

**Heather**, for her dedication and support  
**Janine**, for providing this opportunity and believing in us  
**Cassie**, for her amazing directing talents and vision  
**The Cast**, for their hard work, passion, commitment and support of each other  
**Feminist Action Alliance and production staff and crew members and volunteers**,  
 for their dedication, creativity and willingness to take on this HUGE project  
**Casey, Irada, Jackie, Nicole S., Serenity, Teris, and Tina**,  
 for their casting, directorial and production assistance  
**Carolyn & Women's Center staff & volunteers**, for helping with whatever needs to be done  
**David Patrick and the WIU Theatre Department**,  
 for their generosity in allowing us to use their space and rocking chair  
**University Relations, Visual Productions, and local and area media**  
 for their assistance with publicity  
**Document and Publication Services**, for their printing assistance  
**The audience members and everyone who has purchased V-Day merchandise**,  
 for supporting the cause.  
**Everyone who has contributed time, energy and talent**  
 to help ensure the success of this year's event!

**Merchandise Sales\***

"TVM Spread the Word" Coin Purses \$2  
 Official V-Day T-shirts (XL only) \$5  
 "Behold the Power of the Vagina" T-shirts (S-XXXL) \$10  
 "Where's Bob?" Thong Underwear (M, L) \$3  
 V-Day Buttons and V-pins \$1  
 V-Day Magnetic Poetry Kits \$5  
 V-Day Chocolate Pops \$2 each; 3 for \$5; or 6 for \$10  
 (White Chocolate, Creamy Smooth Milk Chocolate,  
 Dark Chocolate, Cherry Milk Chocolate, Carmel Cream Latte )  
*The Vagina Monologues* book \$10  
*A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant, and A Prayer* book \$10

Western Illinois University will donate at least 10% of the  
 V-Day profits from ticket and merchandise sales to V-Day International for  
 the fund for Women of the Democratic Republic of Congo.  
 Additional proceeds will go to the  
 Western Illinois Regional Council Victim Services Agency's  
 Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Programs,  
 the WIU Counseling Center, the WIU Women's Center,  
 and WIU's Office of Public Safety's Rape Aggression Defense Program  
 for violence prevention efforts and survivor support services.

# V DAY 2009

## "The Vagina Monologues"

by Eve Ensler

February 12, 13 & 14, 2009

7:30 p.m.

Horrabin Hall Theatre  
 Western Illinois University  
 Macomb, IL



## “The Vagina Monologues”

*Directed by Cassandra “Cassie” Horn*

### Program

“Introduction” - *Dayna, Erin, Kalee*  
 “Hair” - *Mary*  
 “Wear and Say” - *Amanda, Angie, Quinn, Sara*  
 “The Flood” - *Yazmin*  
 “The Vagina Workshop” - *Quinn, Kari, Kalee*  
 Vagina Happy Fact - *Amanda*  
 “Because He Liked to Look at It” - *Maria*  
 Not-so-happy Fact - *Amanda*  
 “My Angry Vagina” - *Caitlin*  
 “My Vagina was My Village” - *Kristen*  
 “The Little Coochi Snorcher That Could” - *Whitney*  
*and Dayna as the memory*  
 Outrageous Vagina Fact - *Erin*  
 “Hey Miss Pat” - *Abraxas*  
 “Reclaiming Cunt” - *Kari*  
 “A Six-year-old Girl Was Asked” - *Angie as the child*  
*and Sara as the interviewer*  
 “The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy” - *Dani*  
 “I Was There in the Room” - *Lenora*  
 2009 Spotlight Monologue - *Bit*  
*Narrated by Allison and Karen*

### The Cast

<b>Kristen Aguirre</b>	<b>Lenora Greenwaldt</b>	<b>Yazmin Ramos</b>
<b>Quinn Bilyeu</b>	<b>Allison Hanson</b>	<b>Caitlin Salmon</b>
<b>Karen Blatchley</b>	<b>Kalee Lindemann</b>	<b>Bit</b> Sonouni
<b>Dani Bugay</b>	<b>Erin McCarthy</b>	<b>Abraxas Thomas</b>
<b>Dayna Davis</b>	<b>Sara Moffatt</b>	<b>Mary Torres</b>
<b>Maria DeRose</b>	<b>Angela Panicucci</b>	<b>Amanda Voss</b>
	<b>Whitney Pipes</b>	<b>Kari Warning</b>

