

Empowering women for over 28 years!

# Women's VU

The monthly newsletter of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

March 2007, Volume 29, Issue 8

## Annual Margaret Cuninggim Lecture

### Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall To Speak At Vanderbilt

The Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center Annual Lecture will take place March 27th, 7pm in Wilson 103. (Please check our website for more details.) This endowed lecture on women in culture and society features a distinguished scholar speaking from the perspective of her own discipline.

This year's lecturer is Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall who is the founding director of the Women's Research and Resource Center and Professor of Women's Studies at Spelman College in Atlanta. She is also adjunct professor at Emory University's Institute for Women's Studies. At the age of sixteen, she entered Spelman College where she majored in English and minored in secondary education. After graduating with honors, she attended Wellesley College for a fifth year of study in English. In 1968, she entered Atlanta to pursue a master's degree in English. A year later she began her first teaching job in the Department of English at Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama. In 1971, she returned to her alma mater, Spelman College, and joined the English Department.

She has published a number of texts within African American and Women's Studies, including the first anthology on Black women's literature, *Sturdy Black Bridges: Visions of Black Women in Literature* (Doubleday, 1980), which she coedited with Roseann P. Bell and Bettye Parker Smith; her dissertation, *Daughters of Sorrow: Attitudes Toward Black Women, 1880-1920* (Carlson, 1991); *Words of Fire: An Anthology of African American Feminist Thought* (New Press, 1995); and an anthology she co-edited with Rudolph Byrd entitled *Traps: African American Men on Gender and Sexuality* (Indiana University Press, 2001).



Her most recent publication is a book coauthored with Johnnetta Betsch Cole, *Gender Talk: The Struggle for Women's Equality in African American Communities* (Random House, 2003). In 1983 she became founding co-editor of *Sage: A Scholarly Journal of Black Women* which was devoted exclusively to the experiences of women of African descent.

### Women's Center Seeks Superstars! Submit Award Nominations Now!

The Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center is currently seeking nominations for two awards given annually to recognize achievements by and in support of women at Vanderbilt University.

**The Mentoring Award** honors a member of the Vanderbilt University community who fosters the professional and intellectual development of Vanderbilt women. The award will be announced in April, when the honoree will be presented with a special gift and certificate. **Deadline: FRIDAY, MARCH 30TH, 2007.** Curriculum vitae of the nominee are also welcomed as well as up to three additional letters of support for the nominee.

**The Mary Jane Werthan Award** is given annually to honor an individual who has contributed to the advancement of women at Vanderbilt on a systemic level. It is named in honor of Mary Jane Werthan, the first woman member of the Vanderbilt Board of Trust. **Deadline has been extended!** Nominations should be sent in the form of a letter to Linda Manning, Director, and any supporting materials should be included by **FRIDAY, MARCH 9TH.** The award will be presented during the annual Margaret Cuninggim Lecture in the spring.

### Celebrating Vagina Warriors

*"Being a Vagina Warrior means developing the spiritual muscle to enter and survive the grief that violence brings and, in that dangerous space of stunned unknowing, inviting the deeper wisdom."* —Eve Ensler

Over the years since V-Day launched its very first event in 1998, we have encountered incredible women and men working to end violence against women and girls in their communities. These women have often experienced violence either personally or witnessed it within their communities and dedicated

themselves toward ending such violence through effective, grassroots means. These women have been the very heart of V-Day since it was conceived as a worldwide movement to empower and enable local activists to raise awareness and funds locally through V-Day benefit productions of *The Vagina Monologues*. With this production, Project Safe is proud to announce this year's *Vagina Warriors*:

**Patricia Pierce** is Director of Vanderbilt University's Opportunity Development Center (ODC) and has responsibility for all University and Medical Center matters related

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For more info, please see our website: [www.vanderbilt.edu/WomensCenter](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/WomensCenter)



Vagina Monologues sells out 3 shows!



This year's production of *The Vagina Monologues* sold out all three shows! All funds raised will go to Amnesty International's Nashville chapter working to end violence against women.



*Women's VU* is published monthly August through May at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.

