



Women's VU

The monthly newsletter of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center

 VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

October 2007, Volume 30, Issue 2

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Another Year, Another March...

By Kacy Silverstein & Vicky Basra

As we sit down to write this year's Domestic Violence Awareness Month article, we are more aware than ever of the many years we, and feminists just like us, have written article after article detailing the impact of violence against women. Each October on this campus and around the world, men and women stand at vigils, speak in protest, march in solidarity, and yet we must write another article, we must tell this story again and again. We must write over and over about the desperation of women, the loneliness, the fear, the deafening silence of living in a world where violence finds its way into the most intimate parts of our lives. We must write that every 18 seconds a woman is beaten by her partner. We must write that every 2 minutes in this country a woman is raped. We must write that this reality, as impossible as it may be to imagine, is real. And we write these words again and again, year after year, because the reality stays the same.

This reality is supported by the belief that it is women's responsibility to stop violence against women. We tell women to be careful, to avoid dangerous situations, to be smart. And after women are raped or beaten or stalked, we asked them why? Why did you wear those clothes? Why were you so stupid? Why didn't you scream? Why didn't you scream louder? Why didn't you protect yourself? We focus so much of our attention on women's behaviors that the perpetrators of these violent acts almost vanish from our minds. It might be the most brilliant magic trick ever invented.

The questions we do not ask include: Why did he rape her? Why did he think it was okay to beat her? Why is he stalking her? Why did he make that choice? We ignore the reality that some men choose, and it is a choice, to rape, beat, and stalk women. We erase the perpetrators from our minds—give them sanctuary in the darkness because we are too afraid or too overwhelmed by the violence to hold their names and faces in the light of day. And then, there are men who say that they would never rape a woman or beat a woman and they stay silent because this is not their issue.

This is the rhetoric of a society that wants to deny that abuse happens and if we cannot deny it, we blame the victim. It is this cycle that keeps perpetrators free from scrutiny, keeps women afraid of men, keeps the home and the night a dangerous place for women.

And then we remember our allies....

We remember the men who march for the women in their lives, we remember the men who speak out against this violence in spite of the danger to themselves, and we look toward these men with hope for our future. We are talking about men who declare that their "strength is not for hurting." We are talking about men who know that their strength could be used to hurt a woman and make the choice not to. These men do exist on our campus, in our communities, across the nation. They are students, teachers, husbands, brothers, sons, partners, and friends. They are members of groups like Men Promoting a Solution (MPAS) on the Vanderbilt campus and members of "Men Can Stop Rape" in Washington D.C. These are communities of men working for peace,



equity and gender justice. These are men who find strength in compassion and nonviolence and who strive to support other men who are courageous enough to challenge violence against women. As you walk across campus this fall, we hope you notice some new posters that focus on these men. This poster campaign, sponsored by Project Safe and the Vanderbilt Student Government Association, promotes men's strength without violence. If you see one of these posters on campus, tell *continued on page 7*

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For more info, please see our website:
www.vanderbilt.edu/WomensCenter

We at the Women's Center would like to welcome two new staff members into our midst: **Ginger Skaggs, M. Div.**, rejoins us as a graduate assistant working with Project Safe. She is currently working on her second master's degree in the Human Development Counseling program. Ginger comes to us with great experience and a passion for ending violence against women.

Krishana Donaldson joins Gender Matters as an undergraduate assistant. She is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Sciences who is planning a double major in Women and Gender Studies and African American Studies. Krishana has a passion and interest for working with gender issues on campus. We are excited to have her join our staff.

The **Take Back the Night Committee** is looking for individuals, office, programs and corporations who may be interested in sponsoring an item from our wish list. If you or your office is interested in supporting Take Back the Night, please email vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu for a copy of our wish list.



