

WARPED

YouTube

Why you should start using it to discover new music

Rock bands *you need* to listen to!

Could country music be causing brain damage?

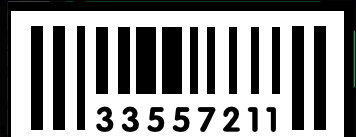
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\$5,000 IN **GIVEAWAYS!**

Tragic music festival experience

Prepare for music festivals

What to bring and why



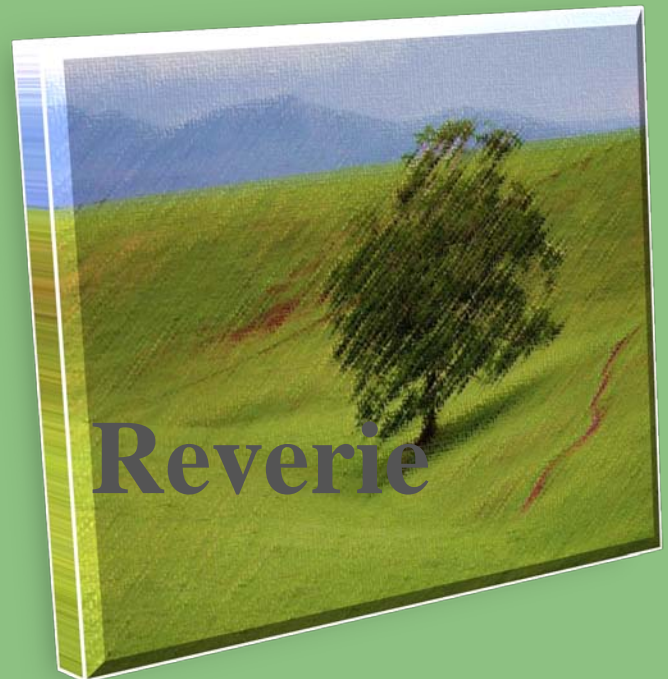
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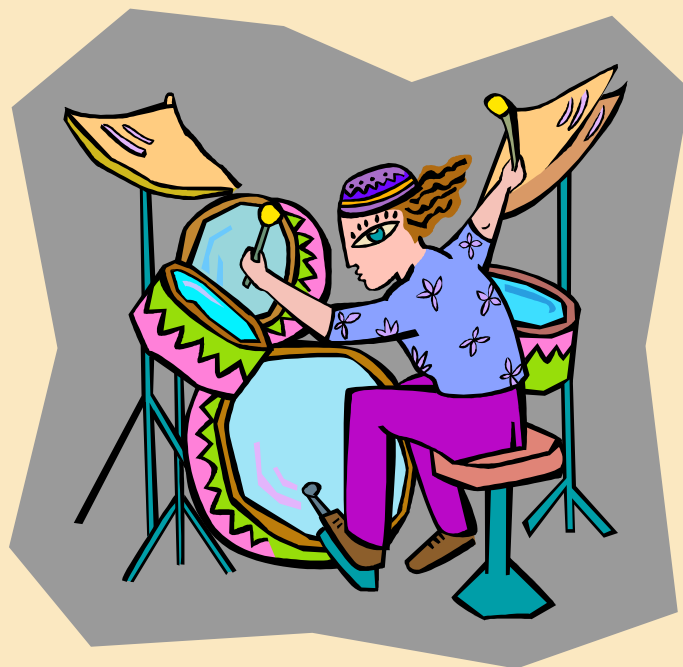
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LETTER FROM

Dear Readers,

Thank you for reading my magazine! I appreciate your support from buying, this magazine. I hope that it will prove worth your time, because it took much longer to make. Thanks to all of the people that wrote articles, advertisements, and letters to the editor. I could have never done this without your help. Warped magazine is about music, so visit our website for a free playlist and listen while you read.

To me, music is art. That's why I love music. Every era has a different style, every singer a different voice. Since I was very little, I have been listening to music but there is one genre I really connected to. That genre is rock. Every variation of rock, indie, metal, classic, punk, has a unique quality. I think that you are missing out on something if you do not listen to music once in a while. That is why I made this magazine, so that you can discover new music and experience the motivation that music can provide. I hope that every person can get something out of music, whether it is inspiration, enjoyment, or energy. Music is just really fun, and can make every day more enjoyable. If you already like music and anything related to it, I hope that you can discover new music and share it with others. Therefore, I want to give away items and have free downloads so that music is free and available for everyone.

In this summer edition of Warped, I felt that it is important to have plenty of content about local music festivals. In this addition, there were giveaways for summer concert tickets and even clothes for summer. I also wanted to make a point that you can do anything, especially in the summer. If you want to learn an instrument, or start recording music, there is nothing stopping you.

Although I enjoy music, I would have liked to incorporate some more random articles in my magazine. Nevertheless, I got to do that to a point for other magazines. I really enjoyed seeing everything that people made. Those are the people who wrote most of my magazine, so thank you. The articles were so exceptional and there were many people who did an amazing job and were outstanding writers.

This magazine was a long and difficult process to make. It was worth it in the end, but it took a lot of work to finish it. The last week was kind of stressful as well as the first one. In the last week, I decided to write more for myself, so I had to do that and finish the rest. Actually, this letter was written towards the beginning of this week but I can tell that the next three days will be stressful. During the time of this project, I had a lot going on like writing my speech for Confirmation and preparing for solo and ensemble. And with the warm weather and the end of the school year approaching, I did not want to be inside writing articles for hours every night. I am very happy to have almost everything done now and I am thankful for Ms. Millers help with the digital magazine.

