INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S WEEK
36 YEARS AT VANIER
MARCH 2 - 6, 2015

White Ribbon Campaign - Sexual Harassment - Men and Feminism - Sex Workers - Tracey Deer
Women and the Music Industry - Women and Engineering - Cyberbullying - Dance
Elizabeth May, Leader of the Green Party of Canada - Business Women
A Special Thank You to the VCSA for contributing so much to this week.

Presented by: Women’s Studies
Poster Design by: Anj Chowdary
Internal Contact: Evangelina Caldwell, MIO
External Contact: Marguerite Corbeau

VANIER
CEGEP/COLLEGE
Welcome to Vanier College’s 36th International Women’s Week!
Welcome to the 36th edition of International Women’s Week! International Women’s Week is developed by Women’s Studies and we would love to have every member of the Vanier community come to at least one event. Please join us! As a courtesy to our guest speakers, we ask members of the audience to sit close to the stage.
Women’s Studies recognizes the important contribution made by the VCSA Social Justice Committee and the VCSA Events.

Faculty: If you would like to bring a class to an event, please MIO Evangeline Caldwell. For faculty who have already confirmed a class presence -> we’re good. If you would like to offer a small assignment to your students without bringing the class, there is no need to MIO.

Keynote Speaker: Elizabeth May, MP representing Saanich-Gulf Islands and Leader of the Green Party of Canada
March 3rd, Tuesday: 4:00 – 5:30 Auditorium
Presented by Women’s Studies in partnership with the Sustainability Major

Week long displays:
Throughout the College: Challenges women face around the world. Prepared by Janice Paquette's Sociology of Health Nursing students.

Monday, March 2nd

8:30 – 10:00 Auditorium Guest Speaker
Canadian Supreme Court Landmark Decision on Sexual Harassment: How a Student Made this Happen
Dianna Janzen Evangeline
Thirty-three years ago, when she was a 21-year-old student, Dianna Janzen Evangeline was one of two Winnipeg waitresses who endured sexual harassment at the hands of a co-worker. After a legal battle of almost 7 years, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that the harassment was discrimination and that the employer was responsible for the actions of their employees to each other (Janzen v Platy Enterprises Ltd.)
What does this landmark decision mean today? How does one voice make a difference? What do I do if I am being harassed at work? How do we speak up until all employers consistently step up?
Let's answer those questions by reflecting on that 7-year journey to the Supreme Court.
Today, Dianna holds a CMA designation (Certified Management Accountant) and delivers a multi variant perspective; as a survivor, as a parent and as a business professional.

11:30 – 1:00 Sports Complex, G202 Dance Workshop
Introduction to Contemporary Dance
Melissa Spensieri
Melissa Spensieri began dancing when 3 years old, then teaching at the age of 15, at Ecole de danse Johanne Marchand. In 2008, Melissa opened her own dance studio, Ecole de Danse Prestige, where she teaches Jazz, Tap, Lyrical and Hip Hop dance. She is also a member of the DancEvolution Hip Hop competition circuit and judges a number of Hip Hop competitions each year.
Places are very limited. Please contact Natalie Carlino, MIO

12:00 – 1:30 Amphitheatre Guest Speaker
Empowering Women in Business
Lori Dermer
Women’s Studies in partnership with Business Administration and Commerce
Lori Dermer is a Vanier College and McGill University graduate who has spent over 20 years in the corporate world. Eight years ago, she began her own company, Dermer Consulting. She currently holds the position of Executive Recruiter, recruiting people for senior management positions for business. She is uniquely qualified to answer the following questions: What are the opportunities for women’s careers in the digital era? What do you need to know to negotiate your way through early career choices? How do you have your contributions acknowledged by your employer? This presentation will address those questions and give realistic advice from the business world. There will be an opportunity to engage in lively discussion. Please come with your questions.

