



# The UMBC Women's Center Newsletter

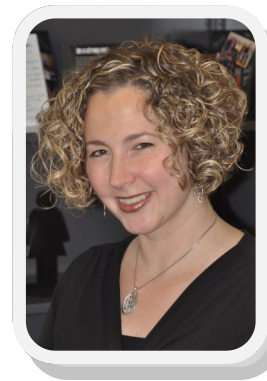
## \*March 2011... Womyn's Herstory Month!\*

### Letter from the Director: Mollie Monahan-Kreishman

To the UMBC Women's Center Community:  
Happy Womyn's Herstory Month! From all of us at the Women's Center, we hope that you will find this month's calendar full of inspiring, provocative, and thoughtful events. We are proud of this year's event line-up, including a Henna Fundraiser, UMBC Talks on Gender/Women's Issues, the Relationship Violence Speaker Series, the Women's Center Film Series, and Yoga. The Korenam Lecture, "Negotiating Contaminated Identities: Gender, Water, and Development in Altered Waterscapes" will be an important event to attend and

learn about this global issue. Kathleen Sheeder Bonanno's presentation, part of the Relationship Violence Speaker's Series, will share the poetry she wrote after losing her daughter to a violent relationship. Be sure to attend the film series presentation of "A Powerful Noise," discussing women activists and their work across the world. We will close the month with an important discussion about the impact of sexual assault, as part of the UMBC Talks series. Please see the attached calendar for an overview, or visit [www.umbc.edu/womenscenter](http://www.umbc.edu/womenscenter) for full descriptions of events.

to bring members of the UMBC community together to discuss and learn about issues that affect us all. I



look forward to seeing you this month!  
Mollie Monahan-Kreishman,  
Women's Center Director  
[mmonahan@umbc.edu](mailto:mmonahan@umbc.edu)

As always, it is our pleasure



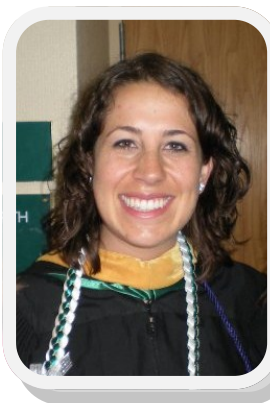
### Special points of interest:

- ☺ Letters from the Director and Coordinator
- ☺ What is the I Deserve Campaign?
- ☺ Spring Film Series Information
- ☺ Scholarship Information
- ☺ Take Action: Supporting Women's Centers in Afghanistan
- ☺ Ongoing and Upcoming Events (Yoga, Returner Women Meetings, Mother's Meetings, and more!)
- ☺ Women's History Month 2011 Calendar Insert
- ☺ Shout Outs!
- ☺ Information about the Women's Center, the list serve, and newsletter submissions
- ☺ Happy Spring!

### March Thoughts from the Women's Center Coordinator

*"When I dare to be powerful—to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid."* -

*Audre Lorde*



I find this quote to be a powerful one during this month of March as we celebrate Women's History Month. When I think about the women we traditionally see as leaders, wom-  
an like Audre

just a few!), I think about their courage even in the face of their fear and about what would the world be like if they remained silent or accepted the 'Nos' and "Can'ts" they constantly heard. What a different place it would be! I am thankful for those women and for the path they started for us all. I am also thankful for the strong women leaders in my life who are not of history past but of the living present. My friend, Dora, an advocate for social justice, stands out to me the most as I write this. She's been rejected so many times by the same people who later come up to her and say they've learned the most from her because she dared to be powerful and live out her vision. Any time I am scared to stand up for something I believe in, I see her face and she reminds me to be strong. Who are the women in your life that

inspire you to hold on to your courage, to speak even as you tremble, and dare you to be powerful? Think of them during this Women's History Month. Share you stories of them with others and celebrate the mark they have left on your heart. Most importantly thank these women for their work and be sure to wish them a Happy Women's History month!