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

# In Search of Home: Growing Up with Domestic Violence

## A Training for Students, Faculty, and Professionals

Project Safe is excited to bring nationally renowned trainer and author Lydia Walker to the Vanderbilt campus. Ms. Walker will discuss the impact of growing up in a violent home and strategies for preventing child physical and sexual abuse.

Lydia Walker has worked in the battered women's movement since 1981 and is a nationally renowned speaker, trainer, and author. Former Steering Committee member of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (1983-1987), she served on the Executive Committee for two years and was co-chair of both the Child Advocate and Rural Task Forces. She is author of *Reaching Rural Battered Women* and contributing author to *Then We Went to A Safe Place* and *Naming the Violence*. Some of her articles, such as "Signs of Battering Personality," are extensively used across the United States. She is well known for her humor and down-to-earth training style. An outstanding speaker, she is hired again and again by groups who have heard her presentations.

**Wednesday, March 14th**  
**10:00am-4:00pm**  
**Lunch will be provided**

The cost of the training is \$50.00 (If fee prevents you from attending, please contact Project Safe for possible scholarship opportunities); CEUs are available. Ms. Walker's training has limited space availability, so please send your registration and payment ASAP to:

Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center  
Project Safe  
Vanderbilt University  
Box 351513, Station B  
2301 Vanderbilt Place  
Nashville, TN 37235



Attn: Vicky Basra, Director, Project Safe,

For more information, please contact [vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check included: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION NOW!



# Celebrating Vagina Warriors

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to equal opportunity and affirmative action laws, regulations, and guidelines. She has been employed continually at Vanderbilt for twenty-nine years. Previously she worked as Compliance Director for the State of Tennessee Human Rights Commission. At Vanderbilt, Ms. Pierce is responsible for monitoring the University's compliance with equal opportunity and affirmative action laws, conducting workshops on a variety of topics related to equity and diversity, and serving as the initial contact person for employees, faculty, staff, and for students who have grievances that include allegations of unlawful discrimination and/or sexual harassment. She serves as a fact finder and mediator of University grievances and seeks to resolve them. At Vanderbilt, she is a member of the Women's Faculty Organization, the University Policy Committee, Violence Against Women Task Force, and the Women and Gender Studies Advisory Board. Ms. Pierce has conducted numerous workshops on gender issues, including sexual harassment for Nashville community organizations, and at regional, national, and international conferences. She serves as one of the speakers for the campus Hand in Hand training program and is one of the trainers for the University's supervisory program on equity and diversity. She has given her time to many organizations to help promote opportunities and advocate equity for women. She served on the YWCA Board for over five years. She is a voice on campus for equity and has sponsored numerous speakers and programs to help promote awareness and inclusion.



**Charlotte Pierce-Baker** is a survivor of rape. She is a staunch supporter of men and women victim-survivors of rape and sexual assault and tries to offer support to the African American community since she felt silenced after her rapes in 1981. She is still surviving.



Charlotte Pierce-Baker, Ph.D. is a native of Washington, D.C. She received her B.A. (cum laude) in English from Howard University and the Master's degree in Speech Sciences from Ohio State University. At Temple University, she was awarded the Ph.D. in Speech Pathology and Applied Linguistics. Her Ph.D. thesis on black children acquiring