1:00 – 2:30 Sports Complex, G202 Dance Workshop
Introduction to Hip Hop.
Melissa Spensieri
Places are very limited. Please contact Natalie Carlino, MIO

2:30 – 4:00 N536 Guest Speaker
The Goddess Returns
Meri Fowler Wiccan High Priestess.
The understanding and honouring of the Divine Feminine empowers women to take back control of their lives. Empowered women translates to empowered girls, and supported men and boys. Join Wiccan High priestess Meri Fowler for a talk about women’s empowerment within Wicca, A Goddess Centered spirituality.
Seating is very limited: Please contact Gordon Aronoff, MIO, or aronoffg@vaniercollege.qc.ca

2:30 – 4:00 Auditorium Documentary Features
Purity Myth: The Virginity Movement’s War Against Women, 2011 (46 minutes)
By Jeremy Earp, Scott Morris, Jessica Valenti, Jason Young.
The United States is obsessed with virginity from the media to schools to government agencies. The purity myth is an important and timely critique of about why this is so, and why it’s problematic for girls and women. Analyzing cultural stereotypes and media messages, Jessica Valenti reveals the overt and hidden ways our society links a woman’s work to her sexuality rather than to values like honesty, kindness, and altruism. With intelligence and wit, this film exposes the legal and social punishments that women who dare have sex endure, while presenting a powerful argument that evaluating girls and women on their sexuality needs to stop.

En la casa, la cama y la calle (At home, in bed and in the streets), 2013 (36 minutes)
By Liz Miller
From a small country with a revolutionary history, comes a compelling TV drama with a big vision. The documentary En la casa, la cama y la calle, follows an inspiring Nicaraguan women’s rights group, Puntos de Encuentro, as it works to end sexual violence at home, in bed and in the streets through a powerful blend of mainstream media and grassroots organizing. Puntos de Encuentro’s television family drama Contracorriente has reached millions of viewers and is at the center of a campaign to prevent sexual exploitation and trafficking in Central America and the Caribbean.

4:00 – 5:30 Amphitheatre Guest Speakers
U.M.B.R.E.L.L.A. in partnership with Open Door Network
U.M.B.R.E.L.L.A.
Did you know that Vanier has a student LGBT and allies group called U.M.B.R.E.L.L.A.? They are involved in promoting campaigns in the college that draw attention to LGBT status and rights in Canada and abroad. A panel of U.M.B.R.E.L.L.A. members will discuss their experiences and attitudes as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender college students. Come see what they have to teach us about sexual orientation and gender identity from the point of view of a college student. Let’s talk about gender neutral bathrooms.

Tuesday, March 3rd

10:00 - 11:30 Auditorium Guest Speaker
Musician, Historian, Luthier, Business Woman: Making it in the World of Music Mamie Minch
Mamie Minch is a Brooklyn, NY based luthier, performing musician and recording artist. In her talk, she will highlight living in New York City as an artist as well as her two-fold career as a musician and co-owner of Brooklyn Lutherie, a highly regarded instrument repair and restoration shop. Mamie will also talk about the stories of some of the important and compelling female musicians who have played a part in shaping modern American music.

Noon – 1:30 Auditorium Guest Speaker
White Ribbon Campaign: Eliminating Violence Against Women
Sponsored by the VCSA in partnership with Women’s Studies
Michael Kaufman

Michael Kaufman’s innovative approaches to engaging men and boys in promoting gender equality and transforming their lives has taken him around the world. He is the co-founder of the White Ribbon Campaign, one of the largest men's anti-violence programs, now present in over 57 countries around the world. Its basic principle is the importance of men and boys speaking out against all forms of violence against women. The White Ribbon Campaign (WRC) appeared in 1991; a call to action prompted by the Montreal Polytechnique massacre where 14 female engineering students were killed because they were women. Michael Kaufman will speak of progress made and paths forward.

