



PRESS RELEASE: Take Back the Night at Ferris Raises Awareness about Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence

Betsy L Musolf to: Archive

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Here is a press release about Take Back the Night events planned at Ferris State University to raise awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault issues. Any questions about this release can be directed to Sandy Gholston, News Services and Social Media Manager, at sandygholston@ferris.edu or (231) 591-2021.



Take Back the Night.doc

View the release online here: <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2013/april/take.htm>

For Immediate Release
April 9, 2013

Take Back the Night at Ferris Raises Awareness about Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University students are taking a stand against sexual assault and domestic violence by once again taking part in Take Back the Night, an international movement to raise awareness and support survivors.

The Social Work Association, a registered student organization on campus, has teamed up with several campus and community groups to offer events highlighted by “Our Little Secret,” a keynote presentation by author and speaker Nicole Braddock Bromley on Thursday, April 18 in Williams Auditorium.

Bromley is the founder and CEO of OneVoice Enterprises (<http://www.iamonevoice.org/>), a national organization that works to raise awareness of sexual abuse, rape, trafficking and other related issues, and to create a platform for prevention.

“Take Back the Night is held to bring awareness to our small community,” said Tracy Howard, a senior from Big Rapids majoring in Social Work and a member of the Social Work Association.

Bromley’s presentation, a 5-star campus event, will be preceded by the Take Back the Night march, which begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Interdisciplinary Resource Center connector. The march will continue north along State Street to Williams Auditorium for Bromley’s 7:30 p.m. presentation. A question-and-answer session will follow.

“The march is a nonviolent protest to bring awareness to the violence that takes place within our community,” Howard said.

Students also are invited to stop by the North Quad from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, April 15 through Wednesday, April 17 to create “These Hands Are Not for Hurting” banners and “The Clothesline Project” shirts with messages that create awareness and provide support.

The North Quad also will be the site for Open Mic Night from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday featuring students and Big Rapids community residents sharing poetry, music and information. On Wednesday, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., the North Quad will be transformed into a graveyard that represents people who have died from domestic violence or abuse. A candlelight vigil will be held at 7 p.m.

“Students should attend to support other students who have experienced these forms of abuse,” Howard said. “Students will get a chance to see how supporting each other is essential to our community’s health and our way to change, and also to support each other and to see that just because we are a small town does not mean that this does not affect our community.”

The Take Back the Night Foundation serves to create safe communities and respectful relationships through awareness events and initiatives. For additional information, visit <http://takebackthenight.org/>.

These events are free and open to the public.

For more information on events at Ferris, visit the University Events Calendar at <http://calendar.ferris.edu/> or email Howard at howardt7@ferris.edu.

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