

Women's VU

The monthly newsletter of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

October 2006, Volume 29, Issue 3

Marching Through the Darkness

Each year during the month of October, members of the Vanderbilt and Nashville communities gather together in the darkness to protest the fear that it brings forth for women. As women, we are supposed to be afraid of the night, for it promises harm to us. The night is a dangerous time for women out on the street or confined in their homes. It is for this reason that we

come together in October to give voice to the danger and the darkness. At the very core of a "Take Back the Night" march is hope for a

future without violence; it can be found in the voices chanting, in the stories that are shared, and in the movement forward...step by step. Yet in these steps we also retrace our past. We remember a time where women only dreamed of a community to walk with them into the night and we remember the women who made this dream a reality.

The term "Take Back the Night" came from the title of a 1977 memorial read by Anne Pride at an anti-violence rally in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The first known "Take Back the Night" march in the United States was organized in San Francisco, California on November 4, 1977, by Women Against Violence in Pornography and Media. These women marched through the red-light district of San Francisco in protest of rape, pornography, and the sexualized subordination of women. Susan

Brownmiller, a radical feminist journalist recalls the night: "Saturday evening culminated in a candlelit "Take Back the Night" march (the first of its kind) through the porn district, kicked off by an exhortation by Andrea Dworkin...Her call to action accomplished, three thousand demonstrators took to the streets, snaking past Broadway's neon peeps, "adult"

The fear of such violence is found in our hurried steps across campus at dusk, in the seclusion of our dorm rooms and homes, in our plea for the light to hold until we make it to our car, always readying ourselves for an encounter that the world tells us is inevitable.

bookstores, and garish massage parlors while Holly Near sang from an amplified truck and local artists

waved through the line bobbing effigies of madonnas and whores" (Brownmiller, *In Our Time: Memoir of a Revolution*, 1999). From this first march a "Take Back the Night" movement was born and marches and protests sprang up across the country, in red-light districts, downtown streets, and on college campuses. In 1979, 200 women marched in New Haven, Connecticut. While prostitutes lined the streets, women in old age homes came out on balconies with lit candles. In Old Dominion, Virginia, "blacks and whites, women and men, gays and straights," in the hundreds marched together on a night in 1988. In this Southern conservative stronghold, hundreds marched for fourteen miles, "as if they didn't want to miss a footpath, under threat of losing their jobs and with the threat of police violence" (Andrea Dworkin, 1979). In 1993, women in Calgary, Canada were arrested



for demonstrating without a permit, "the irony that a march is the safest way (arrests notwithstanding) for women to go out at night was lost on the police, but not on the women" (Dworkin, 1979). Back in the United States, two thousand women marching in Los Angeles, California were attacked by men in cars.

On an October night in 1999, women and men gathered for the first "Take Back the Night" march on the Vanderbilt campus. We have marched every year since, raising our voices to protest the violence against women that occurs on our own campus and in our own community. Many people, women and men alike, believe that Vanderbilt is a safe haven where violence against women never occurs. They think the incidents of violence are

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

Marching Through the Darkness

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rare and always committed by a stranger from off-campus. The unfortunate truth is very different. Last year alone, Project Safe received fifty-three reports of violence against women on campus. All but four of these reports represent violence committed by members of our own community. Even more distressing, we recognize that many women experience violence that they never report to Project Safe or anyone. We march at Vanderbilt to show that violence against women does occur on this campus and to speak out against its existence in our community. Women are often told to be extra careful and take certain precautions when going out at night. In some parts of the world, even today, women are not allowed out at night. We tell women to be careful, in fact, we almost always focus on women's behavior. We ask women to avoid men who are going to assault them, as if these men wear a sign and announce their intentions. We ask women to stay in their homes at night because danger is found in dark alleys and on downtown streets, yet the majority of women are assaulted in their homes, some in broad daylight. We ask women to restrict their freedom, minimize their presence, avoid the night at all cost. But women need their freedom and this begins with freedom of movement, which we have not had and do not have now. So, we will keep marching at Vanderbilt because violence against women continues to play a role in our lives. The fear of such violence is found in our hurried steps across campus at dusk, in the seclusion of our dorm rooms and homes, in our plea for the light to hold until we make it to our cars, always