1:00 – 2:00 Metro Area Contest
A VCSA Events and Social Justice Committee Contest
Do you know your feminism?
Clara Levesque, VCSA Events Coordinator and Lida Aman, VCSA Social Justice Coordinator
Feminism has historical roots and, throughout the years, has become more inclusive. Feminism is a worldview that gave rise to a movement that aims for equality and identifies the oppressive nature of patriarchy. How well do you think you know feminism? Answer some questions and win a prize on the Wheel of Fortune!

2:30 – 4:00 Auditorium Films
Pink or Blue? 2014 (7 minutes)
Created, produced and directed by Barbara Bedont
"Pink or Blue?" is a short observational documentary that asks how a child might express their gender identity if freed from societal pressures and gender stereotypes. Viewers tag along on a shopping trip where a mother gives her four-year-old child the freedom to select a Halloween costume, and witness the mixed reactions at the child's dance class.

Orchids: My Intersex Adventure 2010 (60 minutes)
by Phoebe Hart
Gen X filmmaker Phoebe Hart always knew she was different growing up -- but she didn't know why. This award-winning documentary traces Phoebe's voyage of self-discovery across Australia as an intersex person, a group of conditions formerly termed hermaphroditism. Learning only in her teens that she was born with 46XY (male) chromosomes, Hart now seeks to understand her own story and the stories of other affected by this complex and often shamed syndrome. Questioning rigidly defined constructs of gender, sexuality, and normality, often with lively humor, Orchids is an engaging portrait of survival, courage and reconciliation.

4:00 – 5:30 Auditorium Keynote Speaker
Mother Earth
Women’s Studies in partnership with the Sustainability Major
Elizabeth May, MP representing Saanich-Gulf Islands and Leader of the Green Party of Canada
Elizabeth May is an environmentalist, writer, activist, lawyer, and teacher who became active in the environmental movement in the 1970s. She is the author of eight books, holds three honorary doctorates, and became an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2005. During her formative years, Elizabeth May worked in her family’s restaurant and gift shop business.
Elizabeth May held the position of Associate General Council for the Public Interest Advocacy Centre prior to becoming Senior Policy Advisor to the federal minister of the Environment from 1986 until 1988. She became Executive Director of the Sierra Club of Canada in 1989, a position she held until March 2006 when she became leader of the Green Party of Canada. In November 2010, Newsweek magazine named her “one of the world’s most influential women.” She was chosen (by a vote of all MPs) as Maclean’s magazine’s 2012 Parliamentarian of the Year, 2013 Hardest Working MP, 2014 Best Orator and by the Hill Times in 2013 and 2014 as Hardest Working MP, Best Constituency MP and Best Public Speaker. It is a privilege to welcome her to the Vanier community.

**Wednesday, March 4th**

**8:30 – 10:00 Amphitheatre**  
Guest Speaker  
Sexism, Homophobia, and Gender Online: Harnessing the Law to Counter Gendered Cyberbullying and Sexting  
Rebecca Katz  

Cyberbullying and sexting are often front-page headlines, but media and the public sometimes ignore their gendered dimensions. In fact, sexism, homophobia, and related forms of discrimination are prevalent in online and offline bullying and in sexting incidents. Rebecca Katz explores gendered aspects of cyberbullying and sexting and assesses how various laws can counter them – or fail to do so. She also explores students’ practical legal rights and remedies should they face these challenges themselves.

**10:30 - 12:00 Auditorium**  
Guest Speaker  
Men Rethinking Masculinity, Feminism and Homophobia  
Wade Davis  

In his own words: “For me, existing at the intersection of Black manhood, Black masculinity, sexuality and sports was the most dangerous place in the world. As an athlete you have to consistently prove yourself; as a Black male athlete, 'I' felt the pressure to consistently prove myself, my masculinity and my sexuality. I lived under a microscope, at least I thought, and I never had the opportunity to just be myself within the confines of a never-ending cycle of masculine performance. I was never alone. I was never able to relax......”  