Like I previously wrote, I was able to buy many outstanding articles. A great entry is a short story by Haley Graves, I am really glad that she could write it for me since she is an amazing writer. Another outstanding article is by Brooke Pernsteiner who wrote an important and useful article on music festivals. Other excellent articles were Paige St. Cyr's article on music and how it affects us, and Michelle Edwards's news article "Could Country Music Damage Brains?" Michelle's news article was very descriptive and creative. Likewise, the writing on Paige St. Cyr's article was really good and

THE EDITOR

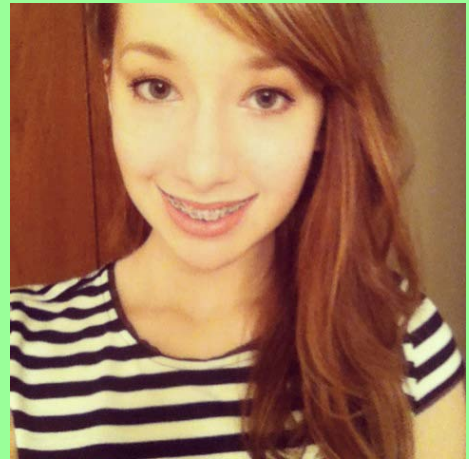
organized. Thanks also for the letters to the editor and ads. They were all very creative!

I would like to thank you for reading this magazine. Without you, all of the effort put into this magazine would have been wasted. Thank you so much!

Sincerely,



Emily Woodzicka
Editor in Chief, *Warped*



WARPED

- Send me 1 year for just \$12
- Send me 2 years for just \$15
- Send me 3 years for just \$18

Best deal

My payment is enclosed. Bill me

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Address _____ Apt _____

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LETTERS FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I liked your magazine, but the links you said will download awesome music in last issue, lead to my entire laptop being corrupted with data eating viruses. I now have to buy a new laptop and flash drive because that too got the viruses. It's going to be awhile till a get a new one because I lost my job and the love of my life. Readers better heed my warning or they too will be victims of these viruses I dubbed the Dream Breakers because they crushed all of my dreams and I even went to college for six years!

Sincerely,

Tucker De Guelle

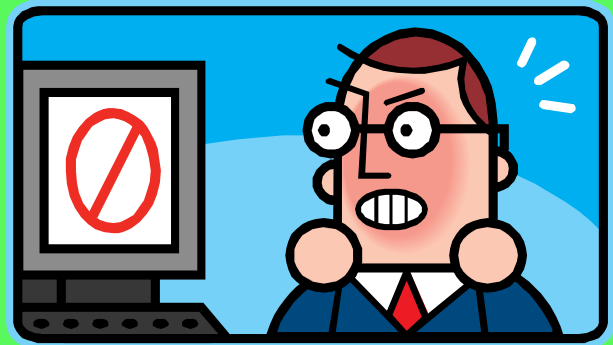
Hortonville, WI

Dear Tucker De Guelle,

I am very sorry for the failure of the music downloads. After researching, I found that it was a problem with your laptop, not the downloads. I did have that warning on the *Warped* website. You are the only one who has complained, but I found the problem and fixed it promptly. Because of your loss, *Warped* magazine will send you a reimbursement for your laptop. Hopefully your dreams will be rebuilt because you have a laptop.

Sincerely,

The Editor



Dear Editor:

In your last issue, the article on rock bands that were rising to fame inspired me. I checked them out, and am glad I did! I have found three new bands that fit my taste in music and I am going to see them in concert when the tours near my hometown. I wasn't listening to music as much as I used to, and that made me kind of sad since I love music so much. These rockers have reawakened my love for music and live concerts. I've started going to small local shows, and even writing some songs myself!

Sincerely,

Emily Pappin

Hortonville, WI



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inspiration



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By: Olivia Griesbach



DIGITAL CAMERA

5 winners will get a high quality camera for festival season!

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TWO TICKETS TO REDDING MUSIC FESTIVAL



10 winners will receive two passes to Redding Music Festival.

\$50 per ticket

SUMMER GIVEAWAYS

By: Emily Woodzicka



\$35

CANVAS SHOES

5 winners will take home a pair of comfortable orange canvas sneakers.

HOW TO ENTER

1. Go to warped.com/giveaways and enter the code listed with each item.
2. Or text GIVAWAY to 373928

For more details:

visit warped.com/giveaways/about

or

call 1-800-564-8945 for assistance



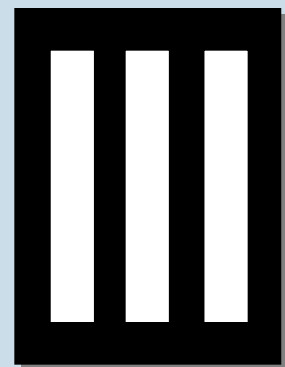
\$15

VIOLET EYES CD

10 winners will score the new CD Reverie by the band Violet Eyes.

BOP HEADPHONES

10 readers will win BOP Headphones from the ad



ETERNAL FLAME SIGNED POSTER

1 winner will receive an autographed original poster with the logo of the band Eternal Flame.

What to Bring to a Music Festival

By: Brooke Pernsteiner

When you're headed to your first music festival, you're probably worried about what to bring. You've undoubtedly heard other people's stories about the terrors that come for those who don't prepare for the event. So I've devised a list of the essentials so you can enjoy yourself to the fullest at your music event.

