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Voices Raised, Issue 47

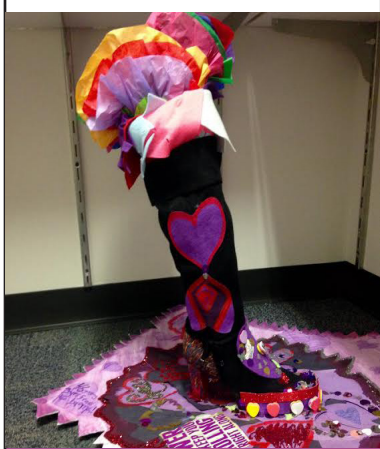
University of Dayton. Women's Center

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Top left image by YWCA artist from the
Take a Walk in my Shoes exhibit in the WC
Resource Library.
Center image by Mark Hassel.

Creating journeys of survival

Art provides a creative outlet for people facing a variety of issues, domestic violence included. The Women's Center is hosting an exhibit called "A Journey of Healing," comprised of art wholly produced by survivors of domestic violence.

The artwork presented will be a documentation of the artists' personal evolution of breaking free from domestic violence and prevailing through life after they find safety. These pieces are on display in the Women's Center throughout the month of October.

Artemis Center, a nonprofit organization that provides services to victims of domestic violence, serves the Dayton community. They hope not only to help victims but to also educate our community about the issue of domestic violence. Lori Halley, director of marketing and development at Artemis Center, provided some statistics about domestic violence in Dayton and the surrounding community.

"3,060 women in our communities are physically assaulted by a current or former partner," she shares. "Since 1985, the Artemis Center has

served about 90,000 women and children." Even though these statistics are shocking, the art that will hang in the Women's Center will not only spread awareness about domestic violence but also provide a sense of hope that individuals can and do survive—and succeed — after being victimized.

Halley elaborated on the goals of the exhibit in regard to the conversations and actions that, hopefully, will occur in response to the artwork. "You will kind of be able to work with

"3,060 women in our communities are physically assaulted by a current or former partner."

them through their journey," she explains. "That is what we are hoping

to do. Everyone interprets art in a different way, but we are hoping that they see that progression. One of the important things about domestic violence: there is getting your safety plan, getting out of the crisis situation, but then there is so much that happens afterwards. We are hoping people will see that."

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WHAT'S GOING ON!

Love Your Body Week: Post-It Positivity Display

Monday, Oct. 12-Friday, Oct. 16 - KU Hangar & RecPlex



Stop by The Hangar windows in Kennedy Union or the pool windows in the main entrance of the RecPlex to view the Post-It Positivity Display for Love Your Body Week. The Women's Center, along with countless students, faculty, and staff, write thousands of positive affirmations, sayings, and quotes on colorful Post-It notes. Passers-by can find a Post-It that resonates with them and take it to remind themselves they are perfect just the way they are.

Attention to Detail: Financial Finishing Touches for Women

Tuesday, Oct. 27 - KU 222, 11:30AM-1PM

A TIAA-CREF representative will share financial planning strategies including learning how to allocate your investments and assets, knowing your options when making an estate plan, devising an elder care plan that works, and pursuing your passion with insights on life after your career. Seating is limited, so registration is required. Please visit udayton.edu/womenscenter/calendar and scroll down to the TIAA-CREF listing to reserve your seat. While all are welcome, this workshop is geared toward women nearing retirement.



Recognizing Violence Workshop

Friday, Dec. 4 - KU 310, 12-1PM



Intimate partner violence and domestic abuse is present in our community. We may not see visible abuse or recognize its behaviors and signs, but it affects individuals on our campus- students, faculty and staff, and no one is immune. In this hour-long training provided by Artemis Center, learn about the domestic violence dynamic, how to identify and help victims, and how we can all make a concerted effort to end intimate partner violence and domestic abuse in our community. Lunch will be provided for all participants. Seating is limited, so registration is required. Please visit udayton.edu/womenscenter/calendar and scroll down to the workshop listing to reserve your seat.

For the full calendar, please visit udayton.edu/womenscenter/calendar

Laura Gentner, UD's first LGBTQ+ support services GA

At the start of this academic year, the University of Dayton filled its first-ever LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer) support services graduate assistant (GA) position under Student Development. Alumna Laura Gentner is new to this position but has hit the ground running.

Student Development created a task force that reported the need for support services for those identifying as LGBTQ+, so this position was created to educate and support all students, especially LGBTQ+ students. This is the first graduate assistant position for LGBTQ+ support services on UD's campus, and Gentner is excited about the possibilities.

