



Southwestern College invites you to celebrate Women's History Month



**Southwestern
College**

CRAFT FAIR

Music, Food, Prizes

Thursday, March 5, Mayan Hall Patio

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

and

"Shaping The World with Our Hands" By Laila Farah

March 5 • Room 801 • 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

This performance explores the lives of contemporary Lebanese and Palestinian women living in Lebanon. The production weaves performance methodologist Farah's autoethnographic experiences in the field with four ethnographically collected narratives of women representing a range of social and cultural backgrounds. Their narratives focus on the ways in which women story their lives and make sense of the post-war conditions in which they live. Issues of survival, resistance and cultural membership emerge as the women relate everyday experiences and aspirations, as well as their analyses of how their world is shifting within Lebanon's current status of nation-state formation. Farah's own bicultural postcolonial experiences offer a bridge through which Western audiences glean deeper contextualized meanings of what it is to be a "third world" woman in the Middle East today, specifically by debunking sensationalized stereotypes typically associated with women from that region.

"Chicana Falsa" By Michele Serros

March 12 • Room 751 • 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

*Michele is a Chicana writer reared on both 'cultura mexicana' (glitzy quinceañeras and crunchy chicharrones) and American pop culture (she's crazy for Cocoa Puffs and Judy Blume books!) Born in Oxnard, California, Michele later moved 60 miles south to Los Angeles where as a UCLA undergraduate her first book of short stories and poems was published. This text, **CHICANA FALSA and other stories of death, identity and Oxnard**, quickly became required reading for high school curricula as well as for Chicana/o Studies and English courses in colleges and universities throughout the Southwest.*

A frequent commentator on public radio, Serros won the PRNDI (Public Radio News Director Incorporated) award for national journalistic excellence and was awarded first place honors for radio editorial/commentary by the Greater Los Angeles Press Club of Southern California.

*Clearly an accomplished writer and performer, Michele has gained a strong following since her success as a touring poet for Lollapalooza '94. She proves you don't have to be Latino, female or a hyphenated American to enjoy her stories. She captures what the **Village Voice** recognizes as "...more than the vagaries of Latina life in La La--the pressures and yearnings Serros describes are those of anyone, anywhere in America."*

Arpilleras "Threads of Hope" By Cecilia Ubilla

March 19 • Room 429M • 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Cecilia will display and discuss colorful handmade tapestries "arpilleras" which chronicled the horror and injustice of Pinochet's reign of terror. The tapestries represent the powerful story of a group of women who banded together and dared to defy the brutal dictatorship of Chile's Gen. Augusto Pinochet. The women---mothers, wives, and sisters of the tens of thousands of victims of the regime's torture and execution---armed only with scraps of cloth, sewing needles, and the overwhelming desire to find their loved ones, set to work to tell their stories by creating arpilleras. The tapestries were ultimately smuggled out of the country and sold, with the proceeds returned to Chile to support the victims' families.

"Hope is a Literate Woman" Produced by Laubach Literacy International

March 26 • Room 429M • 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

This special documentary program visits grassroots women's initiatives in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the United States and meets women who are leaders, teachers and learners. Women living in marginalized communities are taking action to solve problems that have plagued their families for generations. Poverty, poor health and domestic violence are all targets for these initiatives. These women are not just taking part in literacy classes or community development projects designed by others, but are taking part in a process that enables them to identify problems and plan and implement solutions to those problems.

The women featured in this program are undertaking life-saving family health projects in Mali, India and Bolivia. They are generating new sources of family income in Uganda, Mexico and Colombia. They are confronting women's cancers in rural Kentucky and unemployment in Philadelphia. In Kenya and Ecuador, unique projects are enabling women to come to grips with violence in their homes and communities. And in Thailand, innovative educational techniques are used to stem the rapid spreads of AIDS.

Lecture series sponsored by Academic Affairs, Fine Arts, Humanities & Communications, Language Arts, San Ysidro Education Center, Staff Development & Women's Resource Center

All events are FREE and OPEN to the public.

Parking permits required and available for \$1 from parking lot machines.

1998 Women's History Month Committee

Diana Avila-Güereña, Project Director/Counselor • Belinda Gross, Project Assistant • Nitsa Torres, Project Assistant • Dr. Sharon Taylor Tidwell, Southwestern College Professor • Trish Axson, Associate Dean Educational Support Services • Dr. Barry Russell, Dean of Fine Arts, Humanities and Communications • Pat Tracey, Co-Curricular Coordinator of Fine Arts, Humanities and Communications