First up is what to wear. Be sure to dress appropriately for the conditions. Before you leave the house, check the weather. If it's chilly out bring a jacket and wear long pants, maybe even bring a hat and mittens. If there's a chance of rain, bring a raincoat or poncho and shoes that can stand a little water and muck. Fashion doesn't need to be abandoned just be prepared for the climate. Remember, it gets colder as the sun goes down so don't be caught by surprise by the dropping night temperatures prepare for that variable. However, in the afternoon on a hot and sunny summer day, it will be unbearably hot especially with all of the people there. Be sure you don't make the frequently made mistake of not wearing sun screen. Since you'll be in full sun much of the time it's easy to turn lobster red if you don't regularly apply a plentiful amount of sun screen, so bring a bottle or two. A hat with a brim and a pair of sunglasses would also be a smart choice. Just make sure you don't wear anything too expensive because you may lose it. Also remember you'll be doing a good amount of walking and standing so bring comfortable shoes that don't hurt your feet. You could wear sandals or flip-flops but tennis shoes are the best choice.

Next up is items you need to carry with you. Bring a lightweight bag with straps that's easy to carry and will stay on. A backpack with a water bottle holder would be ideal.

Make sure the bag you bring isn't too big, it would get heavy and difficult to lug around but make sure it is large enough to accommodate all your things. Bring a lot of water. If the weather's hot, you'll lose a lot of fluids very fast when you're in the sun all day so bring enough water to last you for hours.

Bug spray is another must. In the middle of summer, especially near marshy areas, bugs are everywhere and you'll be suffering miserably if you don't compensate by packing bug spray.

Money! Where can you go without it? Just want to include this obvious reminder so you don't walk past a food stand or a souvenir kiosk and realize you forgot your cash. A music festival is a great experience so you will want to buy the awesome merchandise to remember it.

Bring a camera. You're going to want to record this important day of your life, and how will you do that if you forget a camera? Forgetting a camera is one of the biggest mistakes you can make. Your favorite band members are around for goodness sake! Someday you'll look back at those fond memories of your first music fest and smile, but not if your camera was sitting on the counter at home. Some of the memories clarity will be lost with time bring it back with the amazing photos you take.

Items you might want to consider bringing but you don't necessarily need would be earplugs, because you will still hear the music plenty loud with them, Kleenex, for those with a cold, or bad allergies, and a notepad and a sharpie, your choice in color, for autographs of your favorite band member. These just in case items will protect you from the "I knew I should have brought that!" moments.

Now let's talk about the big expensive or valuable things. Sure you can bring your phone, just don't leave it sticking halfway out of your back pocket. That's practically asking someone to steal it; same goes for your money. Keep the needed valuables zipped in a bag inside of another bag and leave the unneeded valuables safely at home. Don't bring things you care about that could be stolen or lost.



Now that you have read this article, you will at least have an outline of the things you'll need for your first music fest. With this list, you'll have a fun time without sunburn, bug bites, a runny nose, and lost or stolen valuables. Have fun listening to your favorite bands play their fantastic music while you're comfortable and happy.



CHECKLIST:

- Sun screen
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Closed toe shoes
- Camera
- Sharpie
- Money
- Earplugs
- Hoodie
- Bug Spray



New Rock Bands

By: Kaitlyn Schlueter

There are many new bands that deserve attention. Many of them you might not even know about yet. In the last issue we featured some pop bands, but for this issue we are going to be featuring some bands with rock roots. New rock bands are popping up all over the world; however there are some that stand out the most.

Eternal Flame, a rock band first discovered on YouTube by playing various covers, has a new single out called “Lies and Truth”. This song was actually written by the rock band members themselves. Eternal Flame features rock styles used in the 80’s along with enthusiasm that is passed along to the audience. The members of this band are actually brothers that share the same talent for music. Eternal Flame is definitely worth listening to!

Another great rock band that deserves more attention is Burn It Up. Burn it up is made up of five friends that just want to be heard. Burn It Up slams through lyrics with amazing determination and persistence. They have two singles out right now; “Heaven and Beyond” and “Keepin’ It Real”. This group’s lead singer Rebecca Ross is fearless and can get a crowd cheering in a matter of seconds with her bright personality. Tune into Burn It Up for some interesting rock music.

Finally Leavin’ Love Behind a soft rock band that any listener will fall in love with guaranteed. This band is actually made up of four British guys that love performing and writing music for a living. Their music features unique lyrics and an exciting drum line that keeps you on your feet for an entire song. Their lead singer Eric Keel can rock the whole stage with only his presence. Leavin’ Love Behind has a few singles, and an album out at the moment. “Don’t Forget About Me”, “How Much I Love You”,

“Drivin’ Me Insane”, “You Amuse Me”, and “Forgive Me When I’m Wrong” are some of their great new singles. These songs are absolutely incredible and are already in the charts. You will certainly find yourself singing along every time you hear one of their songs.



BOP HEADPHONES

Bop Headphones are the best quality headphones anyone could ever have! They are very durable and come in any color you prefer. Even Evan Durango said that those are the best headphones he has used to listen to the new modern songs. “It really brings out the bass!” states Durango.



By: Sydnee Dobberstein

Panic at a Music Festival?

By: Haley Graves

The Day of the Birthday

The day of my birthday I spent over twenty minutes trying to tie my mess of black hair into a ponytail. I figured that I should look somewhat presentable for the rest of my family. I picked out a pair of skinny jeans, that looked more like capris on my tall, thin body. I also grabbed a nice-ish looking shirt from a growing pile of clothes on the floor and my favorite pair of trainers.