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Deadline for newsletter: Submissions are due on the 1st of the month preceding publication.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Join Project Safe for a month of remembrance and activism

October 1

Purple Ribbon Campaign

Wear a purple ribbon to show your support for ending domestic violence. Ribbons will be available throughout the campus. For more information, please contact kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu



October 10

Womyn with Wings, a choreo-poem, addresses many topics including female mutilation in Africa, rape, and breast cancer from a unique perspective of empowerment and healing. Infused with humor, "Womyn with Wings" uses a poignant tale of friendship and poetic vignettes in James Chapmyn's Spoken Word hallmark fashion to empower and entertain audiences of both sexes and all races. It is a must see for all.

Date and location: October 10, 2007; Sarratt Cinema
Admission if FREE! For more information contact vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu

October 16-17

Clothesline Project

Women and men impacted by violence are encouraged to express their thoughts and feelings by decorating a shirt.

Date and location: October 16-17, 2007; and the "Wall" at Rand, 11am-1pm. For more information contact kathleen.e.adams@vanderbilt.edu

October 16-17

These Hands Don't Hurt

A display where individuals can paint or trace their hands on a large canvas to signify a commitment to non-violence.

Date and location: October 16-17 at The "Wall" at Rand, 11am-1pm. For more information contact bryan.r.adams@vanderbilt.edu



October 24

World on Wednesdays

October 24-30

Silent Witness Exhibit

A display of life-sized red wooden silhouettes representing women killed as a result of domestic violence in Davidson County. They will be displayed at various offices on campus. For more information on the Silent Witness Exhibit, please email kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu.

October 29

Take Back the Night March

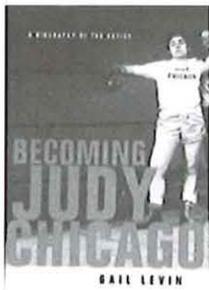
Take part in this night of healing. Join Project Safe at the Vanderbilt University Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center in a community rally and march against domestic and sexual violence. The event will feature displays of the "Clothesline Project," vocal performance, information and a key note speaker.

Date and location: October 29, 2007; 7:15 p.m.; Walk will originate on the Vandy campus on Olin Lawn and end at Centennial Park.
For more information contact vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu or kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu.

For more information about Project Safe, please contact vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu or kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu



New Biographies of Artistic Women: Artist Judy Chicago and Author Edith Wharton



In the spring of 2006 Judy Chicago and her husband, Donald Woodman, were the first Chancellor's Artists-in-Residence at Vanderbilt. Chicago, Woodman, faculty member Vivien

Fryd, and a group of Vanderbilt students and community artists spent months on campus creating a large exhibit entitled *Evoke/Invoke/Provoke: A Multimedia Project of Discovery*. The exhibit opened in Peabody's Cohen Building in April 2006.

Gail Levin, a professor of art history, American studies, and women's studies at Baruch College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, has produced the comprehensive *Becoming Judy Chicago: a Biography of the Artist* (Harmony Books, 2007). Chicago is now considered one of the most influential feminist artists. Levin had access to Judy's diaries, personal correspondence and unpublished writings; she also interviewed many of Chicago's friends and family members, as well as critics, former students and other artists.

The noted artist was born Judith Sylvia Cohen in Chicago in July 1939, the first of two children in a secular and somewhat radical Jewish family. Her mother was a social worker and her father worked for the Post Office, where he was involved in union activities. Both her parents were very left wing, as were most of their friends. Her father had very progressive attitudes about women and civil rights.

Early in childhood Judy showed a talent for art and began studying it at the age of five. She was always close to her father and was devastated when he died after surgery when she was only 13. By the time Chicago graduated from the College of Fine Arts at UCLA in 1962 she was married to her first husband, Jerry Gerowitz. He was killed in a car accident in June 1963, a year before Judy

received her master's degree in painting and sculpture from UCLA. By this time her art, which often stressed women's sexuality, was attracting attention from galleries and national magazines like *Artforum*.

