



Jasmin Abry works as a producer recording sound as Sarah Miller and Beth Mathre sing.



Jared Rivera, front, and Evan Lemmy, back, jam while waiting for the lyrics to be recorded for the music video.



Emmanuel Goicochea, center, works the camera while the group prepares to film their music video.

Lennon bus: Experience served as a revelation for students

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Firewall company Juniper Networks sponsored the Pacific Northwest tour and chose Astoria as one of the stops after being contacted by the school district's technology director, Scott Holmstedt. Port City Jazz Choir Director Matt Pierce provided the music lovers, who spent much of their Tuesday on the bus learning how to professionally produce a song.

'Springtime Rain'

The students of Top Hat, after settling on a name based on their bassist Evan Lemmy's vintage headgear, had to come up with an idea and the lyrics for a single. For junior Beth Mathre, a co-lead singer along with Sarah Miller, it was as easy as looking out the window.

"Ain't it a shame ... I never get to dance in the rain," Mathre and Miller belted out, recording the chorus of their single by late morning.

"I was looking outside and seeing that the sky was blue," Mathre said, adding she started thinking of lazy Saturdays and dancing in the rain, channeling her Gene Kelly-esque inspiration into the lyrics of Top Hat's debut single, "Springtime Rain," in a mere hour.

"It's not as hard as I thought," said student Jared Rivera, one of Top Hat's three guitarists, of the cutting and mixing assembled into the final product.

Rivera sat in a soundproof recording studio at the back of



Students rehearse their song on the John Lennon Educational Tour Bus.

Photos by Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

the bus that doubles as a green room and sleeping quarters for the crew.

Recording Rivera's licks and Mathre's and Miller's vocals from another soundproof editing studio in the middle of the bus were Jesper Windmar, one of several onboard engineers, and sophomore Jasmin Mabry, who in her day job provides technical assistance for the lyricists of Port City.

"It's a lot to do with tech and how you personally hear stuff," Mabry said, peering over the bank of computers in the production studio, packed with professional editing software.

By Tuesday afternoon, Top Hat and their entourage of engineers, laden with high-definition video recorders and wide-angle lenses, spread out across the high school's courtyard. They finished shooting

scenes for the music video of "Springtime Rain," piquing the interest of passing students and staff stopping to see the spectacle.

Out of school, on tour

Windmar, a Swedish immigrant, said he got his first introduction to the Lennon bus when it visited the Los Angeles College of Music, where he earned a degree in music engineering.

This is a similar story among many of the engineers, mostly millennials and recent music school graduates.

While traveling on the Lennon bus is a choice gig, it's no pleasure cruise.

"We do about two of these a week," said Luke Huisman, another engineer who learned of the bus through a friend.

By Wednesday, the engineers of the Lennon bus were

editing "Springtime Rain" and traveling to southern Oregon. By Thursday, they were holding public tours and music workshops with students at North Medford High School. Today, they were in Ashland doing the same.

"This tour is until the end of May," Huisman said. "Ten months out of the year, we'll be on the road."

Inspiration

The Lennon bus experience served as both a revelation and an affirmation for student music lovers getting an introduction to professional production.

"That was my first time in a real recording studio," said junior Nate Hawkins, another guitarist for Top Hat.

When he found out the bus was coming, Hawkins said he lobbied Pierce to let his friend and fellow budding musician, Rivera, join the band.

"I have a lot of students that have wanted to continue (with music), but only a couple have," Pierce said.

While he's always wanted to do recording projects to put his students' work out into the world, Pierce said the school simply doesn't have the technology — at least at present.

"Our only goal is to get involved with music," Hawkins said. His time on the Lennon bus has helped rekindle an idea for a senior project he and Rivera had for next year: fundraising to build a recording studio at the high school.