I ran down the stairs, jumping down them two at a time. I heard my parents call from the kitchen, "Happy Birthday, Oswin!"

"You sure are looking old, aren't you? If I had to guess, I'd guess you were going to be turning forty, not seventeen," my dad teased. I jokingly hit him in the arm. The day was great, and finally my parents told me that I could open my gift.

For my birthday my parents decided to buy me two tickets for my favorite band, 77 Himmel Street, which was performing at a summer music festival in Redding, Conneticut on June 18th. They told me that I would be allowed to go with a group of my friends. I was absolutely ecstatic! In a few weeks, maybe a month, I would be going to see my favorite band in one of my favorite music festivals. I had received four tickets, which meant that I could bring my three best friends, Jenna, Amy, and Clara.

The next day I called up each of my friends and told them of the news. Luckily, all of them would be able to go with me to the festival!

The Day of the Festival

The festival was a little under a month after my birthday. Almost a whole month, I had waited a whole month to go to the music festival with my friends and the morning of the festival I was as happy as a lark! My parents drove me to pick up my friends but they had said they would be

visiting a relative while we were at the festival.

"Hello," I greeted each of my friends as they got into the car.

"Hi," each of them replied in turn.

As the car pulled into the packed parking lot in Redding my excitement grew and grew and grew. I could barely contain how excited I was by the time my parents pulled out and left my friends and me alone. The festival hadn't even begun yet and it was extremely crowded. We walked to the ticket booth so that we could get in to the actual festival part. I was surprised when I found that the ticket master was actually a llama, or rather a person that looked exactly like a llama.

"Tickets, please," the llama-looking man demanded. Not only did the man look like a llama, but he also had a strange accent that sounded a bit French.

I stared at the man a moment before actually processing what he had said. "Here you go," I said as I handed the man our tickets.

The man opened the gate for us to get into the festival and I was surprised that this part of the festival was just as crowded as the parking lot we had just come from.

"This is...huge," I said in awe.

Clara, who had been to the Redding festival many times, replied, "It's always been this crowded. Ever since the first time I came to the festival."

"They must earn a lot of money putting this festival on every year," Jenna mused.

"Yeah, I suppose, but they have to pay the bands that play here and all of the vendors too," Clara said.

We walked around for about an hour, exploring the busy festival grounds. There were tons of deep fried food carts that sold outrageously expensive but delicious food. There were also a lot of crazy people, in the way they dressed and the way they acted.

There were many people that were dressed in all black and there were others that animal suits on. Needless to say, it was a strange, strange, experience.

At about ten to nine, 77 Himmel Street began their performance. They started out with their number one song “58 Billionaires”. The concert was going great! I was having a great time with my friends, the music was over the top, and everything seemed surreal. Then, in a matter a few minutes, everything changed.

The lights went out on stage and there was a scream that rose over any fans’ scream. Everyone moved towards the gates, filled with fear and panic. I looked around for my friends. I found Amy and Jenna standing nearby, but Clara was nowhere in sight.

“Clara!?” I yelled over everyone else’s screaming.

“Where’s Clara at, you guys?”

“I thought I saw her over there,” Amy said while pointing not too far from where we stood. Sure enough, Clara was standing there, seemingly paralyzed. Clara’s bright blue eyes were as round as buttons. I rushed over to Clara and nearly had to pull her along with us as we ran to the parking lot. There was an ambulance parked in the lot once we got there and many people running around like maniacs. We had no idea what had happened.

“You should probably call your parents,” Amy suggested.

I nodded and started to dial their number. The phone rang twice and then my mom picked up.

“Hello?” she asked tiredly.

“Hi. Mom, you need to come get us, now. Something’s happened, we don’t know what, though,” I started to explain.

“What? What’s happened?”

“Mom, I just told you I don’t know what happened. The stage lights went out, there was a blood curdling scream and then

everyone started to panic. Clara looks as if she’s been paralyzed and there’s an ambulance here too.”

“Alright, I’ll come and get you as soon as I can. You should all meet me by the front gate.” Click, the phone went dead.

“My mom wants us to meet her by the front gate,” I told my friends.

The Afterwards

About a week after the Redding Music Festival Massacre, which is what my friends and I had taken to calling it, the story had come out in the news. Apparently a teenage girl had been standing too close to the electric fence that separated the bands from the crowd. With all the metal she was wearing it cut out the lighting and left her unconscious, nearly dead. After this concert my parents did not let me go to concerts on my own for a long time.



The New Hit Band Leaf Fall

By: Danielle Drum

I am interviewing the newest, most popular hit band of the year. I am here with Rose Smith, lead guitarist and lead singer, Noah Pedilla the drummer, Leah Jones the bass player, and Phil the keyboardist. These talented young rock stars have recently released their song "Never Again" which hit the top ten song list. I'm about to find out about these skilled musicians and discover how it all started.

Q: How did your band start?

Rose Answers: We actually barely knew each other until sophomore year of high school. Leah and I were science partners when I learned she played bass, and we quickly became friends. She knew Noah, and none of us knew Phil because he lived in England at the time. Our small band still needed a keyboardist, so we recruited Phil. We learned from a friend that their sister told him that Phil was from Great Britain and played keyboard. We asked him about it and he agreed because he wanted to live in America. We all became best friends soon enough too.

Q: Which song do you think is your best?