For several years Judy taught art at Fresno State College and at the California Institute for the Arts, always stressing to her students the importance and value of women's art, even though it was still largely being omitted from textbooks. In 1973 she co-founded an independent art school, the Feminist Studio Workshop, a program designed for 30 women students. Judy was energetic, ambitious and outspoken; she was also a hard worker who expected dedication and hard work from her students

Chicago, known since her marriage as Judy Gerowitz, had long been acutely aware of sexism and sex discrimination. In 1970, at the height of the women's movement, she officially announced that from now on she was Judy Chicago, taking the name of her city of birth as her last name. She was rejecting surnames "imposed upon her through male dominance." Judy's second marriage, to artist Lloyd Hamrol, ended in divorce and she married photographer Donald Woodman in 1985.

Levin, the author of many books on art and artists, devotes considerable space to several of Judy's larger works, particularly *The Dinner Party*, *Birth Project* and *Holocaust Project*. Chicago's best-known exhibit is *The Dinner Party*, on which many women worked under her direction from 1974 to 1979. It opened in San Francisco in 1979 and later was exhibited in other cities in the U.S., Canada and Australia. For some time this work languished in storage but a permanent home was finally found for it at the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art at the Brooklyn Museum. This center opened in March 2007 and *The Dinner Party* is one of its first permanent installations.

In the Library



Barbara Clarke
Women's Center
Librarian

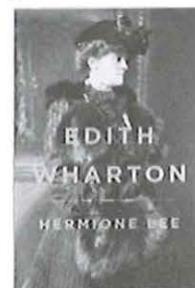
Hermione Lee's *Edith Wharton* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2007) is a thorough, lengthy and meticulously-researched biography of the

noted American writer. The biographer, who was given access to personal letters and unpublished sources, illustrates how Wharton was a complex and sometimes contradictory personality. She was "a woman of dynamic organizational energies, busy and managerial, who also had a profound need for peace and rest." She was ambitious and generous, and retained some of the snobbery and prejudice common to wealthy women of her era. She had many friends and loved to travel, although always with an entourage of servants.

Edith Newbold Jones was born in January 1862 into a prominent New York family. She was the only daughter and had two brothers who were much older. As was customary then for girls, she received no formal education. Her father taught her to read and governesses taught her the subjects considered suitable for girls. Yet she would later win a Pulitzer Prize for *The Age of Innocence* and in 1923 would receive an honorary doctorate from Yale, the first woman so honored. From childhood Edith had a great love for reading and knowledge, for books and adventure. Six formative years of her childhood were spent in Europe and she was fluent in several languages.

Lee, the Goldsmiths' Professor of English Literature at Oxford University, weaves discussions of Wharton's published and unpublished works in with details of her subject's life. She became Edith Wharton upon her marriage in 1885

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Inflammatory Breast Cancer (IBC)

By Rachel Forbes MD and Ingrid Meszoely MD,
Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center

Most women recognize and fear that a breast lump might be a breast cancer; however many breast cancers do not present as a lump. Early breast cancers are often found on routine mammogram before becoming noticeable on self-exam and are therefore very amenable to treatments for cure. However some advanced breast cancers also can present without a lump. A painful, swollen, and firm breast with overlying warm, red, and thick skin may all be indicators of a rare and aggressive form of breast disease known as inflammatory breast cancer (IBC). IBC accounts for only 1% to 6% of all diagnosed cases of breast cancer, diagnosed in only about 2.5 women out of every 100,000. Because of the aggressive nature of this type of cancer, the overall survival is worse in women with this kind of breast cancer than other forms of treatable breast cancer. Because it is such a rare entity, IBC is unfamiliar to both many women and many healthcare providers. Knowing the signs, symptoms, and methods for diagnosis, can allow patients and physicians to expeditiously begin a path of treatment and potential cure.

