

California State University Monterey Bay

Celebrates

The Sixth Annual

International Women's Day

"Who Am I? Identity Issues Among Women"



Monday, March 8th, 2004

6:00-9:30 p.m.

CSUMB University Center Ballroom

Program

6:00-6:30	Reception
6:30-6:40	Welcome & Introduction
6:40-7:00	Open Mic
7:00-7:05	Introduction of Keynote, Michele Sorres
7:05-8:05	Michele Sorres
8:05-8:10	Introduction of Washington Middle School Students
8:10-8:15	"Phenomenal Woman" Reading
8:15-8:45	Celebration of Debra Busman
8:45-9:20	Phenomenal Woman Recognitions
9:20-9:30	Close of Evening, DJ Flower

Please join us after the event for a book signing with Michele Sorres

Statement of Purpose International Women's Day 2004

Every year the International Women's Day committee is formed from members of other clubs and organizations on campus and in the community. This year was the first year that sororities were involved in the planning. The Multicultural Feminists and sororities in the same committee. This definitely brought up some issues. Both organizations, though women oriented organizations, stand on two extreme belief structures. This could not possibly work.

So as we put this event together, with the theme of identity issues among women, we had our own identities to contend with. They did not come from culture, or background or age or sexuality. They came from what organization we belonged to.

In the end we were told that the sororities, because they are not a recognized organization, could not be recognized as contributors to the event. To not recognize these women, from these organizations would be going against everything this day is about. In the end it is International Women's day, a day to recognize the fact that we all are different, we all have different beliefs, and values and outlooks. But we all came together to make this event a flaming success. We all jumped in to take part, to take on a task, to get it done. We all worked together. One committee member said that 'Identity is not just a culture.' Another member followed with, 'It is also considering other people's identity and respecting them.' And in the end, another member said, 'That is what this night is about.' And that is what this night is about. Thank you for coming to this evening of celebration.

Michelle Alcorn: Michelle is a loyal friend and is a genuine person. She is so strong and brings happiness to her friends.

Carrie Alexander: Carrie has the cutest laugh you could ever hear. You could be in the worst mood, and just one giggle from her will make you laugh too. The best part is that she laughs a lot—some people have an abundance of joy, and few will share it with you like Carrie will.

Sharon L. Anderson: These five phenomenal women are outstanding therapists who will go the extra mile to assist students through their personal issues. These women are exceptional individuals because they each have an open mind and are always willing to support and listen to students. she is an amazing woman!!!

Priscilla Angulo: Priscilla is sweet, gentle, kind, loving - all indicative of true intelligence and wisdom. She also really knows how to get work done here at CSUMB! We are so grateful and blessed to have her warm and wonderful spirit and energy with us every day at the Personal Growth and Counseling Center.

Rebekah Ashley Fife: She has been one of the most supportive women in my life. She is studying to be a teacher in the field of archeology. I have never met a woman like her who serves as a friend and also at times a mom.

Gloria Avalos: I love you strong mujer for being the best friend anyone can have, and for always keeping your head up. Thanx hermana mia.

Theresa Babcock (Tessa): Tessa is such a great woman! She's a blast to have around! I always have a good laugh whenever my Tessa is around!!

Sara Bailey: Sara is a delicious! I can always count on Sara to have a positive attitude. When she is around, your spirits are guaranteed to be lifted and you can also bet she will make you laugh. Sara is going to be successful no matter what she chooses to do in life. She is an awesome student assistant and I appreciate her! Her spirit is infectious!

Rachelle Bass: CONGRATULATIONS!!! You deserve all of the joy and happiness in the world! Love, I&W

Ashley Beem: What an amazing woman! Someone that I know will be blossoming more as the years go on! Ashley is such a down to earth woman who is so compassionate, thank you for all of your kind words!!

Rina Benmayor: Rina es usted una gran allada. La aprecio mucho y le agarezco you apoyo incondicional. Es usted fenomenal.

Sarah Bernson: Wonderful Coach
wonderful coach and motivator

Michele Black: Is the most adorable feminist around. I am so glad we are friends, I love watching you grow and hearing your perspective on things. Michele is an awesome hostess and the lucky guardian of a little piece of my heart named Maddie. Michele is a feminist who can kick it with Jack and Johnny (Daniels and Cash, that is) and that's an awesome combination. Michele is an awesome friend! She has an amazing ability to make me want to laugh and cry at the same time. Michele is a fabulous and brilliant feminist/activist even though she doesn't always see it. She has helped me grow into a better person and I am lucky to have her in my life. Thank you for being such a great woman in my life, and allowing me to unwind to you! You are so strong and so smart! You are someone that I always have

looked up to for being strong and courageous! Thank you for all the things you have done for me! I love you Michele!

Dr. Bobbi Bonace: Bobbi is a phenomenal woman. She is very actively involved in numerous search committees around the university, and does whatever she can to make the university a better place to be on a daily basis. She is so unselfish and willingly gives freely of her time, energy, advice, and money to many students and student-athletes. Every day that we are lucky enough to encounter Bobbi, she undoubtedly brightens our day. She is a problem solver, a supporter, a counselor, a listener, a teacher, a coach, and most importantly, a friend. Bobbi Bonace is definitely a phenomenal woman.

Cecilia Burciaga: It is my privilege to have Cecilia Burciaga as a mentor and friend. She has a way of defining life's little moments that in retrospect are quite significant. Cecilia is sincerely articulate and self-reflective. She has nurtured so many women in finding their own voice and that is of great value. Thank you Cecilia for your honesty, your friendship and your guidance.

Debra Busman: Deb you are phenomenally amazing. I admire you deeply.
Deb Busman and Akasha Hull: When I feel despair about how to walk in this society and maintain a grasp on to my sanity, about being able to see the beauty in the world, and about how to love fiercely I am reminded of you two. I am inspired by the two of you and the times when I have been fortunate enough to connect with each of you.

Liliana Cabrera (Lili): Lili is so amazing! She is such a great person that listens to you! I've only known her for a short while, but she has been a great woman! Always being a great role model for women all around! Thank you for being you! Lili is an awesome woman! She is a single mom, working and pursuing an education. She is also a wonderful friend!