Noah Answers: That's a hard one; it's like asking someone what's your favorite ice cream! Our fans obviously think it is "Never Again", which is a good song, but I would have to say "Ice Ice" and "Old Horizons" are two of my favorite songs. But really? How would you like it if I asked you to narrow down your favorite songs? Exactly.

Q: Do you and your band always agree?

Leiah Answers: Ha! Heck no. The first hour or so of rehearsal is normally used up with us fighting about which song to play or

how to write our next song. We barely ever agree on anything, I'm surprised we even got through our first song! But we now came to a conclusion. We will play one of each of our favorite songs and start writing or finish our new songs. We still argue and disagree on everything though, so it didn't really help much.

Q: What is your favorite part about being in a band?

Phil Answers: I personally love playing music. I love my friends and playing with them is always an adventure. They can be weirdoes, but they are actually very talented! The fans are great too, without them we wouldn't be living this dream...

Q: How was your first gig?

Rose Answers: Our first gig? Like very first? On stage? I was sooo nervous! Leah was basically hyperventilating and Noah and Phil were pacing like caged lions! I wasn't much help with the stress either, I was flipping out and saying all the terrible things that could happen. We were playing for the school talent show and we knew we would be judged. But when we got on stage it was just like how we practiced. And I have to say, we thought we were pretty amazing.

Q: How are the fans?

Noah Answers: Oh God! They love me too much! I guess they probably like the others too, but we all know it's mostly me! They, like, attack us! It's too much attention, but it is good to know we have fans and we all really appreciate them.

Q: How have you changed throughout your experiences?

Leiah Answers: I think the whole band has changed. I always got amazing grades and I was a shy, quiet, nerd who only had one friend, which I don't regret. Now I have three friends! I guess I have been more

outgoing, I kind of have to be. We all learned about each other and we are now the best of friends. But I still struggle with interviews.....

Q: how was the change when you came to America?

Phil Answers: How did I know you would ask something about me being from Britain? Anyways, it was hard, and all you people pronounce things so weird! Like garage and aluminum. In England, the cross-trainer is the elliptical, and America drives on the wrong side of the road. But you have much more delicious food! We didn't have pop tarts! Or Sour Patch Kids! Or Twinkies! I mean, come on Britain!



Summer Music Camp!

Bay Port High School will be holding a summer music camp for all musicians from ages 10-18. Weekdays will contain different learning strategies to improve your performance. All participants will have lesson throughout the course of the week with highly trained professionals. Times will later be announced. If you are interested in signing up, below is the contact /sign-up form that must be filled out and sent to W1483 North Sunset St, Green Bay, Wisconsin by May 18th. Any forms sent after this date will not be accepted. For more information, please visit www.bayporthigh.com/summer-music-camp. Or email at 2013musiccamp@bayporthigh.com.

Contact Information/Sign-up Form

Full Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____ Grade: _____

Instrument: _____ Yrs. Experience: _____

Please mark the week(s) you will attend. (1 wk. = \$170)

June 16-23: _____Yes _____No

July 14-21: _____Yes _____No

August 4-11: _____Yes _____No

weeks: _____ Total amount: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Bands and Singers

By: Paige St. Cyr

Bands and singers go back to the early 1900's from Led Zeppelin to One Direction. Singers including Madonna to Justin Bieber. Rappers from 2 Pac to Lil Wayne. All of these famous bands, singers and rappers. We all listen to some kind of music it could be opera, rock, heavy metal, jazz and hip hop.

Teens nowadays listen to music on their I-pod, listen to videos on YouTube and maybe just listen to the radio. We dance to music, sing along to music, or maybe just listen to music. I personally think no one can live without music.

Bands and singers make more money than teachers, social workers, principles, nurses, doctors, and many other needed careers. It is my opinion that these famous people should be paid less than teachers and doctors because they do not make difference in the world like teachers and doctors do. Bands and singers go on what is called a tour to make money, they will also sell CD's.

Musical artists receive awards also. They might receive them at the MTV movie awards and The Grammys. They receive them for being talented and from people voting for them. The more music a band or singer creates, or has created for them, the more the band or singer will make depending on if the consumers like the music. A band or singer can receive many awards just at one award ceremony. An award is something you prize as a winner of one. It shows how great of a job you have done. Not winning an award can show what you need to work on, and highlight what could be changed. Maybe writing their own songs will make their chances of winning an award higher or some artist have an experienced song writer write songs for them.

The best kind of way to listen to music is to go to a concert. They have concerts all around the world. They have rap battles, and battle of the bands, all where you can go and listen to music by professionals or non-professionals. Concerts usually are not expensive depending on the area you are in or when you get them. An area closer to the stage will be more expensive than one in the middle or in the back. The back is probably an area you do not want to be because you might not be able to hear the band or singer as well but you will not be close to the performance either. Middle area tickets are going to be less expensive than the front and farther away from the stage but you still will be able to see the stage. The back is the cheapest unless tickets are general admission. Sometimes the price to go to a concert depends on how famous and well known the singer or band is. The more famous the more expensive, the less famous the less expensive a ticket will be. Depending on where the concert is it will cost more. A certain singer or band you like probably will not have a concert in your location. If that is the case you might have to drive or get airplane tickets which are not cheap. You will probably end up sleeping in a hotel for a night or more which is not cheap either. Either way concerts can be expensive and cost money. There could also be a free event where they have a band or singer come and sing for them for free. These singers or bands are undiscovered. Going to a concert may be very hectic. People will be screaming, cheering, crying, and it will be VERY crowded. Make sure you bring water bottles with you when you go to a concert while standing in the crowd you could possibly become overheated and could possibly faint. You would not want that happening to you ruining your concert experience. Bring extra money because they will be selling merchandise and you could

probably find the bands or singers and have them sign on a shirt or cd you might buy.