### Production Crew

**Janine Cavicchia**  
**Nicole Peter**  
**Heather McCoy**  
**Lindsey Sheppard**

**Thanks to the following campus and community offices, agencies, organizations for providing resource materials and information on violence against women prevention and recovery, women’s healthcare, and other relevant topics.**

**Please stop by the resource tables in the lobby before and after the show.**

Feminist Action Alliance: 309-298-2242  
 University Counseling Center: 309-298-2453  
 Beu Health Center: 309-298-1888  
 Western Illinois Regional Council—Community Action Agency  
 Victim Services Domestic Violence Office: 309-837-6622  
 Victim Services Sexual Assault Office: 309-836-2148  
 VS 24-hour Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Crisis Line: 309-837-5555  
 The Women’s Center: 309-298-2242 [www.wc.wiu.edu](http://www.wc.wiu.edu)

#### **WIRC-CAA Victim Services Program**

The WIRC-CAA Victim Services staff and volunteers understand that domestic and sexual violence are problems shared by people of every age, religion, ethnic background, income and educational level. The program provides free and confidential services in a safe environment with knowledgeable staff members who are ready to provide emergency services, advocacy, issue counseling and prevention and community education. Victim Services assists more than 800 people each year in Hancock, Henderson, McDonough and Warren counties.

#### **Feminist Action Alliance Student Organization Mission Statement:**

The people of this organization, Feminist Action Alliance, come together in a community which we define as safe for all, in order to support the growth and advancement of women. We foster the empowerment of women educationally, spiritually, physically and emotionally. Our purpose includes the promotion of women through the education of our campus community and ourselves in order to work toward equality and respect for women in our society.

**The Women’s Center’s mission is to promote gender equity** through education, support and advocacy and to respond to issues affecting the status of female students, faculty and staff on campus, as well as women in the community & in society.

**Please come help us plan our upcoming activities, and attend our programs.**

**Watch for publicity and information about these events:**

Rape Aggression Defense Class Feb. 17, 24, March 3 and 10!  
 Women’s History Month (March 2009)  
 Women’s Art Exhibit (March 2009)  
 Take Back the Campus, April 9, 2009  
 The Clothesline Project Display April 15, 2009; T-shirt making sessions in March & April  
 Equal Pay Day, April 28, 2009  
 Take Back the Night March and Rally, October 8, 2009

**If you would like to keep in touch with V-Day and stay informed about events, actions, and opportunities for participation, sign up for V-Mail, the movement's online newsletter, by visiting the V-Day Web site at [www.vday.org/vmail](http://www.vday.org/vmail)**

**EVE ENSLER** (Playwright/Performer/Activist), award-winning author of *The Vagina Monologues*, has just completed a 20 North American cities tour from October 2005-April 2006 with her newest play *The Good Body*, following engagements on Broadway in NYC, at ACT in San Francisco. *The Good Body* addresses why women of all cultures and backgrounds - whether undergoing Botox injections or living beneath burkhas - feel compelled to change the way they look in order to fit in, to be accepted, to be good.

Ms. Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues* has been translated into over 45 languages and is running in theaters all over the world, including sold-out runs at both Off-Broadway's Westside Theater and on London's West End (2002 Olivier Award nomination, Best Entertainment.) Her experience performing *The Vagina Monologues* inspired her to create V-Day, a global movement to stop violence against women and girls. Ms. Ensler's performance in *The Vagina Monologues* can be seen in the HBO original documentary of the play (2002).

Ensler has devoted her life to stopping violence, envisioning a planet in which women and girls will be free to thrive rather than merely survive. *TVM* is based on her interviews with more than 200 women. With humor and grace the piece celebrates women's sexuality and strength.

Today, V-Day is a global movement that supports anti-violence organizations throughout the world, helping them to continue and expand their core work on the ground, while drawing public attention to the larger fight to stop worldwide violence (including rape, battery, incest, female genital mutilation (FGM), sexual slavery) against women and girls. V-Day exists for no other reason than to stop violence against women. In just eight years, it has raised over \$35 million and was named one of Worth magazine's "100 Best Charities."