Lorde, Angela Davis, Frido Kahlo, Harriet Tubman, or Susan B. Anthony (to name

### The Women's Center is Now on Facebook!!

Be sure to "Like" our page to make sure all the latest Women's Center updates and happenings find their way to your Facebook newsfeed!

## A Campaign of Awareness: What Do You Deserve?

Help raise awareness about domestic violence and abusive relationships on campus by contributing your ideas to the "I Deserve" campaign.

**What is "I Deserve...?"** In the Fall of 2010 it was announced to the University community that UMBC had received the distinction of being awarded a grant through the Verizon Foundation for relationship violence prevention and education. One initiative of this Verizon Foundation grant is the development of a poster series called the "I DESERVE..." campaign. This poster series will reflect positive impactful messages submitted by

members of the UMBC community about characteristics of healthy relationships.

*"I deserve quality time."*

*"I deserve respect and acceptance."*

*"I deserve a hand to hold."*

*"I deserve laughs."*

The "I deserve..." campaign is not only an opportunity for individuals to express what they feel they deserve in a healthy relationship but also, an op-

portunity to raise awareness about relationship violence prevention and education.

**This sounds cool, so what do I do?** We want to hear from the UMBC Community - students, faculty and staff! Entries can be submitted at <http://www.umbc.edu/redflag/>, and will be accepted through **March 7, 2011.**

**I submitted. What happens next?** Several submissions will be selected to create the poster series. The posters will be placed throughout the campus and featured online. If you provide your name and e-mail (optional) we will notify you if your entry is selected.



### Spring 2011 Yoga

The Yoga Club on campus will be sponsoring free weekly yoga classes in the center. Classes are free and take place on Mondays from 4-4:45pm & Tuesdays from 4-4:40pm. For more information contact Kristin Williams at [kwil5@umbc.edu](mailto:kwil5@umbc.edu).

Pat Barnes will also be teaching yoga classes on Mondays at 5pm. The course costs \$130 for the full semester (13) sessions, or \$10 per session. We suggest that you sign up for as many sessions as possible at the beginning of the semester so that Pat can plan accordingly. Space is limited. For details about prorating, contact the instructor at [otyoga@yahoo.com](mailto:otyoga@yahoo.com). To reserve your space, contact the Women's Center at [womens.center@umbc.edu](mailto:womens.center@umbc.edu), (410) 455-2714, or stop by the center.

## Women's Center 20th Anniversary: A Call for Support!

The UMBC Women's Center turns 20 in September 2011! In celebration of this momentous occasion, plans are underway for a year of events to mark an important milestone. As you are planning for the 2011-2012 academic year, keep the Women's Center in mind. If your program or event can be linked to the mission of the Women's Center, we would like to consider partnering with you. Whether it is a lecture, book display, art exhibit, photography instillation, discussion,

film, research symposium, faculty spotlight, video project, slide show, or anything else that may help to celebrate the brilliant contributions of women on and off campus, let us know by completing a program sponsorship form that can be found on our website! We're also looking for volunteers to help with the yearlong events. Anyone interested can also fill out a form located on the homepage of our website: <http://www.umbc.edu/womenscenter/>

## Women's Spring 2011 Film Series

The Women's Center Spring Film Series just finished up with the viewing of *Laramie Inside and Out*. Our March film is *A Powerful Noise* taking place on March 21, 22, 23, and 24th. This film speaks to the impact of one voice and the power of many. "Hanh is an HIV-positive widow in Vietnam. Nada, a survivor of the Bosnian war. And Jacqueline works the slums of Bamako, Mali. Three very different lives. Three vastly different worlds. But, they have something in common: Power. These women are each overcoming gender barriers to rise up and claim a voice in their societies. Through their empowerment and ability to empower others, Hanh, Nada, and

Jacqueline are sparking remarkable changes. Fighting AIDS, rebuilding communities, and educating girls. "

**The showtimes for this film are:**  
*Monday-Wednesday, First viewing begins at 10am with last showing at 4pm; First viewing on Thursday begins at 2pm with last showing at 6pm. Film runs every 90 minutes. A discussion of the film will take place on Friday, March 25th at noon in the Women's Center.* Additionally, the following movies will also be a part of our film series this semester:

◆ *Killing Us Softly: Advertising's Image of Women:* April 25, 26, 27, 28

◆ *Middle Sexes: Redefining He and She:* May 2, 3, 4, 5

For additional details, show and discussion times, please visit the Women's Center website at [www.umbc.edu/womenscenter](http://www.umbc.edu/womenscenter).

