

Summer time brings job opportunities for you

by ZAK LASTER
ad manager

It's almost time for summer vacation. Students at Clackamas Community College use the summer break as an opportunity to leave for a while, and some use it as an opportunity to make money working. Others do both. A few students were asked what their summer job plans were.

"I'm going to Los Angeles, Calif., for a college trip, then coming back and working for Nordstrom Café," said Antoinette Mauro.

Many students were asked about their summer plans and most responded that while they do plan to work, it'll mostly be part time so they can enjoy some time off.

"I'm a waiter right now, but

I'm going to take time off this summer," said Alberto Hernandez. "I'm going to go to Orange County, Calif., I'm also going to go to Los Angeles for a month. I'm also going to New York to spend some time there, [and] I might also go to Mexico depending on how much money I have left."

For some students, this summer will be their first summer working.

"I'll be working at Forever 21 at the Woodburn Outlet Mall," said Mackenzie Martinz. "I'll be working there as soon as I am done with school."

Students spend their time at CCC working long hours during the school week, whether it's in the classroom or at home doing homework.

"I usually work during the summers, but I've been working

a lot lately so I kind of want to treat myself," Hernandez said.

That's how most students viewed their summer vacation. They just need to finally get a break and some rest. The school year can be a difficult time for some students, and they could really use the time to unwind with family and friends.

"This summer my family is celebrating an 80th wedding anniversary," Katie Archer said. "It's the combination of my parent's 25th, my mom's younger sister's 25th, and my aunt's 30th. We're going to be having a big party."

Most students said that working isn't a big priority for them this summer, but that getting away for a while is something that's very important to them. They put themselves through a stressful three terms, and three

months of work isn't worth it for what three months of relaxation could do for them instead.

"I'm hoping to go camping at the beach with some of my friends possibly," Archer said. "I hope to also have a job, but I don't know where yet."

Although it's not a summer job, one great opportunity for students is the Disney World College Program. One of CCC's former students, Kasey Ingle, participated in the program and had nothing but great things to say about it.

"I got to meet people from all over the world and there's always something to do," Ingle said "My job was really fun."

The Disney World College Program is not offered during the summer, but instead during the fall, winter, and spring. For those wanting to apply to

the program, it's recommended you research it. It's a competitive opportunity with many applicants.

"I went through a long interview process that I spent quite a bit of time preparing for," Ingle said. "There was a web interview, then a phone interview, and then there is a lot of waiting around waiting to see if you got in."

It can be a great opportunity for students to boost their resume, but if you're just applying so you can have the perks that come with working at Disney, this may not be the job for you.

You'll have to work all holidays, long hours during the day, and all with low pay. Also, "your face will always hurt from smiling so much," Ingle said.

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Opinion: Acceptance starts with education



by CHRIS MORROW
copy editor

I remember being 11 years old when I first heard the words "gay" and "fag." I parroted them while not really knowing what they meant, only that they were new words that my friends were using to describe anything or anyone they thought was stupid, irritating or boring. As I gained more insight into their meanings, I seethed with anger in response to having them aimed at me. Being a shy, quiet kid who spent more time focusing on getting good grades than on socializing and caring more about playing Nintendo games than participating in sports, I had such words hurled in my direction more times than I can even begin to count.

As a result, I learned to do what most other kids in that situation learn to do - use anti-gay rhetoric and behavior as a shield to deflect accusations of being gay. As I grew closer to admitting and coming to terms with my own sexuality, behaving in a way so contrary to how I felt inside made me feel more and more fake. I would continue to maintain the facade purely out of fear of what might happen to me if I didn't.

Having been in that kind of position and thus able to analyze it from the inside, I understand how easy it is to feel compelled to put on the mask of homophobia as a tactic of misdirection.

Children, teenagers and adults often seek approval from their peers and it's pretty obvious one of the messages we're bombarded with most is that anyone who doesn't conform to the societal expectations attached to gender is worthy of contempt and aggressive "correction."

According to data from the National School Climate Survey published by GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network) in 2011, teens regularly experience incidents of anti-gay behavior. More than 80 percent of the students polled reported being verbally harassed in the past year due to their sexual orientation; 18.3 percent reported being physically

assaulted; 55.2 percent reported electronic harassment via text messages or social media; 60.4 percent of students who reported being harassed or assaulted in school said they did not report the incident to school staff, believing little or no action would be taken; 36.7 of those who did report incidents of harassment or assault claimed school staff did nothing in response; 56.9 reported hearing anti-gay slurs from their teachers or other faculty members.

In the same year as this survey was conducted, Zach King, a student of Unioto High School in Chillicothe, Ohio, (90 minutes from my hometown of Ironton), was mercilessly beaten in a classroom while the assailant's cousin filmed the attack on his cell phone to be uploaded to social media. Zach suffered a concussion and a chipped tooth, while his attacker received a three-day suspension and 90 days in juvenile detention, according to news reports.

The various uploads of the cell phone footage on YouTube are littered with comments that appear to be praising the actions of the bully. Zach and his mother Becky Collins both went on to speak as part of a panel called "It's Getting Better," to talk about how schools can improve their methods of dealing with the issue of anti-LGBT bullying.

Also in 2011, Chris Sigler, a 17-year-old heterosexual student at Sequoyah High School in Madisonville, Tenn., resisted attempts to hinder his freedom of speech, concerning his desire to start a GSA (Gay / Straight Alliance) at his school as a support group for his sister, Jessica, and other friends who were LGBT. Despite being straight, he was called "queer" and "fag" by schoolmates when he wore a self-made shirt advertising the proposed GSA club, according to his accounts. Sigler went to his principal for support, but received none.

Previously, another student, Nathan Carroll, who was gay and who also had tried to form a GSA at the same school, allegedly faced threat of suspension if he did not discontinue his efforts.

Just last year, Luke 'Sascha' Fleischman, a senior at Maybeck

High School in Berkeley, Calif. who does not identify as a single gender and prefers the gender-neutral pronoun "they" rather than "he" or "she," was sleeping on a public transit bus when a 16-year old boy decided to light the skirt Fleischman was wearing on fire. Fleischman suffered second and third degree burns to the legs which required skin grafts. Richard Thomas, the teen accused of the act, allegedly told police interviewing him that he did it because he was homophobic. A lawyer for the teen later disputed that.

Even just looking the wrong way, in the wrong place, at the wrong time can result in an attack based seemingly on conjecture. In 2008, Jose Sucuzhanay, 31, and his brother Romel, 36, were walking home arm-in-arm after a night of drinking. Nearby, Keith Phoenix, Hakim Scott and Demetrius Nathaniel sat in an SUV parked at a red light. Phoenix noticed the men and began yelling anti-gay and anti-Latino slurs at them.

According to testimony given by Nathaniel - who did not participate in the attack, but was a witness to it - when Jose retaliated to the barrage of insults by kicking the vehicle, Scott got out and smashed a glass beer bottle over his head.

As Scott chased Romel with the rest of the bottle, Phoenix grabbed an aluminum bat from the back of the vehicle and hit Jose with it three times, and a fourth when Jose tried to get up. Jose was rendered brain-dead by the attack and was eventually taken off life support, according to news reports. Neither Jose nor Romel were gay.

Cultural attitudes towards homosexuality and gender expression are slowly starting to evolve, but there is still a lot more that needs to be done to repair the damages done by ignorance, prejudice, stereotypes, dehumanization and resentment through association.

Teaching children, teens and adults about these issues isn't about trying to "indoctrinate them into being gay," it's about trying to create a future with fewer bigots and bullies. Education is the soil in which the flowers of understanding take root, without it, nothing gets better.

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