The breast itself gives the telltale signs that IBC could be lurking. The breast becomes red, swollen, firm, and warm and the skin itself looks very much like the skin of an orange peel. This classic finding is known as "peau d'orange" (French for "orange skin"). The skin can range from light pink in the beginning, turning red, and then even purple as it begins to look bruised. These changes can occur over a very short time, from a few weeks to a few months. This entity can often be mistaken for an infection of the breast known as mastitis. Frequently, women with IBC will have had a trial of antibiotics with no improvement in the skin changes. Although IBC has the term *inflammatory* in its name, there is no infection or bacteria associated with the disease. The inflammation is secondary to tumor clusters occupying the lymph channels in the skin of the breast. And, although IBC is a cancer, it is variable whether or not an underlying lump or mass is present. IBC typically occurs between the ages of 45 and 54 years, younger than other forms of breast cancer.

A patient with any of the above symptoms, particularly if they have not had a fever and have not improved with a course of antibiotics, should immediately see a physician. The mainstay for diagnosis is a tissue biopsy. A doctor can easily perform a biopsy of the affected skin and breast tissue beneath. The classic sign that the pathologist sees under the microscope is invasion of the skin lymph channels by tumor cells. The doctor will likely order additional tests such as mammograms, ultrasound, and/or breast MRI to determine if a cancer mass is present, and a CT scan, and bone scan/or PET scan to detect sites of cancer spread beyond the breast and the lymph nodes called metastases. Unfortunately, 10%-36% of patients will have distant metastases and as high as 60%-85% will have cancer that has spread to the lymph nodes.

Once the diagnosis of IBC is established, a multidisciplinary team approach involving a medical oncologist, a radiation

oncologist, and a surgeon is put into action. Since IBC is so aggressive and usually advanced at the time of diagnosis with the risk of having microscopic tumors spread elsewhere in the body, patients with IBC usually start treatment with chemotherapy. If the cancer does not appear to be spread beyond the breast and lymph nodes, it is potentially curable and surgery will follow the chemotherapy; this is called induction or neoadjuvant chemotherapy and is prescribed by a medical oncologist. A patient then may go on to have a mastectomy, or breast removal, by the surgeon followed by radiation therapy which would be administered by a radiation oncologist. Sometimes radiation will be given without surgery, particularly if the cancer has spread to other parts of the body. The details of treatment are complex and tailored for each patient, but studies have shown the best chance of survival occurs with chemotherapy, followed by surgery (if indicated) and radiation. Currently, the five-year disease-free survival rates (the chance that it will not come back in 5 years) with combined treatment is 22 to 48%. The overall survival or the percent women living with this diagnosis at 5 years is between 30 to 50%.

Inflammatory breast cancer is a rare and aggressive form of breast cancer that has characteristic findings of a red, swollen, and painful breast that can have the appearance of an orange peel. Monthly self-breast exams have become an important way for women to detect lumps or changes that allow them to seek medical attention early. Knowing the signs of inflammatory breast cancer is yet another way to empower women to know their bodies and to take action on any changes that may potentially lead to a cancer diagnosis. Early diagnosis offers the greatest opportunity for curable treatment.

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Rachel Forbes MD, is a surgical resident, Vanderbilt Medical Center; Ingrid Meszoely MD, is the clinical director at The Vanderbilt Breast Center, and assistant professor of surgical oncology, Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center.

In the Library

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to Edward Robbins Wharton, who was known as Teddy. The marriage was not a happy one, partly due to Teddy's growing mental health problems, and the couple divorced in 1913. From 1897 Wharton published about one major work each year.

For the last 30 years of her life Edith lived in France, where she maintained two lovely homes. During the First World War, she kept busy with a variety of activities that provided work for unemployed women, and she assisted refugees, the wounded and war orphans. For her war efforts she was honored by France, Belgium and the United States. She kept writing during those stressful years, with her works reflecting her wartime experiences. When Wharton died in France in 1937, she was still working on her last novel, *The Buccaneers*, which was published the following year.

