

Women's Resource Center Newsletter

Special Points of Interest:

- Spring 2007 Programs (See insert)
- Women's History Month
- Black Heritage Month
- LGBT Upcoming Events
- Special Awards for Women

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February 2007

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Make Way for Spring 2007!!!

The spring semester is here and we at the Women's Resource Center have been preparing for our busiest time of the year.

The Women's Resource Center and the Employee Assistance & Wellness Program are presenting numerous programs this spring, including the International Women's Day Luncheon. (<http://niu.edu/women/urw> for more details.)

The Women's Resource Center and the Presidential Commission on the Status of Women will be presenting many different awards this semester to remarkable women and men in the NIU

community. The Martha Cooper Journalism Award, the Wilma D. Stricklin Award, and the Outstanding Women Student Awards will be presented this semester.

Two new students have joined our staff this spring. **Jenny Meyer** is a senior Journalism major and Women's Studies minor who will be interning with us. She will be busy promoting the Martha Cooper Journalism Award and representing the Women's Resource Center at NIU open house days.

Sarah Breithaupt is a practicum student working on a Master's in Counseling. She will be presenting two of our spring programs, "Live

the Life You Want" and "Back To Your Future," along with Marianne Tomlinson, acting assistant director of the Women's Resource Center.

We want to take the time to thank all of the faculty and staff of Northern Illinois University who nominated someone for the Outstanding Women Student Awards. All together, there were 120 students nominated. Congratulations! Good Luck!

Don't forget March is Women's History Month! During this month we celebrate all women and their accomplishments. The Women's Resource Center and the Women's Studies Program look forward to

Women's History Month March 2007



Everyone is invited to join the Northern Illinois University Women's Studies Program and the numerous other sponsors for Women's History Month! The theme

for 2007 is "**Redefining Motherhood**," a critical examination of the way the "institution" of motherhood and its relevance to women's lives are changing. Programs and activities will examine all forms of motherhood. All events are open to the public

and (unless otherwise noted) are free. Sign language interpreters will be provided upon request; call Women's Studies Program at

(815) 753-1038, or visit: <http://womenshistorymonth.niu.edu/whmcurrent.htm>.

Women's History Month Colloquium Speakers

Monday, March 5

3:30 p.m. "Researching Women in the Media." Susan J. Douglas, Catherine Neafie Kellogg Professor and Chair of Communication Studies, University of Michigan, will introduce students to the process of doing research on representations of women in the media, as well as methods for analyzing media images. Holmes Student Center, Heritage Room.

7:00 p.m. "The Mommy Myth-The Idealization of Motherhood and How it Has Undermined Women." Susan J. Douglas will lecture on women and the media. Specifically, she will examine the rise of "the new


momism," a romanticized notion of the perfect mother in which the standards for successes are impossible to achieve. Barsema Hall, Barsema Auditorium 200.

Thursday, March 22

9:30 a.m. "Food, Family, and...Marijuana? Weeds Re-Invents the Suburban Mother." Betsy Beaulieu, Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies, Appalachian State University, will use issues related to race and class that emerge in Showtime's award-winning show *Weeds* as a springboard for investigating stereotypes of motherhood within a context of feminist and African-

American critical theory and scholarship. Campus Life Building 100.

4:00 p.m. " 'Opaque with confusion and shame': Maternal Ambivalence in Rita Dove's Poetry." Dr. Beaulieu's lecture will focus on motherhood in African American women's literature, specifically, by examining the positive and negative depictions of motherhood in Rita Dove's poetry. Holmes Student Center, Heritage Room



**This is What
A Feminist
Looks Like**
NIU Women's Studies

March 1 is "This is What A Feminist Looks Like" Sticker Day

2007 Martha Cooper Journalism Award

The Martha Cooper Journalism Award recognizes journalistic effort contributing to greater awareness of women's issues on campus. All NIU students and alumni are eligible for this award. Contestants must have written about women's issues at NIU between March 1, 2006 and the present. Written work must have been published in campus publications such as

Northern Star, *Lifeline*, or other newspapers including *Daily Chronicle*, *Midweek* and *Chicago Tribune*. Entries will be judged by the quality of writing, originality of content, and the significance of coverage. The recipient of the Martha Cooper Journalism Award will be presented with a monetary award of **\$500** and a plaque at the Journalism Awards Banquet

in April. Deadlines for submissions is **Thursday, March 1, 2007 at 4:30 p.m.** to Campus Life 130 or Women's Resource Center. Entry forms can be picked up at: Departments of English and Communication, *Northern Star*, Women's Resource Center or Women's Studies Program. Visit <http://www.niu.edu/women/pcsw/journhs.shtml>.

"People think at the end of the day that a man is the only answer [to fulfillment]. Actually a job is better for me." Princess Diana

Networking Luncheon

All NIU women – students, faculty and staff – are invited to gather informally over lunch. This is a chance to meet new people, see women you would like to know better and gain the support that a network of contacts can provide. Please join us for good talk, good food and good company.

Barbara Burrell, Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science, will be

speaking on women in politics. Burrell is working on her second book on women in politics and is president-elect of the Women's Caucus in Political Science.

Featuring speaker:

Barbara Burrell, Ph.D.

"Are Americans Ready for a Woman President?: Results From an Experiment."

