Bar Francis**

110 Franklin St NE. 7pm.

Pastel Visions by Patrick Semple Closing Party ft. Rose Water

★ = Staff Recommended



Jules befriend "Teal Hair" at Chibi Chibi Con. JULES PROSSER.

# I Got Drunk and Went to Chibi Chibi Con for the Sake of Journalism

## OR: IN PRAISE OF SWEET CAROL

By Jules Prosser

**W**e went undercover. We didn't know why or how, but we were on a quest for "the truth". Carol got a fancy secret recorder from Media Loan, and I didn't even have to ask her to do that, even though I considered it. I needed her—she was good at this shit, and knew what was up. Carol never fails.

Since we were incognito, we had to have fake identities. I suggested porn star names because I'm fucking boring. Carol had a better idea. We both have bags with different names Sharpied on them. "Carol" is on hers, obviously, and "Alexis" is on mine. She suggested we use them. She's so smart.

Carol was a standard hot Bo Peep, pink and pretty, with her cascading red hair and garter belt. I dressed up as a maenad, AKA a slutwife of Dionysus, AKA a crazy creature who incites drunken orgies. It was a recycled Halloween costume, but fuck it. I looked okay in my ill-fitting red dress and janky papier-mâché horns. My companion lent me her black scarf to protect me from a very-probable nip-slip. Carol is the greatest.

We got there kind of late because we missed a few buses. The weather was terrible and the con was in the CRC. There were as many nerds as there were raindrops. All the wonderful campus dining options were kawaii-fied: The "Wandering

Eggroll". Who made that decision? Is that okay to do? I was too sketched out to sniff around.

There was a "Maid Cafe" in Sem II C. The line was out the fucking door when we arrived, but it was emptier later on and we took a gander. We were told that customers were "given a (cute) maid" to serve them American snacks and tell them about panels and shit. I was like, "Carol, they can't just give someone a maid, can they? Is that OK?"

Maybe I was taking it too personally. Perhaps it was just a way to capitalize on horny weeaboo dudes, though, which I approve of. Did the maids get paid, though? I had so many questions. But we were broke and could not gain access. On our way out, I laughed my ass off because the Maid Cafe took place in my lecture room.

The CRC was wild; lots of bright colors and silly sounds. Carol and I went to the bathroom to freshen up and activate the voice recorder. The business really started

then—we were on the JOB. We couldn't fuck around under any circumstances. We walked into the gym and it was NUTS. There was so much cute shit to buy. We were roped in. We looked at fan art, picking out our anime boyfriends. I don't know about Carol—she was so serene and collected—but at that moment, my defenses were destroyed. I bought pins, and fucking fan art: the Crystal Gems from Steven Universe drawn as the Powerpuff Girls for my girlfriend because we love that show.

I turned around and saw this oldass guy who made me feel uncomfortable a few years back. "Eeek! Turn around, Carol!" I was scared. I later saw two of my supervisors, who are probably reading this now. Otherwise, our disguises were effective, and we soon felt comfortable. Our second protective measure was to tell people we came up from Salem, Oregon. It raised a lot of eyebrows. At one point, we sneakily asked a Greener to point us in the direction of Sem II B, where some panels were taking place. "You came up all that way for this?" they asked. You bet!

When we got to Sem II B, my pal was there—let's call him Cat Ears—with his friend Teal Hair, cute as hell and killing time. Carol and I went into a demo on making cool shit with plastic and blowdryers, then a panel on "filking" (which is apparently a musical genre tied to sci-fi and fantasy fandom). We left, though, because we "had to find Alexis's water bottle." I really did have to find it, though. We didn't lie. "That's my lecture room," Carol giggled.

Our friends were waiting. We hightailed outside and smoked behind the library. Teal Hair and I nerded out over our love for Kohh, a Japanese rapper with a blue haired bowlcut and a Mona Lisa throat tattoo. She blasted that shit off her phone and it was one of the finest moments of the night.

The four of us then went to the CAB. Teal Hair said she could maybe get us all into the Greenery because her kinda-homey was working the front. Carol and I waited for the OK, and decided we wanted to piss in Cheerios. Like, go to the Greenery and sneak some Cheerios into the bathroom. For journalism.