**Mothers' Meetings** will take place noon to 1pm at the Women's Center on the following Fridays: March 11, April 8, and May 13.

All mothers are welcome! Share a cup of tea and your stories/struggles, celebrations about one of life's greatest & most challenging experiences!

## Scholarships Now Available!

The Women's Center is now accepting applications for the Bryson-Neville and Newcombe Scholarships for Returning Women (age 25 and up) who are seeking their first undergraduate degree. Applications are available on our website: [www.umbc.edu/womenscenter](http://www.umbc.edu/womenscenter) For more information please contact us at [womenscenter@umbc.edu](mailto:womenscenter@umbc.edu) or stop by the Center.

**Deadline: April 8, 2011**

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The Ulman Cancer Fund offers some scholarships from which students might benefit. Some of their scholarship are Maryland specific and they are all available to young adults who had cancer themselves OR had a parent or sibling with cancer.

All of the information can be found at [www.ulmanfund.org/University-Outreach/College-Scholarship-Program.aspx](http://www.ulmanfund.org/University-Outreach/College-Scholarship-Program.aspx)

The award is \$2500.

**Deadline: April 1, 2011**



*The Women's Center Staff: Updated Photo to Come soon!*

## National Conference for College Women Student Leaders

AAUW and NASPA proudly present the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders — Leadership for Today and Tomorrow, the only conference that brings together college women to address important and contemporary leadership issues. The conference provides a transformative experience for attendees, and students return home ready to improve their campuses and their communities. The conference takes place at University of Maryland, College Park from June 2-4, 2011. For information regarding registration, scholarships, and program proposal information, please visit <http://www.nccwsl.org/Pages/Home.aspx>.

## Women's Advisory Board Applications

### Now Available!

*The Women's Center is now accepting applications for any students, staff or faculty who are interested in serving on our advisory board.* The Women's Center Advisory Board is a collective of undergraduate students, graduate students, classified staff, associate staff and faculty with an interest in participating in the processes associated with developing and maintaining the UMBC Women's Center. Board Members are appointed for a two-year term, with possibility of renewal. The Women's Center seeks to serve a diverse population of women, as well as men interested in women's issues. As a result, a diverse board is sought to assure that varying needs and interests are represented.

You can download the format this link: <http://www.umbc.edu/womenscenter/AdvisoryBoardApplication2011.pdf>

**Deadline: April 15, 2011**

## Please Sign the Petition to Save Women's Shelters in Afghanistan

In recent years a modest but vital network of women's shelters have been developed in Afghanistan, offering rare haven to women facing domestic abuse, sexual abuse, forced marriage, etc.

These are now under threat by a proposed Afghan government regulation which would put all such shelters under the control of the government -- the same officials of which sanction the jailing of women who are raped and advocate that abused women return to the perpetrator's home.

The petition below is one way we can lend our voices in opposition.

<http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/savetheshelters/>

President Karzai could sign this regulation into effect at any time, so urgent action is needed.

Please spread the word by posting the petition link to your Facebook page, tweeting it, spreading this email to friends, posting on blogs, etc.

### Returning Women's Support Group

The Returning Women's Meeting is a Women's Center program designed to support women returning to college later in life (after the traditional age of 18-22). The meeting is an informal time for returning women to gather, share stories, struggles, and successes. Coming back to college later in life isn't easy. We, at the Women's Center, want to do what we can to support you. Campus resources will also be made available in order to help you reach your goals.