Mr. Davis is a former NFL player and currently Executive Director of the You Can Play Project, an advocacy organization working to eradicate homophobia in professional sports.

**12:00 – 1:30 Auditorium**  
Film and Panel  
Girls Rising directed by Richard Robbins; followed by a panel discussion  
Sponsored by the VCSA in partnership with Women’s Studies  
Clara Levesque, VCSA Events Coordinator and Lida Aman, VCSA Social Justice Coordinator  

The movie tells the stories of nine girls from different parts of the world who face arranged marriages, child slavery, and other heartbreaking injustices. Despite these obstacles, the brave girls offer hope and inspiration. By getting an education, they're able to break barriers and create change. Each girl’s story was written by a renowned writer from her native country.
12:00 – 1:30  Carrefour  Information Table

Women and Nutrition
Sponsored by Student Services
Sandra Grant
Sandra Grant will discuss women’s health & nutrition. An opportunity for everyone to discuss healthier eating habits. Drop by and meet Vanier College’s resident nutritionist.

Thursday, March 5th

10:00 – 11:30  Auditorium  Guest Speakers

Ladies of Ink
Erika Doyon and Rian Desourdie
Erika Doyon and Rian Desourdie are tattoo artists. They will offer a brief overview of the tattoo industry including safety practices as well as how tattoos have become more socially acceptable today. They will then discuss the history of women in the tattooing industry and the challenges women face as tattoo artists. Examples of famous women tattoo artists and their work will be presented. There will also be a discussion of how different communities view women who choose this form of body expression. Erica Doyon is the owner of Studio Artease.

11:30 – 1:00  Auditorium  Film

THE PUNK SINGER  2013  (80 minutes)
Directed by Sini Anderson
Kathleen Hanna, lead singer of the punk band Bikini Kill and dance-punk trio Le Tigre, rose to national attention as the reluctant but never shy voice of the riot grrrl movement. She became one of the most famously outspoken feminist icons, a cultural lightning rod. Her critics wished she would just shut-up, and her fans hoped she never would. So in 2005, when Hanna stopped shouting, many wondered why. Through 20 years of archival footage and intimate interviews with Hanna, THE PUNK SINGER takes viewers on a fascinating tour of contemporary music and offers a never-before-seen view into the life of this fearless leader.

1:00 – 3:00  In front of library entrance  Information Table

Concordia University Women in Engineering
Karina Bagryan
Like the sciences? Have you thought of pursuing engineering? Health Science is not the only option for you! Former Vanier students and current Engineering students at Concordia University are coming to talk about different opportunities and ways to succeed in the engineering field for both, male and female students. Concordia University Women in Engineering Society promotes the equality and success of engineering students. Come and ask a question!

1:00 – 2:30  Auditorium  Guest Speakers
Women Sports Broadcasters

Andie Bennett provides sports coverage, including the Canadiens, Alouettes and the Montreal Impact, on the morning show Daybreak of the CBC;
Robyn Flynn is a producer, reporter & co-host at TSN Radio 690, as well as a technical producer at CJAD 800;
Jessica Rusnak covers the Canadiens for TSN 960 and does sideline reporting on the Montreal Impact for TSN;
Amanda Stein co-hosts the weekend morning show: The Locker Room on TSN 690 and provides sportscasts to CJAD 800.

Come hear a panel of four female sports broadcasters discussing how they broke into the male dominated field of sports broadcasting. They will discuss their love of sport and why they wanted to work in this field. These presenters will share with us the reality of what it means to be a female sports journalist and discuss the sexism and misogyny they have encountered as females at work, with colleagues and even online.

