For the seventh year in a row Portland Community College will present a VDAY 2007 benefit production of Eve Ensler’s The Vagina Monologues at the Sylvania Performing Arts Center on February 9, 10 & 11, 2007. Friday and Saturday night doors open at 7 pm with curtain at 8 pm. Sunday is a matinee with curtain at 2 pm. This benefit production is sponsored by the Sylvania Women’s Resource Center. This year’s cast of 33 women is being led by student producers Sundance Henry, Adria Malcolm, and Jessye Prather. These amazing women are carrying on a proud PCC tradition of working to end violence against women and girls.

Tickets are on sale in the Women’s Centers at Sylvania, Rock Creek and Cascade, at In Other Words Women’s Bookstore and through TicketMaster. Student tickets are $12, general admissions $15, and groups of ten or more are $10 each. Proceeds will benefit the PCC Illumination Project and V-Day Campaign for Women Living in Conflict Zones. VDAY is a global movement to stop violence against women and girls. Further info about VDAY can be found at www.vday.org

Scholarship Help

The PCC Sylvania Women’s Resource Center and Financial Aid Office will co-sponsor several workshops to teach participants how to research and apply for scholarships to help pay for the ever increasing cost of education. These workshops are designed to educate students who are new to the scholarship process. Topics include:

- Gathering scholarship information
- Choosing appropriate scholarships
- Writing winning scholarship essays
- Obtaining letters of recommendation
- Volunteer / community service

Everyone is welcome to attend these sessions, and no sign-up is required. Sessions will focus primarily on the Oregon Student Assistance Commission Scholarship (OSAC) Application and Ford Scholarships for single parents. For workshop dates see listing on right. To start the OSAC application on line go to: www.osac.state.or.us

### Scholarship Workshops

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<td>Wednesday</td>
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Bi-lingual Play about Frida Kahlo
February 8, 2007 6:30 - 8:00 PM
Performing Art Center PCC Sylvania

Portland Community College Sylvania’s Multicultural Center, English and World Languages Department, and Women’s Resource Center are proud to sponsor Teatro Milagro’s critically acclaimed work, FRIDA, un retablo. Life and art intertwine in this surrealistic vision of one of Mexico’s most acclaimed artists. This original bilingual play will perform at PCC for one night only, on Thursday, February 8th. For more information, contact Sarah Bentley-Quintero at 503-977-8023.

In recognition of Black History Month the Sylvania Women’s Resource Center will host a panel titled “African Women Shaping U.S. Culture” to take place on Tuesday, February 27th 11:00 a.m. – 12 noon in HT 321.

The panel, organized by Student Advocate Irene Ebukam, will include African immigrant women living in the Portland area who have contributed to U.S. society both by providing services to other immigrant women - helping them adapt to U.S. culture and by bringing African culture to the local community.

Two of the panelists will be Evelyne Ello-Hart coordinator of the African Women’s Coalition and Loveness Wesa founder of Kgotso African Cultural Arts.

The African Women’s Coalition goal is to mobilize, advocate and empower African Women living in Oregon and Southwest Washington by providing a culturally supportive and nurturing environment that builds the capacity of the community to help itself and allows other members of the community to reach their highest potential through support, guidance and educational opportunities. Kgotso African Cultural Arts aims to revive and promote African culture and traditions, provide opportunities for cultural exchange and humanitarian projects, and to strengthen cultural relationships with communities we live in and throughout the world.

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United Sexualities
Meets every Wednesday
at 5 pm in CC 260

A mostly social student club for Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans students & Allies. Join us for our first Winter term meeting on January 23rd

Campus and Community Pull Together to Assist Women Escaping Domestic Violence

The Sylvania Women’s Resource Center and the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance student club raised over $2,500 dollars worth of donations of household cleaning and personal hygiene products in December for their annual holiday “Laundry Basket Project”. Fifty baskets were assembled and distributed to women who have escaped domestic violence, with the assistance of El Programa Hispano.