readying ourselves for an encounter that the world tells us is inevitable. The night provides a cover for perpetrators. The night tells us as women to exercise caution in simply existing, to walk courageously, to think faster, to scream louder, forcing us to be responsible for that over which we have no control. Thus, as resistance, as revolution, as response we march to say "Enough." But as the radical feminist writer Andrea Dworkin said in the first "Take Back the Night" speech ever delivered, "it is not enough to cry 'enough.' We must use our bodies to say 'Enough'—we must form a barricade with our bodies, but the barricade must move as the ocean moves and be formidable as the ocean is formidable" (Dworkin, 1979). It is not enough to tell women to be careful; it is enough to work for, to expect, to crave a culture in which perpetrators are held accountable, victims are not blamed, and maybe violence even ceases to exist. By marching together to "Take back the Night" at Vanderbilt we are inviting you to envision a world where darkness does not provoke fear and threaten harm to women. Thus, we extend this invitation once again and hope that you will join us on October 23 to honor the past and march toward the future. As Dworkin exclaimed on November 4, 1977, "we must use our collective strength and passion and endurance to take back this night and every night so that life will be worth living and so that human dignity will be a reality. What we do here tonight is that simple, that difficult, that important" (Dworkin, 1979). I couldn't say it any better. I hope to see you there!

Kacy Silverstein is associate director of Project Safe.

Did you know?...

According to Women's Voices. Women Vote (www.wvvv.org), State and Federal policies have a huge impact on the issues we care about, such as equal pay, healthcare, financial security and equal opportunity education.

"Fifteen million unmarried women were not registered to vote in 2004, and nearly 20 million unmarried women did not cast ballots on Election Day. If unmarried women voted at the same rate as married women, over six million more voters would have gone to the polls in 2004."

Do your civic duty...please VOTE.

For more information on voter registration, please refer to your state government's website or www.wvvv.org

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

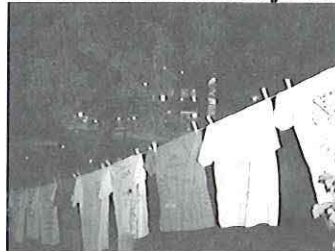
October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October 2 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, contact reagan.m.bush@vanderbilt.edu

October 17 Clothesline Project

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



October 19-26 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, contact kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu

October 23 These Hands Don't Hurt

A display where individuals can paint or trace their hands on a large canvas to signify a commitment to not participating in any act of violence against women. For more information, contact t.c.lonergan@vanderbilt.edu

October 23 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. See page 5 for more details. For more information contact vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu or kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu.

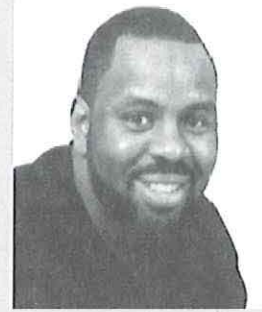
October 24 Byron Hurt: Beyond Beats & Rhymes

A riveting documentary that examines manhood, sexism and homophobia in hip-hop culture. It features highly revealing interviews with famous rappers. Viewing and discussion with producer Byron Hurt, Wilson 103; 7:00 pm. For more information, contact vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu



Project Safe Presents

Beyond Beats and Rhymes



Tuesday, October 24th
7 pm Furman 114

Selected for the 2006 Sundance Film Festival, *Beyond Beats and Rhymes* examines representations of manhood, sexism and homophobia in hip hop culture. Conceived as a "loving critique" of certain disturbing developments in mainstream rap music culture from a long-time hip hop head, *Beyond Beats and Rhymes* features highly revealing interviews with famous rappers such as Fat Joe, Chuck D, Jadakiss and Busta Rhymes, along with cultural commentary from Michael Eric Dyson, Beverly Guy-Sheftall, Kevin Powell, and Sarah Jones. The film also features on-the-street interviews with aspiring rappers, as well as interviews with young women at Spelman College and hip-hop events.

"It's up to us as consumers to challenge some of the representations of masculinity that we see in American culture. I don't buy into this idea that a man is supposed to be violent or sexist or homophobic."