a first language phonology was honored with a dissertation prize for "outstanding scholarship and service in the university and community." Pierce-Baker has taught across the country and as far away as Edinburgh, Scotland. Pierce-Baker was Visiting Assistant Professor of English at the University of Delaware in spring 1998 and Visiting Assistant Professor at Duke University in Women's Studies and English in 1998-99. In Fall 1999, she became permanent Research Associate Professor at Duke University. For Spring 2003, Pierce-Baker was invited to the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) as visiting Professor of English. In 2004, she was promoted to Research Full Professor of Women's Studies and English at Duke University. Dr. Pierce-Baker has published essays and commentary on literature and pedagogy in a variety of journals and periodicals. She has been an active volunteer with victim-survivor services at Women Organized Against Rape (WOAR) in Philadelphia. She is now an active member of the Women's Center at Duke University and liaison between the Center and the Women's Studies Program. Since the publication of her book, *Surviving the Silence: Black Women's Stories of Rape* (W.W. Norton, September 1998), Pierce-Baker has continued to travel and lecture on issues of black women and sexual assault. She has taken the topic of rape into the classroom with her course on women and trauma. For Pierce-Baker, finding and creating a language is the first step to acknowledging and documenting the "colonization of the body of woman." Her book, the first of its kind, provides us with the heretofore-muted voices of African American women surviving the trauma of rape. Reviews continue to be strongly positive, and the book has been adopted for classroom use across the United States and abroad. *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The New Haven Register*, and *The Los Angeles Times* chose *Surviving the Silence* one of the "best books of 1998." *The Rainbow Sisters Project* – a feminist, multi-racial advocacy organization based in Los Angeles – presented Pierce-Baker with the "Voice Award" in May 1998 for her book and activist work in the area of sexual assault. In February 2004, Duke University's Women's Center honored her with the "Vagina Warrior Award." Dr. Pierce-Baker now resides with her husband in Nashville, Tennessee; they are both on faculty at Vanderbilt University. She serves as tenured Professor of Women's and Gender Studies with a secondary appointment in the department of English. Her current manuscript, *No Sunshine When He's Gone: One Family's Struggle with a Bipolar Son* is currently at press with McGraw-Hill publishers.

**Houston Baker** was born in Louisville, Kentucky. He has taught as a full-time and visiting professor at colleges and universities in the United States and abroad. He has taught African American Women's writings for more than twenty years, and is the author of an influential critical study titled "Workings of the Spirit" devoted to the artistry of black women writers. He is an advocate for women's and gender studies and has served on Women's Studies advisory committees at universities, supported organizations devoted to safe environments for those who live in difference, and is an affiliated faculty member of Women's and Gender Studies at Vanderbilt University. He is a co-survivor of rape. His wife Charlotte Pierce-Baker was raped in 1981 when their Philadelphia home was invaded. Dr. Pierce-Baker, is the influential author of *Surviving the Silence: Black Women's Stories of Rape*. Houston's most memorable recent moment of intellectual activism was his public letter to the Duke University Administration condemning its failure to stem a male culture of privilege and violence that harmed especially black single mothers and working class women.



**Emily Baunach** will graduate from Vanderbilt in May with a Women's Studies and Environmental Geology double major and a World Politics minor. She has been Hand in Hand student coordinator and a volunteer with Project Safe since her freshman year. She has also been an active part of *The Vagina Monologues* and Vanderbilt Feminists for the last four years. Working to end violence against women in general and specifically working to change the Vanderbilt campus culture in terms of prevention of and response to violence has been a significant part of her college career.

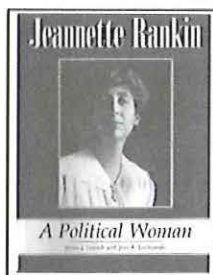


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# Political Women

In the Library

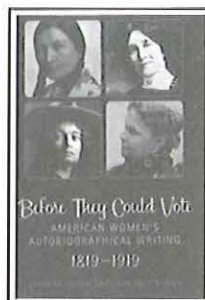


March is celebrated as Women's History Month and our library includes books on many aspects of the history of women. Among the recent additions to the collection are:

**Jeannette Rankin: A Political Woman** (University Press of Colorado, 2005) by James J. Lopach and Jean A. Luckowski.

This biography details the life and achievements of the first woman to be elected to the U.S. Congress and the first woman in the world to be elected to a national legislative body. Rankin was born into a wealthy family in Montana in 1880 and as a graduate student became active in the suffrage movement. In 1916 she ran for office as a Republican and won one of Montana's two congressional seats. This was at a time when American women did not yet have the right to vote.

After serving one term Jeannette worked mainly for women's rights and peace movements, until again being elected to Congress in 1940. Some of her other interests were election reform and improved conditions for working women. For years she spent summers at her rustic home in rural Georgia, where she once tried to start a women's commune. In 1928 she had founded the Georgia Peace Society. In 1968, when she was aged 88, Rankin planned once again to run for Congress but instead had to undergo surgery. She retained an active interest in politics and even into her nineties was still working for peace and lobbying for political candidates. Rankin died in 1973 at the age of 92.