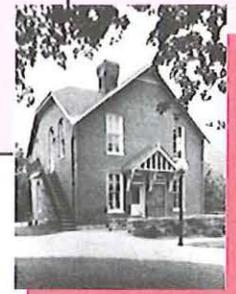
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denotes Project Safe programming



October 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 MPAS, 7:30-8:30pm	2 Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm Support Group, 8-9pm	3 Vandy Feminists, 7pm Peer Ed, 8-9pm	4 Making Connections 5:30pm-6:30pm	5 Women in Academe Series: Building a relationship with your advisor, 12:10-1:30pm	6 Walk As One, 9am
7	8 Book Group, 5:15pm-6:15pm	9 Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm Support Group, 8-9pm	10 World on Wednes. Womyn with Wings, Sarratt Cinema, 7-8:30pm Vandy Feminists, 7pm Peer Ed, 8-9pm	11 Vandy Moms: 11:30am-12:30pm Making Connections 5:30pm-6:30pm	12 Women's Center Homecoming and Reunion Open House, 2-3:30pm	13
14 "Fashion for Everybody" 6-9pm, Country Music Hall of Fame	15 MPAS, 7:30-8:30pm	16 Clothesline Project & These Hands Don't Hurt Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm Support Group, 8-9pm	17 Clothesline Project & These Hands Don't Hurt Love Your Body Day and speaker Vandy Feminists, 7pm Peer Ed, 8-9pm	18 Making Connections 5:30pm-6:30pm	19	20
21	22 Economic Summit for Women, all day MPAS, 7:30-8:30pm	23 Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm Support Group, 8-9pm	24 Vandy Feminists, 7pm Peer Ed, 8-9pm Silent Witness Exhibit begins	25 Vandy Moms: 11:30am-12:30pm Shape of Water Film and Discussion Making Connections 5:30pm-6:30pm	26	27
28	29 Take Back the Night, 7:15pm, Olin Field	30 Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm Silent Witness Exhibit ends	31 Vandy Feminists, 7pm Peer Ed, 8-9pm	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> For details and descriptions of each group, please refer to page 6. </div>		



WALK AS ONE with Vanderbilt!

An event sponsored by CommunityNashville (formerly the National Conference for Community and Justice of Middle Tennessee) to bring the community together to stand against prejudice and to stand for unity and tolerance. The Women's Center is excited to be a collaborative partner for this walk that promotes unity in the community and encourages students, staff and faculty to form teams to join us at the walk. You can walk as an individual or as a team.

Date and location: October 6; Registration opens at 8 a.m. and the walk begins at 9:00 a.m. Centennial Park. To register or for more information about the event, please visit <http://WalkAsOne.kintera.org/communitynashville/vanderbilt>. On campus, you can contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu.

LOVE YOUR BODY DAY SPEAKER: TONI RAITEN D'ANTONIO

To celebrate "Love Your Body" day this fall the student group, IMAGE, is hosting Toni Raiten D'Antonio to speak on campus. She is the author of two self-help books about pursuing a real and satisfying life, using wisdom from the children's book, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, to create her *Velveteen Principles* and *Velveteen Principles for Women*. These books deal with counteracting negative body images and other negative influences. Gender Matters of the Women's Center is proud to co-sponsor this event.

Date and location: October 17; 7-9 p.m., TBD at Vanderbilt
For more information contact elizabeth.a.clayton@vanderbilt.edu. For more information about the author and her books, visit www.velveteenprinciples.com/index.htm. For more information about the national "Love Your Body Day" event, visit the website: <http://loveyourbody.nowfoundation.org/>.

October Calendar of Events

SPECIAL EVENTS, SERIES AND PROGRAMS

(Events are listed by dates and include any events, programs and series for which the women's center is solely responsible or for which we are a major sponsor or collaborator.)

Women in Academe Series: *Building a relationship with your advisor*

Session will cover communication and relationship building with your advisor. This will include gender and cultural differences that may arise. Information and resources will be available at session. This is a brown bag event, so bring your lunch and join us. This series of workshops, co-sponsored by the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, the BRET Office of Career Development and the Warren Center for the Humanities explores issues pertinent to women in the academy and aims to foster dialogue between women in varying locations within the academy. Sessions are open to all Vanderbilt graduate students, professional students, and post-docs.

