

RUTHLESS

REVOLUTION! (SCRANTON) GRRRL STYLE NOW - ISSUE 2, JANUARY 2009

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Did you ever get the feeling something truly breathtaking was right at your fingertips? You're there ready to let out this primal, almost inhuman scream of excitement and joy, and all your friends are there. All around you, there's this whirling sound, art, color, light, distortion, and in the midst of it all, a real sense of unity. It's kind of like being on a carousel for the first time.

For me, this is what I feel when I realize people can congregate to make change. Since its inception last month, Ruthless Zine & Ruthless Youth has caught the attention of the public. People have actually come up to me and told me they would like to be a part of Ladyfest, expressing support in any way they can. People in Scranton, specifically Generation Y, feel the need for activism and unity in today's world. I cannot tell you how overjoyed I am to hear that.

I find it crucial to continue disproving the stereotype that Generation Y is a bunch of impatient, unambitious text-a-holics who live on MySpace and Facebook all day. I refuse to be included in that category during my lifetime. I feel that as a young adult in Scranton, it is our obligation to create change for the betterment of our society. It is what our ancestors did, and we owe it to them and ourselves to improve our own future. You can't wait around, expecting change to hit you in the face: if you think Scranton is a run-down town with nothing to do, then do something about it.

- JCM

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RUTHLESS YOUTH: WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, Y

ruthless [rooth-lis] **youth** [yooth] noun: the adjective: without pity or compassion; cruel. time from puberty to complete growth; adolescence.

We are the organization in accord with Ruthless Zine. Anyone can join: lady or lad. This is what we believe in:

- 1. FEMALE EMPOWERMENT:** the progression towards a more recognized role in Scranton for women in all fields of life applicable, leaning towards art, music, and a D.I.Y. (do-it-yourself) sense of pride and practicability
- 2. GENDER EQUALITY:** the awareness & question of gender roles as both a standard and bias, how we can work towards finding where the lines on gender role stand in a society, as well as showcasing the benefits of crossing and keeping within those lines
- 3. RESURGENCE OF GENERATION Y:** the awakening of today's youth; crushing the common misconception that "there is nothing to do in Scranton" and replacing it with ideals that involve activism, unity, and thinking outside the box

A Q&A WITH DES OF THE WINDOW SHOPPERS

Q: How do you feel about Scranton's music scene? Has it died out at all?

A: I think Scranton actually has a pretty good music scene, and there are some new, really interesting bands moving up. I actually don't think it has died out at all.

Q: What do you think about the lack of girls in bands around here? Do you think girls feel overlooked at all?

A: Being in a girl band myself, I feel like it would be cool to see some girls trying it out and seeing what happens. I think that if you want to start a band and be heard, you should.

Q: How does being in an all female band empower you personally?

A: I just think it's really fun and I have a good time with my best friends. I think it's empowering to know that we're one of the only bands like us in this area.

A WORD WITH CONOR FROM THE VINTAGE THEATER

Meet Conor O'Brien. He's only a junior in high school, but he's already proved himself to be a community activist and business manager. I sat down with Conor to talk about the newest venue for teens - The Vintage Theater, a refreshing new spin on an old-fashioned idea.

Commending places like Embassy Vinyl & Anthology Books as being "pioneers to helping kids," Conor believes that there needs to be a fun, reassuring place for teens to go and hang out. He also comments on the fact that since both he and I are young adults, the kind of exhibits teens promote will be more approachable to our age bracket.

The Vintage Theater has a plethora of events posted for January already, including live performances by So Long Pluto, Skip Venkmann and Empty Cases, a Super Smash Brothers tournament, comedy night with the Steamtown Improv, and of course, a showing of the classic Alfred Hitchcock film, "The Thirty-Nine Steps." In the near future, Conor is producing a theatrical performance about fairy-tales-gone-wrong, called "Once Upon an Intervention," starring local high schoolers, Chelsea Mursch, Meridith McGrath & Sara Festa.

Located at The Ritz Building, first floor, 222 Wyoming Ave, downtown Scranton.

Grand Opening is January 16th @ 7PM with the film, "The Thirty-Nine Steps."

scrantonsvintageattheater.com