2:30 – 4:00 Auditorium Guest Speaker
Tracey Deer and Mohawk Girls

Tracey Deer
Women’s Studies in partnership with the Vanier Indigenous Circle

Tracey Deer is a Gemini Award winning Mohawk film director. Ms. Deer will speak about becoming a filmmaker. She will also speak of specific events that have affected her home, Kahnawake, as well as herself personally. She will show clips of Mohawk Girls and discuss the motivations behind the show. Mohawk Girls is a half hour dramatic comedy about four young women figuring out how to be Mohawk in the 21st century. The series centers on four twenty-something Mohawk women trying to find their place in the world. And, of course, trying to find love. Torn between family pressure, tradition, obligation and the intoxicating freedom of the "outside world," this fabulous foursome is on a mission to find happiness... and to find themselves.

4:00 – 5:30 Auditorium Film
EMPIRE OF DIRT 2013 (99 Minutes)

Peter Stebbing
Three generations of Canadian Aboriginal women find strength in family while confronting addiction and dysfunction in rural Ontario. When her daughter suffers an overdose, single mother Lena packs them both up and heads to her estranged mother’s home far from the city. A model and recovering drug user herself, Lena knows well the dangers of addiction, and realizes that her daughter's very life is at stake. However, before these three women can reclaim the future, they must first own up to the past.

Friday, March 6th

8:30 – 10:00 Auditorium Guest Speakers
Women and Racism

Lida Aman, VCSA Social Justice Officer
Dany Brown, Student Services
Manda Fischer, Student at Vanier College
Shana Stafiej, Learning Center
Valérie Simon, Vanier graduate and student at Simone de Beauvoir Institute
This panel will address issues of racism from both a personal as well as a social justice perspective. The emphasis of this presentation/discussion is to identify strategies that help us minimize the negative effects of racism. These strategies may come from the personal, political and social fora. Audience participation is encouraged.

11:30 – 1:00 Auditorium Film
D’ICI ET D’AILLEURS 2008 (59 minutes)
Produced and directed by Nada Raphael
Nine women from Montreal reveal themselves to the camera. They are lesbian, bisexual and two-spirited. They come from Malaysia, Tunisia, Lebanon, Guinea and Ghana. Some are First Nations women. They reveal their sometimes painful, sometimes effortless passages leading to the acceptance of their sexual orientations, and share their views on homoparentality, relationships, families, and couples. Different stories of women who at one point claimed the right to be themselves and today live with the happy, and sometimes unhappy, consequences of this self-affirmation.

1:00 – 2:30 Auditorium Film
Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathi 2008 80 minutes
Lisa Merton and Alan Dater
Taking Root tells the dramatic story of Kenyan Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Wangari Maathai whose simple act of planting trees grew into a nationwide movement to safeguard the environment, protect human rights, and defend democracy. Wangari Maathai, a woman born in rural Kenya, started down this path that reclaimed her country’s land from 100 years of deforestation, provided new sources of food and income to rural communities, and gave previously impoverished and powerless women a vital political role in their country.

Acknowledgements
The IWW 2014 Steering Committee (Gordon Aronoff, Evangeline Caldwell, Natalie Carlino, Caroline Chwojka, Cheryl Donison, Judy Ingerman, Maureen Jones, Maggie Kathwaroon, April Lepitre, Vanessa Vandergrift) are very grateful for the help received from the following colleagues: Darren Becker, Normand Bernier, Shari Blaukopf, Loïc Boyer, Dany Brown, Marisa Cannatelli, Silvana Cannatelli, Elana Cooperberg, Aruj Choudery (Micromedia), Marguerite Corriveau, Mike Demole, Denis Lafontaine, Ivanka Hillel, Geeta Johal, Debbie Larin, Steve Leung, Zsofia Orszagh, Philip Parenteau, Sheree Sitahal, Nora Soukiassian, David Spadotto, Joan Taylor, Janelle Villanueva.

For their generous support, a heartfelt thank you to:
For More Information
Women’s Studies
Evangeline Caldwell, coordinator
caldwele@vaniercollege.qc.ca or MIO

Cover and Poster Design by: Aruj Choudery, Micromedia student