**Before They Could Vote: American Women's Autobiographical Writing, 1819-1919** (University of Wisconsin Press, 2006) edited by Sidonie Smith and Julia Watson.

This is a collection of fascinating autobiographical selections illustrating the lives of a variety of ordinary and extraordinary American women of the past. Some of the writers, including Fanny Kemble, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Sarah Orne Jewett and Harriet Quimby, are well-known.

Topics include the life of a woman executed in 1819 for arson; enslaved women on a plantation in Georgia in the 1830s; a 19th-century African-American female preacher; the experiences of a woman who was captured and sold to a group of Seneca Indians; girlhood in coastal New England; the club movement among African-American women; and the reminiscences of a Eurasian woman.

Other recent acquisitions on women's history include: *Women, Development, and the UN: a Sixty-Year Quest for Equality and Justice* by Devaki Jain and *Revolutionary Heart: the Life of Clarina Nichols and the Pioneering Crusade for Women's Rights* by Diane Eickhoff.

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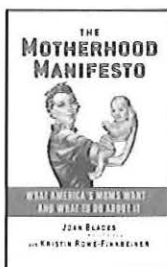
## Motherhood in America

In March, the Women's Center will co-sponsor and host two events that will likely change your view of motherhood in America. The first of these events is a screening of the new documentary, *The Motherhood Manifesto*. Produced by the grassroots mothers' rights group, MomsRising.org, the film is based on the book of the same name by Joan Blades and Kristin Rowe-Finkbeiner (Avalon Publishing, 2006). Both book and film document and examine the sometimes heartbreaking stories of real-life moms in their struggles to find fair wages, work/life flexibility, healthcare for themselves and their children, as well as issues of maternal profiling and wage gap inequities. In addition, the book and film celebrate the successes of companies that have discovered the benefits of good family policies, good childcare programs and legislation that could make these benefits a reality for all Americans.

Vandy Moms and Gender Matters will co-host a viewing and informal discussion that is open to all Vanderbilt staff, faculty and students. Anyone who is a mother, has a mother, or respects motherhood, will want to see this film and enter into this discussion about families.

**Date:** March 13th; 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Location:** Sarratt 189, Vanderbilt University

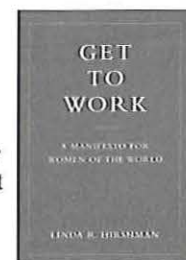


For more information, contact [misa.culley@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:misa.culley@vanderbilt.edu) or [stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu).

The second event will be a book discussion co-sponsored by Gender Matters and hosted by Women's and Gender Studies. Retired women's studies professor, Linda Hirshman, set off a firestorm of Internet discussion for her frank and controversial opinions of the feminist movement and the "opt-out revolution" in her article, "Homeward Bound" that appeared in *The America Prospect* in November 2005.


Riding that wave of controversy, she wrote *Get to Work* (Viking, 2006) expanding her views on women, work, motherhood, and the feminist movement. She is controversial and lively and an avowed feminist critic of what she calls "family injustice," in which women bear a disproportionate share of responsibility for childrearing and housework. Her lecture is sure to provoke discussion and debate at Vanderbilt. For more info about Ms. Hirshman and her book, visit: [www.gettoworkmanifesto.com](http://www.gettoworkmanifesto.com).









**Date/Location:** March 15th; Time and location TBA  
For more information, contact Women's and Gender Studies at [women-womens-studies@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:women-womens-studies@vanderbilt.edu). Or visit their website at: [www.vanderbilt.edu/womens-studies](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/womens-studies).