It was our most brilliant idea yet, but it didn't happen. "I have Cheerios at my house," Carol offered, but we both knew, deep down, that it wasn't right. If we couldn't piss in Cheerios at Chibi Chibi Con, we couldn't do it anywhere else.

But don't worry—Carol and I spent a hot 40 seconds in a cosplay conga line afterward. That was pretty magical.

Three things I uncovered: if you want to be surrounded by sweaty sexual tension, go to an anime convention; Carol is the best; and I am a nerd. I bought a fucking Sailor Moon lanyard at Spencers the other day. I clearly belong at Chibi Chibi Con.

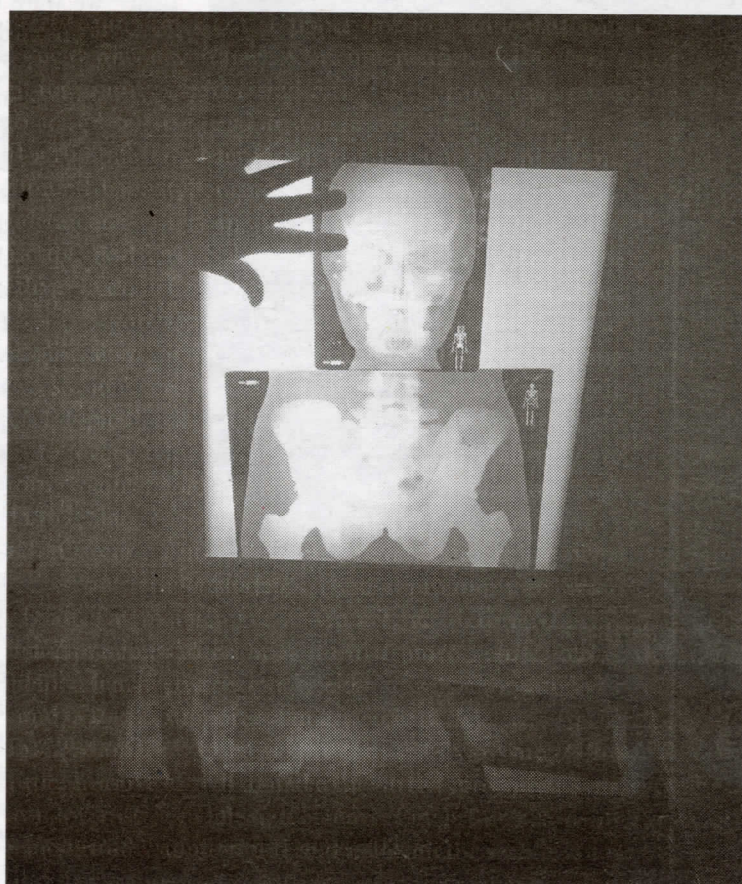
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JULES PROSSER



JULES PROSSER

## Ready, Set, Play

ADULTS ENJOY A NIGHT OF FUN AT THE HANDS ON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

By Sara Fabian

**W**e've all experienced the joys of being a kid. With no responsibilities, other than making sure you push every elevator door button, dirty every white shirt, stare aimlessly in a sandbox, and play with every toy imaginable. A carefree childhood is something we often crave, but rarely revisit. Fortunately for you, Olympia's Hands On Children's Museum has a neverland waiting, their Adult Swim series.

On Friday, Feb. 12, the museum opened its doors to the adults of Olympia, not just school related field trips or parents with kids during its normal hours. Adult Swim honors the public pool tradition of kicking the kids out so adults can have the space to themselves.

With a growing attendance, these 21-and-up events provide the greater olympia community the opportunity to play for the evening—crawling, sliding, and dancing their way through the museum. Beer, themed cocktails, soft drinks, and snacks from local eateries are made to pair well with your inner child as you get to freely roam the museum, immersing yourself in exciting and educational activities.

I have been to one other Adult Swim event, which occurred last spring, and even in

this short time, the museum has exceeded my expectations, that were already high. Event Coordinator Jillian Haze says, "We try really hard to make sure the community feels comfortable and most importantly has fun!"

The Adult Swim series has been a part of the community since January 2014 and each event outdoes the last, whether it's the museum's growing relationships with local food and drink vendors or their engaged and enthusiastic staff, eager to share new scientific knowledge.

