

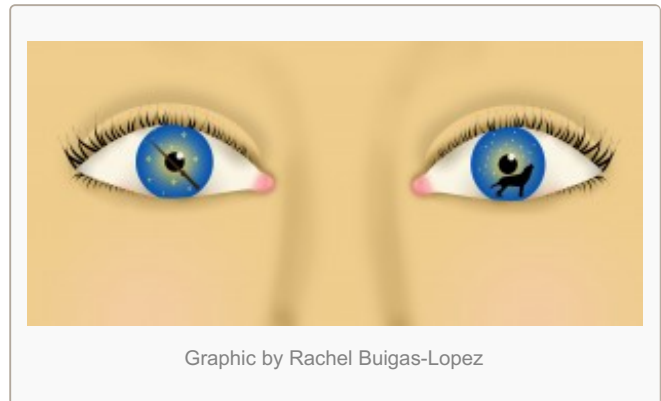
# Teens express affections for movie franchises

 [coppellstudentmedia.com/2013/09/14/teens-attachment-to-movies/](http://coppellstudentmedia.com/2013/09/14/teens-attachment-to-movies/)

By Alex Dalton Staff Writer

Claire Police is one of the most enthusiastic fans here at Coppell High School, and with all of her spirit and love, she is willing to work as hard as she can to express her love for movies.

In a technologically advanced world, the movies that teenagers love the most are becoming easier to access. In the last 10 years, we have been invaded by 21st century classics like Harry Potter and Twilight. Now with all of the connection we possess we are able to learn more about the movies we love and less about the affect they have to our everyday lives.



“I love Harry Potter, The Hunger Games– those two series have just taken over my life. Also, even with the Percy Jackson series,” sophomore Claire Police said. “And I’ve even kind of minorly gotten into the Twilight series, just a little bit but I still like it because I figured I’m hating on it for absolutely no reason, and after I watched it I liked it. And as far as movies goes I own all of the Marvel movies, and I appreciate all of the ones they’ve come out with. I’m just into several series right now.”

Not all of the teenage population is overtaken with the classic trend that seems to have gone overboard as of recently, but there are certainly those out there with a passion for the topic now more than ever before. Movies and all of the information surrounding them are becoming more of a hobby and less of an event that occurs when you come upon a movie that really speaks to you.

“I don’t think that movies have a particular affect on my life, but I do believe that they can affect other people in a huge way,” sophomore Marielle Medina said. “People appear to be really, really into or not so much.”

Some people seem to believe the obsession is not so off-shore.

“I’ve got my eye on an \$800 solid gold replica of the chest set from one of the [Harry Potter] movies,” Police said. “I’m just gonna save up for a couple years, come back and get it. I’ve gone to many events for signing. I once waited three hours for a for Rick Riordan to sign my Percy Jackson series.”

Teenagers pay homage to their favorite movies and shows by wearing shirts with logos on them and collaborate in chat rooms with their fellow teenagers. There are “fandoms” which are groups of people who love a specific movie or television series and they create “fan-fiction”, where they write stories about their favorite characters online on sites like Tumblr and Instagram.

“If I am going to represent myself and be a fan of these movies, I feel like even though I do wear things for the movies I like Harry Potter shirts and posters and key chains and things like that,” Police said. If someone wants me to talk with them about something, they shouldn’t just identify me by the clothes I’m wearing. I wish people would come up to me and talk about it like what I like so I could see if they were actually a fan and if they know what they’re talking about.”

Movies appear to be a topic that either gets a bunch of feedback, or nearly none.

“I don’t think I would ever go on the Internet and look for stuff about my favorite movies. I see other people (wear memorabilia) but I personally don’t do that,” O’Hearn said.

Sophomore Savannah Henry thinks her family has influenced her taste in movies.

“My mom and my aunt really got me into [the Twilight series],” Henry said. “They would go to the midnight premieres of Twilight and it would just be something that we could do together. I also just really like the story, but I know a lot more people who go crazy every time a new movie comes out.”

Midnight premieres appear to be a common similarity among movie fanatics.

