

HerlandVoice

volume twenty-four number two

february • 2006

VDA VDAY DAY
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V-DAY IS COMING!
VDA VDAY DAY

a benefit production of Eve Ensler's

"The Vagina Monologues"

TWO PERFORMANCES ONLY!

Wednesday, February 8th, 2006 at 8:00 pm

Oklahoma Memorial Union, third floor Ballroom (OU campus)

Thursday, February 9th, 2006 at 8:00 pm

Meacham Auditorium, second floor,
Oklahoma Memorial Union (OU campus)

Admission: \$6.00

(proceeds to benefit The Women's Resource Center)

Sponsored by SWSS: The Society of Women Students and Supporters and The University of Oklahoma, Union Programming Board.

For more info contact Melanie Johnston at 405-579-8665. Tickets will be available at the Earth Natural Foods & Deli and Guestroom Records.

For more info about V-day see www.vday.org.

What is V-Day?

V-Day is a global movement to end violence against women and girls that raises funds and awareness through benefit productions of Playwright/ Founder Eve Ensler's award-winning play "The Vagina Monologues." In 2005, more than 2500 V-Day events took place in the U.S. and around the world. To date, V-Day has raised over \$30 million and educated millions about the issue of violence against women and the efforts to end it; crafted international educational, media and PSA campaigns; reopened shelters; funded safe houses in Kenya, South Dakota, Egypt and Iraq, and over 5000 community-based anti-violence programs. The 'V' in V-Day stands for Victory, Valentine and Vagina.

What is the College Campaign?

The V-Day College Campaign strives to empower women to find their collective voices and demand an end to the epidemic levels of violence and abuse on their campuses, in their communities and around the world. Through benefit productions of "The Vagina Monologues" on or around V-Day, they raise money and awareness to stop violence against women and girls. The proceeds from these events are donated directly to local organizations in the community that are working to stop this violence.

february 2006 events

PFLAG Tuesday Feb 7 Church
of the Open Arms 7 pm

*PFLAG Valentine's Dinner &
Dance Friday Feb 10* 7 pm
(see article)

*PFLAG Workshop & Movie
Saturday Feb 11* (see article)

*Herland Scrabble Game Sat-
urday Feb 11* 3 pm

*Peace House Non-Violence
Workshop Sunday Feb 12*
4 pm (see article)

*OGLPC Monthly Meeting
Monday Feb 13* Neighborhood
Alliance 1236 NW 36th 7 pm

*Brianna Lane and Julie Loyd
in concert Wednesday Feb
15* Blue Door 8 pm

*Herland Supper Club Satur-
day Feb 18* Incredible Pizza
6 pm

*Herland Board Meeting Sun-
day Feb 19* 4 pm

*Mary and Louise Tuesday
Feb 21* Galileo's 8:30 pm

*Mary and Louise Friday Feb
24* Full Circle Bookstore 7 pm

*Miss Brown to You Saturday
Feb 25* UCO Jazz Lab 8 pm

*Herland Video & Nachos
Night Saturday Feb 25* 7 pm

supper club

It's time to shake off those winter blues and have some fun! This month, the supper club is going to *Incredible Pizza*, located at 5833 NW Expressway. We will meet there at 6 pm on Saturday, Feb. 18 or meet at Herland at 5:30 pm if you would like to carpool. The all-you-can-eat buffet is \$7.50 a person and then there are lots of fun games to play. Be a kid again and join us for an evening of fun and games!

L word and nachos night

On Saturday, February 25th, 7 pm, we will watch the first two episodes of *the L word*,

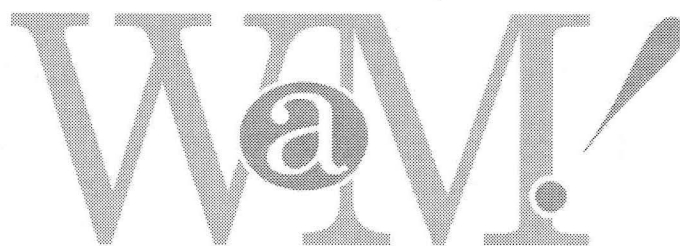
The logo for the TV show 'the L word' features the title in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter 'L' is significantly larger and bolder than the other letters, and it is white against a dark rectangular background.

Season 3. Some of us got hooked on this lesbian soap opera last year and can't wait to find out what happened to Tina and Bette and their new baby, Shane the cool one, Jenny the messed up one, Alice and Dana the tennis player, and Helena the rich manipulator.