The theme of this Valentine's Day weekend Adult Swim was Love & Magnets, and it was all about feeling the love with its activities centered around the chemistry of attraction. The museum opened its doors at 7 p.m., I arrived at 7:30 p.m. and the event was already in

full swing. Dozens of museum-goers ate delicious food at local food truck, Boka Island Fusion, parked just outside. Inside the museum was transformed into an adult amusement park, while still keeping the interactive kitchen, ambulance/E.R. room, and two story slide, open to all.

Every room was filled with people all there to discover the unseen forces of attraction with matchmaking experts from Seattle based dating App Siren, who created a fun food and dipping sauces matching game that was a big hit, and biologists from Oly Mega who gave us an accessible glimpse of electromagnetism.

The pirate ship located near the main entrance was now a stage for local funk band DBST to blast their psychedelic grooves. In addition to the yummy Hawaiian food, every mu-

seum attendee was given tokens for a complimentary cocktail or beverage, and awesome snacks provided by Batdorf and Bronson and Abby's Cupcakes. We even picked up some cool information on the history and myth-making of aphrodisiacs.

Upstairs, the second floor was utilized to its fullest with arts and crafts like screen printing shirts, constructing and decorating angler fish headbands, which are those cool looking with a light bulb shaped antenna dangling over their heads. Other spaces were dedicated to animal mating trivia, experimenting with gravitational pull, and playing with static electricity. Some guests meandered outside for some fresh air and watched as others got to really channel their inner 12 year old and get stuck to a Velcro wall, for scientific purposes obviously.

A few of the more memorable events of the evening were activities such as "Sexy Talk," where two people sat at a table and were given headphones that played six phrases said by female and male voices at different pitches. After you heard a male and female voice, you put a check next to voice of your preference. Another one of my favorites was a very punny activity called "Love Stinks" where you were given a brief description on why love stinks, literally, since pheromones give us clues to genetic compatibility. We found out that a selected part of the Children's Museum staff anonymously had worn a white t-shirt to bed every night for a week prior to the event, each morning they were to enclose their shirt in a ziploc bag and repeat. The night of the Adult Swim event, the ziploc bags were on full display and each of us got a taste of their wondrous body odor. We got to feel, see, and literally smell the pheromones they were giving off. I was immediately drawn to one bag in particular that smelled of pine cones.

The night was a booming success. I can't help but think about how exciting is it to experience social science in a new way — with no classroom, or dull exhibits, and at night. It's almost as if, when lights go down, our imaginations are in charge! "This is a great way for us to reach out to a part of the community that may not have had a reason to come to the museum before," said one museum volunteer.

Adult swim events happen about three times a years so they are a rare and beautiful experience. A perfect date night or fun evening with friends, I would suggest coming to their next event in the Adult Swim series called Beer Craft, to explore the museum after hours, filled with innovative experiments, current research, signature cocktails, dynamic performances, engaging discussions, amazing inventions, and intriguing interactions!

To learn more about what will be happening or plan which events you'd like to go to visit [www.hocm.org/adultswim](http://www.hocm.org/adultswim) In addition, the Children's museum is always looking for college interns and museum volunteers for their events.



RUBY THOMPSON

## Change I Don't Really Believe In THE CASE FOR VOTING IN AN UNJUST SYSTEM

By Asa Kowals-Rose

I was seven when I cast my first vote for president. It was Election Day 2004, and all the students in my elementary school were given a mock presidential ballot to fill out. I'm pretty sure I accidentally voted for Bush, but this was an elementary school in the heart of Seattle, and Kerry won in a landslide. As I look forward to casting my first real vote for president in November, I firmly believe that it will have as great an impact on the future of the country as the half-sheet of paper I filled out twelve years ago. I am, nonetheless, an enthusiastic participant in the democratic

process. Presidential elections, frankly, are a sham. By the time the Election Day arrives, the United States' two-party system has produced only two viable candidates for office. The ideological spectrum represented by these candidates is often quite limited, forcing voters to settle on a candidate who may not actually represent their views. This would be less of an issue if each party's nominating process were fully democratic, but this is not always the case. Often, both parties' candidates have all but been selected after only a handful of states vote; in the Democratic Primary, unelected superdelegates exacerbate this problem.

In the general election, the Electoral College makes voters in non-swing states politically impotent; one's vote only helps a candidate win if that candidate wins the voters' state, and means nothing if they don't. As an independent voter in Washington State, my vote has virtually no chance of changing the makeup of the Electoral College, and therefore

has little potential to affect a presidential race.

