



## Senior Spotlight- Mary Allard on Podcasting

No matter who you are or what you do, you've probably at some point heard reference to or listened to a podcast. Lately the popularity of podcasts has spiked, in fact according to Forbes "an estimated 100 million people listened to a podcast each month and it's expected to reach 125 million in 2022." It's no surprise that podcasts are popular, but what truly makes a podcast good is the creator. For her senior project, Mary Allard intends to discover exactly what makes a good podcast and how she can make her own.



When asked why she chose podcasting as her topic Mary laughed "I like talking to myself". She explains that she had originally gone through several ideas before eventually landing on podcasting. As she

decided on her project she discovered that she was posting on social media a lot and wanted to use her senior project to make something that she was proud of, like the funny and well thought out posts online. Mary really wants her senior project to be a chance for her to create creative and funny content that she and others can use for entertainment.



Right now Mary is working on creating her podcasts. She has had the opportunity to talk to the creator of the podcast company "Home Base" to learn more about what it takes to make a successful and entertaining podcast. Originally Mary had wanted to do a road trip to learn more about how her project exists in different parts of America, unfortunately due to the pandemic Mary hasn't been able to leave the state. Instead, she is making the best of the situation and has created a podcast call "NutSlayed in Seattle", a nod to the social media account that originally sparked the idea. The show will be run like a magazine show with different segments and different voices.



Mary says that the most interesting thing she's learned so far is that there are lots of different ways to play with audio. She's excited about the ways that she can use voicemails and people calling in and take sounds and recordings to insert wherever she wants in the episode. If you want to support Mary in her

project calling in is a great way to get involved. Her aim is to have an opportunity to hear from and work with the voices of many different people so a simple call could help her add to the project.



If Mary's senior project were a fruit she says it would be a banana. "You think it's a boring fruit but its deceptive" she says, adding that bananas can be chopped up in many different ways or used as a variety of things, just as her project will take many different shapes and include many different opinions, segments, and voices. If you want to support Mary or simply listen to her podcast you can follow @nutslayedineseattle on Instagram or listen to her first episode at this link: <https://m.soundcloud.com/user-677136761/voices-of-reason?ref=clipboard&p=i&c=1>