"This position will help the school and the campus create a truer version of UD through its Catholic and Marianist values," Gentner says. "The Catholic values of respecting the dignity of every human individual, and with the Marianist charism of welcoming everyone to the table—regardless of background, color, or whoever they are—wherever they are in their journey, we are all welcomed to the same table. If I can contribute to that ideal of community that we hold so dearly at UD, then I will be doing my job."

There are approximately 250 college campuses in the country that have a paid position focusing on LGBTQ+, and UD is now among them.

The main focus of Gentner's work is to coordinate with campus partners in support of LGBTQ-identified students. She offers presentations under "Don't Cancel Your Class," which encourages professors to invite speakers from a selection of programs to give presentations to educate students on issues instead of canceling class. In addition, she will create a website to serve as a "hub" of resources and services for anyone identifying as LGBTQ+.

About 96 percent of Americans identify as straight, or



Photo courtesy of Gentner.

non-LGBTQ+, and about 77 percent of those people support the inclusion of LGBTQ+ members of society. But only about 14 percent actually do something about it.

Gentner encourages everyone on UD's campus to be a part of that 14 percent—and to increase that percentage—

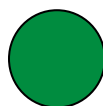
by welcoming and valuing all members of our community.

One way to get involved is to go through the Counseling Center's Ally Training. Volunteers from the Counseling Center and faculty and staff facilitate a four-hour training program for faculty, staff and students to learn about the issues LGBTQ+ identifying people face on a day-to-day basis and how they can support them.

"I really think that when LGBTQ students are recognized and welcomed as full and true members of our community," Gentner says, "that the whole community benefits."

—Claire Schmig, Public Relations '18

To contact Laura Gentner, email gentnerl2@udayton.edu. For current LGBTQ+ resources, please visit udayton.edu/womenscenter/info/lgbt.



LGBTQ

Redefining Realness by Janet Mock, *The Advocate*, *On Being Gay* by Brian McNaught

Additional books and materials on this subject are available at the WC Resource Library. For more information on the library, flip to the back cover.

Creating journeys of survival (cont. from cover)

Mark Hassel, one of the contributing artists and a survivor himself, initiated the concept of this exhibit in collaboration with Laurie T. Miller. They approached Artemis Center with the hope of producing artwork centered on the journey that domestic violence survivors undergo. The University of Dayton Women's Center has the honor of hosting their thought- and emotion-provoking creations.

Halley describes the collection of Hassel's work as a whole: "It went from this whimsical, a lot of lines, a lot of colors, almost like chaos on the page. Then, you have these beautiful, kind of calming pieces. You can see them putting their feelings on the page." The development of the artist's state of mind and passage of time are reflected through the continuum of pieces.

Hassel reflects on the transition of style and medium within his pieces and the resulting message portrayed: "As a painter, I've used various mediums from water-color to oil. Some of my latest work is mixed media and collage. There is a transition from realism to abstract in my work of late."

Hassel described how art can function as a healing mechanism. "For many visual and performing artists, it is a very personal, vulnerable, and intimate experience to put our craft out there, so to speak. At the same time, it can be profoundly healing," he says. "This is especially true for those of us who are survivors of abuse, when so much of our journey in life has been just to survive."



Reacting to the completion of his work and the exhibit's installation in the Women's Center, Hassel says, "To be able to fulfill a personal dream that is both challenging and creative can be life-changing."

The concept of using art both as a process to transform and to recover, in a therapeutic sense, is an interesting notion. Not only does the performance of the artwork provide a restorative method for the artist, but it also allows onlookers to gain a sense of the experiences that the artist actually endured, to step closer toward empathy. It engages the audience by asking them to place themselves in the position of the artist and emotionally ride along to grasp the twists and turns in the



Left artwork by Laurie T. Miller. Above by Mark Hassel. Both Hassel and Miller's work will be featured in the Women's Center in October.

artists' journeys of survival.

With October recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, this exhibit, ideally, will spark conversations that will lead to both action and understanding. Please utilize the uniqueness of this project and its presence on the UD campus to explore the reality of and resolutions to the existence of violence in all its forms.

—Julia Hall, English '18

For information on the Dec. 4 Recognizing Violence Workshop, please go to p. 2.

VIOLENCE/ABUSE/POWER

You Can Be Free by G. NiCarthy & S. Davidson
Women in Shadow and Light by Jan Goff-LaFontaine
 Additional books and materials on this subject are available at the WC Resource Library. For more information on the library, flip to the back cover.

RESOURCES:

Artemis Center, 310 W. Monument Ave.

Phone: (937)461-5091 /

24 Hour Crisis Line: (937)222-7233

Artemis Center provides support and information for victims of domestic violence and their children.