Despite this sense of futility, I refuse to forgo the most basic of my democratic rights. With nearly every part of the political process corrupted by entrenched moneyed interests, I relish my personal ability to make informed votes for causes of my choosing. No matter how much super PAC money has been spent in an election, I can ensure that my completed ballot espouses my own interests and values. I view this as a small but important step toward achieving a truly democratic government.

Aside from this symbolic value, making an individual decision to vote can actually affect the outcome of certain races. Whereas presidential races can only be swayed by a large quantity of voters spread across a few select states, state and local races can come down to a handful of ballots. I've always considered it an unfortunate irony that voters turn out for these races in even lower numbers than they do for presi-

dential elections. Just over 60 percent of eligible Washingtonians voted in the 2012 election, but turnout dropped below 40 in the 2014 midterm.

That year saw three State House races decided by fewer than a thousand votes each; in this year's elections, Republicans would only need to pick up two seats to gain a majority in that chamber. Likewise, Democrats would only need to pick up two seats to retake the State Senate. Furthermore, Governor Insee is running for reelection this year. This could be an extremely close election: twelve years ago, Washington's gubernatorial race came down to a mere 129 votes after multiple recounts. All of this means that it would only take a small electoral insurgency for either party to seize control of the State Government. For this reason, it is imperative that potential voters not let their disenchantment with presidential politics keep them from participating in other races.

Voting alone, however, is in-

sufficient as a means to bring change. I agree with my editor, who argued in an op-ed last issue that electoral politics will not produce leaders with the capacity to stop the injustice and aggression perpetrated by the United States government. Fortunately, electoral victories don't always depend on the integrity and influence of elected officials. Most states have at least some form of direct democracy, which empowers voters to affect policy without relying on politicians.

After all, it was Washington's voters, not its elected leaders, who legalized gay marriage and marijuana in 2012. There are limits to what these types of ballot measures can accomplish, but they nonetheless empower voters to a degree. I see voting as a means of prompting incremental change, not the revolutionary agenda that would be needed to ensure real liberty and justice in society. Accordingly, I believe that the ballot must be thought of as the beginning, not the end of one's participation in a democratic society.

To some radicals, refusal to vote is an important part of revolutionary politics, a necessary disavowal of the corrupt institutions we've been taught are our only recourse for addressing injustice. I disagree with the assertion that electoral politics have no place in this fight. What must be ensured, however, is that elections do not hinder the revolution by placating the revolutionaries; instead, they should galvanize mass movements.

Many Americans have little appetite for politics, but what they do possess emerges during election years like the one currently underway. Rather than let it pass uneventfully, it is incumbent upon activists to use this election to foster political consciousness and build strong coalitions. An organized and enlightened electorate with an enduring passion for justice can simultaneously work to strengthen democracy under our current corrupt system, and lay the foundation for more revolutionary action in the future.

This fact is borne out by the very nature of this year's election. Recent attacks on voting rights notwithstanding, the ballot is eminently more inclusive in 2016 than it was in 1916. A decade before that, voters lacked even the right to elect their own senators; in 2016, citizens across the nation will elect 34. What won these victories for democracy was not an aversion to the ballot box,

but rather a series of robust social movements whose members filled courtrooms, packed polling places, and marched through city streets all at once.

I concede that these movements have yet to rectify the fundamental injustices that have been ingrained in the American political system since its inception. However, if electoral politics had a place in battles for labor representation, civil rights, and women's suffrage, then I see no reason why they should be excluded from efforts to democratize the means of production, eliminate poverty around the world, and put an end to all forms of imperialism.

I wrote this piece as a rebuttal to the aforementioned op-ed published in the previous issue of the Cooper Point Journal by our Editor-in-Chief, Felix Chrome. As I read and re-read her piece, I realized that I agreed with nearly every point it covered. Most of all, I agreed with her contention that not voting is hardly a product of apathy, but rather a conscious decision based on a deep understanding of the extent to which political institutions are fundamentally unjust and undemocratic.

What disheartens me about this decision, however, is that those who make it are precisely the type of people who should be voting. I believe that the insight that leads these individuals to forgo the ballot could also compel them to become the most judicious of voters. Electoral participation works best when it is checked by a persistent skepticism toward the political institutions upon which it is predicated; such skepticism helps ensure that political will doesn't flounder after election day, but continues to grow from election to election.