Music is also found in school. They have band and choir both music areas. In band you play music on an instrument you really like. You could also take private lessons to become more advanced in that instrument. In choir you sing songs from movies, shows, plays and musicals. In choir you might make musicals which are movies but mostly singing. Music is and always will be a part of our life. From your mom humming to you when you were a baby to going to concerts all around the United States, there will always be fantastic music.



YouTube Discoveries

By: Tristin Fahrenkrug

Are you searching on YouTube to find different music videos and covers? Well, I have the solution for you. If you think you have a talent for music, YouTube could be your ticket to fame. Many YouTubers develop a fan base through YouTube and get feedback. After awhile, you may make money from ads or from YouTube so that that could be your job. YouTube recently made a discovery so that you can go on YouTube without internet. You may find that YouTube has made many different discoveries in the past month or so.

You could find music on YouTube, and learn more about the artist than you would in mainstream music. You could also look up music videos normally from the company they are signed with. Some of the songs might go viral and some may have not. Every so often new discoveries will be made. Some people might post something on YouTube of a band concert that is your favorite band. Or it might be someone singing your favorite song that you like to listen to everyday. YouTube has many different videos on there. You could practically live on YouTube if you wanted to!

Some people may find YouTube useless to them but actually, YouTube helps you with things that you need to figure out. This website is used every day by millions of different people. YouTube will never lose its business on the internet.

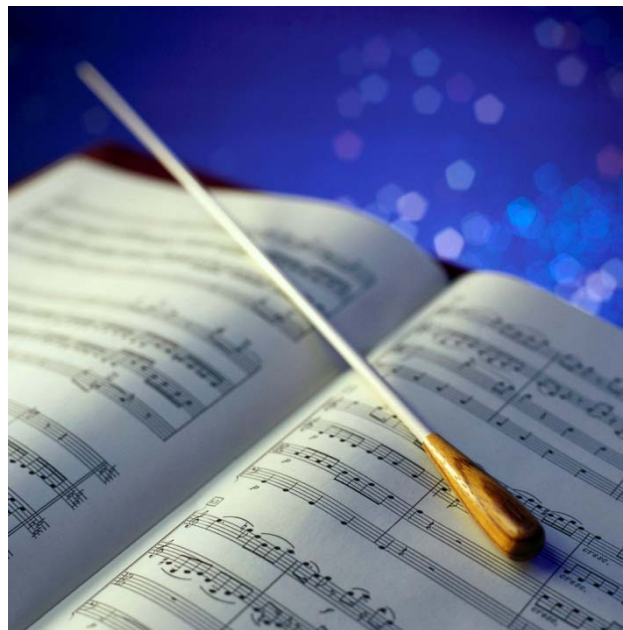
You can record yourself of doing something and put it on YouTube. All you need is a video camera, computer, and maybe sound equipment. If you receive a certain amount of views you will get paid for it so you could get paid for putting something on the

internet. Bands such as Sons of Admirals started on YouTube. Even some pop singers started on YouTube. In fact, many of these famous people may not be well known if it weren't for YouTube. So start using YouTube more to discover new music and maybe make some of your own.



Flaroo[®]

Batons



By Jacob Ahles



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Can Music Damage Your Brain?

By: Michelle Edwards

Peter Dickens is a scientist from Wisconsin who is investigating music and its effects on the human mind. He has discovered that country music around the United States has been damaging people's brains for many years. He realized this at twelve-thirty in the afternoon on March 9.

The Investigation

Peter Dickens is curious about whether or not country music can damage people's brains. If so, are there more dangerous types of country music? What happens if you don't heed warnings and just keep listening? In this article you will learn about what he discovered, and how to avoid dangerous habits.

How It All Started

Peter Dickens was proof-reading Mark Evan's article on types of music. Mark was a reporter for Warped Magazine, and a good friend of Peter's. It was another rainy day in April, the last day of the month. Peter was sitting in his living room, which he wished looked a little more cheerful, but he hadn't gotten around to painting the dull white walls. However, he did have a couch in front of his flat-screen TV, which he used mostly for watching informational programs and science fiction. Peter didn't care much for tidiness, so his dark brown hair was tousled, as if he'd just gotten out of bed, though it was the afternoon. It was Saturday, and Peter felt no need to go to the lab where he conducted research. It was his day off. He made a few corrections on the article, his sharp hazel eyes locating a misspelled word quickly.

Peter leaned closer to the page, frowning with concentration. He was finding the article extremely interesting; it was a debate on whether or not listening to music louder could hurt your brain as well as your

eardrums, and a question was forcing its way into Peter's active mind. What if not only the volume could harm you, but the type of music you listened to? Transfixed, the inquiry planted firmly into his memory, Peter finished correcting the paper.

Over the next two days, Peter found himself asking every person he talked to about what types of music they listened to. Being a scientist, he recorded his data in detail.

What He Discovered

Peter found that no matter what questions he asked a country fan, they always replied in the same way.

"Do you have a favorite artist?" he asked Gertrude Grunt, his second cousin.

"It's hard for me to choose just one. I like anyone country," she had replied.

He decided to ask his coworker, Brandon, also a country fan, the exact same question.