V-Day stages large-scale benefits and produces innovative gatherings, films, and programs to educate and change social attitudes regarding violence against women. These include the documentary "Until The Violence Stops;" Karama, a program to support ending violence towards women in the Middle East. Africa and Asia: community briefings with Amnesty International on the missing and murdered women of Juárez, Mexico; the December 2002 V-Day delegation trip to Israel, Palestine, Egypt and Jordan; the Afghan Women's Summit; the Stop Rape Contest; the Indian Country Project.

Ms. Ensler's play *Necessary Targets*, set in a Bosnian refugee camp, opened Off-Broadway at the Variety Arts Theater in February 2002, after a hit run at Hartford Stage. Other plays include *Conviction*, *Lemonade*, *The Depot*, *Floating Rhoda* and *the Glue Man*, and *Extraordinary Measures*. *The Good Body*, *The Vagina Monologues*, and *Necessary Targets* have been published by Villard/Random House. *Vagina Warriors*, words by Eve Ensler and photos by Joyce Tenneson, was published by Bulfinch Press for V-Day 2005.

Ms. Ensler is the recipient of many awards including the Guggenheim Fellowship Award in Playwriting, the Berrilla-Kerr Award for Playwriting, the Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Solo Performance, and the Jury Award for Theater at the U.S. Comedy Arts Festival, as well as the 2002 Amnesty International Media Spotlight Award for Leadership and The Matrix Award.

She is the Executive Producer of *What I Want My Words To Do To You*, a documentary about the writing group she has led since 1998 at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility for Women. The film had its world premiere at the 2003 Sundance Film Festival where it received the Freedom Of Expression Award and premiered nationally on PBS's P.O.V. She has received numerous Honorary degrees, including Doctor of Letters from her alma mater, Middlebury College.

Eve Ensler's Obie-Award winning play, *The Vagina Monologues*—hailed as "funny" and "poignant" by the New York Times—dives into the mystery, humor, pain, power, wisdom, outrage and excitement buried in women's experiences. Based on actual interviews with a diverse group of hundreds of women -- from a woman giving birth to being a woman living in Bosnia—*The Vagina Monologues* brazenly explores questions pondered but seldom asked.

V-Day was born in 1998 as an outgrowth of Eve Ensler's Obie-Award winning play *The Vagina Monologues*. As Eve performed the piece in small towns and large cities all around the world, she saw and heard first-hand the destructive personal, social, political and economic consequences violence against women has for many nations.

Hundreds of women told her their stories of rape, incest, domestic battery and genital mutilation. It was clear that something widespread and dramatic needed to be done to stop the violence. A group of women in New York joined Eve and founded V-Day . . . a catalyst, a movement, a performance.

[www.vday.org/contents/vday/history](http://www.vday.org/contents/vday/history)

### V-Day Mission

V-Day is an organized response against violence towards women.

V-Day is a vision: We see a world where women live safely and freely.

V-Day is a demand: Rape, battery, incest, genital mutilation and sexual slavery must end now.

V-Day is a spirit: We believe women should spend their lives creating and thriving rather than surviving or recovering from terrible atrocities.

V-Day is a catalyst: By raising money and consciousness, it will unify and strengthen existing anti-violence efforts. Triggering far-reaching awareness, it will lay the groundwork for new educational, protective, and legislative endeavors throughout the world.

V-Day is a process: We will work as long as it takes. We will not stop until the violence stops.

V-Day is a day: We proclaim Valentine's Day as V-Day, to celebrate women and end the violence.

V-Day is a fierce, wild, unstoppable movement and community. Join us!

According to V-Day International, [www.vday.org](http://www.vday.org),  
In 2008 more than 4000 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.  
WIU is one of at least 35 colleges and universities in Illinois to be putting on a  
production of *The Vagina Monologues* this year.  
**The 'V' in V-Day stands for Victory, Valentine and Vagina.**

*Due to the powerful and emotional content of this performance, staff and volunteers are available to talk with individuals at this evening's performance. Please let us know if you would like to talk with someone either during or after the performance. University Counseling Center staff also are available to talk with students Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.*

**Western Illinois University is a smoke-free environment.  
The use of any recording device (photo, sound or video)  
by audience members is prohibited.  
Please turn all cell phones off (or better yet, on vibrate!)**

**Kristen Aguirre** is a senior journalism major and professional writing minor from the south side of Chicago. She has never done theater before. She is very active on campus and is involved in PRSSA, SPJ, Best Buddies, SDA, and LASO. She wanted to become involved with V-Day in order to empower women, so we may unite and stop violence everywhere. She hopes to run her own non-profit public relations firm one day. She would like to thank her family for all their love and support.