About Byron Hurt

A graduate of Northeastern University in Boston, MA, Hurt is co-founder and the Associate Director of the U.S. Marine Corps Gender Violence Prevention Program and co-creator of the Mentors in Violence Prevention Program at Northeastern, the first large-scale attempt to enlist collegiate and professional athletes in the fight against rape and violence against women. Byron Hurt is creator and producer of *I AM A MAN: Black Masculinity in America* and *Beyond Beats and Rhymes*.

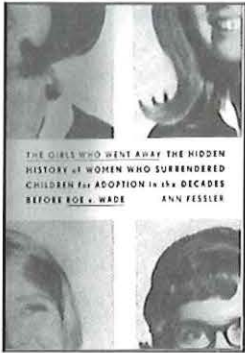
Please join Project Safe in welcoming Byron Hurt to our community. For more information or questions about the program, please contact vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu or call 322-1333.

Just Added!

Project Safe will offer another Hand in Hand training this fall:
November 3-5, 2006

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 kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu

The Girls Who Went Away; Redesigning Women



Between the end of World War II and the passing of *Roe v. Wade* in 1973, about 1.5 million babies were given up for adoption in the United States. Little has been written about the birth mothers of these children. *The Girls Who Went Away: The Hidden History of Women Who Surrendered Children for Adoption in the Decades Before Roe v. Wade* (Penguin, 2006) is a fascinating volume by Ann Fessler, an adoptee

who did not meet her birth mother until she was 55 and had done most of the research for this book.

During the 1950s and 1960s premarital sex became more common and more acceptable. However, getting pregnant was not acceptable and contraceptives were not readily available to single people. Abortion was illegal and expensive. Single women who became pregnant usually had two options—a hasty marriage followed by a “premature” baby or a trip out of town for some months. The latter typically involved a stay at a maternity home in a distant city followed by a lonely childbirth and the surrender of the infant for adoption. The absence was normally explained as an illness or a trip to care for an ailing relative but people usually guessed the true reason.

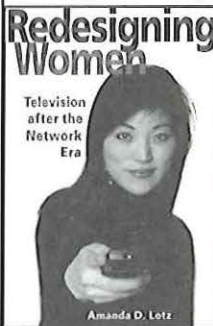
Young single women, even those in their twenties, were pressured by their families, social workers and clergy to put up their babies for adoption and really had no choice in the matter. The messages they received from all sides stressed that they and their families would be disgraced if they had an “illegitimate” child and that it was impossible for an unmarried girl or woman to give a baby a good life. The child would be much better off with two parents who were married. There was little or no stigma attached to fathering these children; only the mothers were blamed for the pregnancy and considered to bring shame to their families.

Because of the embarrassment and secrecy surrounding the births and adoptions, many birth mothers had never talked to anyone, not even their spouses, about their experiences. Often husbands and other children did not even know about the surrendered baby. Fessler, a professor of photography at Rhode Island School of Design rather than a sociologist, interviewed over 100 birth mothers for this volume and includes many disturbing selections from their accounts. There were many similarities in their experiences though the mothers were from different areas and eras.

In the maternity homes girls and women did chores and the younger ones continued their education. They received little emotional support and no information about childbirth. Most were driven to the hospital and left there to labor alone. Many were completely ignorant about what to expect during childbirth and they were segregated from the married mothers. Doctors and nurses often treated the single mothers with scorn rather

than compassion. Some of the single women were allowed to hold or visit their newborns but others were not. Virtually all gave up their infants with great reluctance. Not infrequently they were given exaggerated information about the adoptive parents to make them feel that their babies would be so much better off with those families.

The young women were assured that they would be able to forget that they ever had a child, go on with their lives, and marry and have other children. However, this was never the case. All their lives the mothers regretted not that they had borne a child, but that they had agreed to surrender the infant. “None of the mothers I interviewed was able to forget. Rather, they describe the surrender of their child as the most significant and defining event of their lives.” Most birth mothers had not spoken to any other women in their situation and did not realize that their feelings were normal. About half of the birth mothers interviewed had made contact with their children.



