

The BEST of EUGENE 2013-2014



ALLEY VALKYRIE

PHOTO BY TODD COOPER

Thanks for voting, Eugene!

Turnout for the 2013-14 readers poll was high, and so was the quality of your answers. (But thanks for all the “your mom” votes — our moms *are* The Best!) We had a chuckle at the “Art Robinson for Best Comedian” campaign. We were glad that more people voted for real Best Places to Eat with Kids instead of treating tykes like tiny pariahs and telling parents to stay home. And we loved hearing your thoughts on the past year’s best people and controversies. Read on to find more of Eugene to love.

Now it’s time to party. **Meet us at Level Up Arcade**, 1290 Oak St., from 7 to 9 pm Thursday, Nov. 7. We’ll have free food from local restaurants, a DJ, live music and a video game photo booth for guests. Under 21 allowed until 9 pm. Admission is free, but we’re selling raffle tickets to benefit the Best Nonprofit winner, so bring a few bucks if you have it.

MORTALS IN COMBAT

(CIVICS)

BEST LOCAL HELL-RAISER

1. **Alley Valkyrie**
2. **Lefty Kelleher**
3. **Occupy Eugene**

If you’ve been to city or county meetings, you’ve probably seen and heard Alley Valkyrie. If you’ve read the paper in the past two years, you’ve encountered her. Valkyrie’s take-no-prisoners approach to arguing for human rights for the unhoused — the right to sleep, the right to use a bathroom — has pissed off plenty of politicians but also made them respect and listen to her and to the members of Occupy Eugene and of SLEEPS (Safe Legally Entitled Emergency Places to Sleep). Valkyrie says, “I’m glad I’ve set a good example of raising hell, but it’s unfortunate that anyone has to raise hell in order to secure basic human rights.”



KITTY PIERCY

PHOTO BY ATHENA DELENE

BEST LOCAL POLITICO

1. **Kitty Piercy** *mayor of Eugene*
2. **Peter DeFazio** *U.S. House rep., Oregon’s 4th District*
3. **Pete Sorenson** *Lane County commissioner, 3rd District*

Mayor Kitty Piercy has been gaining momentum since her overwhelming election win last year. She championed downtown revitalization and supported respectable options for the city’s homeless, making a statement at the opening of Opportunity Village. She’s visible even for a political figure, making a point of attending nearly every Eugene event that matters, from bar crawls to the SLUG queen coronation.

EUGENEAN OF THE YEAR: 2013

1. **Kitty Piercy**
2. **Alley Valkyrie**
3. **Frogg**