Womanline, 4617 Presidential Way / Phone: (937)223-3446

Womanline provides compassionate, affordable mental health counseling services for women to help overcome the trauma of childhood sexual abuse and to teach young children how to protect themselves from abuse.

YWCA Dayton, 141 W. Third St.

Phone: (937)461-550 / 24 Hour Crisis Line: (937)222-7233

Provides confidential domestic violence and sexual assault supportive services. These services include prevention, intervention, education, advocacy, clinical services, and shelter services.

For more resources, please visit udayton.edu/womenscenter/info/violence/survivors.php.

VOICES FROM WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

Spotlight: Teaching and research for social change

Our faculty members are the WGS program's greatest asset, now numbering over 70.

Here are some of the latter's recent accomplishments in WGS-related teaching, research, and activism.

—Rebecca Whisnant, Director



Dr. Jana Bennett - Religious Studies

In fall 2014, Dr. Bennett developed and taught a doctoral seminar on Sarah Coakley, an internationally-known Anglican theologian whose work deals with questions of gender, sexuality, power, and

desire. Coakley's method is to do deep retrievals from Christian tradition, both to reveal misogynies that exist within that tradition and also to show how the tradition offers pro-active practices for women. "My hope for these students," Dr. Bennett reports, "was that they would learn from Coakley's method and would continue to put forward gender questions as crucial for doing theology well."

Dr. Caroline Merithew - History



A women's and labor historian, Dr. Merithew both consulted on and was interviewed for the documentary "We Were Not Ladies. We Were Women," which aired over Labor Day weekend on Illinois Public

Radio. Focusing on the coal mining and union wars of the 1930s, the documentary looks at the women doing unwaged labor in their homes and the influential role these women played in the battle for higher family wages, better working conditions, and democratic unionism.



Dr. Neomi DeAnda - Religious Studies

Dr. DeAnda drew on her research concerning the theology of breast milk in her contribution to the Sept. 15 panel discussion "Communities Engaging Mary," attended by over 150 members of the UD community.

Dr. Natalie Florea Hudson - Political Science

In April 2015, Dr. Hudson attended the 100th Anniversary Conference for Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) in The Hague, Netherlands. During the conference, entitled "Women's Power to Stop War," Dr. Hudson contributed to the roundtable "How Can Feminist Researchers Contribute to Feminist Peace Activism? Opportunities and Pitfalls." She reflected on her experience participating in this historic event.



Dr. Rebecca Whisnant - Philosophy

In August, Dr. Whisnant contributed to a group post at the philosophy blog *Daily Nous*, entitled "Philosophers on Prostitution's Decriminalization," and her essay "Pornography and Humiliation" is being translated for publication in the newsletter of *Kvinnofronten*, the Swedish Women's Front.



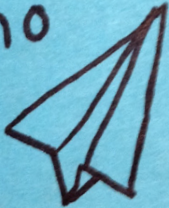
VOICES HEARD

Love your body

The beauty template that women and girls receive is narrow, unrealistic, and, most importantly, ingrained into their brains, leaving any woman who does not fit this template feeling inadequate. Challenge the message that a woman's value is best measured through her willingness and ability to embody current beauty standards.

For more information on the Love Your Body Week: Post-It Positivity Display, please go to p. 2.

The creative adult is the child who survived.



Be who you needed when you were younger

The greatest thing a mom can do for her daughter is love herself.

Let's change the way we see, not the way we look.

You ARE BEAUTIFUL

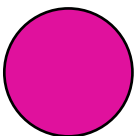


SPEAK THE TRUTH EVEN IF YOUR VOICE SHAKES

LOVE YOUR BODY

Ourselves, Growing Older by P. Doress-Worters & D. Laskin Stegel
Self-Esteem Comes in All Sizes by Carol Johnson

Additional books and materials on this subject are available at the WC Resource Library. For more information on the library, flip to the back cover.












FROM THE RESOURCE LIBRARY



Reading by color

The colored circles throughout *Voices Raised* aren't just eye candy: each one represents a subject matter contained in our Resource Library. The library is a comfortable space within the Women's Center on the second floor of Alumni Hall, room 208A. The library houses periodicals such as *Alive*, *The Advocate*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Harvard Women's Health Watch*, *Ms.*, and *Women in Higher Education*; brochures on community resources and topical information; as well as books and other multimedia, which can all be checked out.

Some subjects available in the resource library include:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
|  Emotional Health |  LGBTQ |  Spirituality & Religion |
|  Feminism & Gender Roles |  Physical Health |  Violence/Abuse/Power |
|  Leadership |  Social Justice & Climate |  Women of Color & Diversity |

Feel free to stop in and browse or search for materials through the UD Roesch Library catalog.