

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ADDRESS SEXUAL VIOLENCE AT YOUTH SYMPOSIUM

With the UO facing growing scrutiny over sexual violence among students this year, local high school students are convening to confront the problem early. On Nov. 10-11, the Youth Empowerment Symposium (YES) will gather young people in Lane County to talk openly about domestic violence, consent and other issues involving sexuality.

"The entire event is free. We wanted to make it as accessible as possible," says Elliot Glaser-Flynn, an LCC student and project manager for YES. The symposium, now in its second year, features a series of workshops covering transgender awareness, healthy and unhealthy relationships and positive body image.

Glaser-Flynn says attendees are mostly teenagers, and last year's symposium attracted 90 people. Glaser-Flynn says he's expecting between 100 to 150 attendees this year. The event takes place at First United Methodist Church in Eugene and will also feature breakfast and lunch both days, with a performance by Grrrlz Rock! on the second day.

One of the workshops, titled "Is It Best to Say Yes?" addresses the definition of consent while positing scenarios to help students understand the meaning of yes and no. Another workshop, led by high school students from Network Charter School's sexual health class, delves into issues of abuse in relationships, teaching students how to recognize and address unhealthy behaviors both in their own relationships and in those of others.

'I think knowledge and being aware of these things before they happen is a huge part of prevention.'

— ELLIOT GLASER-FLYNN, PROJECT MANAGER

"The big key word is awareness, and that's why we have workshops about sexual assault," Glaser-Flynn says. "I think knowledge and being aware of these things before they happen is a huge part of prevention."

For more info, see youthempowermentsymposium.weebly.com.

— Amy Schneider

POLLUTION UPDATE

The city of Eugene recently sent the following Eugene businesses "pre-enforcement notices" for violating the Clean Water Act by failing to conduct required monitoring of industrial stormwater discharges from their facilities: **Al's Sheet Metal, Apex Machinery, Armur Coatings, Bulk Handling Systems** (two locations), **Mohawk Metal Company, Rolling Frito-Lay Sales, The Truss Company, Tyree Oil** and **Zip-O-Log Mills** (two locations). These violations are being referred to Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's Office of Compliance and Enforcement for formal enforcement, which may include assessment of monetary penalties.

— Doug Quirke/Oregon Clean Water Action Project

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

• In Slant last week we wrote about the City Council's decision to tear down and recycle the round council chambers part of City Hall, but there was no unanimous vote in that regard.

• Our endorsements last week listed the wrong district number for Sen. Lee Beyer. He represents Oregon Senate District 6.

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