"It's hard to choose my favorite," Brandon answered. "I suppose I like just about anyone country."

Peter tested his theory that all country fans were answering the same on several other people, and continued to get the same results. With positive evidence that they replied in much the same way, Peter decided to publish his findings. He showed his research to his manager, who promptly dismissed it, saying Peter was a scientist meant to be focusing on a cure for cancer rather than conspiracy theories that listening to music was dangerous.

Peter decided that it was safe to assume his manager was a country fan, and made a mental note to play rock music as loud as he could the day he retired, which was many years away, but it made Peter feel better to think about.

How was he going to publish anything if he had nothing to publish it in? The internet was hardly the place, where it could be edited by others and changed to be false. He wanted the research to be his, proven and

tested with accurate results. A slow smile spread across his face as the solution to his problem occurred to him.

Recruit and Convince

Peter was ready to let his research be known, and his previous disappointment with his manager was not going to stop him from reaching his goal. It was March 9, half an hour after noon when Peter walked up to Mark's bright red door, and knocked boldly. The door was opened within a few seconds, and revealed Mark.

Peter was a tall man, at exactly six feet, but Mark was four inches taller, with nearly black hair and would be an imposing figure if he didn't have kind, steady blue eyes. Mark immediately invited Peter in, and once seated at Mark's kitchen table, Peter wasted no time in showing Mark his research. Peter was speaking a mile a minute, and didn't appear to be stopping for anything until Mark assured him that he would publish the research if only Peter would be quiet and let him read Peter's discovery. Peter instantly silenced himself, and watched eagerly as his friend absorbed the information in Peter's neat, typed paper. He looked up at his friend when finished, clearly proud of Peter.

"This is brilliant," he said. "What possessed you to study this?"

Peter grinned. "Your article, the one I edited."

And both of them laughed at that.

The Publishing

His data was published the very next day, in Warped Magazine, where it fit in perfectly, as the magazine was about music. Peter and Mark celebrated by watching Animal Planet and learning about the habits of bees.

The Interview

On March 10, Mark got a call from the editor of Warped Magazine, asking him to interview Peter about his article. Mark

promptly informed Peter and it was set. The interview was to be the next day, March 11, at ten o'clock. Quickly, the two friends went to work on making Mark's living room, where the interview was to be held, a bit tidier.

March eleventh, ten o'clock, Mark pressed the start button on his video camera, and sat down near Peter, who tried to stop grinning like an idiot.

Mark forced back a smile, and began the interview. "Peter, what exactly is your opinion on the subject of country music?"

Peter drew in a sharp breath. "I believe that country music is extremely dangerous to the human mind. It is much too repetitive, and can tend to urge people who listen to country music to repeat most, if not all of what they say. To prove my theory, I interviewed several country fans."

"How did you come up with your theory?" Mark asked, very well knowing the answer to his question.

"Well," Peter replied, "I was editing an article you had written about music, and I became fascinated with the idea that music could be so important to American citizens. I began casually talking to family, friends, and coworkers about what music they like. I came to realize that all country fans answered in much the same way, no matter what questions I asked."

Mark rubbed his cleanly shaven chin thoughtfully. "Would you happen to have any examples of your conversations with these country fans?"

Peter nodded enthusiastically, presenting Mark with a recording device. "With the consent of the people I was talking to, I recorded two of my conversations with country fans on my phone. The first is Gertrude Grunt." And Peter pressed the play button.

His own voice filled the silence. "Gertrude, I'm working on a project. Do you think you could help me?"

“Of course,” Gertrude’s voice consented.
“What type of music do you listen to?”
Peter’s recording of himself asked.
“Country,” Gertrude replied matter-of-factly.
“Do you have favorite artist?”
“It’s hard for me to choose just one. I like anyone country.”
The recorder was silent.
“This is my conversation with Brandon,” Peter told Mark, pressing play again.
Peter’s voice came from the phone once more. “Hello, Brandon.”
“Hello,” a bored-sounding voice replied.
Mark assumed it was Brandon.
“Would you mind if I asked you a few questions for a project?”
“I already said I didn’t.”
“Brandon, I wasn’t recording then.”
“Whatever.”
“May I?”
There was a long pause. Peter recalled Brandon rolling his dark eyes. “Fine, Peter.”
Peter surged forward. “What type of music do you like?”
“Country,” Brandon, sounding irritated, answered.
“Do you have a favorite artist?”
“It’s hard for me to choose my favorite. I suppose I like anyone country.”
“Thank you, Brandon, for all your help.”
“Can you leave me alone now?”
The recording ended. Peter glanced at Mark, controlling his laughter. “So you see, Mark that both Gertrude and Brandon answered in nearly the exact same way.”
Mark smiled. “Yes, I did notice that. Did all country fans do the same?”
“Yes, they did,” Peter replied.
“Is there any country music that is more damaging, or is it all the same risks listening to any variation of country music?”
“Sadly,” Peter sighed, seeming to be disappointed, “All country music has the same effect. You become forgetful, unresponsive, unable to make last minute

plans or decisions, and it becomes difficult to have a conversation due to lack of variety.”

“Is there any way to reverse the effects?” Mark asked.

Peter brightened. “Yes, there is. In Gertrude’s case, I had her listen to alternative rock, classic rock, and other similar types of music. She is now one of the finest, least repetitive people I know.”

Mark winked at him, letting him know he was ending the interview. “That’s incredible. I’m glad we had a chance to discuss this.”

