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**Local Voices**

 **Kat Hasenauer Cornetta**

## The Post In Which I Finally Discover The Gulu Gulu Cafe

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Remember how I wrote about wanting to turn the abandoned Blockbuster on Highland Avenue into a coffee house? Well, scrap that, because I honestly could never compete with Gulu Gulu Cafe.

I finally ventured to the downtown Salem staple on Wednesday morning for a communications professional meet-up. (I am on quite the networking kick lately, so if there are any Salem based networking events I am missing, let me know.) Immediately upon walking in I wondered why it had taken me this long to stop by. It is a coffee shop and a bar *all in one*. Yes, my two weaknesses in life available in one hip, artsy place.

I ordered a cappuccino with a shot of coconut syrup. I rarely see coconut syrup at any coffee shops, so I was so pleased to see it at Gulu Gulu. They had more syrups than the Boston Bruins had Bud Lights during their Foxwoods celebration this past weekend, including the addicting fall staple Pumpkin Spice (which is honestly good anytime of year.)

Gulu Gulu is best described as bright and hip. There are comfy places to hang out, places to set up a satellite office and plow through your to-do list, or outside seating to enjoy the summer sun. I honestly didn't want to leave - post-meet up, I wanted to set up my iPad, write for hours on end and enjoy more coconut flavored coffee drinks. But I doubt my boss down in Boston would have enjoyed if I did that.

Gulu Gulu is a must see for any city transplant to Boston looking to be inspired by good coffee and a fun venue. Any coffee shop I'd ever open - or, more correctly, dream of opening - could compete. (But if they ever want to open a second location on Highland Ave., I would *probably* move in.)

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Love Gulu-Gulu and the salad and cheese plate I get there every time I go!... and I also have always had a dream to have my own coffeehouse too! :) At least I know if I can't fulfill my dream to have one that there are a lot of good local ones to hang out at :)

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