Date and location: Friday, October 5th; 12:10–1:30pm; Warren Center for the Humanities; Vanderbilt University
For more information, please contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu. RSVPs are appreciated, but not required.

Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center Homecoming and Reunion Open House

Please join us to celebrate Homecoming and catch up with returning alumni during our open house. We will have light refreshments and conversation. Our open house this year is staggered with Women and Gender Studies so you can attend both! RSVPs are welcome but not required for attendance.

Date: October 12, 2007; 2–3:30 p.m.
For more info, please contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu

Womyn with Wings

October 10th. Please see page 2 for details.

"Fashion for Everybody:" A Fashion Show and Concert to benefit the Eating Disorders Coalition of Tennessee

Gender Matters of the Women's Center is a proud sponsor for this exclusive celebrity-packed fashion show, silent auction and a concert event featuring singer/songwriter, Deana Carter and emcee Anastasia Brown. The "Fashion for Everybody" event strives to celebrate people of all shapes, sizes and backgrounds.

Date and location: October 14; 6–9 p.m.; Country Music Hall of Fame. For more information, contact Shelli Yoder at (615) 831-9838 or visit the coalition's website at www.edct.net.

Clothesline Project & These Hands Don't Hurt

October 16 & 17. Please see page 2 for details.

Love Your Body Day™

Come visit the IMAGE, student group Vandy Feminists, on the Wall at Rand that day to learn more and help us celebrate!

Date: October 17, 2007
For more information contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu. For more information about the national "Love Your Body Day" event, visit the website: <http://loveyourbody.nowfoundation.org/>.

4th ANNUAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT FOR WOMEN

An event of the Tennessee Economic Council for women and the TN Economic Council Foundation explore the economic status of women in a variety of areas, create dialogue around those issues and work towards positive and meaningful change. The summit will feature breakout sessions on a variety of topics related to the economic status of women and girls in Tennessee. The summit also features the "E" Awards to honor women and teen who are making a difference in

various areas of economic empowerment for women and girls. In addition scholarships will be awarded to 3 high school students and 3 non-traditional students (one each from each of the 3 great divisions of Tennessee). Keynote speakers and presenters include: Karyl Innis, Patricia Schroeder, Coach Melanie Balcomb and many more.

Date and location: October 22; 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Marriott Nashville Airport Hotel

Cost: Tickets range from \$40 to \$80; student tickets are \$40.

For info on the summit, scholarships, costs and registration go to www.tnwomensmmt.org. The Women's Center is supporting this event by being involved on the steering committee. The center's contact for this event is stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu.

THE SHAPE OF WATER FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION

The Shape of Water is a feature documentary by Kum-Kum Bhvanani and narrated by Susan Sarandon that tells the stories of powerful, imaginative and visionary women confronting the destructive development of the Third World with new cultures and a passion for change. Narratives of rescue and salvation often underlie documentaries about women's lives in the Third World. In contrast *The Shape of Water* offers a complex look that is simultaneously inspiring and yet candid about the contradictions that face women in the Third World as they make change. This event is being brought to you by the Women and Gender Studies department. The Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center is a proud co-sponsor of the event.

Date and location: October 25, 4:30 p.m. TBD at Vanderbilt (will likely be held in Buttrick 101); For more information contact shubhra.sharma@Vanderbilt.Edu.

INFORMAL RECEPTION WITH THE SHAPE OF WATER DOCUMENTARIAN KUM-KUM BHVANANI

Prior to the film screening and discussion, Kum-Kum Bhvanani will visit with students, staff and faculty from the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, the office of International Student and Scholar Services and the department of Women's and Gender Studies. Email invitations will be sent to student, staff and faculty groups of these departments. RSVPs are welcome, but not required for attendance.

Date and location: October 25, 2-3:30 p.m., The Galley at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center at Vanderbilt. For more information contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu.