Ellie Campbell-Brown: Two truly phenomenal and beautiful women. The world will benefit from your wisdom and dedication to making justice and fairness available to everyone. Thank you for sharing your strength and courage. Congratulations! Cuts in line anytime :o) !!!

Ana Camacho: Ana, gracias por toda las amistad que me has ofrecido. Eras una mujer fenomenal y te admiro mucho. Tengo el orgullo de poder llamarte amiga. Admiro tu caracter, la manera que te portas con los demas y mas que nada como me haces reir. Un gran abrazo amiga.

Ingrid Carlson: Ingrid is such a down woman! She's so amazing! Global Studies people are so cool! But the coolest of them all are Ingrid! I'm so glad that we have become friends, you are so amazing and you have taught me so many things about myself! Thank you for being such a patient person!! Ingrid has a positive outlook on life and works hard to achieve her goals.

Talia Casci: Talia is simply... DIVINE! Dynamite Incredible Vivacious Intelligent Nice Excellent! A woman with a lovely, compassion heart, a fiery character and unbreakable spirit. Talia is truly a phenomenal WOMYN!

Laura Cazares: Laura is a caring and compassionate person. She is always available when you need to talk; her door is always open. Laura's attitude carries on through to her position as an RA, where she always gives her very best to her residents while maintaining a smile. Among her many experiences and accomplishments: Laura has worked with children as an Au Pair, has worked with disabled adults on learning important life skills, and maintains good grades in her college career as well. Laura also manages to maintain a wonderful and happy home with her Partner Christina, and their two pet dogs.

Maria Ceja : Strong Mujer that has been there when I have needed you. Thank you for being my friend but most important for being a sister.

Alma Cervantes: Gracias por ser la amiga que eres y por estar siempre a mi lado. Cuando mas te necesitado. Te quiero como mi amiga pero mas como mi hermana.

Kim Char: Kim is a beautiful woman in every sense of the word. She is one of the sweetest people I know who consistently gives without ever asking for anything in return. Kim is full of love and life and always lights up the room when she walks in. I want to thank Kim for her generosity, kindness, selflessness and contributions to the world. You are truly phenomenal!
Kim is an Phenomenal Woman because she is possibly the most positive and friendly person I know. She is captain of the Women's Rugby Team this year. Her friendly and welcoming nature keeps the girls coming back and wanting to be a part of the team and rugby family CSUMB has. Kim is a Collaborative Health and Human Services Major here at CSUMB and devotes her time trying to help the repressed, voiceless and overlooked populations of our community. Kimmee Kim Kim is just about the most wonderful person I know and deserves to be recognized as such.

Carina Chavez: For several years she has been involved with several community organizations to help reach equity. She is involved with LULAC, Salinas Immigration Task Force, Adelante Mujer Latina. Her involvement in the community has brought an awareness of equity across genders and generations. She strives to make her surrounding community a better place. Her effort and countless hours of community and leadership involvement has been an inspiration to always keep striving for equity.

Laura Chen: Laura is a fantastic student assistant! She is very caring and gentle. She makes me grin because I can always tell that behind that beautiful smile she has something cooking up inside her head. I think she may be working on a plan to take over the world someday - or at least make it more organized and efficient. I appreciate Laura's willingness to help or assist student in her friendly way. I can always count on Laura!

Shaylla Chess: The most fabulous thing about Shaylla is that she is not afraid of action. She decided to become a vegan right after reading about it. When she learned about feminism she became president of the Multi-Cultural Feminist Club. She had never been in a play before and rocked her part in the Vagina Monologues like a natural. She is a fabulous example of activist and I am lucky to have the opportunity to learn from her and hang out with her. Is so smart and sexy and cool its too much sometimes! Shaylla is like a walking advertisement for awesomeness. You make me blush and you make the campus better with the Multi-Cultural Feminist Club, and those are 2 impressive things for one person to be able to do.
Shaylla is a beautiful soul and an inspiration. She truly values other women and makes sure they know it. Feminism isn't just something she talks about in a classroom, it's what she lives. She is always there for me and makes me proud to be a woman.
Shaylla is simply amazing. I am so blessed to have her in my life. She is honest, hard working, beautiful, intelligent, and hilarious. Shaylla can always make me laugh and smile. I would like to thank her for her kindness, patience, advice, friendship and all the funny shit she does. Shaylla, I can't wait to see where you will be at and all that you have done ten years from now. Do the damn thing, girl! Shaylla you will always be my boo, I heart you!
Every time I see Shaylla, she brings a smile to my face. I not only appreciate her interaction with me as a staff member, but also the dedication, motivation, creativity and humor that she brings when interacting with students. Shaylla's spirit shines brightly.
Shaylla is the woman responsible for keeping Multicultural Feminist Group alive and going. Thanks to her endless hard work and dedication the group was able to organize and coordinate this year's International Women's Day celebration. Thanks Shaylla for all your positive energy and presence.

Constance Coffey: Connie treats her fellow RA's like family. She is always

willing to help ANYONE with a problem, or listen when someone's heart is breaking. Connie is also loved by her residents on Gettysburg Court, where she is also just as warm and nurturing. Connie is funny, outgoing, genuine, and dead honest! She is wonderful!

Esmeralda Coloa: You are the greatest cousin one can have. You are kind to others with out expecting anything in return. You are a very wise woman and I love you very much.

Ellen Correa: Ellen eres una inspiracion. Te aprecio mucho. You teach me so much. Abrazos.
Professora Correa, you are one in a million. As the world continues to harden me I am able to continually come to you for refresher compassion courses. You teach what living compassionately and courageously looks like.

Kayla Cottam, Chantea Johnson, Barbara Mondragon, Crystal Ramirez, Lacey Wurga, Kayla Benedetti, Alyssa Castro, Nallell Guillen, Kayla Johnson, Danielle Loveless, and Andrea Valencia: you are my first group of girls. I thank you for making my first teaching job so fun and enjoyable. I hope you remember me as fondly as I will remember you..

Chris Currie: Is on of the hard working women who keep this school running, while having a smile on her face.

