

SmileyMag Outline, Guidelines, and Notes for Contributors

About Page (example/work in progress):

Are you a *positive* person? Don't answer that. It doesn't matter. Really we're all *positive* people, so even if you think you're not, you probably are and just don't know it yet. Over here at smiley mag we are all about *positive* thinking. When you read our magazine it's like placing the barrel of a *positivity* gun against the roof of your mouth and blowing the brains out of your skull with a 9mm round of pure *positivity* and *good vibes*. You can almost feel the warmth against your fingers as you clutch the glossy edge of this page. That's how powerful it is. Smiley mag is a variety mag about a variety of topics, such as music, current events, humor, and all those other cheerful topics that decorate your mind, bringing you into a world of joyful cheer.

Music:

- A Pittsburgh scene retrospective that breaks down what's blowing up and what's totally dead. Details to include (if you want)
 - **Venues**, what used to exist, what exists now, what works in a Pittsburgh venue, why are they born/how do they die—a quote from a venue owner would be valuable
 - **Genres**, who's making what and is it good. What sound dominates the scene, anything having a revival or struggling to resurface. Bands that have a unique sound.
 - **Styles** and subgroups. What exists and how true to its origin does it adhere. Posers, diehards, makers, consumers, lovers, oldheads and the like,
 - **Culture**, what's the energy like at shows and how does it differ. Are people recording too much? Not enough? Touring? Moshing? Age disparities or successful connections. How's it feel to be at a show?
- Rankings, ratings, and what's coming up soon. Just straight info if you're into writing that sort of thing.
- *Example: 'How to Make It In a Band' (already claimed as an article).*

Lifestyle:

- Interviews.
 - As long as it's funny or truly ridiculous we want to feature your interviews. Must be loosely related to Pittsburgh, the state of the world, music, general insanity, or brings a little creeping smile to your face. Just get some quotes, follow the thread, and make a story.
- Mundane Current Events.
 - Truly the most boring shit you can find. Ideally Pittsburgh related.

- Disgusting Food Recipes.
 - Barely any irony here we want real honest to god recipes that feature something that truly would feel nightmarish to eat. Bonus points if you make it and review it. [PICTURES ENCOURAGED]
 - Bad Example: The Bologna Cheesecake
 - Good Example: Celery Victor
- Alternative Sex.
 - Think about the disturbed and fun pleasures you or someone you know find yourself gorging on. Give us a piece that sits like a hot glaze on paper.
 - Think sex diary and the feelings that come from wanting too much, not enough, or something entirely bizarre—no insecurities here we want your body all over the page for reader consumption.
- Radio.
 - Tell me about why radio. This section is called radio but honestly it's all about alternative means of mass communication or the sensations around coping or your lack thereof towards digital feeds stemming from and streaming into our lives.
 - Write about sounds, speakers, microphones, amps, and any other audio experiences you find yourselves drawn to.

Bullshit:

- Comics/Funnies/Laughables.
 - Make a comic and make it a good one. No anti-humor or boring subversive bizz, just straight humorous ideas.
 - Example: Charlie Kirk in hell with Oliver Tree
- Outdated Memes.
 - You MUST make NEW captions over old meme images. All submitted outdated memes have to feature an image from before ≈2015 or so.
 - Example:

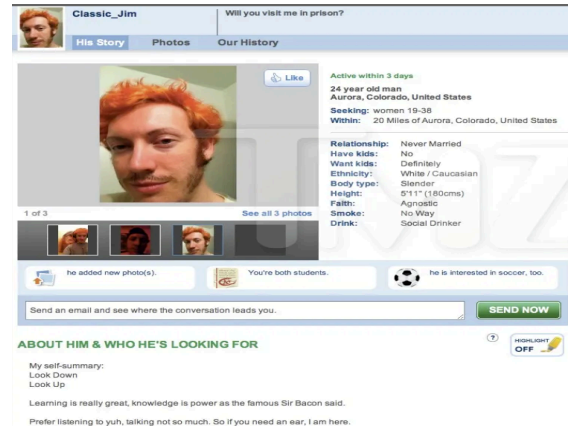


- Advice Column.

- Get some questions and answer them, that's as simple as it gets. If you want we can source and filter the questions for you. Have some really banging advice though. Doesn't have to be genuine but it does have to be flowery and passionate and honest.
- Keep us on our toes, elaborate responses and thinking outside of the box will be useful here.