Laundry soap, shampoo, and toilet paper were brought in by individual students, by classes—like Kim Smith’s Sociology and Linda Jones’ ECE class—who filled complete baskets, and by departments - including a friendly competition between the College Success and Social Science Departments which netted five baskets.

Oregon and SW Washington businesses Fred Meyer, New Seasons, Oregon Soap Company, Chandler Soap, Moon Valley Soap, Bi-O-Kleen, and national companies Natracare, Avalon Cosmetics, and Ecover generously joined the effort with donations of products.

Many thanks are extended to all who made this year’s Laundry Basket Project such a booming success.
PCC Women Engineering Student Networking Luncheon set for February 21

The Sylvania Women’s Resource Center and Engineering Division will once again co-sponsor the annual Women Engineering Student Networking Luncheon.

This luncheon gives women Engineering students a chance to talk with peers, faculty and industry representatives about a variety of topics including: industry options, transfer school opportunities, and engineering careers. All women students in the Electronic Engineering Tech, Civil/Mechanical Engineering Tech, and Engineering transfer programs are invited to attend.

For more info, contact Ange Pfel in the WRC, CC 273 or call (503) 977-8101.

Teens Parents to Visit College

The Sylvania Women’s Resource and Multicultural Center’s will co-host a college visit by high school seniors from local area teen parent programs and the Chemawa Indian School in Salem on February 15th.

WRC Student Advocate Babara Gladue is organizing the event which will include presentations by college staff on campus childcare, scholarships and financial aid as well as, the education and training available at PCC for careers from nursing to engineering. The teens will also be guided on a tour of the Sylvania campus, meet PCC students who are also parents, and participate in an Illumination Project performance. If you would like to help in anyway with this event please contact Barbara in the WRC, CC 273 or call (503) 977-8101.

Nursing Moms Lactation Room TCB 303

2007 Scholarship For Pre-Engineering/Engineering transfer

Students in currently enrolled in a community college -- $300 scholarships awarded to community college scholarship winners.

Deadline: Applications postmarked by March 1, 2007
Announcement: Winners announced by April 1, 2007

 Applicant Requirements:
♦ Be nearing completion of a pre-engineering program at an Oregon or SW Washington Community College
♦ Be applying as a 2007 transfer student to an engineering degree program at one of the following schools: University of Portland, Portland State University, Oregon Institute of Technology
♦ Have a minimum GPA of 2.5/4.0

For more information and application form at www.swe-columbia-river.org/schlrshp

HEALTH SERVICES AT SYLVANIA

MONDAYS

Outside-In Mobile Medical Van offers Sylvania students affordable medical care including reproductive health services, pregnancy testing, contraception, and urgent care needs.

Sliding Scale Fee/Most Services Free

PCC Sylvania—HT 119b
Mondays 9 am —12 noon
First come, first serve

FRIDAYS

The National College of Natural Medicine offers affordable naturopathic care for PCC students, staff and community members.

Office Visits Only $15

PCC Sylvania—HT Bldg
Fridays 3—7 p.m.
By appointment
Call 503 552-1515
The serious issue of unintended pregnancy among college women is rarely, if ever, discussed on campus. Women students who find themselves pregnant often struggle alone to make their decisions. As a result, women often experience negative academic impacts including failing classes and dropping out of school.

The PCC Sylvania Women’s Resource Center is taking on the topic during winter term with the series “The Voices of Pregnancy Choices”. The series, organized by Student Advocates Natasha St. Peter and Stacey Barber, will include a display highlighting pregnancy options and resources, a film series featuring films about adoption, abortion, and choosing to parent, a panel of women sharing their own “Personal Pregnancy Stories”, and a community discussion on unplanned pregnancy.

Nationally, it is estimated that 12% of college women become pregnant each year. Most of these pregnancies are not the result of a casual sexual encounter but are usually conceived within the context of a committed relationship. In fact about half of all pregnancies in the U.S. are unintended and 48% of those end in abortion. Statistically, your risk for unintended pregnancy is greatest if you are a young, low income woman who has not graduated college or are a woman of color.