**Quinn Bilyeu** is a junior English/Spanish major. An advocate of women's history, she organized Black Hawk's first Herstory Fest in March 2008. This event included two guest speakers, an art installation, and a fundraiser for Winnie's Place, a women's shelter. She's glad to be involved in women's advocacy again.

**Karen Blatchley** is a senior communication major and Spanish minor from Westmont, IL. She will be working as a marketing assistant after she graduates in May, thanks to a great internship with the company last summer. Although this is her first WIU production, she had theatre experience in high school. Her favorite role was Nancy in the musical "Oliver!" her senior year. She has enjoyed the opportunity to be a part of the cast for "The Vagina Monologues" and would like to thank her family for their love and support.

**Danielle "Dani" Bugay** is an English and women's studies double major who has been involved in the Women's Studies Student Association; Iota, Iota, Iota; and FAA. As a novice actor and vocal feminist, she is thrilled to be involved in "The Vagina Monologues" again this year (she was in the cast last year) because of the way it incorporates real women's individual stories into a show that is hilarious, touching, and deeply liberating. She wants to thank Dan for being so amazingly fabulous, and apologize to her mother for freaking her out...Again.

**Dayna Davis** is a senior political science major from Dahinda, Illinois. She says that "The Vagina Monologues" is an awesome show, and she feels privileged to be a part of it. Dayna would like to thank her family, roommates, and awesome boyfriend for their unconditional love and support.

**Maria DeRose**, new faculty member at WIU in the Women's Studies Department, is a long-term fan (and occasional performer) of "The Vagina Monologues." She often embarrasses her students by discussing "TVM" in her class and hopes she doesn't embarrass herself in front of them in her performance tonight.

**Lenora Greenwaldt**, senior social work major, is the mother of three children, Stacy, Chris, and Shawn. She is also the grandmother of Riley and Elizabeth. Lenora has had personal experience with sexual assault and understands how difficult it can be to move past the trauma. She understands the importance of programs like "The Vagina Monologues" that serve to educate everyone about sexual violence against women. She is thrilled to be a part of the program and hopes to be a voice for all survivors and to let them know they are not alone.

September 16, 2008

I write to you from Bukavu, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). I write living in the midst of the greatest violence and despair and the greatest possibility. I think if we learn anything in the work we do it is that being able to stand in the center of opposites is what eventually makes us free and compassionate. The DRC reminds me of this everyday.

Three days ago, we had the V-Day/UNICEF "Breaking the Silence" event in Goma in alliance with local groups and activists. We had a great victory...Ten women survivors publicly told their stories of sexual violence. Each one took the stage with such grace, such confidence, such heart and such courage. The testimonies went on for several hours. The emotion in the audience was so powerful. Activists offered boxes of Kleenex. Many men were crying. I sat and held a man who was a pastor who openly wept...my favorite moment was a when the women were honored at the end with pink scarves (made in Paris) with the words "I am a Survivor. I can do anything" written in French. As they were given their scarves, I saw a sea of pink liberation. Every single survivor reported that after the experience she felt free...

And, holding the opposite, yesterday, our hospital, the Panzi Hospital, was attacked by a mob, shattering windows, cars and spirits. It goes like that here, but we move forward. We move back; we move forward. But what's important is that we are in this together for the long haul, for the people, for the women of the DRC and for all women across this planet who are being undermined and violated in the global epidemic of femicide. After the attack, as I marched in protest with V-Day staff members and the members of Panzi Hospital, I felt their anger at the insecurity of the hospital but I also felt the depth of their dedication to the women, to protecting them and healing them and transforming them and their country. As I marched, I also felt all of you with me. The V-Day movement is alive here, in the DRC.

Our campaign, Stop Raping Our Greatest Resource: Power to the Women and Girls of the DRC has already had serious impact throughout the country. 90 forums have energized people across the countryside in North Kivu, educating many activists who are now bringing the message of ending sexual violence to schools, churches, tribal leaders and religious leaders. In some places, they are even beginning to see a lessening of violence. At the same time the catastrophic war in DRC continues—over 2000 women were raped between January and June of this year in North Kivu alone.