We will have the basic fixings for nachos (chips, queso, and jalapeños); bring any other nacho toppings you might want. Join us for an evening of *real* melodrama!

scrabble games

Have you tried on-line Scrabble yet? Some of our regulars play multiple games on-line daily. (Maybe that's how they get so good!) Try your hand at thepixiepit.co.uk. But, if you would prefer to play in person (wouldn't everyone?) and share the company of some wonderful women, join us on *Saturday, February 11*, at 3 pm at Herland. We may or may not order pizza this time depending on the preference of those attending.

The logo for WAV (Women, Action & the Media) features the letters 'WAV' in a large, stylized, serif font. The letter 'a' is lowercase and enclosed in a circle. A microphone is integrated into the design, with its handle forming the right vertical stroke of the 'V' and its head pointing upwards.

women, action & the media

making noise, making change

2006

THE THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MARCH 31–APRIL 2, 2006 Cambridge, MA

For more details, visit: www.centerfornewwords.org

It's All About Love Valentine's Weekend

Brought to you by PFLAG-OKC & the Peace House
All events held at Church of the Open Arms
3131 N. Penn, 405-525-9555

Friday, Feb. 10: Dinner & Dance for singles and couples 7 pm

Dinner catered by Ingrid's, live entertainment, a love song singalong and dancing. Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased by Feb. 8th. Call 525-9555 for tickets or go by Church of the Open Arms.

Saturday, Feb. 11: Romancing Yourself Workshop 1—3 pm

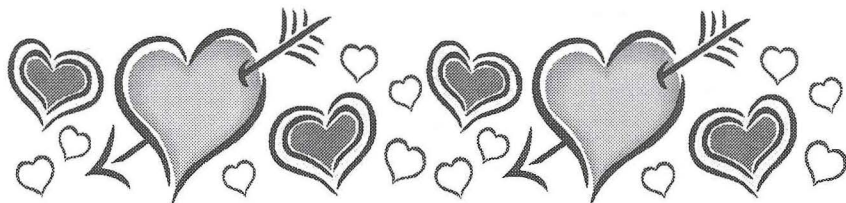
You can't love someone else till you love yourself. This workshop, led by Rev. Kathy McCallie, is about what it means to love yourself in a healthy way. Donations accepted.

"Fish Can't Fly" Movie and Discussion 6—8:30 pm

This documentary explores the lives of gay men and women of faith as they examine their journeys to harmonizing their sexuality and spirituality. The subjects of the film participated in "ex-gay" ministries and found that they did not provide a "cure" ... the answers seemed to come from within. Snack and discussion to follow. Donations accepted.

Sunday, Feb. 12: Non-Violence Workshop 4—6 pm

Thea Nietfeld, trained in the Pace e Bene tradition of non-violence will lead this exploration into the seeds of violence and learning to be more peaceful and loving people. Donations accepted.



thank you for your gift!

Name

Street.....

City State Zip

Your contribution is important! Just \$15 a year will help us pay for the \$350+ that it costs every month to print and mail the newsletter. Herland is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. Your contribution is deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Enclosed is a contribution for \$

Please add me to the mailing list for The Voice.

Please change my address (new address above).

Please mail to: Herland, 2312 NW 39th, OKC, OK 73112.

12 MUSES

GET INSPIRED!

12 Muses was founded to provide intimate educational cruises and tours for open-minded women. Explore the sights, sounds, flavors and aromas of the world, accompanied by distinguished lecturers.

Travel on land, and sea, confident that the only time orientation is an issue is when it concerns the ship's compass heading. 12 Muses emphasizes meaningful exploration, good food, and good conversation, to help the adventurous woman return home revitalized and refocused, ready to take a fresh look at familiar places and old habits, inspired to change things or love them more, just the way they are.

The September 2006 trip to Central Europe will feature muse Lillian Faderman, author of *Surpassing the Love of Men: Romantic Friendship and Love between Women from the Renaissance to the Present* and *Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers: A History of Lesbian Life in Twentieth Century America*. Lillian Faderman and her partner, Dr. Phyllis Irwin, founded one of the first women's studies programs in the U.S. at Cal State Fresno in 1971. For more information, see www.12muses.com.

lapd sponsors gay games vii

When the competition commences at the Seventh Gay Games in Chicago this July, officers of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) in uniform will be marching with the assembled athletes opening the *GAY GAMES VII SPORTS AND CULTURAL FESTIVAL*. The games run July 15-22, 2006 and sponsorship by the LAPD marks a first for any major metropolitan police force.

While in Chicago for the games, the LAPD Recruitment Unit will be talking to interested persons about joining the force. With efforts such as this, the LAPD hopes to continue and increase its commitment to diversity within its ranks. For more information about the LAPD, visit joinlapd.com or call the recruitment section at 866-444-LAPD.