Some people wonder how it is possible in 2007 to have such a high rate of unintended pregnancy when we have so many modern methods of family planning and widespread information about how to use them. The truth is that most women (53%) who become pregnant unintentionally had been using some type of contraception. Unfortunately, sometimes the contraceptive method was used inconsistently, improperly or it failed. In a rushed medical examine it is not unusual for a woman to get hurried instructions on the use of her chosen contraceptive. Couples using over the counter methods such as condoms and spermicidal creams sometimes do so without fully understanding the directions.

Since the late 1990’s there has been ever increasing cut backs in state and federal reproductive health programs and an increase in “abstinence only” rather than contraception education programs. These both may explain a reduction in contraceptive use and the growing number of unintended pregnancies.

When faced with an unintentional pregnancy women often fear they will be judged negatively by their peers and family. The guilt, shame, and fear many women feel frequently prevent them from telling family and friends about their situation. This secrecy can lay the way to isolation and depression. The Sylvania Women’s Resource Center encourages women and men to talk about pregnancy regardless of the outcome being considered or taken. An open discussion facilitated by Grayson Dempsey, a trained pregnancy options advocate and founder of Backline, will take place on March 7, 2007 at 12 noon in CC 260 (directly across from the WRC.)

Pregnant? I Can’t Be!

The Abortion Diaries February 12th @ 12noon in Pine Room: The Abortion Diaries is a documentary featuring 12 women who speak candidly about their experiences with abortion. Their stories weave together to present a compelling, moving and at times surprisingly funny “dinner party” where the audience is invited to hear what women say behind closed doors about motherhood, medical technology, sex, spirituality, love, work and their own bodies. Produced and directed by Penny Lane. 30 minutes.

The Giving February 13th @ 1 pm in Spruce Room: This emotionally powerful documentary chronicles the difficult journeys of six women from the time they learn of their pregnancy to the signing of adoption papers. “The Giving” explores how and why these women make what is perhaps the most difficult decision a mother could face. Pulling their stories from the shadows of society, this film shatters the myth of the careless, abandoning birthmother, and reveals, once again, that courage and selflessness are found in the most unassuming places. Director: Mary Durnin Firth. 28 minutes.

Parenting Film February 14th @ 12 noon in Spruce Room: We will show a film about parenting by choice with discussion to follow moderated by members of the Sylvania Student Parent Network.

Panel: Personal Pregnancy Stories February 20th at 11:00 a.m. in HT 321: A panel of three PCC women students will share their own stories and the choices they made when faced with an unplanned pregnancy. This moderated panel will give the audience some insights into the complexities women and their partners encounter when making one of the most important life changing decisions. These brave women will help us break down the stereotypes of women who choose abortion, adoption, and to parent in untraditional circumstances. We will find they are our sisters, mothers, and best friends.

Community Discussion on Pregnancy Choices March 7, 2007 at 12 noon in CC 260 A discussion open to all PCC students who have faced the difficult decision of choosing the outcome of an unplanned pregnancy. Whether it was you, your partner or best friend you are welcome to join us. Whether the choice was to parent, place for adoption, or terminate the pregnancy you are welcome to come and share your experience. The discussion will be facilitated by Grayson Dempsey, a trained pregnancy options advocate and founder of Backline.

This series, The Voices of Pregnancy Choices, has been organized by WRC Student Advocates Natasha St. Peter and Stacey Barber. For more information please contact the WRC at (503) 977-8101 or email wrd@pcc.edu.
Ford Opportunity Scholarship Pays 90% of Single Parent's College Costs

The Ford Opportunity Program is designed specifically for single parents who are heads of households and who are pursuing a bachelor's degree and do not have the support of a domestic partner. This program is only offered in Oregon.

Program and Scholarship Details
Each year, 50 students are selected to receive Ford Opportunity Program awards. The scholarship is not a set amount, but is calculated to cover 90% of each student's college costs that are not met by other resources. These other resources include the student's expected family contribution, other grants and scholarships. The scholarship is awarded annually for up to four years of undergraduate study.

