

## 'Family Guy' composer comes home

by **CHRIS MORROW**  
copy editor

Ron Jones has been composing music for over 37 years, having worked on the title themes and backing scores for many of television's most recognized programs in both live action and animation categories, including "Scooby-Doo," "The Smurfs," "The A-Team," Disney's "Duck Tales" and "Star Trek: The Next Generation." But what Jones is probably most recognized for is the extravagant music of Seth MacFarlane's "Family Guy." Jones' path to composing started at Clackamas Community College nearly 44 years ago.

CCC will be hosting the Emmy-nominated composer as he leads the Clackamas wind ensemble, jazz band, string ensemble and choir in performing some of his best known musical cues and themes, Wednesday, May 28 at Neimeyer Center from noon to 4 pm. The Clackamas Print had a chance to speak with Jones via email to ask some questions.

**The Clackamas Print:** When did you attend Clackamas Community College?

**Ron Jones:** I started attending while still a junior over at West Linn High, in 1970. They had a special projects class, in which each student could work independently on something. I said, "I want to go to college and take music theory." I was [in] over my head, and I didn't do so well. ... So my senior year I signed up again at CCC and nailed it. I got straight A's from then on in all music course work. I started at

the University of Oregon the first semester of my freshman year, but I really felt I wasn't getting the same quality of classes, so I came back and had a ball for a couple years. I composed and arranged for most all of the ensembles on campus. It was a great way to learn and gain experience.

**TCP:** Do you have a favorite memory from your time here?

**Jones:** LeRoy Anderson was the head of the music department when I was there. He was the best as a teacher, a mentor, a friend and someone who really cared. Plus, he taught us how to be professional.

Judy Hilton was a big influence in the music department. I don't think anyone in the world had a greater grasp of music theory, and had the insight and skill like she had. [She was] a fantastic teacher. I could write a book about all the great friends, the staff, all the teachers. I had a fantastic time.

That is why I try to come back and share what I have experienced, and the vital lessons I have learned composing for film and TV all these years in Hollywood. I love sharing that with the students.

**TCP:** What courses did you take and did you have a favorite?

**Jones:** I took mostly music classes. Arrangement, jazz band as well as music theory were my main focus. I sort of sluffed the required subjects, which got me later. I had to load up my junior and senior years in four year university with all those requirements. [It was] sort of a backwards way to do it.

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Photo Contributed by Ron Jones

Ron Jones, a CCC graduate, enjoys what he does for a living — composing soundtracks for various movies and television shows such as "Family Guy," "Scooby-Doo" and "Star Trek: Next Generation."

## Life Flight pilot lands on campus soccer field in response to nearby car accident

by **LIZ GOMES**  
associate photo editor

On Tuesday, May 27, a Life Flight helicopter based out of Aurora, Ore., landed in the CCC soccer fields on the southwest side of campus. It was dispatched in response to a serious two-car collision between South Greentree Drive and South Leland Road, which closed both north and southbound lanes of Oregon 213 early Tuesday afternoon.

After two in-flight paramedics rode to the scene of the crash in an emergency response vehicle, the helicopter pilot, Captain Christopher Boehm (pictured far right), waved over curious students to give them a closer look at the helicopter while he waited for the ambulance to arrive (pictured below). Both injured parties in the crash were transported to local hospitals, news reports said. Although neither suffered life-threatening injuries, Life Flight confirmed that one patient was flown in the helicopter.



Photos by Liz Gomes