# March 2007

denotes Project Safe programming 

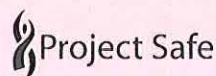
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
				1 <i>Making Connections</i> 5:45pm-6:45pm	2	3		
4	5	6 <i>Creative Life Planning Group,</i> 11:30am-1:00pm	7	8 <i>Vandy Moms:</i> 11:30am-12:30pm	9	10		
<i>Vanderbilt Spring Break—student groups will not meet this week</i>								
11	12 <i>Dissertation Writers Group, 3:30-4:30pm</i>  <i>Book Group, 5:15pm-6:15pm</i>  <i>MPAS, 8pm, Sarratt 114</i> 	13 <i>Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm</i>  <i>The Motherhood Manifesto DVD screening; 11:30am Sarratt 189</i>  <i>Vandy Fems, 7pm</i>	14 <i>Peer Ed, 7pm</i>   <i>In Search of Home: Growing Up with Domestic Violence; 10am-4pm</i>	15 <i>Making Connections 5:45pm-6:45pm</i>  <i>Get To Work, by Linda Hirshman;</i>	16 <i>Women in Academe: Motherhood in the Academy; 12:10pm-1:30pm; Sarratt 112</i>  <i>Hand in Hand training; 4pm</i>	17 <i>Hand in Hand training all day</i> 		
18 <i>Hand in Hand training</i> 	19	20 <i>Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm</i>  <i>Vandy Fems, 7pm</i>	21 <i>Peer Ed, 7pm</i> 	22 <i>Vandy Moms 11:30am-12:30pm</i>  <i>IMAGE group; 5pm</i>  <i>Making Connections 5:45pm-6:45pm</i>	23	24		
25 <i>Womyn With Wings 12-1pm; Sarratt Cinema</i> 	26 <i>Dissertation Writers Group, 3:30-4:30pm</i>  <i>MPAS, 8pm, Sarratt 114</i> 	27 <i>Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm</i>  <i>Vandy Fems, 7pm</i>  <i>MC Lecture: Dr. Guy-Sheftall, 7pm, Wilson 103</i>	28 <i>Vandy Fems, 5-6pm</i>  <i>Peer Ed, 7pm</i> 	<p><b>For details and descriptions of each group, please refer to page 6.</b> Unless otherwise indicated, all groups and events are open to the public and are held at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center at 316 West Side Row on Vanderbilt University's campus.</p>			29	30
						31		

## Don't Miss These Upcoming Events!

### THE HEALING JOURNEY: SURVIVING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Project Safe will present an all-day symposium on the healing journey, which will feature keynote speakers, Professor Charlotte Pierce-Baker and Professor Houston Baker. Sessions will include healing through music, art, poetry, yoga, and activism. The symposium will also include a special student session on how one can support friends and family through the trauma of violence. For more information on this special event, please contact [kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu)

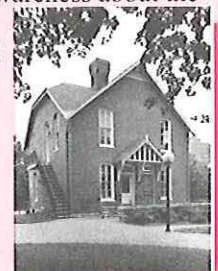
Thursday, April 5, 2007  
Student Life Center  
10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



### PAY EQUITY GALA

April 24, 2007 marks Equal Pay Day in this country. This is the day on which women's earnings will match men's earnings from the previous fiscal year. In other words, it takes women approximately four months longer to earn the same salary as their male counterparts. In order to raise awareness about the wage gap, we are hosting our second annual Pay Equity Gala this spring. It will feature live entertainment, a silent auction to raise funds for a charity, and a keynote speaker who will discuss the topic of gender- and race-related wage inequities.

**Date: April 17th;** Time TBA (evening event) For more information, please contact [taylor.l.davis@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:taylor.l.davis@vanderbilt.edu) or [stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu)





# March 2007 Calendar of Events

## EVENTS, SERIES AND COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

(Events listed by dates.)

**March is Women's History Month. Please look for additional events, programs and information in our newsletter and website.**

### "HOW DOES GENDER MATTER TO YOU?" EXPLORING GENDER MATTERS AT VANDERBILT AND IN THE COMMUNITY

The Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center strives to increase awareness of the influence that gender has in our lives. We believe that ideas about gender impact personal happiness and fulfillment, interpersonal relationships, educational and workplace environments and the culture as a whole. Greater awareness encourages healthier and more conscious living and fuels action for social and political change within society. So we want to know how gender matters to you. Help us by completing this quick and anonymous survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=131753241230>. We will report the responses back to the Vanderbilt community and utilize the information to create connections, programs and events.