Tharee Davis: She is an excellent roommate that I am always happy to come home to. She teaches me all kinds of alternative ways of seeing things. Tharee is also the handiest woman I have ever met in my life. She is an excellent example of a strong woman.

Tiffany Davis: Tiffany is someone that I have always admired since freshman year! She is such a strong woman! Thank you for being my friend!

Carli Decastro: Carli is an amazing woman, who is always down to have fun! She has taught me so much and made me want to go out and do more with myself! Thank you for sharing everything you know with you! I admire you for being so strong!

Christina Del Porto: for you who dares to let the claws of conformity dig in to your soul. for you who is fighting back with all you got! I am glad you moved into this house and we have become friends, a large part due to our congregations in the kitchen! Christina is phenomenal because she is always willing to hear people out and give an objective opinion on issues. I appreciate her sense of humor, her creativity and her willingness to take challenges. Thanks Christina.

Christine Derr: Christine is defiantly a phenomenal woman! Educating woman through mind, body and spirit! Thank you for keeping the fight alive for woman! I thank you for sharing your intelligence with me!

Michelle Donohue: Michelle is a devoted, generous, and powerful women. This last year, Michelle experienced a great loss in her family, and I am so proud of how she is taking charge, staying positive, and keeping her heart open. I love you my sister! Michelle is a strong woman!

Karen Dunn-Haley: At the last minute she pulled through and wrote the third recommendation I needed for National Student Exchange. She was incredibly easy to get a hold of, more than willing to help, and found time in her busy schedule to meet with me. I really appreciate all the hard work she put into my application and if it was not for her, I would not have the chance to go to the East Coast next year!! Karen also dedicates a lot of her time and effort in assisting students in the Faculty Mentor Program. THANK YOU!

For the wonderful job she has done with the Faculty Mentor Program. Her dedication on making a students feel part of CSUMB.

Karly Edwards: The reasons for this womyn's nomination are endless. She is a exciting, enthusiastic, loving, kind, spontaneous, riveting, hilarious, smart, sexy! sweet, contagiously fun, on and on and on but most of all she is magically amazingly human, she is understanding, she listens AND hears, she is compassionate and strong. Karly works within herself and others to make the world a beautiful place. A phenomenal lady indeed!

Shannon Edwards: Shannon is amazingly supportive and kindhearted. She has always encouraged me as an artist and done the same for so many others. She looks out for the people who need her and is a fearless ally. Her contagious enthusiasm for life never fails to bring happiness to a room.

Kristine Edmunds: Kristine created the CSUMB Women's Leadership Council which is a group of women from the campus and the community who have come together to support CSUMB re-entry students, which the majority are women. In the first year (2003) over 150 women raised over \$40,000 for an endowment. They are also making the Child Development Center a priority and are co-sponsoring the Monterey County Status of Women Excellence Awards in March. She also is a national delegate for Amnesty International and is the current President for the Center for Community Advocacy. Her affiliations are numerous.

Kathryn Ellis: There are not enough words to say how much I adore Kat. She brightens my day whether I need her to or not. She is kind and gentle. She loves intensely. She is loud and funny and brilliant. She teaches me to love myself and my vagina. She is my ultimate feminist role-model. She attacks life with an enthusiasm that I admire. She came along in my life when I was searching for someone to help me rediscover the beauty and intelligence of women and I rediscover it every time I look at her. I love you beautiful. Always a pleasure to be in Ms. Kat's presences! I enjoyed all the flirtation moments that we have shared together! I hope there will be more! Kat always put a smile on my face, and I'm so happy to call her my friend! I love you!!

Carla Engalla: Carla must be recognized as a phenomenal womyn. This lady gives such happiness and love to all those around her. She is amazingly thoughtful, thoroughly compassionate, amazingly strong and beautiful with her sensuality, she is a beauty and incredible brain. Her spirit, her being is joy, joy to be around and joy to see, a phenomenal lady Carla is indeed.

Bea Esblt: Two truly phenomenal and beautiful women. The world will benefit from your wisdom and dedication to making justice and fairness available to everyone. Thank you for sharing your strength and courage. Congratulations! Cuts in line anytime :o)!!

Julaine Espano: Julaine is so kind hearted and sweet. She is a very hard worker and tries her ultimate best to make everyone happy. Julaine has been going through some hard times, and through it all, she has been a trooper!!!! Most people would've hid under a rock when faced with such adversity. But Julaine keeps going.

Julaine is a phenomenal woman with more strength than anyone I know. Through the face of difficult situations, she has continued to be a light and inspiration to those who know her, and her will and love of life is inspirational. She is one of my dearest friends, and words cannot express how much I love her. Julaine, I am so proud of you. Through these tough times, you have been an inspiration to me. I feel blessed that you have shared your experience with me. I have learned a lot!

Denyss Estrada: I have been so lucky to get to live with Denyss. She is awesome and I love our chats in the kitchen. She is a fabulous chicana role model.

Fran Evans: Dedication to helping students. Always in a good mood. Keeping

alive the Faculty Mentor Program. Fran is a wonderful, kind sincere woman. She has a bright and positive spirit, which is only surpassed by her GIANT HEART. Her positive spirit and great energy is felt wherever she goes—thank you Fran.

Ilene Feinman: I have learned so much from this woman!

Jennifer Fernandez: Jenni is fiercely loyal. She loves to spend time with her friends and be comforted. She has the amazing quality of always letting people know exactly how much they mean to her. She takes care of me in ways she will ever be able to understand.

Jenni is so kind hearted and sweet. Jenni will help anyone out, she is very nurturing. She is an artist; she is funny and I am glad she is my roommate. She also knows the coolest bands before anyone else I know does.

Donna Ferraro: Donna works incredibly hard to better the lives of the youth in our community. Her dedication and hard work has touched the lives of many. She greatly deserves public recognition for her work.

Jennifer Field: For writing all those beautiful and empowering songs, being a brilliant listener and an inspiring woman.

Catrina Flores: You are an wonderful feminist activist. I have been lucky to get to work with you. You are an extremely positive role model and I look up to you. Thanks for doing what you do.

to the world you are a 'vagina warrior'. a fighter of all that is good and just. a strength that is never-ending. to me you are this, and you are also human. and I thank you for letting me in to this part of your life, all the background stuff that not all the world gets to see.