“Well, I went to the midnight premiere of The Hunger Games and all of the last three Harry Potter movies and those were so much fun because the people that were there were really excited about the movies and appreciated them.” Police said. “I went to Harry Potter world when I was in the seventh grade and that was the most fun that I’ve ever had on a vacation. I was so sad to leave but now I’ve got spirit wear and I have Hermione’s wand.”

Although the movie trend has created some detachment among teens, it can also bring seems to bring some together.

“My friends and I personally love Pitch Perfect. When I’m with my friends and stuff we joke and quote our favorite lines but it’s not something I outwardly express to others,” O’Hearn said. “But when I’m with my family we share the same favorite movie and I really appreciate that movie because it’s really strong in our religious faith and we can relate to it.”

Although O’Hearn acknowledged that she wasn’t into memorabilia or fan fiction, she still loves a nice chat about a great movie she’s seen recently.

“Knowing the movies that are trending help me to have something to talk about with people I don’t have that much in common with,” O’Hearn said.

Movies are a great way to connect with those around you. Those who don’t always see all the classics still believe it’s a great way to start a conversation.

“It absolutely helps me connect with other people. If it comes up in a conversation or something we can talk about it and it keeps the conversation going,” Henry said.

Teenagers often think the movies make them connect with others, and that that point alone is a positive point we should accept.

“I definitely agree that movies can bring people together. My friend and I didn’t have much to talk about but then we found out that we shared the same interest in movies and TV shows and it totally helped us bond,” Medina said.

Others say that this topic the movie craze has gotten them into some interesting discussions at school.

“Sometimes it does [help me connect with other people] because I learned that someone in one of my classes was a huge fan of the Percy Jackson series when they wore the shirts and I went up to them and asked them about it and we ended up talking about Percy Jackson for ten minutes,” Police said.

Some students seem to believe that the internet has its influence, and that is why the trend is currently so huge.

Henry believes that sites like Hulu and Netflix have been a huge contribution to the trend, and without them, it might not be where it is.

With the population feeling giddy about the hobby of movies, the debate that continues is whether the trend will become a classic era or just a fling. Either way, teens are hooked and the feelings aren't going to change soon and they agree their movies aren't gonna change.

"I'm probably going to like Harry Potter beyond just being a teenager," Medina said. "Watching the movies and reading the books are just something I love to do because they're classic to me; apart of my childhood. Loving the series and the actors are just apart of who I am. Do I think I will be following a Harry Potter account in 10 years? No. But I'll still enjoy it just as much."

While Medina seems to be sure in her convictions, others are not so convinced.

"I honestly think it'll change because now you don't watch movies with your family it's become more of a solitary thing," O'Hearn said. "My favorite movie The Passion of the Christ will personally never change on my favorite movies will never change but who knows."

Henry agreed she will maintain the love with her personal favorite.

"I'll always appreciate Twilight because I like it now, I'll still like it when it's not as popular as much. It's something I did with my family and I won't forget that. I won't watch it as much but I still watch it," Henry said.

This trend seems to be getting out of hand. Some fans have chosen to take it to the next level and get a little unfriendly with their passion. More recently fan on fan bashing is becoming a common occurrence, and not a welcomed one.

"It's true that some people do need to pull back their frustrations a little bit and open their minds because when I did watch the movie the second time it was great I a felt extremely less frustrated." Police said. "I think its more of a think where people need to to slow down and need to remind yourself that this is not reality but at the same time it's important and some people will make it like it's reality."

Police goes on to argue how as cruel as some people can be, asking them to tone it down could be considered "heartless" because that is all some people have— herself included.

"With movie series' you either love it completely or you love it until the next one comes out, there is no real in-between," Medina said. "But lately some of the comments on the Internet have gotten nasty. As long as you're a fan of it that's far, but if you love it so much that you argue with everyone who doesn't have his or her fact straight, that isn't exactly fair to me."

The way people share their passions might not always be kind, but the love overall seems to be sticking.

"I've done a lot of stuff for these movies and I'm pretty proud to call myself a fan because not a lot of people can say I've done this this and this, because I love these and I need to be with these series," Police said.