In his famous "The Ballot or the Bullet" speech, Malcolm X does not advocate complete abstention from the electoral process; rather, he calls for Black Nationalists to continue their fight by more radical means if the electoral process fails to produce justice. It is my firm conviction that revolutionaries should not let the corrupt nature of the electoral system keep them from voting. Instead, they should use this year's election to achieve small victories, and to grow support for the revolutions to come. I believe this starts at the ballot box.

RUBY THOMPSON

## WASTED ADVICE

Greetings. Welcome to Wasted Advice, wherein you ask for advice and I continue to get drunk and advise you. We both win. You can ask me the questions you can't ask your resident advisor.

**i hate my job, but i feel stupid complaining about it because it is better than most of my friends jobs, how do i get to get paid to do something that doesnt make me want to die? LOOOOK** lemme be real, I've thought @bour this 2, here the thing love, it's not about the job. ur insecurities about something super touchy feely deep. it's appears from this question @ least that u want passion, fire &&& stimulation. I think the best thing 4 u would be to not complain anymore. Look at ur age, I'm guessing in like early 20's ur doing jones for rent and not for passion, and like if u wnt to move on to another chapter u have to make a change, whether its environment or subject matter this question &&& decision is about u, not about feeling guilty about ur distain or complaining. growing up is knowing and awkwardly realizing that change is inevitable. Money DOE\$\$\$\$ play a part & plays a part in venting but like U R IMPORTANT 2 know that U at 21 doesn't have to be U at 31. make ur own future and they can accomplish things, but with change, Embracee it. Inspire UR friends!!!

**whats the secret to being cute?** immma gonna be super real and super honest here. for me and I'm sure for some others, being called "cute" feels like an expectation. cute seems like a compliment that is not who u are but expected from others. I get called this all the time and it makes me feel weird and try to be even more bubbly than I already am mm. And trust me, I come across as a super happy "cute" human. There is no secret. IM BEING REAUULLL. the key to cute is saying what u want, when u want 2, and letting lose. 4 some that takes liquid courage? 4 others that means feeling comfortable. But like no one is here 2 tell u how to be a certain way. Give

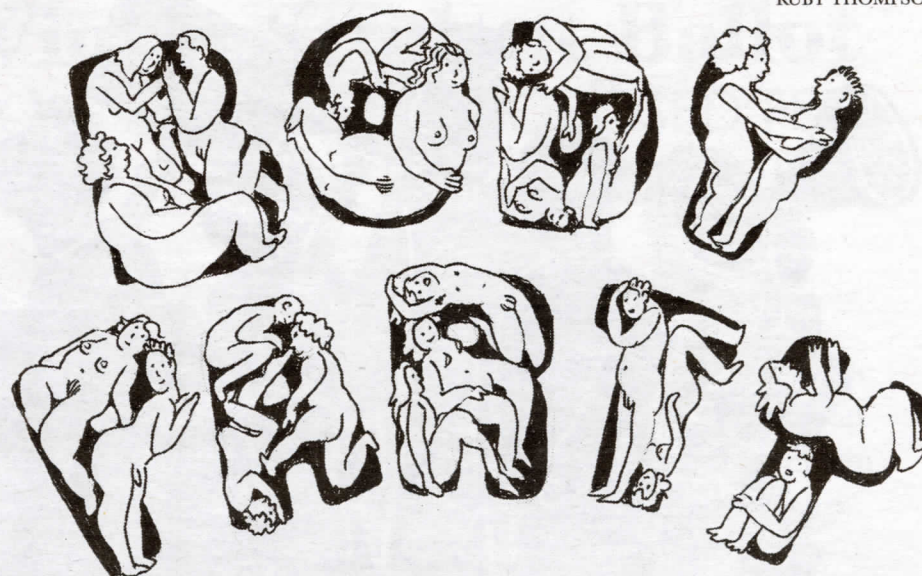
lots or fucks or don't but I know this sounds super therapy driven. cute or I'd like to say real comes from realizing that u are worth something, and that something caters to someone, a friend or liver or partner watvevaaaaaaa. caring about "cute" shouldn't define u. u are more than cute and cute is like an aphrodisiac, it's something that is proven thru getting out there and making ur amazing personality known!!!