Applicants must be Oregon residents who are single parents with dependent children and considered heads of households. All applicants must have high school diplomas or GED certificates, or be about to complete high school, or be continuing college students. Applicants must plan to earn a bachelor's degree and enroll full-time in the fall of the application year at a public or private, accredited, Title IV non-profit Oregon college. Students with existing bachelor's degrees are not eligible for Ford Family Scholarships.

To apply for the Ford Opportunity Scholarship you must complete the Oregon Student Assistance Commission application online. Go to: www.getcollegefunds.org

In The News
Head of Family Planning Doesn't Believe in It

In November President Bush appointed Eric Keroack - an anti-choice, abstinence-only advocate - to the position of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Population Affairs. In this position he will have authority over Title X funding - money that is supposed to go toward comprehensive family planning services, contraception, pap smears, and STI testing and treatment.

Dr. Keroack himself is opposed to contraceptives; the group of "crisis pregnancy centers" (CPCs) of which Keroack is the medical director states on its website that the "crass commercialization and distribution" of contraception is "demoralizing to women, degrading of human sexuality and adverse to human health and happiness," according to the Washington Post. The program Keroack will now head is responsible for supporting 4,600 family planning clinics that help five million people each year. Keroack, in addition to being medical director of six CPCs that work to dissuade women from choosing to have an abortion, is also on the Medical Advisory Council of the Abstinence Clearinghouse, one of the largest providers of abstinence-only education. He was responsible for determining that abstinence-only education should only mention contraceptive use if emphasizing its failure rates, AlterNet reports. Keroack spoke at the Abstinence Clearinghouse’s conference in June on the connection between brain hormones and the ability to form meaningful relationships, saying that promiscuous women will not be able to form long-lasting relationships because they have used all of their "bonding" hormone on casual sex, according to AlterNet.

The appointment, which did not require Congressional confirmation, has outraged women’s rights advocates. www.feministcampus.org

Emergency Contraception

Emergency Contraception or EC is a safe and effective way to prevent pregnancy after sex. EC pills contain the same medication as regular birth control pills.

There are two basic types of Emergency Contraception:
♦ Plan B progestin-only pills
♦ High doses of regular oral contraceptive pills

It is best to take EC within 24 hours of having unprotected sex. EC may work up to five days after sex, but is more effective if it is taken earlier. Don't delay!

Over 95% of women who take EC do not become pregnant.

EC is a safe and effective way to prevent pregnancy — even after sex!

Use EC if:
♦ Your contraception didn’t work
♦ You had unprotected sex
♦ You were forced to have sex

EC is now available without a prescription for women or men age 18 or older, but a prescription is needed for women 17 and younger. You don’t need to visit your doctor or clinic first.

If your pharmacy does not carry EC check with Planned Parenthood for a location near you 1-800-230-PLAN
Author Ariel Gore to speak at PCC

Ariel Gore will speak at PCC Sylvania on March 7, 2007 at 1 pm, location TBA. Ariel Gore will read from her recent books and share with the audience her experiences as a writer and magazine founder and editor.

Ms. Gore is the founding editor of the zine Hip Mama and a prolific writer. Her first novel, The Traveling Death and Resurrection Show was published last spring. Her new book, How to Become a Famous Writer Before You’re Dead – Your Words in Print and Your Name in Lights, is due out in March 2007 from Three Rivers Press.


Ariel is a contributor to Ms. & Utne magazines and teaches The Memoir Workshop at The Attic in Portland. Ariel also maintains a blog. Visit her at www.arielgore.com.

Calling All Women Student Artists

The Sylvania Women’s Resource Center is hosting a Women Student Art Exhibit, to be installed in the Performing Arts Center Lobby March 5—9, 2007. An artist reception and awards ceremony will be hosted by the WRC on Wednesday, March 7th at 7pm.

WRC Student Advocates Jennifer Walker and Arielle Clark are organizing this event. Jen and Ariel invite women student visual artists to submit up to three pieces of their work for consideration in the exhibit.

Submission forms and criteria will be available in the Women’s Resource Center Monday, January 29th. Prizes will be awarded. For more info come by CC 273 or call at (503) 977-8101.

