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EAR-OPENING CONCERTS THIS WEEK AT THE **MUSIC TODAY FESTIVAL:**

- ▼ **Basso Bongo & Pacific Rim Gamelan**
World premieres of three works commissioned for electronic bass, percussion, and gamelan.
Monday, April 28 • 8 p.m., Beall Hall
\$7 Gen. Admission, \$4 Students/Seniors
- ▼ **Strings with ZING**
The Oregon String Quartet performs music by Philip Glass, Mendelssohn, and Beethoven.
Tuesday, April 29 • 8 p.m., Beall Hall
\$7 Gen. Admission, \$4 Students/Seniors
- ▼ **Musical Postcards from the Edge**
Pianist Gregory Mason and graduate voice students present a colorful program of artsong from around the world. Music by Schubert, Berg, Montsalvage, Rochberg, Strauss, Debussy, and de Falla.
Thursday, May 1 • 8 p.m., Beall Hall
\$4 Gen. Admission, \$2 Students/Seniors

Tickets to these events are available at the door on the evening of the concert.

MUSIC TODAY FESTIVAL
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CAMPUS VIEW

MONDAY'S TOPIC: Health & Science

Many places offer vision care

■ **EYES:** The health center, local and national vision clinics can all help identify and fix vision problems

By Amy Palanuk
Higher Education Reporter

If these words are blurring together, it might be time to have the eyes checked.

Vision care can sometimes be overlooked by students too busy studying to notice a change in eyesight.

But students can seek preliminary help at various places on and near campus.

The Student Health Center can check for visual acuity (nearsightedness, farsightedness and color vision) to get an idea whether refraction is needed, director Gerald Fleischli said. Students can also go in for eye problems such as red eye, lid infections and other eye irritations such as foreign bodies in the eye.

"For problems we can't handle, we are able to get timely referrals to our local ophthalmologists," Fleischli said.

Though most people may not realize it, optometrists and ophthalmologists differ in practice. Optometrists are trained and licensed to examine the eyes for visual defects, diagnose problems or impairments and prescribe corrective lenses or provide other types of treatments. Ophthalmologists deal with the anatomy, functions, pathology and treatment of the eye.

An optometrist can assist students with basic eye care needs, but for medical implications and surgery options, an ophthalmologist is the best bet, most professionals said.

Another place within walking distance of campus is Rainbow Optics on East 13th Avenue. Here

“For problems we can't handle, we are able to get timely referrals to our local ophthalmologists

— Gerald Fleischli
Student Health Center Director

students can receive complete eye exams by an optometrist, including testing for cataract and glaucoma, two eye diseases that impair eyesight by damaging the optic disk with abnormally high intraocular fluid pressure. Rainbow Optics also prescribes glasses and contacts and stocks a wide selection of frames.

Other centrally located places for vision care can be found at Valley River Center. Commercial practices such as LensCrafters and Binyons offer timely service and competitive rates for prescriptions of glasses and contacts. Students can receive eye care attention at these places seven days a week.

Availability and hours are the main differences between a commercial and a private practice, LensCrafters technicians said.

When going to an optometrist for a thorough eye exam, students should expect the following tests:

Visual acuity: the measuring of current eye correction with new correction.

Autorefractometry: screening of common vision problems including near or farsightedness and astigmatism.

Tonometry: screening for glaucoma.

Keratometry: measuring the cornea for contact lens fitting.

LOOKING INTO EYESIGHT

Below are some common eyesight problems and the treatment for them.

● **Astigmatism:**

■ **WHAT:** Vision is blurred when the front surface of the eye (cornea) is slightly irregular in shape.

■ **TREATMENT:** Astigmatism can be corrected with properly prescribed and fitted eyeglasses and contact lenses.

● **Conjunctivitis:**

■ **WHAT:** An inflammation of the conjunctiva, a thin, transparent layer covering the surface of the inner eyelid and a portion of the front of the eye. Common signs are red eyes, inflamed inner lids and watery eyes.

■ **TREATMENT:** Can be treated with antibiotic eye drops and/or ointment.

● **Nearsightedness:**

■ **WHAT:** A condition in which near objects are seen clearly, but distant objects do not come into proper focus. It is caused when the eyeball is too long or the cornea has too much curvature, causing light entering the eye not to focus properly.

■ **TREATMENT:** There is no "cure" for nearsightedness, but eyeglasses or contact lenses optically correct the problem.

SOURCE: American Optometric Assoc.
MATT GARTON/Emerald

Muscle balance: measuring the efficiency of eye muscle movement.

Other tests cover the general health of the external and internal eye.

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