Meetings will take place every Wednesday at 12:00pm during free hour (with the exceptions of 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/27, 5/4 when no meetings will take place). Please feel to bring your lunch. Complimentary tea and coffee are available to all guests.



# Women's History Month... or is it Womyn's Herstory Month? Either way, Let's Celebrate!

The Women's Center, along with several other fabulous campus partners, will be sponsoring several great events this March to commemorate Women's History Month. A calendar of events has been attached to the following page so that you, the reader, will be up to date on all the different programs and events going on. For additional details on any of the events listed in the calendar, please visit our website at <http://www.umbc.edu/womenscenter/>. We hope to see you there!

*But, what is Women's History, or as some fondly call, Womyn's Herstory month? Read on for some fun facts and ponderings on this celebrated month.*

- The public celebration of women's history in this country began in 1978 as "Women's History Week" in Sonoma County, California. The week including March 8, International Women's Day, was selected. In 1981, Sen. Orrin Hatch and Rep. Barbara Mikulski co-sponsored a joint Congressional resolution proclaiming a national Women's History Week. In 1987, Congress expanded the celebration to a month, and March was declared Women's History Month. And why the womyn and the herstory? Some individuals find it important to reclaim the English language since it emphasizes male-dominated language and in a sense erases anyone who isn't a man from the picture. Being intentional about our words is an effort to create a space that allows for a greater sense of gender equity. Words do matter and using words like womyn for woman, herstory for history, first-year for freshman, or people for mankind is a small way to start making that difference. So, Happy Womyn's Herstory month to everyone!
- Rosie the Riveter has become a well-known icon associated with the women's movement. To many women, it symbolizes empowerment and the motto of "We Can Do It." Rosie represents the women worked in factories during World War II leaving their traditional position in the home. But, who does Rosie really represent? As Benita Roth presents in her book, *Separate Roads to Feminism, Black, Chicana, and White Feminist Movements in America* looks vastly differs due to the impact of the intersections of race, gender, and class. While many white woman were only just entering into the work force during the time of Rosie Black and Chicano woman had been working outside the home for years. Does Rosie the Riveter truly represent all women then? An interesting thought? *To process more, check out UMBC Talks True Life Dialogue Series on March 2nd. Can there really be global sisterhood?*
- Want to add some more books to your reading list? Looking for a fresh perspective or a new herstory to be told? **Be sure to check out the Women's History Month book display at the Albin O. Kuhn library.** You can also visit this website for the full list of featured Women's History Books:  
<http://aok.lib.umbc.edu/reference/displays/women2.php>.
- What will you be doing on International Women's Day (March 8th)? Check out <http://www.internationalwomensday.com/default.asp> to see what women will be doing around the world to celebrate and honor the day!

## Henna Fundraiser for the Women's Center!

Don't forget to sign up if you want to get your Henna experience and support the Women's Center at the same time! **From 2-4pm on March 8th and 10th (Tues/Thurs)**, Mahnoor, a Women's Center student staff member will be taking your requests. Please stop by the Women's Center prior to the day to sign up for a time slot and avoid the long lines!

## Join our Relay for Life Team!

April 8th, 3pm-3am

Help the Women's Center do our part in helping raise money to support cancer research. Be a part of the team or support us from the sidelines with a donation!

For more information contact the Women's Center team captains:

Erin Butler at [erinb1@umbc.edu](mailto:erinb1@umbc.edu)  
or Mahnoor Siddiqui at [mah4@umbc.edu](mailto:mah4@umbc.edu)