**Date: March 2007**

For more information, please contact [stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu)

### THE MOTHERHOOD MANIFESTO: A FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION

(Sponsored by Vandy Moms and Gender Matters of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center)

*The Motherhood Manifesto* is a book by Joan Blades and Kristin Rowe-Finkbeiner. It has recently been made into a documentary and released on DVD for group showings. The documentary explores motherhood and families in America. It illuminates alarming statistics about healthcare, after school programs, flexible work schedules, maternity/paternity leave and more. Ann Crittenden, author of *The Price of Motherhood*, said, "The Motherhood Manifesto documentary is a funny, fascinating, informative and finally infuriating film about motherhood in America. At the end of this one, you'll want to jump out of your seat, rush out the door and, start demanding change immediately!" Vandy Moms and Gender Matters will co-host a viewing and informal discussion open to all Vanderbilt staff, faculty and students. Anyone who is a mother, has a mother or respects motherhood will want to see this film and enter into this discussion about families.

**Date: March 13th; 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** (The film is actually less than an hour long.)

**Location: Sarratt 189, Vanderbilt University**

For more information, contact [misa.culley@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:misa.culley@vanderbilt.edu) or [stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu).

### IN SEARCH OF HOME: GROWING UP WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

(A Training for Students, Faculty, and Professionals)

Project Safe is excited to bring nationally renowned trainer and author, Lydia Walker to the Vanderbilt campus. Ms. Walker will discuss the impact of growing up in a violent home and strategies for preventing child physical and sexual abuse. Lunch will be provided. CEUs are available.

**Date: March 14th; 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Cost:** The cost of the training is \$50.00 (If fee prevents you from attending, please contact Project Safe for possible scholarship opportunities.)

**Registration:** Please see the short registration form on page 2 or for more information, please contact [vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu)

### GET TO WORK: A DISCUSSION OF THE BOOK BY LINDA HIRSHMAN

Gender Matters (of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center) is co-sponsoring this book discussion hosted by Women and Gender Studies. Ms. Hirshman, a retired professor of philosophy and labor attorney, is the talk of the blog circuit for her views on women, work and motherhood. She is controversial, lively, smart and an avowed feminist critic of what she calls "family injustice," in which women bear a disproportionate share of responsibility for childrearing and housework. Her lecture is sure to provoke discussion and debate at Vanderbilt. For more information about Linda Hirshman and her book, visit: [www.gettoworkmanifesto.com](http://www.gettoworkmanifesto.com).

**Date: March 15th; Time TBA**

**Location: TBA**

For more information, contact Women and Gender Studies at [womens-studies@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:womens-studies@vanderbilt.edu). Or visit their website at: [www.vanderbilt.edu/womens-studies](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/womens-studies).

### WOMEN IN ACADEME SERIES: MOTHERHOOD IN THE ACADEMY

In this session we will explore the realities of being a mother and a member of academe (graduate student, lecturer, professor). We will also look at things to keep in mind while looking for employment at an institution of higher education, such as the school's policy on maternity leave, etc. RSVPs to attend are welcome, but not required. Lunch is not provided, but feel free to bring your lunch with you to the session.

**Date: March 16th; 12:10 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**Location: Sarratt 112; Vanderbilt University**

For more information, please contact [stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu)

### HAND IN HAND TRAINING

**Date: Friday through Sunday, March 16th to 18th**

Hand in Hand is a campus organization devoted to helping students, faculty and staff with questions related to sexual assault, intimate partner abuse and stalking. For more info, please contact [emily.baunach@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:emily.baunach@vanderbilt.edu)

### WOMYN WITH WINGS

Project Safe and Gender Matters (of the MCWC) are proud to co-sponsor the Nashville Black Pride Benefit performance of the play, *Womyn with Wings*. This play was written by James Chapmyn and is being directed and produced by Melissa

"Nubian Sun" Green.