You are an awesome, hands on feminist.

I nominate Catrina once again because every day I am inspired to see the type of work and effort she puts to help nuestra gente, especially women in this county. This year she was nominated and recognized as a Vagina Warrior. She deserves that recognition and much more! She is a phenomenal Mujer and I am so very lucky to wake up next to her every morning. Thank you for being my life partner but most importantly, thanks for being mi amiga. I am proud of you mi amor.

Judith Flores: You are the greatest sister and friend. You are my role model and I am very lucky to have you as my big sister. I love you and thank you for everything.

I nominate you because you teach me what it means to live with courage, love, joy, and passion. You are my role model for how not to become complacent with privilege and for how to walk that balance between being neither here nor there. You have taught me by example how to hold my head up high with dignity because you are a beautiful wise ray of light piercing the hearts of many.

En pocas palabras...eres una gran amiga. Admiro tu forma de luchar por la justicia y como no dejes que nadie se aprovecha de ti. Gracias por compartir tu corazon conmigo.

Veronica Flores: Is on of the hard working women who keep this school running, while having a smile on her face.

Nancy Friend: She has always been there for me. She is supportive, caring, and loving. She sends me yummy cookies and brightens my day. I love you mommy.

Carlie Gallegos: Carlie is an amazing woman. She impresses and inspires me. While she is a mother, she goes to school, works, and takes care of herself. She always seems to have a level-head, a smile, and something positive to say. Anyone who knows Carlie knows the warmth she carries with her. I miss the SAC-D days!!! love, Rhlannon.

Lauren Gamblin: Lauren is down for anything! Thanks for all the encourage-

ment during VM! You are such a smart woman who is going to go far in life!
Thanks for being my unassigned teacher!

Yolanda Garcia: Is on of the hard working women who keep this school running, while having a smile on her face.

Jacqueline Gasser: Jacquele is a hard working woman!

Erin Gibson: It takes a while for this witty lady to open up to you, but when she does the laughter and good times do not stop. An answer to a lousy day or grumpy mood is to simply spend time with this lady, who gives you such a good appreciation of who you are and where you are. She is truly a gem of a woman.

Dawn Gibson-Brehon: Dawn has been a big inspiration to me since I have been working at the world Theater. It's not often at all to see a Black female Theater director. I have learned a lot from her about the line of work I would like to get into. She in some ways has become family opening her doors to me. I love working with her because she understands me. She has been involved in theater for a long time and has really helped to progress our theater to something wonderful.

Andrea Gonzales: to one of the most phenomenal woman I have the great opportunity to know. I am so glad mom decided to keep you! thanks for coming to the event, though I know you came more to see michele than me! I love you.

Theresa Gonzales: Theresa has words and she knows how to use them. That's right! Don't mess with her 'cause she will take out that pen of hers and use her words to no end. I can say this 'cause I have seen her do it and I'm her biggest fan because of it. Really though...she's a radical woman, friend and feminist. Thanks for being such an inspiration to me.

Victoria Gonzales: to one phenomenal woman. I wish you could have been here, my day would have been complete.

Kristina Guard (Kris): Kris is such a beautiful woman inside and out! She's so amazing at helping other people feel good about themselves! Thanks Kris!!

Nallely Gutierrez: Nallely is a natural born leader! I would follow her anywhere, any day!

Irene Nares-Guzicki: from CSUMB- a Special Education Professor and campus club advisor for We Care About Disabilities that I founded. She is always willing to advise on matters dealing with Special Education and disability matters. She is an advocate for disability rights and fairness.

Natalia Guzman: I appreciate everything that you do for me! Thank you for balancing me out! You have made me see that I am so much more than what I really am! I enjoy watching you grow more beautiful every year! I have been so thankful to have such a wonderful woman in my life! I hope that some day you will see how wonderful you are and how wonderful you make other people feel! Thank you for being the sister I always wanted! I couldn't imagine life without you!! I love you!

Laura Haaker: since I met you we seem to follow each other around all across California. I find this no coincidence. you are one of the best people I know and one of the best friends I have. I want to recognize you for your strength, your humor, and for still dreaming those big dreams. I am so glad you are in my life.

Janna Hameister: Janna is the most soothing and comforting character to be around. She is a woman with a peaceful yet powerful energy. Always one to enjoy a good time involving all those around her, this intelligent woman of mind, body and spirit is a delight, is... phenomenal.

Sabrina Hill: Sabrina has been working her butt off the last 6 or 7 months, non-stop. She has brought guest artists to CSUMB to share their vision, produced a mini student film festival, helped out with a great number of capstones, produced my capstone, designed the set for the Vagina Monologues and still through all of this she is still able to remain calm, be there to listen to and give advice. She is the best sort of friend and roommate, the kind who always makes time for you even in the midst of madness.

Ramona Hunter: Ramona has a very old soul. She knows more about life now than most people her age. Even though she is my student assistant - I know that she is capable of doing much more! She is a true sweetheart and her smile illuminates the room. She is dependable and trustworthy. I appreciate her willing attitude. Ramona can accomplish anything she sets her mind to. She is a wonderful student assistant.

Renee Infelise: This is one spunky woman! Always good for a wonderful ear to listen! Thank you for your kind heart!

Molly Jager: Molly, Molly, Molly! So awesome! Such an empowering woman! Always have so much to say! Keep your spirits high and a smile on your face! You will go far in life! You're a great person to have as a friend!

Jessica Jenks: Jessica is the smartest woman I have ever met in my life! I always learn something new whenever I with this amazing woman! She contributes so much of her busy time to helping others! You are so amazing! Thank you for your friendship!

Stephanie Johnson: Stephanie Johnson is a most amazing woman. She is not only a teacher and an advisor, but she has also become her students' friend and confidant. She is completely accessible to anyone who needs her help and this is a huge thing because she commutes give or take two hours three days a week from Oakland just to teach us. She has a young child at home and still manages to run our program while I director is recovering from a car accident. She tries harder than any woman I know to help people understand culture and difference and she is a strong advocate of acceptance, tolerance and peace. She is honest and compassionate when dealing with any issue. Most of all though, this woman is passionate about what she does, you can tell that she is here because she wants to be here and that she loves teaching. Stephanie is an inspiration to all of her students' and all women.