# Women's History Month: March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>All <b>UMBC Talks</b> events are located in the Mosaic: Center for Culture and Diversity (Commons 2B23) from 12-1pm</p>		<p>1 Cancer Support Group, Women's Center, 12-1pm</p> <p>Free Yoga in the Women's Center at 4pm</p>	<p>2 UMBC Talks: True Life: Can We Have a Global Sisterhood? Mosaic Center, 12-1pm</p> <p>Returning Women's Support Group, Women's Center, 12-1pm</p>	<p>3 Relationship Violence Prevention Speaker Series: UC 312, 4-6pm</p> <p>GRRL PARTS Productions, Free Preview to the UMBC Community, 4pm</p>	<p>4 Women's Center Women's History Month Pot Luck Celebration, Women's Center, 12pm</p>	<p>5 <i>Have you had a chance to check out the I Deserve campaign yet? Visit <a href="http://www.umbc.edu/redflag">www.umbc.edu/redflag</a>. Submissions due 3/7.</i></p>
6	<p>7 Free Yoga in the Women's Center, 12pm</p> <p>Yoga with Pat Barnes in the Women's Center, 5pm, \$10 a session</p>	<p>8 Henna Fundraiser for the Women's Center from 2-4pm. Sign up for an appointment! \$5-\$15 donation.</p>	<p>9 UMBC Talks: True Life: Mean Girls Mosaic Center, 12-1pm</p> <p>Returning Women's Support Group, Women's Center, 12-1pm</p>	<p>10 Henna Fundraiser for the Women's Center from 2-4pm. Sign up for an appointment! \$5-\$15 donation.</p>	<p>11 Mother's Meeting, Women's Center, 12pm</p>	12
<p>13 <i>Have you visited the Albin O Kuhn Library yet? Check out the Women's History Display going on all month!</i></p>	<p>14 Free Yoga in the Women's Center at 12pm</p> <p>Yoga with Pat Barnes in the Women's Center, 5pm, \$10 a session</p>	<p>15 Relationship Violence Prevention Speaker Series, UC 312, 4-6pm</p>	<p>16 <b>4 Great Events Today!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Women's Center Tabling Event on Main Street in the Commons, 12-1pm</li> <li>◆ Fertility Awareness Program, Women's Center, 12-1pm</li> <li>◆ UMBC Talks: True Life: Eating Disorder Awareness/Body Image, 12pm</li> <li>◆ Korenman Lecture - <i>Negotiating Contaminated Identities: Gender, Water, and Development in Altered Waterscapes</i>, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery, 4pm.</li> </ul>			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>Spring Break: No Classes in Session</p>						
27	28	29	30	31	<p><b>*Women's Center Film Series:</b>  Monday-Wednesday: First showing at 10am, running every 90 minutes, last showing at 4pm.  Thursday: First showing at 2pm, running every 90 minutes, last showing at 6pm.  Location: Women's Center</p>	
	<p>Women's Center Film Series: "A Powerful Noise"*</p>			<p>Yoga with Pat Barnes in the Women's Center, 5pm, \$10 a session</p>	<p>UMBC Talks: True Life: The Impact of Sexual Assault, Mosaic Center, 12-1pm</p>	<p>Women in Letters: Sorority Women's Impact in America Program, Lecture Hall 3, 6pm</p>

For more details or information about Women's History Month or any of the listed events, contact the Women's Center @ 410.455.2714 or visit us at [www.umbc.edu/womenscenter](http://www.umbc.edu/womenscenter)  
 And Special Thanks to this year's co-sponsors of Women's History Month!



TRY SOMETHING NEW  
 UMBC Office of Student Life





## UMBC Women's Center

The Commons, Room 004  
1000 Hilltop Circle  
Baltimore, MD 21250  
www.umbc.edu/womenscenter

Phone: 410.455.2714

E-mails:

mmonohan@umbc.edu

jess.myers@umbc.edu



## This, That, and the Other...

**Newsletter Submissions:** Do you have an event, organization, course, announcement, or other information that would be useful to the UMBC Women's Center community? If so, please send it to [womens.center@umbc.edu](mailto:womens.center@umbc.edu) so we can post it in next month's newsletter.

**Women's Center Listserve:** To learn about upcoming events, scholarships, and other opportunities from the Women's Center, please email us at [womens.center@umbc.edu](mailto:womens.center@umbc.edu) and we will add you to our listserve.