The Voice is published monthly by Herland Sister Resources, Inc. 2312 NW 39th, Oklahoma City, OK 73112. The Voice is offered as an open forum for community discourse. Articles reflect the opinions of the author and not necessarily those of Herland Sister Resources. Unsolicited articles and letters to the editor are welcomed and must be signed by the writer with full name and address. Upon request, letters or articles may be printed under a pseudonym or anonymously. Herland reserves the right to edit or not publish any article. Subscriptions to The Voice are free upon request although a donation is requested to meet publication and distribution costs.

herland annual financial report

Herland Sister Resources, Inc.	
Annual Financial Statement (1/1/05 to 12/31/05)	
INCOME	
Events	\$1,043
Fundraisers	\$1,916
General Donations	\$4,088
Grants	\$1,000
Newsletter Donations	\$674
Newsletter Sponsors	\$555
Retreats	\$4,775
Sales	\$1,195
Sales Tax Collected	\$40
Miscellaneous	\$233
Total Income	\$15,519
EXPENSE	
Bank Charges	\$127
Building Maintenance	\$1,619
Community Support	\$90
Event Expenses	\$535
Fundraising	\$850
Insurance	\$1,737
Merchandise for Resale	\$733
Newsletter Postage & Print	\$4,303
Other Postage & Printing	\$150
Retreat Expenses	\$2,339
Sales Tax	\$57
Telephone	\$618
Utilities	\$1,288
Miscellaneous	\$121
Total Expenses	\$14,567

website of the month

www.nbjcoalition.org

meeting of minds in atlanta

Leslie Fulbright, *San Francisco Chronicle*

A landmark meeting of African American clergy and members of the gay and lesbian community that began January 19, 2005 in Atlanta is the keystone of an effort to promote the acceptance of gays in black churches. The Rev. Al Sharpton from New York and Bishop Yvette Flunder of San Francisco's City of Refuge United Church of Christ in the South of Market area are headlining the Black Church Summit organized by the National Black Justice Coalition.

The gathering, at the First Iconium Baptist Church near downtown Atlanta, will feature films, discussions on acceptance and a look at how homophobia in churches is promoting the "down-low" phenomenon – men having sex with other men while maintaining a heterosexual identity.

"The summit will let us have an open, honest and mobilized way to say to black ministers that we have to start talking about gay people in their churches," said Mandy Carter, a lesbian activist in North Carolina who plans to attend. "This is the first time we have high-profile people having this conversation."

The involvement of well-known black politicians and church leaders has given new inspiration to the National Black Justice Coalition, the country's largest black gay civil rights group. The Washington coalition, which has been trying to promote just this kind of dialogue for years, says the summit is especially important because of the large number of black clergy across the country who support bans on same-sex marriage.

The church plays more than a religious role in most black communities, serving as a social gathering place and often dictating the politics of its parishioners. Activists say anti-gay sentiment grew in 2004 because white conservative Christian groups rallied black ministers against gay marriage. Many believe this bond between white evangelicals and black pastors helped President Bush get 11 percent of the African American vote that year.

"The Karl Roves of the world wrote an agenda on how to mobilize the African American vote, and part of that was to suggest the vote against same-gender marriage," Flunder said, referring to Bush's top political adviser. Flunder is one of a handful of Bay Area black clergy who support same-sex marriage.

Though the NAACP has vocally supported gay rights, the group has not taken a stand on same-sex marriage. Executive Chairman Julian Bond has, however, compared opposition to same-sex marriage to bans on interracial marriage.

Sharpton, who has been politically active in New York for decades, became involved in the debate over the acceptance of gays and lesbians in black churches during his most recent run for president. He openly supported same-sex marriage, and then in August, he announced plans for an educational initiative to challenge homophobia in churches. In addition to participating in discussions like this one, Sharpton plans to make public-service announcements and talk in schools.

For details on the summit, visit www.nbjcoalition.org.

africa's first female head of state

Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf was sworn in last month as Liberia's freely elected president and Africa's first female head of state. Ms. Johnson-Sirleaf, a Harvard graduate, promises Liberians "a fundamental break with the past." Liberians have suffered from a quarter century of coups, dictatorships, and a 14-year civil war. She promised to tackle the national debt, fight rampant corruption, and empower Liberian women in all aspects of life.

chile's first female president

Pediatrician Michelle Bachelet, a former political prisoner, won Chile's presidential election to become the country's first female leader. Ms. Bachelet, who won 53% of the vote to beat her opponent, a multi-millionaire businessman, has served as health minister and then defense minister to the current president.

The 54-year-old Ms. Bachelet is the third woman to be directly elected president of a Latin American country, following Violeta Chamorro of Nicaragua and Mireya Moscoso of Panama.

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Sandy Ingraham, J.D., M.S.W.
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Route 2, Box 369-B
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Tel. (405) 964-2072
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