

Top ten annoying things Portlanders do

Annemarie's



An Oregonian reviews the most irritating habits and quirks of 'Rose City' inhabitants

By Annemarie Schulte
Arts & Culture Editor

1. Bicyclists and pedestrians who prefer not to look before crossing a major intersection in crowded downtown. We understand the whole "share the road" mantra; we get it, but if we're truly sharing the road, shouldn't they have to abide by traffic signals as well? Their ignorance of surrounding traffic irritates me to no end. Look before you walk/bike; it's that simple.

2. Shop organic. There are two reasons Oregonians shop organic: 1. to be truly healthy and 2. for status. The latter is what most of us could agree is annoying. Yes, you have fruit that has never been touched by human hands, but is it really worth that extra \$8?

3. Have ugly Christmas sweater parties. These were cool in 2007, NOT 2010.

EVERYONE has them; therefore, they've completely lost their originality and humor. Come up with some other themed seasonal party. It's annoying seeing every person under the sun with "Ugly Christmas sweater party 2009!!" albums on Facebook.

4. Plaster their cars with bumper stickers. The stereotypical Oregon car includes the following elements: must be a Subaru and covered with stickers that say "co-exist," "keep Portland weird," "Obama-Biden," "It's our road, too," and the little outline of Oregon with the green heart. Your Oregon plates say enough; just leave it at that.

5. Bad public transit manners. Yeah, it's annoying.

6. Shove their political views down everyone's throats. Personally as a liberal and a part of the majority of Oregonians, if this annoys me, it must drive Republicans or other parties crazy. No, I do not want you to hand me a brochure of

Obama pictured as Hitler, or tell me about how I can donate money to "send Obama to the moon." Have your opinions and share them, but don't try forcing them upon others. It only makes them more resistant.

7. Pretend to be into a religion or culture they know nothing about. You are not cool wearing a red string around your wrist if you do not even know what the Kabbalah religion stands for or even means. Just because Britney and Madonna wear them doesn't mean you're cultured if you wear one, too.

8. Sport Birkenstocks and Northfaces like they're fashionable. Everyone in the Northwest wears them; it's not a statement.

9. Smugly drive their hybrids. If you can even count these as cars. Just because you drive one doesn't make you more "green" or advanced or more sophisticated than others. Just slower...

10. Listen to horrible indie bands that will never make it just so they can consider themselves unique. I don't care if you saw them once at an exclusive show at the Hawthorne; if they suck, I don't really see the point in listening or supporting them.



Illustration by Brian Steele Clackamas Print

Music program offers more classes

By Art Volodko
The Clackamas Print

From humble beginnings in the attic of Randall Hall, the music program at Clackamas Community College is currently in the middle of its golden age. Offering a variety of comprehensive courses in music performance and production, the program now has 20 instructors, compared to the seven 30 years ago.

It used to be a traditional music program — band, choir and music theory. Now it has grown to include "world class vocal and instrumental groups (these groups have done regular tours of Europe), thriving jazz and chamber ensembles, a top-flight piano program and full music technology classes," said Tom Wakeling, the department chair of music.

The newer Niemeyer Center, opened in the winter of 2005, offers a state-of-the-art recording studio, multiple rehearsal spaces and cutting-edge music technology labs.

"The facility is great," said Jordan Moody, a student at CCC.

Moody is taking music theory and chamber choir.

"The overall passion the teachers display toward the subject is reassuring. They're set on making me better," he said.

Students have the opportunity to work with artist-teachers who are nationally recognized.

"Most of our faculty enjoy active, professional careers in the

music and production world, bringing the 'real world,' and great networking, back to our students," said Wakeling.

The program currently offers a degree in Digital Multimedia Communication as well as the first two years of training for students pursuing Bachelor's and graduate degrees in Music Performance or Music Education.

For students with non-music majors, the music program at Clackamas offers courses that fill general education requirements, such as History of Rock Music, Media and Music; Sex, Drugs, and Rock 'N' Roll; Music Fundamentals, Music Appreciation, Group Voice, Group Piano and Group Guitar. These courses are open to all students.

One of the newer courses in the music program at CCC offers the four-credit Media and Music: Sex, Drugs and Rock 'N' Roll. The course explores the relationship music has with politics, culture, artistic subjects and the economy. It also examines how music serves pop culture and the media. Students taking the course will also explore the history and development of music, pop culture and the music industry of America.

One unique thing the Clackamas offers to students is the coexistence of music technology and music performance programs. Students have the ability to record their music in a world class recording studio right here on campus.

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