Jennifer Jones: Jennifer has been a joy to work with. She is welcoming, a great listener, and as dedicated to students as she is to her job. She has been the driving force in widening the variety of food available for vegetarians, vegans and other students who want to make healthy choices in the Dining Commons. She truly cares and has a heart of gold. I wish Jennifer great success in her future endeavors! Jennifer is such a strong individual who is all about her Vegan friends! Thank you for being so kind and understanding! You are an amazing woman and will be missed! Thank you for everything!

Tai Kang: These five phenomenal women are outstanding therapists who will go the extra mile to assist students through their personal issues. These women are exceptional individuals because they each have an open mind and are always willing to support and listen to students.

Margaret Keith - She advocates disability rights for the students. A very determined and strong-willed woman, she gets things done. She is often so busy and does not get appreciated for all the wonderful and hard work she does at CSUMB.

Kimberly Knudson: Kim is awesome and super funny!!

Lambda Sigma Gamma: I would like to recognize Lambda Sigma Gamma, Rho

Chapter as a group of phenomenal women. Each and every one of the women in this organization has made a difference in my life in one way or another. Because of these I have grown, and learned to love in ways I never knew. They are my sisters, they are my strength; they are what the word woman means to me.

Rosa Leon: Rosa has so much integrity, someone to defiantly to look for in later years! She is so powerful and will not go ignored! I love this about her! She's so powerful, her voice is so strong! I admire you and all that you do!

Morgan Levell: don't let Morgan's quietness full you! She has a powerful voice underneath it all! She is so amazing and so talented! I am so glad that you and I have become friends! Thank you for your hard work and contribution to the struggle!

Angela Lindsey: Angela is such an amazing woman! She always keeps a smile on my face whenever I see her! She's an uplifting woman!

Melissa Lopez: Melissa is one of the strongest women I have ever met. She always fights to make sure her voice is heard when it counts, but is also genuinely gentle and kind. She has been through some very rough incidents in the past few months and amazingly keeps everything going. She teaches for and after-school program at a middle school, probably at one of the hardest jobs and still she dedicates herself to the students and her work. She also holds two other jobs, both are programs that enrich the community. Melissa is truly a phenomenal woman whom I look to for guidance and support.

Patricia Lopez: Comadre te admiro mucho. Eres una gran mujer y madre.

Angela Louie: Though a few of the signs and groups you initiated at CSUMB are no longer prominent your legacy lingers on in the hearts of CSUMB students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Your voice and passion still echoes in walls of the campus. Your legacy is one of fire, strength, vulnerability, and courage. You continue to teach me that "Pretty Women Cry Too." And that we are survivors.

Shannon McElfresh: Shannon kicks butt! She has taken over the major responsibilities that come with the position of President of the Women's Rugby Club. She loves the sport so much that she has taken over all of the thankless work such as paper work, scheduling and so forth. It's not a glamorous job, but Shannon has taken upon herself to get it done. She is a phenomenal woman because she works hard and rocks even harder.

Crystal Macias: Crystal is so strong, she is an amazing woman that I've always admired! Thank you for showing me that I could survive!

Frances Mann-Craik: The most amazing and inspirational woman I know. Frances believes that children and students are the most intelligent people in the world, they are the people that should be learned from and listened to. Frances fights for what she thinks is right while working full time running her consulting company, putting her many years of experience to use benefiting small, under funded, start-up companies. Frances wants to integrate the Eastern-block, western Asia countries with the United States. Frances also employs college students who need to make extra money to make it through the month. She is extremely generous, polite, hard working and brilliant. Frances also is on the Board of Trustees for Menlo College in Atherton, CA on the Academic Affairs committee; an active member of the National Organization of Women; on the board of the Wireless Communications Alliance; and, most important to her: A mother and a wife.

Debian Marty: You have allowed me to continually explore questions of "can you use the master's tools to tear down the master's house?" "how do we live it (lives of justice, equity, self-reflexivity, and compassion)?" and "how one meets 'what is' with their full selves with compassion and grace?" You have also shown

me that power/access can be used justly. Finally, thank you for having the back of one young woman when she felt most alone and vulnerable. Your strength and wisdom is immeasurable.

Alison Matulich: Always a great person to see! Alison is so beautiful inside and out!

Martha Medina: Martha is a wonderful woman and a hard worker! She brings a lot to the table! Thanks for everything you're so amazing!!

Christa Miles: You make me smile all the time. You are so incredible and so much fun to be around. I can't wait to do the Vagina Monologues with you next year. I am happy to have the opportunity to watch you grow. Christa, Christa, Christa! What can I say but I love this girl! She's so amazing; she's always looking out for me when I'm acting crazy she is a new age super woman! Thanks for being so sweet on me! I always look forward to talking to Christa!!

Karen Miller: You helped facilitate an amazing show with women who care about each other and are empowered. Thank you for that. If I get married I want my marriage to be like Karen and my relationship. At one point she even would have dinner waiting for me after my 14-hour days. Karen is beautiful inside and out. She helps me find all the humor there is in life. I've said it before and I'll say it again, it was such a great experience to work with her and Kate on the Vagina Monologues. It would be impossible to find people who would put more time and energy into the production than Kate and Karen. Karen was a brilliant director, and I get to be friends with her forever more.

Karen dedicated all of her time, energy, and love to The Vagina Monologues—directing an amazing show. She helped to make the entire cast one big vagina friendly family. Karen has been an amazing friend, always there to listen and make you laugh when needed most. She is an open book, ready and willing to open her mind and heart to both the joy and sorrow of this world. She is an incredible woman, and I love her for it everyday of my life. You are one stylish director. Working on The Vagina Monologues rocked because of you.

