Check out the variety of events happening during Women’s History Month this year at Northern Illinois University. All events are open to the public and (unless otherwise noted) are free. Sign language interpreters will be provided upon request; call (815) 753-6515 (one week's notice is preferred). For further information, call the Center for the Study of Women, Gender & Sexuality at (815) 753-1038 or email wgs@niu.edu.

March 1-31
#ThankanNIUWoman~ All Month
The Gender & Sexuality Resource Center is looking for your story of thanks. We want to hear how an NIU woman influenced and empowered you on your educational journey and professional development. Each week, we will celebrate an NIU Woman (past or present) by sharing her story and legacy at NIU and beyond. If you have the name of someone who deserves this recognition, along with your story of thanks, please send a photo and a short bio to GSRC@niu.edu. In addition, there will be a #ThankanNIUWoman social media campaign to alert the world to the great women of NIU. #ThankanNIUWoman buttons will be made available for you to pay it forward and say thanks across campus. Our staff will be stationed around campus on every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday to provide these buttons for free beginning March 1st between 10am – 11:30am. Huskies, prepare to say thank you to an NIU Woman throughout the month of March! Sponsor: Gender & Sexuality Resource Center

Tuesday, March 1
“This is What a Feminist Looks Like!” Sticker Day ~ All day ~ Everywhere
Join us for our 12th annual celebration of “This is What a Feminist Looks Like!” Sticker Day! This event aims to break damaging stereotypes that cast all feminists as female, white, middle-class, or politically radical, and to open up the definitions of the word “feminist” to more complicated meanings. Stop by Room 103 in Reavis Hall to pick up a free sticker and wear it with pride. Buttons are also available for $1.

Black Girlhood in the Age of #SayHerName ~ 2 p.m. ~ Reavis 103
Dr. Marcia Chatelain’s seminar will focus on the struggle to have girls and young women of color recognized as vital parts of the current conversations about policing and communities. By taking a long view of how girls and young women have struggled with excessive policing and abuse, this seminar will consider the revolutionary possibilities of saying her name. Dr. Chatelain is an assistant professor of History Georgetown University. She is the creator of the #FergusonSyllabus hashtag and author of South Side Girls: Growing Up in the Great Migration (Duke UP, 2015). Sponsors: Center for the Study of Women, Gender & Sexuality, Graduate Colloquium Committee, and Department of History.

Gender and #BlackLivesMatter: Lessons Learned from a History of Struggle ~ 6 p.m. ~ LaTourette Hall, Room 200
Dr. Marcia Chatelain’s lecture will examine the ways that black freedom struggles from the 1950s to the present have ignored the fundamental importance of gender to every aspect of social movements, from leadership to strategy. This talk will highlight the ways that #BlackLivesMatter is articulating a new vision of racial and economic justice that practices and models gendered consciousness. Sponsors: Center for the Study of Women, Gender & Sexuality, Graduate Colloquium Committee, and Department of History.

Thursday, March 10
What’s HerStory ~ 11:30 a.m. ~ Gender & Sexuality Resource Center (corner of Normal Rd. & Lincoln Hwy.)
In celebration of Women's History Month and voices of all women, join the Gender & Sexuality Resource Center in a discussion of HerStory, a web series by Jen Richards. Special Guest Dr. Z Nicolazzo will share insights and invite participants to reflect on topics of women and dating across spectrums of gender and sexuality. If you have questions and/or need accommodations, contact the Gender & Sexuality Resource Center at 815-753-GSRC (4772) or gsrc@niu.edu. Sponsor: Gender & Sexuality Resource Center

Friday, March 11
Conference for Young Women
8 a.m.-2:45 p.m., Gable Hall, Learning Center North
The NIU Conference for Young Women introduces high school women to the academic side of college life; inspires them to transform their dreams of going to college into reality; and provides opportunities to interact with successful women faculty, professionals, NIU students and alums. For more information and/or to register, visit http://niu.edu/wgs/news/ConferenceForYoungWomen.shtml. (OVER)

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Saturday, March 12
STEM Divas: Music ~ 9 a.m.-1:00 p.m. ~ Swen Parson, Room 146 (Registration required)
Our STEM Divas program unleashes beautiful minds by introducing younger girls to positive female STEM role models, through engaging projects that relate to their own lives and interests. In this session, our Divas will explore the world of music and song as they learn how instruments create sounds, and how those sounds work together to create music. Divas will then use what they’ve learned to create their very own simple musical instruments. Suggested Ages: 7 and up. Price: $42. Visit http://www.niu.edu/stem/programs/divas.shtml to register.

Tuesday, March 22
Meet & Greet with Julia Alvarez! ~ 10:30-11:30 a.m. ~ Latino Center (515 Garden Rd.)
Author Julia Alvarez will be at the Latino Resource Center to greet students, staff and faculty. Julia Alvarez was born in New York and raised in the Dominican Republic. She is a poet, fiction writer and essayist, author of world-renowned books in each of the genres, including "How the Garcia Girls Lost their Accents", "In the Time of the Butterflies" and "Something to Declare." Sponsor: Latino Resource Center, with support from the NIU Library and DeKalb Public Library, which received funding from the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

Keynote Talk by Julia Alvarez
6:30 p.m., DeKalb Public Library (309 Oak St., DeKalb, IL)
What a better way to end Big Read month than to hear from the author of "In the Time of the Butterflies", Julia Alvarez! Join us for a very special evening with Ms. Alvarez as she talks about her experiences and research involved in writing this hauntingly beautiful novel. There will be time for Q&As after the presentation. Free copies of the Big Read book will be distributed. This event is free and open to the entire community. CLICK HERE to check out other Big Read events. Sponsors: National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest, and DeKalb Public Library.

Wednesday, March 30
Harvesting Honey: Oral histories of black southern women who love women ~ 12 p.m. ~ Holmes Student Center, Heritage Room
Dr. E. Patrick Johnson’s lecture will address his ongoing ethnographic work with Southern black lesbians, including a discussion of the challenges to conducting oral histories of black lesbians based not only on gender differences between his subjects and himself, but also the content of their stories. Dr. Johnson is the Carols Montezuma Professor of Performance Studies & African American Studies at Northwestern University, and the author of Sweet Tea: Black Gay Men of the South—An Oral History (Univ. of North Carolina Press, 2008), which was a Stonewall Book Award Honor Book. Sponsors: Center for the Study of Women, Gender & Sexuality and Graduate Colloquium Committee.

“Feminist Politics/Queer Methods: Doing Gender Research on the Other” ~ 2 p.m. ~ Holmes Student Center, Heritage Room
Dr. E. Patrick Johnson’s seminar will focus on some of the challenges of doing sexuality research across the gender line. Drawing from his own experiences in conducting research on black lesbians of the South, Professor Johnson will discuss the politics of conducting research on a population across gender and class boundaries. Sponsors: Center for the Study of Women, Gender & Sexuality and Graduate Colloquium Committee.

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