

your name here!

What We Wednesday

Amy Hruby

Spontaneous Activism: ImprovEverywhere - Based in New York City, Improv Everywhere is a group that' creating a new kind of movement around the world. Charged with the goal of creating chaos and joy in public places, this kind of spontaneous, happy activism has been rapidly catching on since its inception by Charlie Todd in August of 2001. The most popular and well-known Improv Everywhere event is probably the No Pants Subway Ride. Most recently, on January 10, 2010 the 9th Annual No Pants! Subways Ride occurred in 44 cities around the world, with more than 3000 people participating in New York City alone. Can you imagine getting on the subway to head to school one morning and being surrounded by people in their underwear? Well, that's the goal of ImprovEverywhere: to add a bit of random happiness to people's lives. Other ImprovEverywhere events include: performing a Mall Food Court Musicals, setting up a real-life game of Where's Waldo? at a Knicks game, throwing a surprise wedding reception for a randomly-selected couple getting married at City Hall, and ging a handbell choir to perform

Christmas carols with a Salvation Army bell-ringer. Brainstormed, organized, and photographed by "secret agents," these events are sprouting up across the nation. Who knows, maybe next time you head downtown you'll see people riding the buses pants-less or performing a real-life musical?

Photography: Special Effects Cameras – As most of you probably know by now, I am a huge photography fan, but most special cameras cost hundreds of dollars, and I lack that kind of budget. So lately I've been on the lookout, for cheaper thing extra to my photographs, and I've found two alternatives. The first is a response to Kodak's discontinuation of the Polaroid camera. The Fuji Instax Mini is an instant camera that weighs about two pounds and comes in a variety of cute colors. It develops film instantly like a Polaroid, but these photographs are much more vivid, colorful, and sharp than original Polaroid prints, and they're also a smaller, mini size at about 2.5" by 3.5." At around \$80, it's a fairly affordable, fun to

use camera that I've been saving up for. The second inexpensive camera I've been coveting lately is the Golden Half camera. This camera take half-frame pictures which means that when you put in a 36 frame roll of film, the camera splits each frame in half so you get 72 pictures. The split-frame effect also creates interesting juxtapositions of images that can lead to more creative photography. Supposedly the "smallest 35 mm camera in the world," the Golden Half camera runs about \$40 and can be purchased online.

Television: Project Runway — And for a final little thing I love, if you haven't been watching this season of Project Runway you should take a Sunday afternoon to plug into Lifetime.com and watch re-runs. There are some fantastic up-and-coming designers (as always), but I'm particularly rooting for Amy or Emilio. So tune in tomorrow (Thursday) at 10 pm to catch up!

"I Would Like to Thank the Academy...

Meghan Grady, Staff Writer

It is time to roll out the red carpet for this year's 82nd Annual Academy Awards, set to air around the world on March 7 at 8pm EST. The Oscars will be held at the Kodak Theater in Hollywood, California and hosted by Alec Baldwin and Steve Martin. Many of the big name stars will be in attendance decked out in their specially designed attire. Every year it seems as if there is an additional awards show following the Oscars which is purely based on what the stars are wearing. A day or two later. internet news sites and magazines are flooded with images noting the "best" and "worst" dressed at the ceremony. However, does Joan Rivers' opinion really matter anyway?

The primary role of the Academy Awards is to honor actors, actresses, writers, and directors in the excellence and art of film making. So, who has received nominations? Avatar and Inglourious Basterds have received quite a number of nominations. Perhaps one of these movies will mimic the number of awards received by Slumdog Millionaire at the 2009 Academy Awards. Also among the nominated is The Blindside, which took away great reviews at the movie theaters, as well as word of mouth. For more information on which films and stars collected nominations visit Oscars.com. As a quick preview, the following are nominations in several award categories:

Best Picture

Avatar
The Blind Side
District 9
An Education
The Hurt Locker
Inglourious Basterds
Precious: Based on the Novel
'Push' by Sapphire
A Serious Man
Up
Up in the Air

Actor in a Leading Role

Jeff Bridges
George Clooney
Colin Firth
Morgan Freeman
Jeremy Renner

Actress in a Leading Role

Sandra Bullock Helen Mirren Carey Mulligan Gabourey Sidibe Meryl Streep

Best Animated Feature Film

Coraline
Fantastic Mr. Fox
The Princess and the Frog
The Secret of Kells
Up