Karen is such an uplifting woman! She is such a wonderful role model for so many women! I am thankful that a woman such as Karen is on this campus; she is like a fresh breath of air in the smoggy city! I have learned so much from her wisdom, thank you for your wonderfulness! Karen dedicated all of her time, energy, and love to The Vagina Monologues—directing an amazing show. She helped to make the entire cast one big vagina friendly family. Karen has been an amazing friend, always there to listen and make you laugh when needed most. She is an open book, ready and willing to open her mind and heart to both the joy and sorrow of this world. She is an incredible woman, and I love her for it everyday of my life. for organizing EMPOWER, which brought us Take Back the Night ensuring safety for women on our campus and for putting on the Vagina Monologues this year, and education the surrounding communities on the V-Day cause to put an end to violence against women.

Kate Miller: A Woman's Studies Professor and advocate for Women and Gay/Lesbian Rights. She is a knowledgeable educator who brings awareness to her students. Her classes encourage a spiritual and peaceful existence. She allows students (men are encouraged to take her class and participate) to share their opinions with out ridicule. She is a remarkable woman who has an interesting past that demonstrates her strong beliefs in Women and Gay/Lesbian Rights.

Julie Minnis: in your wake I see the respect and admiration others have for you and I am in awe. I am honored to have you as a teacher, to learn from you, because I hear I am learning from the best. thank you for all you have done.

Tania Mitchell: Tania has been an inspiration to me since the first class that I

took with her. She is one of the few black professors that I have had at this school and she has inspired me to continue my education because she has shown me what can be accomplished through sheer will

Annalisa Moore: Such a down to earth woman! Always a pleasure to run into this empowering woman! She's so amazing and her contributions!

Christy Moore: Christy is an amazing woman! who willingly listens! She's a powerful woman!!

Jennifer Moore: Reason for nomination: Jennifer is a smart woman who isn't afraid to speak her mind. She knows how to keep things real and stand up for what she wants.

Pamela Motoike: Pam, you are a mentor, friend and scholar. You are phenomenal in many ways. Thank you for all that you give, for your support.

Jessica Moye (Flower): Jessica is one strong woman! She's a Vagina designer and DJ Diva!!!

Katherine Murphy (Kate): WOW! Kate is so amazing! She is definitely a rare human being! She has a very loud voice that rings from the top of the mountains down to your toes!! She is so amazing! I have learned so much from the wonderful woman! Never in my life have I meet anyone who was so empowered and educated! Kate is a woman who stands up for herself and woman around her! I thank her for giving me the courage to stand up for what I believe in! Thank you for your great attitude and for being so inspiring! Thank you for helping me to find my inner burp!!

For bringing light and color to every place that is dark and drab. For being such an amazing cook. For being such a supportive roommate and for motivating and liberating woman all throughout CSUMB and beyond.

Kate is an amazing woman. She has inspired and continues to inspire me in so many ways. She'll drop knowledge on you, you can act like you're five with her, and she'll always have love for you. I am blessed to be her friend. You can't always mix business with friends, but working on the Vagina Monologues with Kate and Karen only brought us closer. It was a wonderful experience to work on something that is so important to the three of us together. She is a wonderful Assistant Director, designer, lover, fighter, and friend. Girl you got it going on. I'm glad to have such a positive influence who is in my major and shares my passions in life.

Working on the Vagina Monologues with you was great. Some of the things that you have shared still effect me.

Kate is an amazing woman. She has changed my life. I was lucky enough to meet her in freshman year and we've been close friends since. I am so proud of her accomplishments and congratulate her on graduating this semester. I don't what I am going to do without you. You are an amazing, intelligent, beautiful woman and you brighten the world with your presence. You have helped me be the woman I am today. Your work with women's issues and communities in need are amazing and life changing. I am so happy you are in my life. I love you!

Kate produced various shows at the Black Box Cabaret @ CSUMB. One of them was about 'Sex Ed'. I found it valuable, and feel that it's enough to give them recognition here on this college campus. for organizing EMPOWER, which brought us Take Back the Night ensuring safety for women on our campus and for putting on the Vagina Monologues this year, and education the surrounding communities on the V-Day cause to put an end to violence against women.

Kirsten Murray: Kirsten is such a strong and vibrant person. Among her many accomplishments are : a bachelors degree, a masters degree, scuba certification, and Meyers- Briggs certification. Being an apartment living coordinator in the campus apartments, Kirsten manages to deal with around the clock concerns on campus, volunteer at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, and enroll in personal

growth seminars. Kirsten is an avid reader, and a budding gourmet chef. Kirsten is also the loving wife to her husband Trevor. What can't this woman do? Oh yeah...she is a caring and compassionate person, who will always lend an ear and a shoulder to cry on when you need it.

Kirsten you have been the sister I've always wanted! Your friendship means so much to me, I couldn't imagine life with a friend like you. I don't think you know the influence you have had on me, always making sure that I'm ok and that my life is running smoothly! Thank you for being my savory! thank you for being my teacher, friend, and sister! I love you!

Joan Natividad : She devoted her capstone to recognizing Filipina/Filipino literary artists who did not have a voice in the HCOM program. She included various Filipino artists.

Dee Nasatir- My dearest phenomenal woman! You are a courageous, beautiful, and strong woman. I love you. You are a great woman and friend. Because of you I am getting a better education. I love you and will forever be grateful to you. You truly are a phenomenal woman.

Kori Neth: Kori is so amazing! She has been there for me through everything, and I thank you for your wonderful friendship! I wish that you could see what I see when I look at you! You strong, courageous, beautiful, smart, and so much more! I love you! Thank you for rocking my world!!!

Shanell Nieves: Her beautiful spirit, unconditional love and undaunted courage in the face of incomprehensible adversity. She is truly a Phenomenal Woman.

Cecilia O Leary: Reason for nomination: Cecilia is a warm person and her positive outlook on life is admirable. She is an encouraging teacher and an asset to our community. Her enthusiasm is contagious and she is always a joy to be around.

Rhiannon O Leary: You helped make the Vagina Monologues the incredible show that it was. Thanks for all of your help in allowing a large group of women to bond together and share their joys and hardships in life.

Little Diva! Always giving me great advice, and listening to me when no one else would!! I have been totally privileged to have such a smart woman as a friend! I thank you very much for everything that you have done and everything that you will continue to do, not only for me but for so many like me! Thank you!

Working on the Vagina Monologues with you was great. You're really talented.