As I write to you, I quote one survivor, Janet, who was raped so violently that the rapist pulled the leg out of her socket (she will be permanently handicapped), who, when I asked her if she was afraid to tell her story, said "I've always been courageous. Always will be courageous. If the military want to kill me for telling my story, I am ready to die." These words have moved me to be braver, to be more outspoken, to be more strategic, to include more people in making the DRC safe and free for women. For making the world safe and free for women in every corner of this planet.

I urge you this year to read everything you can about the DRC (please see this link: [www.vday.org/contents/drcongo/resources](http://www.vday.org/contents/drcongo/resources)). I urge you to fight with all your heart and to find your connection to the women of the DRC...The Congo is the heart of Africa and Africa is, in many ways, the heart of the world. What happens to the women here affects the flow of life throughout the planet. When we find the way (and we will) to end the violence here, we will have created a template and a vision that can be transferred and used everywhere...I encourage you to break the silence as the women in Goma have done. Remember that the shame of being raped is not ours, but that of the perpetrators. Remember that when we speak the truth, we free everyone to do the same.

You are always with me.  
With V-Love, Eve

V-Day's **2009 Spotlight Campaign** focuses on **Women and Girls of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**. The atrocities being perpetrated against women and girls in the DRC are nothing less than a femicide – the systematic destruction of the Congolese female population. Since 1996, sexual violence against women and girls in the Eastern part of the DRC has been used as a weapon of war to torture, humiliate and destroy not only women and girls, but entire families and whole communities. Since the conflict began, hundreds of thousands of women and girls have been raped.

Advocates from the region have told stories of unthinkable atrocities that are taking place, including cannibalism, chopping off body parts, rape with tools and weapons, and sexual assault of minors as young as 10 months and elders as old as 87 years. Many members of the female population within the region have endured sexual slavery, kidnapping, unlawful detention, recruitment of young girls into armed forces, and forced prostitution.

Over a century of discrimination against women and girls underlies the violence perpetrated against them. The current climate of impunity allows sexual violence to flourish.

In December 2006, Eve Ensler interviewed Dr. Denis Mukwege, head of Panzi Hospital in Bukavu, Eastern DRC, about conditions in his native country. Panzi Hospital is presently the only referral hospital in North and South Kivu available to meet the high demand for services for women victims of sexual violence and fistula treatment. (V-Day subsequently honored Dr. Mukwege with the inaugural Denis Mukwege award at its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in New Orleans: <http://v10.vday.org/anniversary-events/video/mukwege>)

In May 2007, UNICEF hosted Eve's visit to Panzi Hospital in Bukavu and the HEAL Africa Hospital in Goma. The violence perpetrated against women there, and the scale of damage that Eve saw firsthand was so horrific that V-Day immediately initiated a multi-year public education and action campaign on the DRC, mobilizing UNICEF as a partner in the effort.

Shortly after, in August 2007, V-Day and UNICEF (in partnership with UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict), launched **Stop Raping our Greatest Resource: Power to Women and Girls of the Democratic Republic of Congo**, a global campaign to:

- Raise awareness of ongoing sexual violence against women and girls in DRC and the devastating impact on their health, their spirits, their families and their communities;

- Call for specific measures to end impunity and punish perpetrators;

- Economically and socially empower women and girls so that they can become leaders in the rebuilding of a country devastated by conflict;

- Build and open the **City of Joy** in partnership with UNICEF, Panzi Hospital and women working on the ground in DRC. The City Of Joy will be a safe facility and community for women survivors of sexual violence where they will be provided with support to heal and training to further develop their leadership and life skills.

#### **GET INVOLVED IN THE 2009 SPOTLIGHT CAMPAIGN AND HELP IMPROVE THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THE CONGO**

The 2009 V-Day Spotlight Campaign on the Women and Girls of the Democratic Republic of Congo is educating thousands of women and men throughout the world about the issues facing women and girls in DRC and will begin to help us effect change in that region.

By joining this campaign, we are supporting Congolese women and men who are demanding an end to rape. We are supporting local efforts to demand justice and accountability. We are supporting survivors of sexual violence to heal and rebuild their lives and communities. **Our Spotlight Funds will help to build and sustain the City of Joy.** And we are joining others around the globe to demand that women and girls in DRC are safe.