**Date: March 25th; 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. with discussion following the show**

**Location: Sarratt Cinema, Vanderbilt University**

For tickets, call (615) 343-3361, Sarratt Box Office. Student tickets are \$5 and general admission is \$10.

For more information, call (615) 495-8882

### THE MARGARET CUNINGGIM LECTURE

**Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall**

This endowed lecture on women in culture and society is given by a distinguished scholar each year and is a part of the Chancellor's Lecture Series. Lecturers are invited to address the broad topic from the perspective of their own discipline. This year's lecturer is Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall, founding director of the Women's Research and Resource Center as well as professor of women's studies at Spelman College.

**Date/Location: March 27th, 7 p.m., Wilson 103**

For more information, please contact [stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu)

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## March Calendar

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### COMMUNITY MEETING: ECONOMIC ISSUES FACING WOMEN (Montgomery County, TN)

The Tennessee Economic Council on Women is holding community meetings or "listening tours" across Tennessee's counties to have a conversation with women about what they determine as the most critical economic issues they face in their region. This information will be collected, compiled and used to enhance the Status of Women in Tennessee report. Data will also be used to make recommendations to local and state legislators, community groups and individuals so that positive change can be made on these critical issues. The Gender Matters program (of MCWC) is partnering with the TN Economic Council on Women to facilitate these meetings and compile the data for the Greater Nashville Development District (10 counties around the Metro-Nashville/ Davidson County Area).

**Date:** Two dates to be schedule in March. Please see our website and listserv emails for dates.

**Location:** TBA in Montgomery County, TN. Please see our website and list serv emails for locations.

For more information, please contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu.

### REGULAR GROUPS AND MEETINGS

(Groups listed by alphabetically) Please Note: Student groups will NOT meet during spring break, March 5-9.

#### BOOK GROUP

**March 12th; 5:15 – 6:15 p.m.** (Meets the 2nd Monday of each month)

**What/Who:** The book group is open to new members at all times and is for anyone who loves to read. In March, the group will be discussing *A Girl Named Zippy: Growing up Small in Mooreland, Indiana* by Haven Kimmel.

For more information, contact Jane Du Bose at jdbuse@bellsouth.net or Carmen Gherman at cgherman@yahoo.com.

#### CREATIVE LIFE PLANNING GROUP

**March 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th; 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** (Meets every Tuesday)

**What/Who:** 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 Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center. For more information, call 322-4843.

#### DISSERTATION WRITERS GROUP

**March 12th and 26th; 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.** (Meets every other Monday)

**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. For more information, contact rory.dicker@vanderbilt.edu.

#### IMAGE GROUP

**March 22nd; 5:00 p.m.** (Meets every other Thursday)

**Who/What:** 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. Open to any students interested in these issues.

**Where:** Sarratt 110; Vanderbilt University

For more information, contact reagan.m.bush@vanderbilt.edu.

#### MAKING CONNECTIONS

**March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th; 5:45 – 6:45 p.m.** (Meets every Thursday)

**Who:** Free and open to anyone with an interest in these issues.

**What:** 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-Ingram and is completely confidential.

**Where:** The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center. For more information, contact pamelaingram@vanderbilt.edu or 615-343-3561.



#### MEN PROMOTING A SOLUTION (MPAS)

**March 12th and 26th; 8:00 p.m.** (Meets every other Monday.)

**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 Tim Lonergan (t.c.lonergan@vanderbilt.edu).



#### PEER EDUCATORS OF PROJECT SAFE

**March 14th, 21st and 28th; 7:00 p.m.** (Meets every Wednesday)

**Who/What:** Peer Educators are students trained to facilitate workshops that promote discussion and encourage understanding of violence against women.

**Where:** The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center; For more information, contact reagan.m.bush@vanderbilt.edu.

#### SISTAHS READING SISTAHS

This group is looking for one or more individuals to lead/coordinate the group. The group typically met on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

**What:** A book group for everyone interested in reading African-American women authors. The group is currently recruiting members for the group and needs one or two women to coordinate the group.