Rhiannon deserves a billion kisses for all the work she did for the Vagina Monologues. Beyond that, she deserves a billion kisses for being a great friend and inspiration. Rhiannon is silly, humble, open, graceful, and absolutely beautiful. A billion kisses couldn't repay all the wonderful things she has done for her friends and for the CSUMB community. Kiss-Kiss-I love you.

Rhiannon you are my love. You are so wonderful, powerful and intelligent. I learn from you every day. You teach me peace, love, understanding and tolerance. You amaze me with your poise. Thank you so much for putting up with all my "quirks", we'll call them. You are changing the world day by day with your efforts towards peace and understanding. The world is better because of you. I'm so happy you are part of my life. I love you!

Rhiannon produced the 'Vagina Monologues' and that promotes women. It also educates us.

For organizing EMPOWER, which brought us Take Back the Night ensuring safety for women on our campus and for putting on the Vagina Monologues this year, and education the surrounding communities on the V-Day cause to put an end to violence against women.

Katie (Kathleen O'Malley): Katie is such a spunky woman! She's always down for a good laugh! Thanks for all of your support you are so awesome!

Elizabeth Ortiz: Liz, is an incredibly strong woman who has truly impacted my life. As a founding mother and president of Lambda Sigma Gamma Inc. she has

been integral in developing a chapter of an organization that will forever strengthen women's lives. Her leadership, patience, and dedication as a president and a sister is never compromised, and I am very proud to know her.

Janie H. Parra: I would like to nominate my mother because she is the best and important person in my life. She has taught me many things about myself and our friendship. She deserves being recognized for being hard working and teaching her children the right path. May God Bless you Mom and you are the greatest!!!

Frances Payne-Adler : from CSUMB- a Human Communication Professor, poet and advocate for social change. She is a woman with a strong presence. Her teachings include encouraging students to become advocates that want social change in way or another. Her writings are moving and motivational. I took her Creative Writing class for Social Change and found it eye-opening! I am encouraged by her to make a difference. She is an advocate for all equality matters.

Phyllis Peet: from MPC- a Director and Professor of Woman Studies. She is an advocate for equality between the genders. She is dedicated to educate students about the issues surrounding male domination and the problems it leads to. I have taken many classes from her and have learned much from her. Her teachings have encouraged me to want to learn more about gender issues. Also, I have learned from her, that men also have standards that they often have to measure up to in our society as well not just women. She encourages men to take her classes as well as women. From her, I have learned that with education and awareness change to equality could be possible.

Margie Peralez: Is on of the hard working women who keep this school running, while having a smile on her face.

Morgan Phillips: Morgan is a great student assistant! She is graduating this May and I want to wish her the best of luck whether she stays in California or returns back East. Morgan is very kind and loyal. I also admire her laid back way. Even when she is stressed she seems to be able to put things in perspective and still smile and enjoy life. We will miss her!

Patricia Poston: I've know Patricia for three years and every year she blooms more and more into a beautiful flower! I love this about her, she's always down for whatever, and a good person to talk to whenever you may need it!

Diana Prieto: Diana is a breath of fresh air. She has a great sense of style and always looks polished. She is a wonderful asset to our office. She is more than willing to help and has a great head on her shoulders. She knows what she wants out of life and has no problem communicating what that may be in her gentle but matter of fact way. She has drive and focus that I admire. Diana is a fantastic student assistant!

Julie Prince: This fantastic lady is one who helps define the word phenomenal for she is Peaceful Healing Exciting Necessary Outrageous Miraculous Exhilarating Nice Amazing Loving. The words to define the kindness, compassion and humor with which Julie lives and breathes are few and far in between, for what words can't define, Life enjoys. the humor and kindness life receives from this lady who works within herself and others to make life a better place, is truly a delight. A delight from a phenomenal lady.

Julie Rapes: Julie is the coolest cat around. She is cheerful and funny as hell. She has great taste in music and can dance like no other. She always makes me smile. Julie also has good taste in boys. Is the best dancer I know. She is a crack up and she's a super pal. I have spent some of my funnest times with Julie. She always brightens up a room. She is so stylish and man that girl has an ass! Rock on Julie!

Kathleen Rice: eres una gran amiga y mentor. te aprecio mucho. eres fenomenal.

nal.

The most amazing inspiring woman I know! You're full of love and courage. You're a true friend and warrior.

Ninfa Rojas: keep on going hermanita! I love you and I know can do whatever you set your goals to be.

Sharon Riley: These five phenomenal women are outstanding therapists who will go the extra mile to assist students through their personal issues. These women are exceptional individuals because they each have an open mind and are always willing to support and listen to students.

Serena Rundberg: For being courageous and dedicated to living a life of equality. For fighting for peace and justice. For being beautiful. For being you. Congratulations couple #103!

Victoria Rue: We nominate Victoria Rue because she uses her artistic talents to transform lives and to challenge people to question their opinions and belief about social issues; to educate as well as entertain. Victoria directed the play, *Polaroid Stories*, as the TAT Fall production. This play is a modern retelling from Ovid's *Metamorphosis* from homeless youth and women. It touched on issues of gender identity, violence, drug addiction, sexual abuse, and survival. All those who were fortunate enough to see this work were touched deeply by the stories, and many engaged in the post-show discussions to ask questions about the topics raised and discuss the issues with field experts to the performances. Victoria arranged for these discussions specifically to reinforce that these issues were real and in our community, and hopefully inspire people to get involved, or act, based on what they had learned. During one performance, arrangements were made to bus women in from a local homeless shelter, offering them the chance to see themselves and their lives through the art form, as well as interact with the community in a way they usually don't have in their current environment. This Spring, she is again taking her artistic visions and applying them to a production of *Paula*, based on the memoirs of Isabel Allende. This play also addresses gender issues as well as the rising of feminism in Latin America. She is committed to feminist causes and empowerment, to art, and above all, to education. For these reasons we ask that she be recognized by your organization as a Phenomenal Woman.

Wendy Rutledge: Wendy always has a smile on her face and is an all around kind person. She is hard working, intelligent, an awesome mom, and makes me laugh.