WELLNESS BASH

The Wellness Bash is an annual fair event held in the Student Recreation Center (SRC). The Wellness Resource Center invites different wellness-related groups and companies to come and demonstrate their services. Some of the services previously involved with the Bash have been Angelic Touch Massage, Vanderbilt Sports Medicine, Vanderbilt Student Health and the Margaret Cunningham Women's Center. There are also lots of giveaways from local companies. Representatives of the Vandy Fems and the IMAGE student group will have a booth with information about women's health. We hope you will stop by and visit out booths.

Date and location: October 31, Student Rec. Center at Vanderbilt
For more information about the event, contact wellness.center@vanderbilt.edu or visit their website at: www.vanderbilt.edu/wellnesscenter/wellnessbash.html

REGULAR GROUPS AND MEETINGS

Book Group

Meets the second Monday of each month; 5:15 – 6:15 p.m.

What/Who: The book group is open to new members at all times and is for anyone who loves to read. You can find a list books being read on our website (www.vanderbilt.edu/womenscenter). For more

October Calendar of Events

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information, contact Jane Du Bose at jdubose@bellsouth.net or Carmen Gherman at cggherman@yahoo.com.

Creative Life Planning Group

Meets every Tuesday; 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Who/What: A group for all dedicated to living life intentionally and creatively. Free and open to everyone and is usually attended by women between 40 and 90 years of age.

Where: The Gallery at the Women's Center. For more information, call 322-4843.

Dissertation Writers Group

Please email us to find out when the group will start back up in the fall semester.

Who/What: This support group meets every week to provide women Ph.D. candidates with objective reactions and fresh perspectives, as well as a place to unwind during the dissertation writing process. It is for women in any stage of the dissertation-writing process.

Where: The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center; Vanderbilt University. For more information, contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu.

Image Group

Meets every Thursday at 4 p.m.

Who/What: Free and open to any students interested in these issues. IMAGE is an organization dedicated to supporting positive body and self-image issues in the Vanderbilt community. It provides a forum for interested community members to advocate the adoption of healthy body-image concepts and the reduction of eating disorders.

Where: Sarratt Center, Rm. 110; For more information, contact stephanie.l.rogers@vanderbilt.edu or images@vanderbilt.edu.

L.I.F.E. (Lessons Inspiring Female Empowerment)

Meets every week. Who/What: Free and open to any students interested in these issues. L.I.F.E is group dedicated to mentoring young girls and women on a variety of issues important to them. This group will work with a group of teen girls in the Nashville community covering topics such as economic empowerment, girls and women's health, self-esteem, leadership and more.

Where: The Women's Center. For more information, contact ashley.walker@vanderbilt.edu.

Making Connections

Meets every Thursday.

Who/What: Free and open to anyone with an interest in these issues. A discussion group to learn about making closer connections with others, your body, and most importantly, yourself. Topics may include body image, intimate relationships, self confidence, managing anxiety and stress and many others. The group is facilitated by Dr. Fishel and is completely confidential.

Where: The Women's Center, For more information, contact pamela.ingram@vanderbilt.edu or 615-343-3561.

Men Promoting a Solution (MPAS)

Meets every other Monday from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Who/What: A group of men dedicated to creating awareness about violent crimes against women and eliminating those crimes through social change.

Where: Sarratt 114; Vanderbilt University
For more information, contact brian.adams@vanderbilt.edu.

Peer Educators of Project Safe

Meets every Wednesday, 8-9 p.m.

Who/What: Peer Educators are students trained to facilitate workshops that promote discussion and encourage understanding of

violence against women.

Where: The Women's Center; For more information, contact kathleen.e.adams@vanderbilt.edu.

Support Group

Who/What: A support group for women who are survivors of domestic/dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. This group meets weekly at a confidential time and location; all information shared is kept confidential. For more information, contact kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu or 322-3774.

Vanderbilt Feminists

Meets Wednesday of each week, 7 p.m.

Who/What: Open to all students of any gender, this group is concerned about women's issues on campus, and promoting equality between genders.