The Global Economy and Women Display at PCC

In recognition of International Women’s Day the Sylvania Women’s Resource Center’s Student Advocate, Jovita Sandoval-Morgan, will install a display examining The Impact of Fair Trade on Women Globally. The display will be shown February 26—March 9, 2007 in the Upper CC Mall.

Most women throughout the world work in low-skilled, low-wage jobs. They are paid less than men in nearly every country in the world and they work longer hours. Women sewing athletic shoes in Thailand make less than $4 per day and in Mexican factories women make as little as $10 manufacturing parts for U.S. cars.

Not only do women bear a disproportionate burden of the world’s poverty, but in some cases, globalization has widened the gap, with women losing more than their share of jobs, benefits and labor rights. Free trade agreements are made with practically no participation from civil society and mostly fail take gender disparities into account.

The path out of poverty for most women requires economic frameworks that address their exclusion from the economic mainstream. Groups like UNIFEM help women around the world break the cycle of violence with programs like their Gender Responsive Budget Initiatives.
**Women Taking Leadership Nationally and at PCC**

Nancy Pelosi and Linda Gerber

Upon being installed as the first woman Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi said, “This is an historic moment - for the Congress, and for the women of this country. It is a moment for which we have waited more than 200 years. Never losing faith, we waited through the many years of struggle to achieve our rights. But women weren't just waiting; women were working. Never losing faith, we worked to redeem the promise of America, that all men and women are created equal. For our daughters and granddaughters, today we have broken the marble ceiling. For our daughters and our granddaughters, today the sky is the limit - anything is possible.”

Dr. Linda Gerber was appointed the new Sylvania Campus President. Dr. Gerber has held the position in an interim capacity since May 2006. Dr. Gerber formerly served as Executive Dean of Instruction at Mt. Hood Community College. During her ten years at MHCC, she also served as Dean of the Language and Literature Division. From 1984 to 1987, she was Director of Portland State University’s Educational Opportunity Program. Her interests include supporting and mentoring young people who are just beginning their careers in education, non-fiction writing, studying and participating when time allows in state and national politics, downhill skiing and scuba diving.

**WE NEED MORE WOMEN LEADERS**

Women are emerging at all levels—local, state, and federal—to express their desire to lead. We have more women than ever in the Senate, House and State Legislature. Characterized by their authenticity and strong records of civic involvement, women are filling the pipeline to power. But we need to do more.

The U.S. takes a back seat to 65 other countries globally in the number of women representatives running the national government. The U.S. is in 66th place with our 16.6% of women in U.S. Congress. We are way behind Rwanda at #1 with 48.8%, Mozambique in 10th place with 34.8%, and Iraq in 28th place at 25.5%.

We need more women leaders. Become a leader today, attend the National Young Women’s Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.

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**Illumination Project Addresses Racism**

The Illumination Project of PCC Sylvania is an innovative social justice theater project designed to address issues of oppression through classroom and community presentations utilizing interactive theater.

**SYLVANIA PERFORMANCES**

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<tr>
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<td>Thursday, February 15th:</td>
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<td>Wednesday, March 7th:</td>
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Performances are free and locations are wheelchair accessible. Individuals and groups are welcome, no reservations needed for individuals. If you would like a sign-language interpreter for a performance please call the office for students with disabilities at 503 977 4341.

The Illumination Project has the dual purpose of providing participating students with an opportunity to develop skills as educators, activists, and leaders and to educate students, staff, faculty, and community audiences on social justice issues. The Illumination Project, a program of the Sylvania WRC is also sponsored through the Sylvania MC and Sociology and Theater departments. The Illumination Project is also made possible through the generous support of The Equity Foundation, The Ford Foundation and The Vagina Monologues.
“For me, forgiveness and compassion are always linked: how do we hold people accountable for wrongdoing and yet at the same time remain in touch with their humanity enough to believe in their capacity to be transformed?” bell hooks, American intellectual, feminist, and social activist.

Portland Community College
Sylvania Women’s Resource Center
P.O. Box 19000
Portland, OR 97280