

What's up with... no Speech and Debate team?

Marissa Nwerem
The Clackamas Print

The once thriving and successful Clackamas Community College Speech and Debate Program was never really given the goodbye it deserved. With a case full of plaques and trophies to prove its members' accomplishments, the award-winning program ended several years ago. But its departure went unnoticed when unfortunate budget cuts decreased its funding substantially.

Kelly Brennan, Communications and Theatre Arts instructor at CCC, was the coach and director of Speech and Debate from 1995 to 2008. While under his lead, the team went to the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament 15 years in a row and won six of those competitions. Phi Rho Pi, a speech and debate association, is one of the largest and oldest national collegiate organizations in the United States.

When Brennan stepped down in 2008, an incredible coincidence happened. Of all the applicants who would

replace him, it turned out to be one of his past students, Kerrie Hughes. Hughes was directing the program when budgets took a turn for the worse about five years ago. After the program was cut, Hughes attempted to run it as a club in hopes of resurrecting it as a program once again.

"The students worked so hard fundraising," said Brennan.

Sadly, their efforts were in vain. After the program was cut completely, there was never an official announcement to students looking to join or transfer into the program, nor to faculty

on campus.

"It was very disappointing to see it go, but more so that it wasn't officially announced," Brennan said. "It was a disservice to the students."

Hearing of such an impressive and hard-fought program being dismissed with no formal goodbye might be the most disheartening part of this story.

Some new students such as Godlyne Ulinwa have questions about what CCC has to offer in terms of speech and debate. "I was on speech and debate in high school and I always wanted to see what it would be like

in college," Ulinwa said. "It would have been a nice experience."

Now Lane Community College and Mt. Hood Community College are the only two community colleges in Oregon that offer this program, Brennan said. Regardless of the speech and debate program's absence here at CCC, it is something that should be recognized as a great preparation for people using any and all communication. It teaches this lifelong skill and will prove incredibly useful wherever life leads.

Tunes change with the season

Larissa Harper &
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The Clackamas Print

Music is important to everyone. Johnny Depp once said that, "Music touches us emotionally, where words alone can't."

Some people like music for that reason because it is an escape as well as a way for them to hear lyrics that encourage them. For others, it is a way to pump themselves up when they are working out or maybe feeling down and depressed.

Different genres of music can depict the personality of a person as well. Everyone is their own individual and has a different preference. Music and song is a way to express that because it in itself is expressive. That is an artist's job, to portray something they are going through or passionate about, lyrics and music that can touch and empower people.

Thanks to some students on campus, The Print has compiled a list of students' favor-

ite songs to get your playlist started. Maybe there are some new songs and bands here that fit your genre of preference as well as some new ideas to add.

Karin Rothi said her favorite song at the moment is "Celebrity Status" by Marianas Trench.

Justin Saman said, "My favorite song at the moment would probably be 'Soul Sister' by Train."

Rosa R. said that right now she loves the new Lady Gaga song called "Do What You Want (With My Body)."

Kelsea Heaton said, "I like 'Be Easy' by Radical Something. It's kind of a reggae song."

And Chris Sears' said his genre of choice would probably be "alternative."

Plus the holidays are almost here! What better way to get in the spirit than to groove out to some Christmas-themed tunes. These students, as well as a few others, shared their favorite Christmas song. Here is a compiled list.

"Jingle Bells" came in as the most popular. Justin Saman, Bibi Duran and Viri Duran all chose this song because it is such a happy one.

"All I Want for Christmas is You," by Mariah Carey was the favorite of two women, Karen Rothy and Rosa R.

"Carol of the Bells," said Lena B.

Chris Sears had to think on it for a little while but he then said his favorite is "Silent Night."

"Feliz Navidad" is the favorite of Kelsea Heaton.

We even heard of a few good artists who have full albums dedicated to the Holidays! Rod Craig likes Andy Williams and Lydia Hunt said, "Michael Buble."

Student Autumn Eells talks about how her music choices and how music affects her. "I choose music that is inspiring because it brightens my outlook on life and my capabilities," she said.

And Katherine Nelson said, "To me, music is an important part of life. I listen to music the most when I am driving in my car because I don't like the silence and because it puts me in a good mood. I really don't look for certain lyrics. However, I like it when people suggest songs for me that they think will help me if I am going through something."



Black Friday moments

Elizabeth Anel Diaz
The Clackamas Print

The sun is gone. It's hidden behind clouds, and cold weather has hit the streets. The almost constant rain and early-morning fog indicate fall is underway.

It is during this season that we celebrate holidays like Veteran's Day on Nov. 11 and Thanksgiving Day on Nov. 28.

As Thanksgiving Day approaches, so does Black Friday.

Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, is when shopping malls and big-box stores open early and have special discount events during which customers scramble and scour for the best deals. Even though many people stay at home that day, there are some people who use Black Friday as an opportunity to buy all their Christmas presents at once.

Britton Raymer, studying horticulture at CCC, remembers a particularly shocking Black Friday experience. "I was in Walmart, walking toward the electronics section," she said. "This lady pulled out a Taser and tased this chick for some Xbox game. Then she got shot in the front and escorted out, but she still had the game in her pocket. She got out of the store and she still got arrested, but they never

took the game away from her."

Leonila Larriba, working on an Oregon transfer degree, focused on her feet one Black Friday.

"I bought so many socks my parents tell me that the minute I am 35, they are not going to buy me any more socks," Larriba said.

Hannah James, studying business said, "We went to Kohl's on Black Friday and had to wait two hours in line to get to the check stand. So what we did was get one of our family members to stand in line, while we went around the store to get stuff and whatever else we wanted, and switch [with the person waiting in line] every half hour."

Madeline Szabo another student shared her story.

"I was going with my folks to Walmart," she said. "My mom had this flier for [a] specific time that we had to be there. So it was like five minutes to midnight and my dad and I decided to catch some sleep -- because it was [at] a certain time the next morning [we were going to Walmart] so we both went to bed. Five minutes later, my mom comes and wakes us up, saying that we have to be at Walmart in seconds. So me and my dad had 5 minutes of sleep and we were there until 6:00 a.m. the next morning. We were super tired. We were angry at her for doing that, but it is one of the funniest stories that I can remember."

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