Wed., February 28, 2007

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Chandelier Room - Adams Hall

\$8 per person

Please reserve your place before **Tues. February 20.**

For more information and to make a reservation call:

(815) 753- 0320

LGBT Ally Award Nominations

Do you know someone who has shown his or her support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) people or the LGBT community during the 2006-2007 school year? Nominate them for an Ally Award!

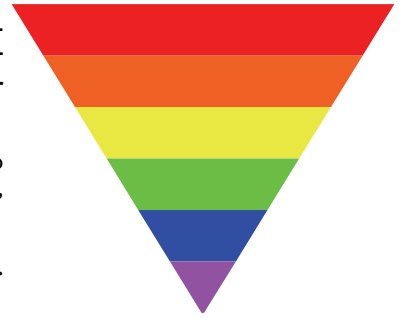
The Ally Awards are sponsored by the LGBT Resource Center and the Presidential Commission on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity as a way to recognize individuals, departments and groups who have done something positive for or on behalf of the LGBT community. The Ally Award recognizes those who:

- * Have contributed to campus awareness about LGBT issues by organizing a program or event
- * Have acted in support of issues of concern to the LGBT community in their official role at the university
- * Have provided support to LGBT organizations on campus
- * Have addressed LGBT issues in their teaching
- * Have supported student research or writing on LGBT topics
- * Have taken actions that help improve the university climate for LGBT people
- * Have challenged discrimination based sexual orientations or gender identity
- * Have supported LGBT students or colleagues at NIU
- * Have supported LGBT students at NIU
- * Have supported LGBT individuals or the LGBT community in some other way!

If you know someone who demonstrates these qualities, fill out a nomination form by

Friday March 9, 2007, 4:30p.m. at:

<http://www3.niu.edu/lgbt/allyawared.htm>



Black Heritage Month February 2007

February is Black Heritage Month!

This year's theme is "**Black Legacies: 'Here Today, Gone Tomorrow.' How Will You Be Remembered?'**"

Upcoming events include:

"African Presence in Mexico." Featuring Cesareo Mareno at Center for Black Studies, **February 5, 7 p.m.** Sponsored by Center for Black Studies and Latino Resource Center.

National Black AIDS Awareness Day in the Holmes Student Center

Regency Room, **February 7, 7 p.m.** Sponsored by Center for Black Studies and Health Enhancement.

Panel **Black Nationalism & Black Republicans** in the Carl Sandburg Auditorium, **February 8, 7 p.m.**

Tribute to Black Women featuring Rev. David Seymore in the Holmes Student Center Regency Room **February 15, 7 p.m.** Sponsored by

BROTHERS / UID.

Afrocentric Fashion Show in the Duke Ellington Ballroom **February 22 8 p.m.** Sponsored by PPMO / Talented.

Black Heritage Month Trivia Contest in Neptune Central **February 26 7 p.m.** Sponsored by DST.

Black Heritage Month District #428 Program in Duke Ellington Ballroom **February 27, 6 p.m.**

"Something which we think is impossible now is not impossible in another decade."

Constance Baker Motley

Parenting Class

Community Coordinated Child Care (4-C) Parent Education Program presents a six-week parenting class every Tuesday starting **January 23** through **February 27, 2007**. The class will take place from **6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.** at **Brooks School**.

Topics include:

- *Child growth and development
- *Communication

- *Fostering and self-esteem
- *Stress and anger management (for child and parent)
- *Child guidance
- *Enhancing family life

Registration is required and will be taken until spaces are filled. To register and for directions call Ester at:

(815) 758-8149 Ext. 249

International Women's Day Luncheon

Northern Illinois University
Women's Resource Center
Division of Student Affairs

For more information about
this newsletter or about the
Women's Resource Center,
please contact us at:

Phone: 815-753-0320

Fax: 815-753-0337

Visit us on the Web:
www.niu.edu/women/urw

This year's International Women's Day Luncheon's featured speaker is Chein-Juh Gu, visiting assistant professor in the Department of Political Science at Northern Illinois University. She earned her Ph.D. from the Department of Sociology at Michigan State University. Her research interests include gender, social inequality, international migration, social psychology and minority mental health. She has published literature in the areas of gender, culture and mental health. Dr. Gu is the author of "Mental Health among Taiwanese Americans: Gender, Immigration, and Transnational Struggles" (2006. New York: LFB Scholarly Publishing).

"Transnational Struggles at Home: Taiwanese Immigrant Women's Family Experiences."

Featuring Speaker:

Chein-Juh Gu, Ph.D

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Adams Hall, Chandelier Room

Cost: \$9.00 per person

Seating is limited for 100 people. Please reserve your seat by Wednesday, February 28, 2007

Please Call: (815) 753-0320

Wilma D. Stricklin Award

This award is given annually by the Presidential Commission on the Status of Women to an individual who has distinguished herself or himself by making continual and extraordinary contributions to the climate for women campus wide. Each year, the award will be a work of art created by a woman from the NIU Art faculty. The criteria is as follows: One must have:

***Demonstrated exemplary leadership/service resulting in a more favorable campus climate for women.**

***Provided continual leadership service for an extended period of time.**

***Expanded efforts beyond expectations and work responsibilities.**



2007 Art Piece, Jezebel by: Aubrey Purdy

Please consider nominating
someone you know for this
award.

Nominations are due by:

March 1, 2007.

Forms are available online at:

[www.niu.edu/women/pcsw/
wdsnoform.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/women/pcsw/wdsnoform.shtml)