**Allison "Allie" Hanson** is 19 years old and a sophomore from Rockford, Illinois. She is an LEJA major with hopes of working on the West Coast after graduating. She saw "The Vagina Monologues" last year and instantly knew she wanted to become involved. She is grateful to have the chance to help spread awareness about violence against women and is grateful for everyone who came to support ending the violence.

**Kalee Lindemann** is a recent graduate of St. Ambrose University where she received a B.S. in Psychology and minored in women's studies. While at SAU she was also a member of the Women's Studies Honor Society and participated in their production of "A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant, and A Prayer." Her aspirations include working for a school district in Iowa as a practicing school psychologist.

**Erin McCarthy** is the president of Campus Greens and chose to participate in "The Vagina Monologues" as a way to join an international violence prevention effort. She comes from an estrogen-dominated family, and she aspires to become a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and a rock star.

**Sara Moffatt** is a junior supply chain management major. Throughout her college career, she has been active in various leadership roles within the College of Business. Her first acting experience was a role as a duck in a junior high production. Sara would like to thank her boyfriend, for spending hours running lines with her. Also, she would like to thank her parents for supporting her attending the show.

**Angela "Angie" Panicucci** is enjoying her first play at WIU. Her interest in "The Vagina Monologues" sparked when she found out the proceeds were being donated to organizations that provide violence prevention education and survivor support services. She would love to work in the wedding industry. She also loves being involved with her sisters of Delta Zeta.

**Whitney Pipes** is a sophomore broadcasting major from Chicago, IL. Her previous theatre experience was with Tasha Smith Acting Workshop, Goodman Theatre, and Free Street Theatre. She became interested in "The Vagina Monologues" when her mother informed her about the V-Day organization. She says that "The Vagina Monologues" has allowed her to look at her vagina in a new light. The V-Day organization is a great community to encourage women to share their stories with the world.

**Yazmin Ramos** is a journalism major and broadcasting minor from Park Forest, IL who intends to become a well-known sports journalist and perhaps even act on the big screen. She has always been interested in theatre and acting. In fall 2008 she performed a play she wrote with her friends, "Cronicas Alcoholicas" about Hispanics and Alcoholism, at the L.A.S.O. event, Noche De La Raza. Being part of "TVM" has given her such a great learning experience, and she hopes it will do the same for all who attend. Thanks to family and friends for support and encouragement.

**Caitlin Salmon** is a sophomore graphic communication major from Champaign, IL. She was involved in theatre a lot in high school and is super excited to be in a production again! And lots of thanks to everyone who came to see the show!

**Bitá Sonouni** is a 19-year-old sophomore business management and criminal justice major from Wheaton, IL. Born in Tehran, Iran, she moved to the United States at the age of nine. Her previous theatre experience includes “Memory: A Memorial Day Play” and “Romeo and Juliet.” After graduation, she plans to work in the stock market exchange and eventually for the FBI.

**Abraxas Thomas** is an alumna of WIU and is originally from Chicago. She became a part of “The Vagina Monologues” because she thought it might be interesting. Of her experiences, she says, “My life has only just begun.”

**Mary Torres** is a senior social work major from Des Plaines, IL. This is her first theatrical performance, as well as her first time involved with “TVM,” and she has loved the experience. Mary would like to thank her family, best friends, and boyfriend for their love and enthusiasm!

**Amanda Voss** is a junior biology major and psychology minor. She is very active on and off campus in Students Today, Leaders Forever; Campus Girl Scouts; in a belly dance troupe; and as a resident assistant in Higgins Hall. She has no prior theatre experience. She is excited to be in “TVM” and thanks her friends and family for their support.

**Kari Warning** is a junior theatre major here at WIU. She has worked onstage and off for several of the University productions. She hopes to further her career in theatre after graduation.

**Janine Cavicchia**, Women’s Center Director and Feminist Action Alliance advisor, is passionate about gender equity and stopping gender violence. She took several FAA members to see Eve Ensler perform “TVM” in Chicago in the fall of 2000, and the Women’s Center and FAA collaborated with the Theatre Department in 2001 and 2002 to bring “TVM” to campus. The next year, Janine invited her friend, WIU alumna and then-Executive Director of V-Day International, JerriLynn Fields, to speak at Take Back the Night. The FAA members and advisors have produced “TVM” themselves the past six years. Janine never ceases to be amazed at and inspired by the incredible talent and passion of our cast and crew, and she is proud of them for their hard work and outstanding performances.

