



THE TRIDENT



Spring Edition 2022

Julie Giroux Profile

By Natalie Perry

In the winter of 2021, the Santa Cruz High band was given a piece by composer Julie Giroux called “Beyond the Gates”. The piece was originally written for an honor band in Pennsylvania, which received and performed the piece in January, but Giroux released the piece to a dozen bands beforehand. Dozens of programs applied to receive the music, and Santa Cruz was one of few who was accepted.

Giroux is an experienced composer, working on soundtracks for television and video games. When she met with the band over Zoom, she talked about her work featured in movies like Star Trek and video games like Assassin’s Creed. Before composing professionally, she studied with John Williams, an extremely successful composer who wrote music for movies like Star Wars and Harry Potter, even familiar enough to call him “Johnny” during her Zoom talk. She won an Emmy for Outstanding Individual Achievement in Music Direction, and she was the first woman and youngest person ever to receive that award (Television Academy and Emmys). Outside of television, she’s also arranged for artists like Celene Dion and Madonna (Musica Properia).

The piece she wrote, “Beyond the Gates”, starts off very dark and tense. She told the band she imagined a huge, looming set of gates when writing it, with terrible monsters lurking in the darkness on the other side. She currently lives in Missouri, and the beautiful views of the lake near her house inspired the slower and lighter portions of the

song. She says they symbolize a clearing beyond the darkness, with no monsters or fear.

Giroux started composing as early as elementary school and has always been interested in music. She didn't start playing video games until she started composing music for them, but it's now one of her favorite hobbies. She also spent the Zoom meeting with her Pomeranian in her lap; she's the owner of several dogs.

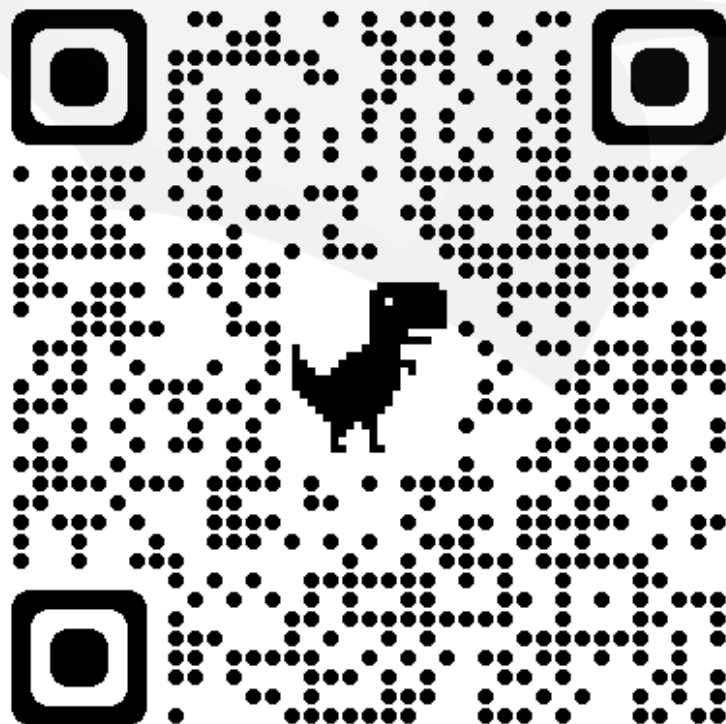
To work with such an incredibly talented composer was, "a great opportunity for the band and a fun experience," says Senior Band council member, Clare Murray. The Santa Cruz High band has spent the last several months rehearsing the piece and performed it with great success at their Spring Equinox concert on March 25th.

Sources:

<http://www.musicapropria.com/index.html>

<https://www.emmys.com/bios/julie-giroux>

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Mask Mandate Editorial

By Otto Redlien

It has been over a month since the Mask Mandate was lifted for all people in our schools including people without the covid-19 vaccine. As cases decrease, we make another attempt to grasp a sense of normalcy, and yet I can not help but feel that whenever things start to go well, we begin to give slack to our protocols. I understand that the school has no control over state legislation; I also do not condone disrespectful conduct to people deciding to or not wear a mask. However, there are specific issues I feel necessary to discuss.