**Who:** This group is free and open to everyone!

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



#### SUPPORT GROUP

**What/Who:** 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 (VANDY FEMS)

**March 13th, 20th and 27th; 7:00 p.m.** (Meets every Tuesday.)

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

**Where:** The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center; For more information, contact sarah.c.dean@vanderbilt.edu or taylor.l.davis@vanderbilt.edu.

#### VANDY MOMS

**March 8th and 22nd; 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** (Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.)

**What/Who:** Vandy Moms is a fun support network that provides programming and advocacy for moms in the Vanderbilt and larger communities. Open to all mothers of any age, partnered or single. On March 13th, the Vandy Moms will host a film viewing and discussion of *The Motherhood Manifesto*. Please see page 6 for more details.

**Where:** The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center; For more information, contact misa.culley@vanderbilt.edu or call 343-4367.





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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](mailto:CynthiaNashNOW@aol.com) or 269-7141.

The next **Nashville CABLE** meeting will be March 14 (2nd Wednesday of each month) from 11:30am-1:00pm. For more information, contact [nashvillecable.org](http://nashvillecable.org)

As **Nashville CABLE** continues to support women in their attainment of professional excellence we are pleased to provide the CABLE scholarship to active CABLE members. The scholarship is designed to make continued membership available to CABLE members with limited financial resources. The scholarship committee will determine the one-time scholarship award based on (1) financial need and (2) recipient's participation in CABLE. The scholarship committee will meet and award scholarships quarterly. Applications must be received by the following dates for consideration: **April 1, July 1, and October 1, 2007**. All scholarship applications will be held in the strictest confidence. Applicants will be considered without regard to race, gender, religion, national origin, physical disability, or age. To apply, please mail your completed scholarship application, together with a cover letter, to Scholarship Committee, c/o CABLE, P.O. Box 23148, Nashville, TN 37203.

## RASAC "WALK IN THEIR SHOES"

Project Safe and Gender Matters are proud to collaborate with the Rape and Sexual Abuse Center for their annual "Walk in Their Shoes" event. RASAC works to help children and adults heal from the effects

of sexual abuse. They work through schools and community education towards prevention of sexual violence. The walk will be from the east side of Shelby Street Walking Bridge, into downtown Nashville, to the Rape and Sexual Abuse Center (RASAC) at 25 Lindsey Avenue and back for a 5K walk. The event will feature an inspiring program, with presentations from those affected by sexual abuse and those who dedicate their lives to healing and preventing violence. There will also be a display of the clothesline art project, music, refreshments and MUCH MORE! There will be t-shirts available to the first 300 to register. You can visit the RASAC website at: [www.rasac.org](http://www.rasac.org) for additional details about the walk or organization. To register for the walk, email either contact below for a registration form.

**Date: March 31, 2007**

**Time:** On-site registration begins at 8:15 a.m. Walkers should arrive early to pick up t-shirts and water. The walk begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. with a short program.

**Cost:** A \$10 donation per walker and a \$100 donation per team of 12 is requested. For more information (on campus), contact [stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu). For more information (from RASAC), contact [glenda.olson@rasac.org](mailto:glenda.olson@rasac.org).

## CommunityNashville presents...

**OurTown** is a multigenerational weekend retreat that helps to eliminate boundaries of and understand new perspectives on age, race, religion, culture, and gender. OurTown welcomes traditional and non-traditional families or groups of individuals and is open to people ages 14-104. Young people can bring their parents, who can bring their parents, too!

**Date: March 23-25, 2007**

For more info, contact Joyce Lavery at [jlavery@ncejmt.org](mailto:jlavery@ncejmt.org) or call (615) 327-1755. Space is limited. Sign up today!



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## Women's VU mailing list

*Women's VU is sent free, on request, to all Vanderbilt students and to faculty and staff at a campus address. Subscriptions are available to off-campus readers for a suggested donation of \$10 per year. Please include your check, payable to Vanderbilt University, with your subscription.*

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Mail to the Women's Center, Vanderbilt University, Box 351513 Station B, Nashville, TN 37235

## Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center

Vanderbilt University  
Box 351513, Station B  
2301 Vanderbilt Place  
Nashville, TN 37235