**Cassie Horn** is the oldest of three children and the only one majoring in theatre, much to the chagrin of her parents. She has changed majors numerous times and plans to experience as much as she can during her college career at Western Illinois University. She thanks everyone in the cast and crew for making her first directing experience so much fun! And her family because they love her anyway!

**Heather McCoy** is a first-year student in the college student personnel program, a Women’s Center graduate assistant, and an advisor of FAA and the Campus Girl Scouts. She first saw “TVM” in college and was amazed by the variety of female experiences portrayed in the production. While she is thrilled that her parents are coming to the production, she doesn’t think they know what they are getting themselves into.

**Nicole Peter** is a senior piano performance major and women's studies minor, and she is the budget coordinator for Feminist Action Alliance. She is particularly interested in improving women's access to health care. Her career goal is to teach music at the college level.

**Lindsey Sharp Sheppard** is a junior social work major and psychology minor. She is the publicity coordinator and the discussion facilitator for the Feminist Action Alliance. She would like to help women of all ages realize their potential. She hopes to make her dads blush really hard tonight.

### “Until the Violence Stops”

*Until the Violence Stops* features playwright and activist Eve Ensler in a powerful film that documents how “The Vagina Monologues” grew into an international grassroots movement called V-Day to stop violence against women and girls. In 2002, eight hundred cities around the world participated in V-Day by staging benefit performances of “The Vagina Monologues.” *Until the Violence Stops* shows women from Harlem to Ukiah, California; from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to the Philippines and Kenya, uniting and courageously revealing their intimate and deeply painful experiences with abuse ranging from rape to female circumcision.

Director Abby Epstein takes us on a poignant journey into the hearts of women and includes revealing testimonies from men, who expose social and cultural attitudes that perpetuate the pervasive violence against women. In emotionally charged interviews and performances, everyday women and celebrities like Rosie Perez, Salma Hayek, Tantoo Cardinal, Jane Fonda, and LisaGay Hamilton embrace their bodies, reconcile their past, and bond together to break the silence that surrounds abuse.

More than just testimonies and performances, *Until the Violence Stops* is a film about empowerment and the importance of dialogue in the healing process. A celebration of women reclaiming their bodies and lives, this moving documentary leaves us with hope that change can happen.

In 2004, *Until the Violence Stops* world premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and broadcast premiered on Lifetime Television. It has been screened at the Amnesty International Film Festivals in Amsterdam and Vancouver, as well as at the Miami and Maui Film festivals. In September, Toni Childs, David Ricketts, and Eddie Free received the 2004 Emmy award for “Best Original Song” for “Because You Are Beautiful” and in November, the film won top honor – the Gold Audience Award - at the Amnesty International Film Festival in Vancouver. Netflix released the DVD for rental via <http://www.netflix.com>. The DVD is also available for purchase wherever fine DVDs are sold. Price: US \$26.95.

### V-Day 2009 Spotlight:

#### Women and Girls of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

“Before I went to the Congo, I’d spent the past 10 years working on V-Day, the global movement to end violence against women and girls. I’d traveled to the rape mines of the world--places like Bosnia, Afghanistan and Haiti, where rape has been used as a tool of war. But nothing I ever experienced felt as ghastly, terrifying and complete as the sexual torture and attempted destruction of the female species here. The violence is a threat to all; young girls and village elders alike are at risk. It is not too strong to call this a femicide, to say that the future of the Congo’s women is in serious jeopardy.”

-- *Eve Ensler, Founder and Artistic Director, V-Day*

#### READ THE FACTS - The data on sexual violence in the DRC is alarming:

Local Congolese advocates estimate that more than 200,000 women and girls have been raped since the war began;

According to a June 2006 report by the International Crisis Group, sexual violence is regarded as the most widespread form of criminality in the Congo;

According to the United Nations (UN), 27,000 sexual assaults were reported in 2006 in South Kivu Province alone;

In 2007, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) noted more than 700 reported cases of sexual violence per month; approximately 50% of the survivors were under 18;

In 2007, Panzi Hospital received 24,756 patients—4,577 women were victims of sexual violence. The staff performed 3,401 vaginal reconstruction operations.