Recent years have seen a great increase in the numbers of television shows aimed at women. Many of these programs appear on cable networks, some of which were established for a largely female audience. In *Redesigning Women: Television after the Network Era* (University of Illinois Press, 2006) Amanda D. Lotz examines many shows that aired from the 1970s to the present, and illustrates how the programs show the changing roles of women, demonstrate

the increasing importance of women as consumers, and to some extent reflect feminist ideas. The writer, an assistant professor of communication at the University of Michigan, focuses on the female-centered dramatic series of the past ten years, since cable television began attracting a large percentage of viewers and airing greater numbers of programs for female audiences.

Lotz remarks that, while there may be more shows with strong female characters and a greater variety in the programming aimed at women, the “circulation of a multiplicity of stories about women does not categorically suggest a more feminist environment.” As advertisers are the driving force behind commercial television the aim is to draw the female viewers likely to purchase whichever products are being promoted. Multiple factors have led to the proliferation of programs aimed at smaller segments of the viewing public, for example, upscale young white women. Focusing on small segments of viewers is known as narrowcasting, and it is assumed that a large percentage of such consumers are potential purchasers of the products being advertised. The growing trend toward narrowcasting will further change many aspects of the television industry, including programming aimed at female viewers.

In the Library




Barbara Clarke
Women's Center

October 2006

denotes Project Safe
programming



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm Peer Ed, 7pm	4 Vandy Fems, 5-6pm	5 Making Connections 5:45pm-6:45pm	6 Women in Academe Series: Being a Woman TA, 12:10-1:30pm	7 Walk As One Registration 8am, Walk at 9am Centennial Park
8	9 Book Group, 5:15pm-6:15pm MPAS 8pm, Sarratt 114	10 Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm Peer Ed, 7pm	11 Sistahs Reading Sistahs, 12:30pm-1:30pm Vandy Fems, 5-6pm	12 Vandy Moms: 11:30am-12:30pm IMAGE group 4pm-5:30pm Making Connections 5:45pm-6:45pm	13	14
15	16	17 Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm Peer Ed, 7pm	18 Love Your Body Day , Join Vandy Fems on the Wall Vandy Fems, 5-6pm	19 Making Connections 5:45pm-6:45pm	20	21
22	23 <i>3rd Annual Economic Summit for Women/all day</i>  Take Back the Night! 7:15pm Olin Field MPAS 8pm, Sarratt 114	24 Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm <i>Beyond Beats and Rhymes</i> Film screen- ing, 7pm Peer Ed, 7pm	25 Wellness Bash Rec Center Vandy Fems, 5-6pm	26 Vandy Moms: 11:30am-12:30pm IMAGE group 4pm-5:30pm Making Connections 5:45pm-6:45pm	27	28 HERS' 25th Hysterectomy Conference 8:30am-6pm
29	30	31 Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm Peer Ed, 7pm	For details and descriptions of each group, please refer to page 6. 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.			

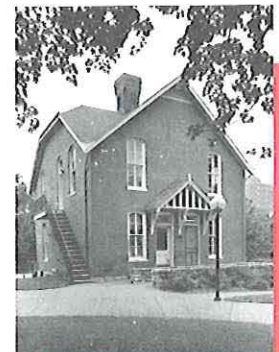
Take Back the Night! Oct. 23



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 performances, information and a keynote speaker. The keynote will be given by **Byron Hurt**, acclaimed director and producer of *Beyond Beats and Rhymes: A Hip Hop Head Weighs in on Manhood in Hip Hop Culture*.

Date: October 23, 2006; 7:15 p.m.

Location: Walk will originate at Olin Field on campus and end at Centennial Park. For more information contact vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu or kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu.



October 2006 Calendar of Events

EVENTS, SERIES AND COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Women in Academe Series: October 6

Being a Woman TA: Issues of Identity and Authority

This workshop will explore the overarching questions from female graduate students... *What does it mean to be a woman TA? Issues that will be addressed include authority in the classroom and how others' perceptions of you influence your sense of self and how you teach.* Speakers include Linda Manning, Director of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center and Susan Schoenbohm, Program Coordinator for the Center for Ethics. 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 Vanderbilt Career Center, and the BRET Office of Career Development, 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: Friday, October 6; 12:10 – 1:30pm

Location: Sarratt 363

For more information, please contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu. RSVPs are appreciated, but not required.



Walk as One: October 7th

An event sponsored by 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 Margaret Cuninggim 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. As an added bonus, the walk immediately precedes the kick off of the *Celebration of Cultures* sponsored by Scarritt Bennett and Metro Parks. You can walk as an individual or as a team.