Where: The Women's Center; For more information, contact ali.sevilla@vanderbilt.edu or erica.d.santiago@vanderbilt.edu.

Vandy Moms

Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month;

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Who/What: Open to all mothers of any age, partnered or single. This is a fun support network that provides advocacy for moms in the Vanderbilt and larger communities. It also provides programming to inform, empower and enrich.

Where: The Women's Center; For more information, contact misa.culley@vanderbilt.edu

Another Year, Another March...

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a friend, share the message, or talk to a man in your life (or do all three and do them over and over again).

So, we write the story again. We approach another Take Back the Night March and another vigil to honor the victims. We prepare to march again in the darkness. We march for the women who have died at the hands of abusive men and we march for the men who refuse to use their hands to hurt a woman. We march for the survivors who find it hard to trust a man and we march for the men who listen and support these women. We march for the stories that are never told; the stories shrouded in silence and lost in the secrets of violence. We ask you to march with us for all these reasons and because violence against women impacts us all. We ask you to march with us, so that one day we will never have to march again.

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT MARCH

Monday, October 29

Olin Field; 7:15 p.m.

TBTN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for the **Take Back the Night** event sponsored by Project Safe on **October 29th**. Volunteers are needed to help with logistics on the evening of the event including set-up, clean-up and other duties throughout the event. To sign up to volunteer for this event, contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu. For more details about Take Back the Night or other Project Safe programs, contact vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu or kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

NASHVILLE NOW (NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN) meets the 4th Monday of the month at the Nashville Peace and Justice Center behind Scarritt Bennett at 7 p.m. This meeting is open to members, friends and those seeking more information. For more information, contact CynthiaNashNOW@aol.com or 269-7141.

Nashville CABLE meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 11:30am-1:00pm. For more information, contact nashvillecable.org

Workshop for Mental Health Professionals & Students

"Overcoming Trauma & Addiction with Love, Strength, and Power--16 Steps to Empowerment" Presented by: Charlotte Sophia Kasl, Ph.D., Author of *Women, Sex, and Addiction* and *If the Buddha Dated*. This workshop will include lecture and experiential components along with video clips from women talking about their experiences in 16-step empowerment groups. It will show how the 16 steps systematically address the criteria for healing from trauma and addiction.

Date and location: Saturday, October 13, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. HCA Building I Directions/info at www.npiweb.org
To register for the conference, please visit www.npiweb.org. Online payment is available at this site.

"NO TRICKS, JUST TREATS!" COCKTAILS FOR A CAUSE ON OCTOBER 23rd

Cocktails for a Cause, Nashville's original pro-choice networking event, is back and better than ever! Join us on Tuesday, October 23rd from 6-8:00 p.m. at The Mad Platter in Historic Germantown. Your \$25 donation includes two drinks (beer or wine), appetizers, and the chance to win amazing prizes at Birth Control Trivia—including

surprise packages from some of Nashville's best merchants! Guests younger than 21 years old can join this event for \$15. No alcoholic beverages will be served to those attending who are under 21 years old. To reserve your tickets for Cocktails for a Cause, email jeannae@ppmet.org or call 615-345-0952. All donations help Planned Parenthood of Middle and East Tennessee provide urgently needed medical and educational services to over 15,000 women, men, and teens each year. The Mad Platter is located at 1239 6th Avenue North, in Historic Germantown. (When you email or call, be sure to mention you saw this information in the *Women's VU* newsletter of the Margaret Cuningim Women's Center at Vanderbilt.)



Has your voice been silenced by the violence in your life?

Project Safe offers safe and confidential support groups for female students impacted by: Dating/domestic violence, Sexual assault, or Stalking

Start Date: Tuesday, September 4th

Time: 8:00-9:30 pm

Location: Confidential; Groups will be held every Tuesday

For more information and group location, please contact: Vicky Basra 322-1333 or Kacy Silverstein 322-3774

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Women's VU mailing list

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Margaret Cuningim Women's Center

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