

PRESS RELEASE: Ferris State University Students Present The Vagina Monologues

Sandy C Gholston to: Archive

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Included below is a press release regarding a Ferris State University student presentation of the Vagina Monologues. Any questions regarding this press release can be directed to Sandy Gholston, interim assistant director of News Services. Additional information may be available via the link provided in the press release and on the Ferris Campus Calendar.

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Ferris State University Students Present The Vagina Monologues

BIG RAPIDS – As part of a global nonprofit activism effort to stop violence against girls and women, Ferris State University is set to present the Vagina Monologues on Friday, Feb. 18.

The event takes place in Williams Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$6 for students and \$10 for all others. Proceeds from the Vagina Monologues benefit the Women's Information Services, Inc. and Women and Girls of Haiti.

"Students respond quite positively to the event," said Kate Schwartz, student chair of Vagina Monologues at Ferris. "Most of the students go for the entertainment purpose, but in the end they come out thinking about life and their actions a little bit more."

Event organizers estimate more than 20 volunteers will participate in the V-Day playwright of Eve Ensler's interviews, including Teresa Cook, an assistant professor in the Accountancy, Finance and Information Systems Department and an advisor for the Vagina Monologues.

"It is my hope that the Vagina Monologues will raise awareness of the problem of domestic violence within the campus community and give a voice to those who might not otherwise have one," said Cook, who is scheduled to read a monologue. The monologues are true stories chosen from interviews of more than 200 women.

The Vagina Monologues is a thought-provoking campus event, according to organizers.

"It is a big eye opener that causes students to think twice about their actions ... actions that could lead to positive or negative experiences," Schwartz said.

Schwartz explained that a majority of the monologues are done in a comedic fashion, but added that other monologues have serious and/or educational purposes. Ferris V-Day organizers hope to revitalize existing anti-violence organizations and increase local awareness regarding issues

ranging from first-time sexual experiences to stories of rape.

"This is a good group of hard working students working to stop violence," said Allissa Witucki, assistant director of Student Leadership and Activities and an advisor of Vagina Monologues of the volunteers who have been practicing for about three months.

Last year's event raised more than \$5,000 for WISE, according to organizers.

For more information about the Vagina Monologues visit http://events.vday.org/2011/college/Ferris State University (TVM).

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