Date: October 7

Registration opens at 8am; the walk begins at 9am

Location: Centennial Park

To register a team or individual or for more information about the event, please visit www.nccjmt.org. On campus, you can contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu.

Love Your Body Day: October 18th

Do you love what you see when you look in the mirror? Hollywood and the fashion, cosmetics and diet industries work hard to make each of us believe that our bodies are unacceptable and need constant improvement. Print ads and television commercials reduce us to body parts—lips, legs, breasts—airbrushed and touched up to meet impossible standards. TV shows tell women and teenage girls that cosmetic surgery is good for self-esteem. Is it any wonder that 80% of U.S. women are dissatisfied with their appearance? Women and girls spend billions of dollars every year on cosmetics, fashion, magazines and diet aids. These industries can't use negative images to sell their products without our assistance. Together, we can fight back. Love Your Body Day 2006 is October 18th. Come visit the Vandy Fems and IMAGE on the Wall at Rand that day to learn more and help us celebrate!

Date: October 18

Location: Pick up information from the Vandy Fems on the Wall at Rand.

For more information contact sarah.c.dean@vanderbilt.edu or taylor.l.davis@vanderbilt.edu with the Vandy Fems or reagan.m.bush@vanderbilt.edu. For more information about the national "Love Your Body Day" event, visit the website: <http://loveyourbody.nowfoundation.org/>.

Wellness Bash: October 25th

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 Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center. There are also lots of giveaways from local companies. Representatives of the Vandy Fems will have a booth with information about women's health. We hope you will stop by and visit the booth.

Date: October 25

Location: Student Recreation 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

HERS' 25th Hysterectomy Conference: October 28th

Medical and legal experts will discuss alternatives to hysterectomy and coping with the adverse effects of surgical removal of the female organs. The conference will be led by HERS' President Nora W. Coffey and keynote speaker Robin Fretwell Wilson, professor of health care law and bioethics at the University of Maryland School of Law. The Vandy Fems are proudly collaborating on this conference.

Date: Saturday, October 28th, 8:30am–6pm

Location: Doubletree Hotel, 314 4th Avenue North, Downtown Nashville

For more information call 610-667-7757 or go to www.hersfoundation.org.

3rd Annual Economic Summit for Women: October 23rd

An event of the Tennessee Economic Council for Women and the Tennessee Economic Council Foundation to explore the economic status of women in a variety of areas, create dialogue around those issues and work toward 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 teens 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: *Helen Thomas, Karenna Gore Schiff, Gov. Phil Bredesen, First Lady of TN Andrea Conte* and many more.

Date: October 23; 7:30am—5:30pm

Location: Marriott Nashville Airport Hotel

Cost: Depends on what parts you attend; student tickets are \$30. Other tickets range from \$40 to \$80. (Please see the announcements section to see how to volunteer for the summit and receive a reduced ticket price for the event.)

For information on the summit, scholarships, costs and registration go to www.tnwomensmmit.org. The Margaret Cuninggim 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.

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OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

REGULAR GROUPS/MEETINGS

(groups listed alphabetically)

Book Group

October 9th, 5:15pm–6:15pm (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. This month the group is discussing *Evidence of Things Unseen* by Marianne Wiggins. For more information, please contact Jane Du Bose at jdubose@bellsouth.net or Carmen Gherman at cggherman@yahoo.com.

Creative Life Planning Group

Tuesdays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; 11:30am–1:00pm (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

Will resume meeting once a week in January.
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.
For more information contact rory.dicker@vanderbilt.edu

IMAGE Group

October 12 and 26, 4:00–5:30pm (Meets every other Thursday)
Who: Free and open to any students interested in these issues.
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.
Where: Sarratt 110
For more information contact reagan.m.bush@vanderbilt.edu.

Making Connections

October 5, 12, 19, 26th; 5:45–6:45 pm (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 pamela.ingram@vanderbilt.edu or 615.343.3561.