**And please, visit us!** We're located in The Commons, Suite 004 (right next to the Yum Shop). We have: a private lactation/mediation room, comfy couches, library, free coffee, tea, tampons/pads, condoms/dental dams. We're also here if you just need to talk... if you are going through a hard time, have something to celebrate, or need a hug, we are here :)

## March 2011 Women's Center Shout Outs!

We would like to offer our "Shout Outs!" section to everyone in the UMBC Women's Center community. If you would like to send a Shout Out! To someone who has achieved something great, made a positive difference in your life, or just deserve a few kind words, email the UMBC Women's Center at [womens.center@umbc.edu](mailto:womens.center@umbc.edu) and we'll include them in our next month's newsletter.

- ◆ A big thank you to The Office of Student Life's Mosaic Center for their donation to help with the Women's History Month's publicity. We're excited to know all of the month's events will be advertised in a way that will better reach the campus community. Thank you!
- ◆ A special thanks for Laura Schraven for helping the Women's Center get out our Women's History Month publicity so quickly! It look fabulous!
- ◆ To all of the Women's History Month's co-sponsors: The Division of Student Affairs, Office of Student Life, Mosaic Center, Greek Life, Gender and Women's Studies, The Albin O Kuhn Library, Verizon Foundation, the UMBC bookstore, American Fertility Association. Thank you for your support in honoring the spirit of the month!
- ◆ Thanks to Allan Rough, the Manager of Non-Print Media Services at College Park, or assisting us with this month's film series.
- ◆ A special thanks to Marilyn Kiely and Jacqueline Shaikh for helping the Women's Center with our spring cleaning. Volunteering your time with reorganizing the closet space was very much appreciated!
- ◆ Thank you Anna Mallillin and Kat Paterson for always for volunteering your precious time to the Women's Center.
- You guys rock! -Christy Wilson
- ◆ Many thanks to Mahnoor for donating your time and sharing your talent in order to raise funds for the Women's Center. -Christy Wilson
- ◆ Thank you Mollie for always being supportive of your staff and being the best boss EVER! -Christy Wilson
- ◆ Thank you Jess for being such a huge help with coordinating the Women's History Month potluck! -Christy Wilson
- ◆ Anna Mallillin — Thank you for helping the Women's Center be more tech savvy with your creation of electronic version of our scholarship and advisory board applications.
- ◆ To Mollie and the WC Staff. Thanks or your continued support during my transition and making sure I feel welcomed! - Jess
- ◆ To Jess - for your work on Women's History Month, bringing together the calendar, co-sponsors, a wide range of programs and events. You have only been here a short time, and your contributions are impressive! -Mollie
- ◆ To Jess - for thoughtful conversation, professionalism, and a willingness to step up to the challenge when the center needs you most! -Mollie
- ◆ To Kiesha - for your continued good work maintaining what used to be a very confusing two-calendar system.
- Don't graduate! What will we do without you? -Mollie
- ◆ To Mahnoor - thank you for the upcoming henna tattoo fundraiser! Goodness knows, the center needs the funds. -Mollie
- ◆ To Jodi Kelber-Kaye - thank you for facilitating our film discussion on Laramie Inside Out. As always, your insights add so much to the community. -Mollie
- ◆ To Soma - thank you for co-facilitating our film discussion on Laramie Inside Out. You are an important member of the Women's Center community! -Mollie
- ◆ To Alyssa - for your continued work on the Film Series! -Mollie
- ◆ To Eryl - for being such an important part of my experience at UMBC. I will miss you so much! -Mollie
- ◆ To Christy - for your ongoing work organizing and decorating the center. It is so much fun! -Mollie
- ◆ To Yvette Mosie Ross - for dissertation check-ins. Thank you! -Mollie
- ◆ To Lee Calizo - for dissertation check-ins. Thank you! -Mollie
- ◆ To the President's Commission for Women - for the upcoming Spring Event, and future partnerships. -Mollie
- ◆ To Kat - for your continued global insight on UMBC resources for women. I am so impressed by you! -Mollie
- ◆ To Diane Lee - for everything. -Mollie