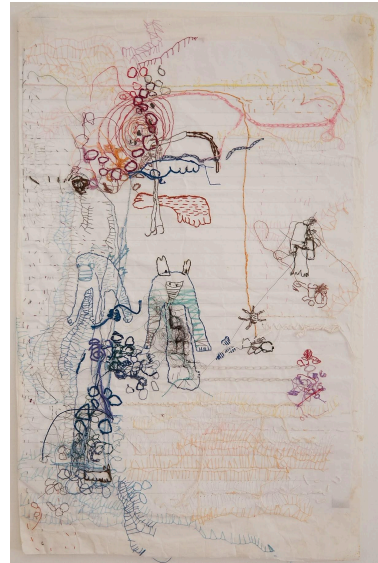
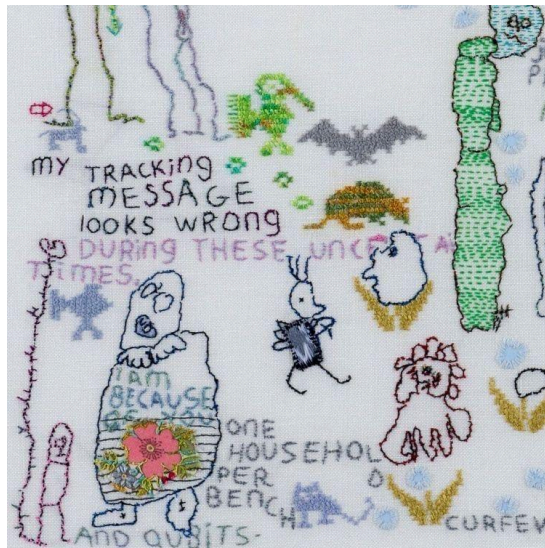
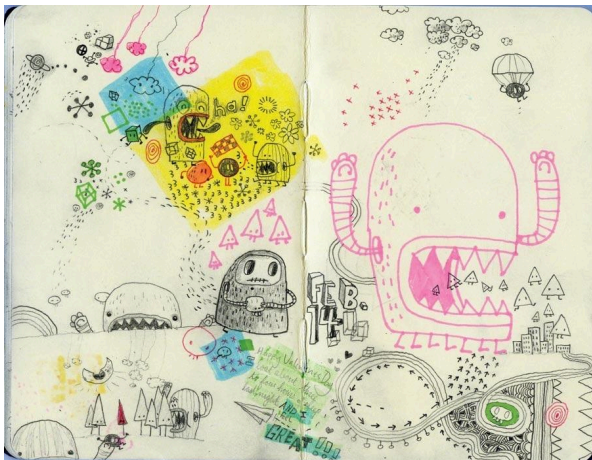
- Dating.

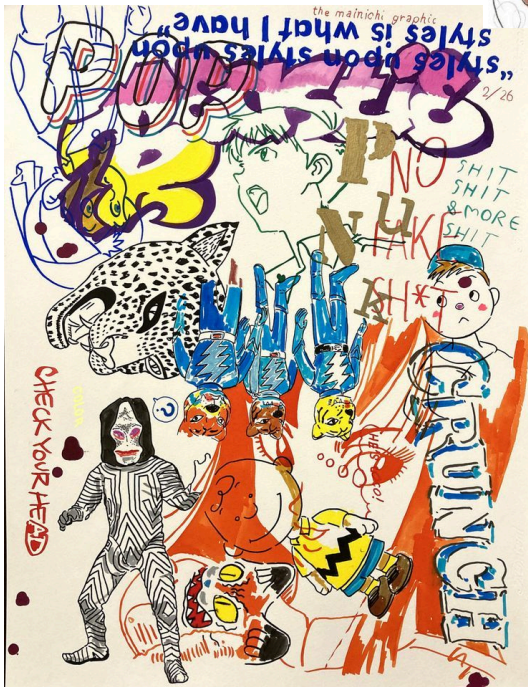
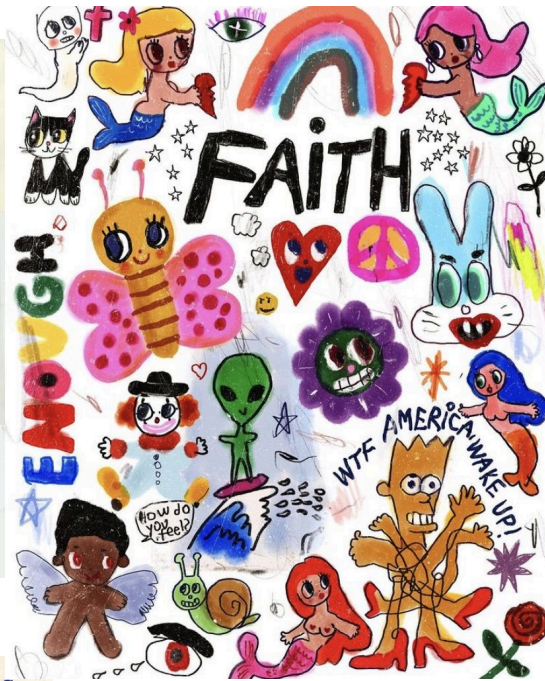
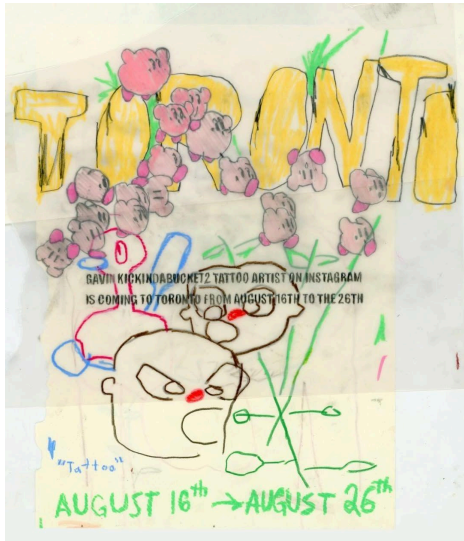
- Ideally we just get one dating profile per magazine. Template attached (right) but feel free to really stylize it. Or totally ignore it all together
- Must ACTUALLY be a single person and must ACTUALLY provide some way to contact them. Ideally email.
- Hopefully one day we will be able to include follow up pages about how potential dates have gone.



Graphics/Style Guide:

- Total cartoon, doodle fun. Color is great, sketchy is great. Nothing living in harmony with other parts just assorted intrigue that keeps viewers engaged. Think childish and grotesque.(photography & mixed media are fine too) Examples:





Misc:

- Reach out to us if you or someone you know can design a logo.
- If you want to be a part of the in-person writing and design sessions let us know
- Any questions please send our way, we're happy to help.
- We love your smile!