**who is the worst band in olympia?** anything that ends in lots of ssssss's or zzzzz's. But like I'm a good p.r person and know that this question puts me IN A pickle (and not like a good kosher dill pickle which I like Vvvvv much, but a hater pickle and I don't like that. like wat u like and don't feel ashamed. I think all bands mostly struggling student bands (cuz oly,) R great. maybe or maybe not my type of music but I think anyone like ANY OnEeeee trying to expand their creativity and make art or transform art, is fucking cool. no hate here

**Should President Obama nominate D.C. Court of Appeals Judge Sri Srinivasan to fill Antonin Scalia's Supreme Court seat, as many have suggested he might, or should he instead choose Beyoncé?** like I luv me a Beyoncé because no one is more feeiirce and fiery as the queen, but I mayget some hate for this, butEVR i'ts a deep and well thought drunk thought, and say that the elevator incident of 2014, where she stood idly by while her sister and husband got into a mad physical altercation makes me really like srsly ponder if the queen could be a legit Supreme Court justice.

Got problems? We can help! You can submit questions anonymously to [ask.fm/wastedadvice](http://ask.fm/wastedadvice) or email [wastedadvicecj@gmail.com](mailto:wastedadvicecj@gmail.com).

RUBY THOMPSON



## ADVICE ON SEX, RELATIONSHIPS & MORE

**Dear Body Party,**

**Help, I'm cold and I want to make out. I have a crush on this person, which is great, and I think they may like me back, which is also great—but the problem is, they're not the only person I like, they're just the person I like who I think is the most likely to want to kiss me back. Is it bad to go out with them—despite the fact that they are number three or so on my list—just because I think I may have a slight opening? I'm not really looking for something serious, but I want something—is it rude or mean or unfair to drag them into this? Is it worth my time?**

It's mid February, we're just coming off of Valentine's Day, it's 40 or so degrees outside—we all want something or someone to help us ward off seasonal affective disorder. You're not the only one, and you certainly aren't 'bad' or 'mean' for wanting to date someone despite maybe being more invested in someone prettier, more interesting, or less self obsessed. Many an Olympia couple, I'm sure, has rode of into the sunset simply because this town is small enough to make dating around exhausting—I recommend you make like a small town prom queen and settle.

There is nothing wrong with wanting something in particular from a relationship, even if it's not what a couple decades of rom coms have told you you are supposed to want. I promise you, in the big bad real world, nobody will really fault you for dating someone you only sort of like just because they're respectful, like the same shitty music you do, or enjoy your company.

Relationships, after all, are not built on mutual likes but on mutual agreement. As the laws of social exchange theory dictates, everybody wants something out of their particular relationships; security, affection, sex, a Hulu subscription. Arguably there is no wrong kind of want. Even in a perfect idyllic situation, where affection is easy to quantify and the two of you like each other an equal amount, there is no way to say that you lie each other for the same reasons.

Rarely do any two, or three, or five, or eight people all want the same things, and yet we hang out and fuck anyways. Sometimes the differences are big—one of you may be enamoured and the other may be just looking to bang, and sometimes, like in your case, you may both like each other, but one of you is a little more distracted by their other options. The key to healthy, happy, unbalanced relationships is not the unobtainable balance prescribed by many a sitcom couple but honesty, with yourself and your partner(s).

Here kids, is what separates the sophomores from the seniors: a willingness to be clear about what they want. Relationships are not card games—although keeping your hand hidden may give you the illusion of control, the pursuit of control or 'winning' in a relationship is a toxic force sure to poison and hope of peace or sanctity. Honesty isn't just beneficial to the sanity of your other half, or helpful at keeping the mass of anxiety that lives in your stomach at bay, it (according to many studies, my old therapist, and my mother—a chronic monogamist) is the key to relationship longevity, feelings of fulfillment, and good sex.

It may be that mystery is romantic but honesty is sexy. Your situation may be particular in what you need to be clear or honest about, but the truth is universal—if you want someone to make you happy, you need to tell them how, whether you're making out under a street lamp or under the covers. You seem to know what you want, so go get it!

Stay Safe & Have Fun,  
-Party!

