

All Classical

PORTLAND

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Host Suzanne Nance loves to explore Portland's foodie culture, and what better way than to go straight to the chefs of some of our most beloved restaurants!

Together, Suzanne and the culinary artists of the City of Roses and beyond will explore music through the idea of comfort food, provide recipes, and chat about the joy of cooking, all paired with lush, beautifully crafted music.

On this week's episode – we are pleased to present a recipe from our very own Christa Wessel! An avid baker, Christa loves spending time in the kitchen, prepping treats for those around her. When it comes to cooking, Christa prefers to keep it simple, and these **Veggies Stacks** are just the ticket. It's the perfect appetizer for holiday parties, and it's easy to modify - if you don't have these vegetables on hand, you can substitute others, or make it your own with spices or by swapping in a vegan cheese. Delicious!!

Veggie Stacks

By Christa Wessel

1/4" thick sliced eggplant
1/4" thick sliced red onion
1/4" sliced tomato

1/4" thick sliced mozzarella (or bocconcini bites)
Grated asiago cheese
Herbs as desired: basil, oregano, salt & pepper, etc.

1. In addition to uniform thickness, ensure that the diameter of each veggie is similar.
2. On a cookie sheet, assemble the veggie stacks in the following order: eggplant, onion, cheese, tomato, grated asiago. Add herbs to the stacks as desired.
3. Bake at 375 degrees in the center of the oven 20-30 minutes, or until the cheese melts and the veggies soften. And that's it! You'll have a great snack, side dish, or appetizer ready in no time.

Notes:

- Substitute other cheese as desired (brie or parmesan, for example)
- You almost can't overcook these... they're still good when they get a bit crispy

About Christa Wessel (in her own words...)

Since arriving in Portland in 2007, I've traveled all around the state and have fallen in love with the high deserts of Eastern Oregon and the magically blue waters of Crater Lake. I also relish a stormy weekend at the Oregon Coast.

I adore the natural beauty of Oregon as much as I cherish the cultural beauty of our region. I could easily find myself in a concert hall every night of the week! I enjoy it all: early music, contemporary music, symphonic music, and opera. So as not to exhaust myself I deliberately set aside time to play nerdy board games with friends or will reserve a lazy afternoon to read a big novel – and to bake!