Men Promoting a Solution

Every other Monday, Oct. 9 and 23, 8pm, Sarratt 114
Who: A group of men dedicated to creating awareness about violent crimes against women and eliminating those crimes through social change. For more information, contact Tim Lonergan (t.c.lonergan@vanderbilt.edu)

Peer Educators of Project Safe

Tuesday evenings at 7pm, at the Women's Center
Peer Educators are students trained to facilitate workshops that promote discussion and encourage understanding of violence against women. For more information, contact reagan.m.bush@vanderbilt.edu

Sistahs Reading Sistahs

Wednesday, October 4th; 12:30pm–1:30pm (Meets the 1st Wednesday)
What: A book group for everyone interested in reading African-American women authors.
Who: This group is free and open to everyone!
Where: The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center
For more info, please contact regina.snell@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, please contact kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu or 322-1333.

Vanderbilt Feminists (Vandy Fems)

Wednesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25th from 5–6pm (Meets every Wednesday)
Where: The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center
Who: Open to all students of any gender.
What: A student group concerned about women's issues on campus, and promoting equality between genders. To get more information contact sarah.c.dean@vanderbilt.edu or taylor.l.davis@vanderbilt.edu.

Vandy Moms

October 12 and 26, 11:30am–12:30pm (Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month)
What/Who: 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.
RSVPs are appreciated, but not required. For more information, contact misa.culley@vanderbilt.edu or call 343-4367.

Vanderbilt Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are needed for Project Safe's Take Back the Night event on October 23rd. 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.

Community Volunteer Opportunities

The 3rd Annual Economic Summit for Women needs volunteers to help with greeting, registration and more at the event during the day on October 23rd. Volunteers are able to attend the summit at a lower discounted price of \$30 (regular price is \$80) which includes continental breakfast, lunch, 2 breaks and summit conference. This conference is featuring great workshops and is also hosting Helen Thomas and Karenna Gore Schiff. To find out more about volunteering or to sign up as a volunteer, contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu. For more information about the summit, visit www.tnwomensummit.org. Make October 23rd a day devoted to supporting women by coming to the economic summit during the day and Take Back the Night at Vandy that evening.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NASHVILLE NOW (NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN) meets the 4th Monday of the month, October 23, at the Nashville Peace and Justice Center behind Scarritt Bennett at 7pm. This meeting is open to members, friends and those seeking more information. For more information, contact CynthiaNashNOW@aol.com or 269-7141.

NASHVILLE CABLE

In October CABLE continues its 2006 Super Series for Leadership Development. The Super Series is a three-part leadership development series. The two remaining sessions are slated for October 12 and November 16. Our October 12 speaker will be *Marilyn Moats Kennedy*, founding partner of Career Strategies, a management consulting firm. Ms. Kennedy is the author of six books, including *Office Politics: Seizing Power/Wielding Clout*. A long-time *Glamour* magazine columnist, Ms. Kennedy has appeared on *20/20* and *Good Morning America*.

The cost for the series is \$150 for CABLE members and \$175 for non-members. For more information, please refer to their website, www.nashvillecable.org

RACE FOR THE CURE: NOVEMBER 4TH

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Race for the Cure® Series raises significant funds and awareness for the fight against breast cancer, celebrates breast cancer survivorship, and honors those who have lost their battle with the disease. With funds raised by the Komen Race for the Cure® Series, the Komen Foundation with its Affiliate

Network is able to fund breast cancer research grants, meritorious awards, and community outreach programs. Up to 75 percent of the net proceeds raised by the Greater Nashville Race for the Cure® stays in Middle Tennessee to fund outreach programs and initiatives that address the specific unmet breast health needs of our community, and a minimum of 25 percent of net proceeds raised supports the Komen Foundation Award and Research Grant Program. The Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center supports this event and the Vandy Fems organizes a team each year to participate. Save the date on your calendar. More details on times and locations are coming soon. For more info about the Nashville event, go to the website: www.komen-nashville.org/raceForTheCure.htm. For information about joining the Vandy Fems team, contact sarah.c.dean@vanderbilt.edu or taylor.l.davis@vanderbilt.edu.

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD WRITERS!

Have a great idea for an article? Need to get published? Submit your article to *Women's VU!* We are a monthly publication dedicated to feminist ideals and women's views. We publish articles on women's health, book reviews, politics, cultural and social issues, motherhood, gender matters and community news. For more info, please contact the editor, misa.culley@vanderbilt.edu or call 343-4367.



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