Body Party is a positive, open-minded column about everything bodied, sex, relationships, and self love. This column is not written by a doctor but done by a person who has researched a topic and looked into your questions thoroughly. If you have any questions or want advice or research on the topics of your body, sex, medication, STD's ect. please submit them to [cooperpointjournal@gmail.com](mailto:cooperpointjournal@gmail.com)



By Nix Chace

**T**he sun has left colorful Aquarius and has entered the emotionally intense Pisces. A time of ease has started to shift and new challenges and struggles are facing all the signs. The full moon in Virgo on february 22nd has illuminated what stabilizes us through these harder times. For Fire signs (Aries, Leo, Sagittarius) these next couple weeks are about determination, and remaining sure of who you are and what you want. For Earth signs (Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn) this is the time for emotional self-exploration and understanding your roots. For Air signs (Gemini, Libra, Aquarius), these next couple weeks are about remaining joyful through hardships and harnessing your positive spirit. For the water signs (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces) this is the time to work with your complexities and not run away from trouble, face your challenges head-on.

## ARIES 3/21 - 4/19

It feels like you're drowning in voices that are not your own, you've been struggling lately to have your voice be heard. Harness your relentless energy and make people listen. You have things you need to say and they are important. It may feel tiring, but when you feel exhausted just focus your energy on your tender spots and heal.

## TAURUS 4/20 - 5/20

When did you forget your roots, Taurus? You've been lost lately and it's time that you found yourself again. Go back to what you've always wanted. You know what's best for you. Don't doubt yourself anymore, you had it right all along.

## GEMINI 5/21 - 6/20

You have been seeking out love and validation through other people. Enjoy the confidence this gives you. It's nice to feel loved and complimented! However, your confidence shouldn't come exclusively from others. Find the balance between feeling complimented by others, and validating yourself. Your relationship to yourself is the most important one.

## CANCER 6/21 - 7/22

You can feel hardships coming around the corner, but not quite yet. Sit still for a little while and examine your complexities. Reflect on your growth and heal. By the time any challenges come your way, you will be ready to take them on fearlessly.

## LEO 7/23 - 8/22

You've always been confident in yourself, but it's been harder in the recent past to trust what you know. You definitely know exactly what you want, Leo. This is the time to go for it. Your emotions may feel complex but don't let that stop you from achieving what you desire.

## VIRGO 8/23 - 9/22

A lot of energy has entered your life right now. You've been feeling opposition and contradictions in yourself and in the ones close to you. Explore your relationship to yourself and focus your energy on the things that stabilize you, it'll help you get through your confusing feelings towards the people around you.

## LIBRA 9/23 - 10/22

A lot of past issues have resurfaced recently, it seems that now you're starting to process all the things you didn't give yourself time to earlier. Heal through happiness. Sitting and sulking has never done you any good, Libra. This is the time for you to be creative, to laugh, and to stay hopeful and joyous, you've overcome a lot.

## SCORPIO 10/23 - 11/21

You've been feeling yourself lately, Scorpio. Something in the air has given you a lot of confidence and you've started to take notice. Being aware of your attractive qualities can bring you closer to the people that you also find attractive. Hold on to this energy for a while, remaining confident in yourself through difficult times is a gift.

## SAGITTARIUS 11/22 - 12/21

The time of ease that you were going through has passed, things are not so easy anymore. Your schedule is overwhelming and you need to lighten your load. People will tell you what they think you should do, but you need to listen to your own voice. Don't be afraid to take a day or two off and figure out what you want, and prioritize what matters most to you.

## CAPRICORN 12/22 - 1/19

You've been stagnant in the past but now is the time to be busy. Your calendar is full and you've been a social butterfly! However, stay careful, all this time out with other people can make you compare yourself to others. Know your worth and don't get caught up in comparisons. You know you are so much better than that.

## AQUARIUS 1/20 - 2/18

The full moon enabled you to see who and what stabilizes you. Don't take for granted those in your life who have remained there for you through it all. Take notice of the good friends surrounding you. It'll help you when things get rough to focus on the ones you love, and to focus on loving yourself.

## PISCES 2/19 - 3/20

Your season has just begun and it's going to be a big one. Challenges may come your way but you need to work with the flow of them instead of hiding. The full moon brought to you an awareness of how you've been in your relationships. Now is the time to let the bad things go and work on the good. If you move forward facing your emotions head-on, you'll come out of this season with a whole new awareness of yourself.