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LIST OF STUDENTS GRADUATING FEBRUARY 26, 2016 :

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	VOCATION	HONORS
Cisneros	Marisol	Culinary Arts	
Cogdill	Aidan B.	Finance & Business	
Dale	Adam S.	Medical Assisting	
Desiderio	Mayra	Dental Assisting	
Diaz Gonzalez	Greisi	Dental Assisting	
Downey	Cheryl M.	Finance & Business	YES
Ejigu	Atsede	Home Health Aide	YES
Foreman	Mariaha L.	Dental Assisting	
Garcia-Bejines	Lucero	Plastering	YES
Gebereseliasie	Elenie	Home Health Aide	YES
Glass	Kayla Y.	Dental Assisting	
Gonzalez	Trinidad I.	Plastering	
Hall	Tabitha J.	Painting	YES
Joseph	Sally	Home Health Aide	
McNeal, Jr.	Tyrell C.	Dental Assisting	
Mekonnen	Elsabet	Home Health Aide	YES
Miller	Kimberly S.	Medical Assisting	
Moses	Mieke D.	Dental Assisting	YES
Owings	Nicholas A.	Cement Masonry	
Reisinger	Jared P.	Finance & Business	
Reyes Ramirez	Nohemi G.	Dental Assisting	
Stevens	Mariah L.	Finance & Business	YES
Weber	Dayinera A.	Electrical	YES
Wilhelm	Coleby L.	Painting	



Photo attached are of former graduates of Tongue Point Job Corps Center

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"Rosalie just opened a new boutique real estate company! We are excited that she did because she was our realtor and helped us find the perfect home. Throughout the search process, Rosalie was a calm and steady support to our needs and wants. She also convinced us to buy the property adjoining the house. This was great, strategic advice. We received excellent and expert service and we highly recommend Rosalie as a real estate broker who puts her clients needs first. We believe you'll be happy too! Sincerely, **Dan and Sue Stein, Astoria Oregon**"

Dr. Durrani, Astoria, OR

I am a local doctor at Astoria and I loved working with Rosalie. She is awesome, easy to work with, responsive and very personable. I would love to have her always for any of my properties.

Jim and Sharon Richards, Astoria, OR

Rosalie and I are old friends. She was great as a realtor and stayed positive, although we encountered many irritations during the selling process. Rosalie was so helpful she even came over and vacuumed the house before a showing when our vacuum died. She contributed her money for extra photos and she went all out on advertising. When we needed help, Rosalie had good local contacts and was able to get the needed work done quickly. We are super grateful for all her hard work and recommend her highly.

As a first time home buyer, I could not have asked for a better realtor than Rosalie Larsen. She went above and beyond my expectations and was able to find what I consider "the perfect house" for my budget. Having been a part of the Oregon coast community for decades, she is incredibly knowledgeable of the different areas of Clatsop County. She is an extremely hard worker, who always returned my calls promptly throughout the whole buying process. She also took the time to patiently answer all of the questions I had, as a new buyer. She helped with every aspect of the home buying process including all of my inspections. I give Rosalie Larsen my highest recommendation and wouldn't hesitate to recommend her to anyone looking for a highly qualified and extremely motivated realtor on the Oregon Coast. **K. Smitherman, Astoria, OR**



About Rosalie Dimmick Larsen & LÄRSEN COAST HOMES

Rosalie Dimmick Larsen is a true blue Oregonian with a passion for selling homes on the North Oregon Coast. Her love of Oregon is boundless and she has spent more than 24 years honing her real estate skills. She knows the niche markets, neighborhoods and communities from Astoria North to Cannon Beach South and all the quaint villages in between. Her local market knowledge, experience and integrity define Rosalie's business model. She has a proven track record of success and is a consistent top producer in the County. This January 2016 Rosalie decided with her internet savvy programs and her business background (Rosalie was formerly the City of Cannon Beach's Finance Director for 17 years prior to becoming a realtor) she would open her own boutique real estate company. She has the systems in place, the commitment, the organizational ability and the knowledge to provide you with personalized real estate services whether selling or buying that will meet and exceed your expectations.

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- Accredited Buyers Agent
- Luxury Home Specialist
- Premier Property Director (past)
- Certified Distressed Property Expert
- University of Oregon