How to Avoid Damaging Your Brain

In conclusion, Peter’s research proved that country music is incredibly dangerous to human minds, and needs to be avoided. Alternative and classic rock is helpful to people’s brains, while country music is damaging. It is safe to say that if you don’t listen to country, it will improve your memory, vocabulary, and help you become more diverse conversation. So avoid country, and listen to rock if you value your brain.

The Aftermath

Peter is now a world-famous scientist who travels around the world making new discoveries with his friend, Mark, writing them down and sending them to Warped Magazine to be published. Both are successful, and Peter made sure his last day at the office was one full of rock music, and pretending he couldn’t hear his manager screaming at him to turn it down, and then acting like he was saying “Turn it up” and blasting the music as loud as it would go. Peter had to go to the doctor the next day to check for hearing loss, but both he and Mark thought it was worth it.



Top Ten Music Hits of 2013

By: Eugene Allen



1. Gone

2. Tiles

3. Walls

4. Chilin

5. Swisher

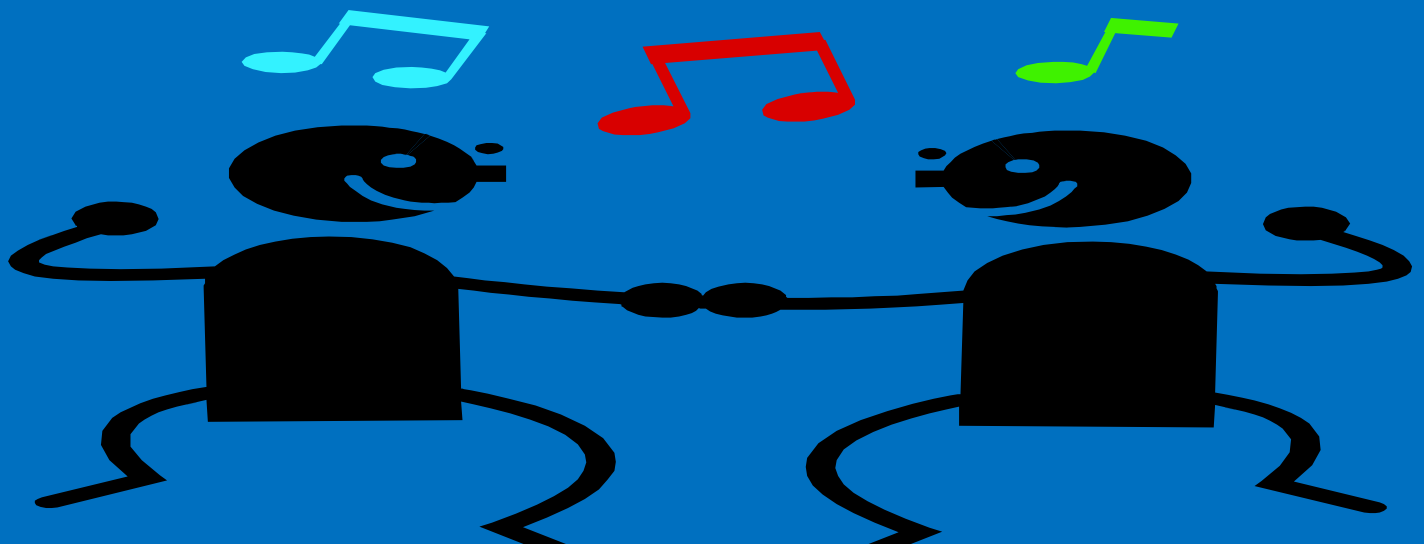
6. Forever

7. Help

8. Shades

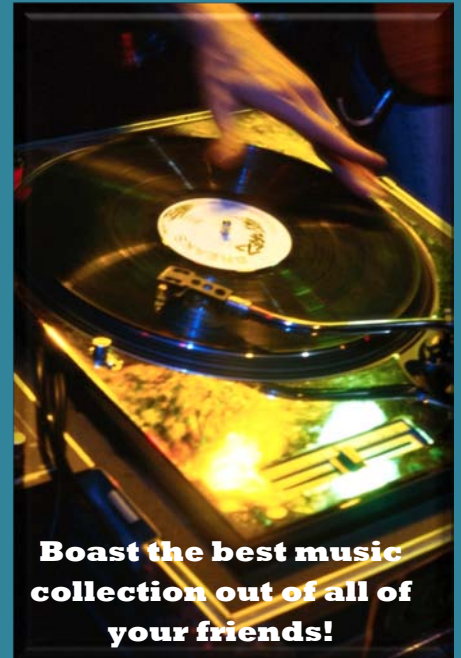
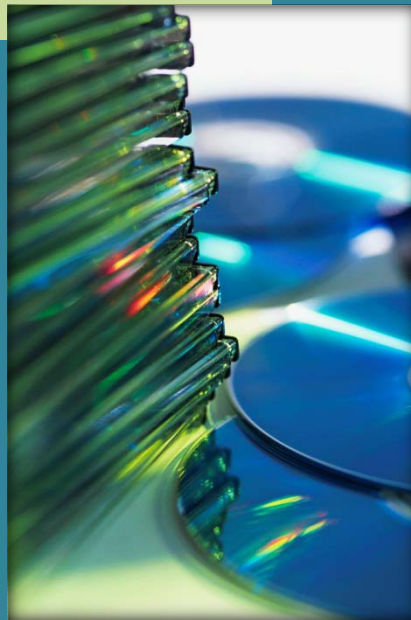
9. Mute

10. Lead



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