For one, we have divided our classrooms. We have divided our classrooms into two factions, and many students have expressed discomfort with the current climate. Some argue that wearing a mask withdraws them socially. I am curious to know how a piece of fabric occupying half of the face alienates anyone?-- especially when the majority of people are wearing them. Some have also decided not to wear masks due to their lack of health implications. I would like to remind people that wearing a mask is not purely for one's own health, but mostly for the health of our peers, many have a higher risk of exposure and heightened severity. It is important to be courteous to our fellow students, teachers, and staff.

Please Remember: Although the mask mandate was lifted, it is still highly recommended to wear a mask.

Ask Addy Advice Column

Question:

Dear Addy,

I've recently come into some relationship troubles. We are freshmen. My boyfriend, we'll call him Rick, has been showing interest in another girl, and it's my best friend. I want to spend time with both of them in our friend group, but he is always kind-of flirting with her, and it makes me really upset. She never shows interest back, and when I try to talk with Rick about it, he says I'm seeing things. My best friend, we can call her Sam, also likes another one of our friends, called Steve. I really want Steve and Sam to date, but whenever I try to get them set up, Rick gets in the way. I don't know what to do! I don't want to break up with Rick because I love him and we've been together for 5 years, but he is really testing my limits. Please help me Addy!

From,

Tricky Ricky

Answer:

Dear Tricky,

I think dating someone in fourth grade was not the best idea. No one is truly developed at that time and it seems like a difficult situation. After five years, you know Rick better than most, and if you think he is flirting with someone- he probably is. Don't get involved in other people's relationships if your own relationship is so rocky, Tricky. Dump Rick- you may think it is a bad idea now, but in the future you will not regret it.

Question:

Hello Addy,

I am writing because I am in need of some advice. Lately, I have been struggling with focusing on my school work and projects. I find myself becoming easily overwhelmed by what I have to do, so I avoid all my work until the very last minute. This has been my system for years, but I am yearning for something that doesn't keep me up until one in the morning. Do you have any advice for overcoming this feeling? I would love your input.

Sincerely,
Steve Stephen

Answer:

Dearest Steve,

I appreciate you writing in. I know many in high school can relate to your situation. My best advice for you is to work in an environment where there are little to no distractions. When you receive an assignment, work on it a little bit each day and stop when you need to, taking little mental health breaks so as to not overwhelm you. Surround yourself with things and people you love when you have the time for socializing, but don't over-schedule yourself. Prioritize what you know is best for you at the time, but try to work on your school work whenever possible. Speak to your teachers about your situation- many of them are understanding and may be able to help you specifically knowing you better and knowing your situation better.

Much love,
Addy

Question:

Hey Addy I need some help.

I have having a hard time knowing what to do.

My sister is trying to date three men and 2 woman all at the same time. I feel like I need to tell her that she needs to calm down. She thinks she is really cool and always gossips to me about all of them. I need to know what to tell her.

Can you help me by telling me what I should tell her. She is in college and thinks that she can do whatever she wants.

But I think it is really harmful.

From: Concerned Candy

Answer:

Dear Candy,

Thank you for writing in, my dear. Your sister is a maniac. You DO need to tell her to calm down, I do not think that she understands the destruction that she is doing with her actions; attempt to alert her that her efforts are quite cynical and selfish. There are obviously large amounts of boundary issues with your relationship with her- set them. I know it may sound hard to do, but do not keep letting her bother you with her issues as you are in high school and she is a college student. She is hurting everyone around her, as well as you with her destructiveness. Tell her that her actions are not cool- I am not sure what kind of fantasy world she is living in where she thinks that she can stomp all over everyone in her life without receiving any consequences. Call her out- make her understand that she is not being a good person. Stop letting her take advantage of you and others. Also, you may want to get a grammar tutor.

Love,
Addy

About the Trident

We are a group of students that admire literature, and writing, As well as members of the literary society club, meeting Thursdays at lunch on the deck.

Also a separate release will be made soon for The Short Stories Submissions and an Interview with Yaa Gyasi about her book, Transcendent Kingdom.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Otto at oredlien56@sccs-stu.net or Veronica at veronicazaleha@sccs.net.

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