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V-DAY San Diego City College
JOINS GLOBAL EFFORT TO STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Benefit Production of
THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Join us as we raise funds* and awareness to end violence against women and girls
Friday, February 24 & Saturday, February 25
8:00 p.m.
Saville Theatre at San Diego City College
14th & C Streets
$10 for students, seniors, City College staff, and military
$15 for general admission
Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com
Contact: Katie Rodda, 619/388-3088, krodda@sdccd.edu

*All money raised will go to the family of Diana Gonzalez, a City College student who was brutally murdered by her husband in October 2010.

San Diego - On Friday, February 24 and Saturday, February 25 2012, at 8:00 p.m., V-Day San Diego City College will present a one-night only benefit reading of Eve Ensler’s award winning play The Vagina Monologues at the Saville Theatre.

Last year over 5,800 V-Day benefits were held around the world raising funds and awareness towards ending violence against women. These highly successful events raised over $5 million through performance of Eve Ensler’s award-winning play, The Vagina Monologues, readings from V-Day’s A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant and A Prayer and Any One Of Us: Words From Prison and screenings of V-Day’s documentary Until The Violence Stops. San Diego City College has joined this global movement as part of the V-Day 2012 College Campaign.

This is the third year in a row San Diego City College has presented The Vagina Monologues. All money raised will go to the family of Diana Gonzalez, a City College student who was brutally murdered by her husband in October 2010.

What are The Vagina Monologues?
Hailed by The New York Times as “funny” and “poignant” and by the Daily News as "intelligent" and "courageous," The Vagina Monologues, which was first performed off-
Broadway by Ms. Ensler, dives into the mystery, humor, pain, power, wisdom, outrage and excitement buried in women’s experiences. Ms. Ensler has performed the play to great acclaim throughout the world - from Zagreb to Santa Barbara, from London to Seattle, from Jerusalem to Oklahoma City. Villard Books/Random House first published The Vagina Monologues, which includes a foreword by Gloria Steinem, in February 1998. A special edition was released in hard cover and paperback in February 2008 in honor of V-Day’s ten year anniversary.

The Vagina Monologues will be performed at the Saville Theatre at San Diego City College, 14th and C Streets, San Diego, CA, February 24 and 25 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are $10 – 15 and may be purchased through www.brownpapertickets.com.

What is V-Day?
V-Day is a global activist movement to end violence against women and girls. V-Day is a catalyst that promotes creative events to increase awareness, raise money, and revitalize the spirit of existing anti-violence organizations. V-Day generates broader attention for the fight to stop violence against women and girls, including rape, battery, incest, female genital mutilation (FGM), and sex slavery.

Through V-Day campaigns, local volunteers and college students produce annual benefit performances of The Vagina Monologues, A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant and A Prayer, Any One Of Us: Words From Prison, screenings of V-Day's documentary Until The Violence Stops, and the PBS documentary What I Want My Words To Do To You, Spotlight Teach-Ins and V-Men workshops, to raise awareness and funds for anti-violence groups within their own communities. In 2011, over 5,800 V-Day benefit events took place produced by volunteer activists in the U.S. and around the world, educating millions of people about the reality of violence against women and girls.

Performance is just the beginning. V-Day stages large-scale benefits and produces innovative gatherings, films and campaigns to educate and change social attitudes towards violence against women including the documentary Until The Violence Stops; community briefings on the missing and murdered women of Juarez, Mexico; the December 2003 V-Day delegation trip to Israel, Palestine, Egypt and Jordan; the Afghan Women's Summit; the March 2004 delegation to India; the Stop Rape Contest; the Indian Country Project; Love Your Tree; the June 2006 two-week festival of theater, spoken word, performance and community events UNTIL THE VIOLENCE STOPS: NYC ; the 2008, V-Day 10-year anniversary events V TO THE TENTH at the New Orleans Arena and Louisiana Superdome; the Stop Raping Our Greatest Resource: Power To The Women and Girls of the Democratic Republic of Congo Campaign; the V-Girls Campaign, and the V-Men Campaign.

In Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, V-Day commits ongoing support to build movements and anti-violence networks. Working with local organizations, V-Day provided hard-won funding that helped open the first shelters for women in Egypt and Iraq; sponsored annual workshops and three national campaigns in Afghanistan; convened the "Confronting Violence" conference of South Asian women leaders; and donated satellite-phones to Afghan women to keep lines of communication open and action plans moving forward. V-Day was instrumental in the founding of Karama, a program working in Egypt, Sudan, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon that works to build upon and strengthen efforts to end violence against women by bringing together local women's organizations and other civil society groups in collaboration, analysis and advocacy at national, regional and international levels.
The V-Day movement is growing at a rapid pace throughout the world, in 140 countries from Europe to Asia, Africa and the Caribbean and all of North America. V-Day, a non-profit corporation, distributes funds to grassroots, national and international organizations and programs that work to stop violence against women and girls. In 2001, V-Day was named one of Worth Magazine's "100 Best Charities," in 2006 one of Marie Claire Magazine's Top Ten Charities, and in 2010 was named as one of the Top-Rated organizations on GreatNonprofits. In eleven years, the V-Day movement has raised over $85 million.

The 'V' in V-Day stands for Victory, Valentine and Vagina. To learn more about V-Day San Diego City College: 619/388-4474 or cityvaginamonologues@gmail.com. To learn more about V-Day and its campaigns: www.vday.org.

What is a V-Day Campaign?
A V-Day Campaign is a catalyst for mobilizing women and men to heighten awareness about violence against women and girls. By creating this global community, V-Day strives to empower women to find their collective voices and demand an end to the violence that affects one in three women in the U.S and around the world.

V-Day San Diego City College is a local effort within the worldwide context of the 2012 V-Day Campaign.

http://www.kpbs.org/

Feminists Capitalize On Valentine’s Day

Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Helen Hawes

Valentine’s Day usually conjures up images of romantic love when people exchange gifts of flowers, candy and cards. But for some, Valentine’s Day means V-Day, a movement started by Eve Ensler, author of the popular play, “The Vagina Monologues.”

The play is a series of stories initially told by women around the world. They reflect some of the inequities for women, especially in third world countries.

Some of the stories are funny, others are sad. But all of them are memorable.

Rebekah Ensley, who is directing the play at San Diego City College, described the symbolism of the title.

“The reason she uses the vagina as a tool is because it’s impactful and ever changing. And ultimately, it gives life. The fact that basic human rights are being taken away from women in certain countries is appalling. It needs to be talked about,” she said.
Eve Ensler wrote the play in 1994. She releases the rights to it from February until April every year so that local groups can stage it for free.

The mission of the show is to make people take an active role in their own communities to end violence against girls and women. Today there are 5,800 V-Day events annually.

Teresa Elliott is the event coordinator for V-Day at City College.

“It creates a new community of people who are more aware of what’s going on around them. If you see the show in a third world country where female mutilation is taking place and you hear happy and inspiring stories of women who’ve overcome, that’ll give you hope. If you live in America and hear those stories, you’re going to be more educated now, because a lot of people don’t know what’s going on over there. They have no idea. The play is going to engage you,” she said.

“The Vagina Monologues” runs February 24 and 25 at City College’s Saville Theatre. All proceeds are directed to charities that help female victims of violence.