Maribel Sainez: Maribel exudes wisdom beyond her years. In the short time that she and I have known one another our friendship has really developed in an amazing way. I appreciate her powerful presence, her determined voice and spirit, *y su lucha en la causa!* Maribel is a woman with so many layers of identity but somehow she manages to stay true to them in a way that radiates through her and onto others. *Gracias Mujer!*

Jessica Sanchez: A woman that has grown so much since the day I met her! You are so amazing! You are a warrior in disguise! Jessica is intelligent, kind, and spreads the message of female empowerment. No te des por vencida. Eres fuerte y vas a salir adelante. Con aprecio. Eres Fenomenal.

Barbara Sayad: Barbara is an amazing teacher. She helps educate her students about the risks and joys of sexuality. Barbara is an incredible woman who runs marathons, writes books, has a family, and still has time to change her student's lives for the better. She is a fabulous guide and mentor, and I am lucky to have her as one.

Allyson Schweifler: circumstance has us sharing a roof. Teaching has us sharing a career goal. Drinking has us sharing an interest. The 'diablo' has us sharing a joke. all this has us sharing conversation. And all this sharing has made us

friends...oh and allies in the 'no heater allowed' rule!

Rene Shinkle: Rene is one of the hardest working people that I know. Not only is she working on getting a BA in ESSP, but she teaches science based workshops for teachers, and manages to raise two kids. Not only that, Rene is creative, and knows how to accomplish and/or overcome almost task/hurdle/bump in the road that comes her way. Rene is also always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone.

Brenda Shinuait: Thank you Brenda for being such a great inspiration and encouraging me to be all that I can be, though I ditched class. An extraordinary woman who deserves recognition for her as a person and as a woman. Just meeting her told me that she is a wonderful with a great heart. She willing gave up some of her time to help me find other alternative means of financial aid so that I would not have to drop out of college. I love her for that and I believe that she is the woman to be nominated for phenomenal woman recognition.

Vania Silveira: to my hetero-life mate. it is so hard to find the words to recognize you as a phenomenal woman. Words like phenomenal and friend seem so trivial to what you actually are. These words put a box, a definition around you, yet with all you do and with all you are, you blast that box to smithereens. you have gone way beyond a friend to me, and way beyond phenomenal. I am forever grateful for you in my life.

Vania, eres un extraordinaria, mujer fenomenal. Te quiero mucho amiga.

Ashley Simmons: Ashley is such an amazing woman! She has her hands dipped in a little bit of everything! She is a woman who can step up to the plate and make change happen. She is always down for a good fight; she stands up for what she believes in!! Ashley is everything that I want to be and more, she's strong, smart, and beautiful and has full confident in herself! I love these things about her! Thank you for being such a wonderful educator and thank you for holding my hand when I needed it! You are defiantly a rare jewel! I am so thank I have a wonderful woman as a friend! Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Jillian Slater: For being such an inspiring female artist to so many including myself. For being there through good times and bad.

Michelle Slade: Michelle is amazing to work with. She gracefully balances difficult challenges with apparent ease. mujer, you are phenomenal. you give so much of yourself, you deserve the very best in life. Michelle Slade is kind and very giving. Her commitment to the youth of Monterey County is extraordinary. Her tireless efforts to ensure quality programming for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey County is an inspiration to all of us that have the pleasure of working with her. She exemplifies passion and commitment needed on a daily basis to ensure that all children have the opportunity to enhance their lives. Her smile brightens a room, her attitude is positive, her energy is never ending, and her love for the children is real. It takes a special person to work with hundreds of children on a daily basis. Michelle's spirit shines through each and everyday. She takes the time to talk with the members regardless of how busy she is. The members light up when she walks into a room, they too feel the love and compassion she has dedicated to each and everyone that comes in contact with her. As a co-worker I admire and respect her, as a friend I treasure her, as a person I applaud all she has done, and will continue to do. The word phenomenal means many things to many people, in my life it means Michelle Slade.

If "truth-telling" were an Olympic sport there wouldn't be enough room in your house to hang your gold medals. In a world where women are still taught to acquiesce and be silent you raise your voice loudly and boldly. The work you have done and continue to do makes this world and work that much more possible for other women.

Christine Sleeter: Dr. Sleeter thank you so much for being so phenomenal to students. You are an inspiration. Thank you for your support.

Alisa Smith: Thanks for the constant struggle for the people! You rock!!!

Linda Smith: Linda has been working at the world Theater for many years now and holds her position well. She has been involved in theater most of her life and has been a great teacher and inspiration in my life. She strong willed and very smart. I love working with her. Linda represents phenomenal women very well.

Takara Smith: Takara has gone through many challenges in her life. I have never met such a mature 18 year old. She has the strength that I wish I had more of. She has been supportive to everyone around her. I feel like she is my little sister. I learn a lot from her just as much as she learns from me.

Whitney Smith: Mi Vida, Mi Manzana, My Everything! Thank you for all of your love and support, even when I have my grumpy-pants on...The Love Monster.

Rachael Snow: Rachael exemplifies independence, grace and beauty. She does it all and does it with style.

Amy Snyder: CONGRATULATIONS!!! You deserve all of the joy and happiness in the world! Love, I&W

Mariel Ramos Sotelo: Mariel is my Comadre. Just the fact that we can call each other this is a powerful statement of our friendship. Mariel may seem to have a tough exterior to some at first, she did for me in the beginning, but the truth is that she has an open heart and is the most dedicated mother I have ever met. Thanks for being such a guiding source for me and for making me feel life familia.

Samantha Stevens (Sami): Always a wonderful to talk to! She's so empowering and always willing to help out if you need it! Samantha is AMAZING! She stepped in and took on a job bigger than she ever imagined she could handle, while at the same time working for the fight against violence against women in the Vagina Monologues. She pulled through all-nighters, long rehearsals, inconsistent moods all while organizing her own capstone, maintaining a relationship, and taking classes. This womyn is definitely phenomenal by any and all standards.

Bonnie Steward: For being courageous and dedicated to living a life of equality. For fighting for peace and justice. For being beautiful. For being you. Congratulations couple #103!

Sarah Street: Sarah Street is a beautiful, outspoken woman. She is very involved in women's issues. She has taught me to be stronger women and has influenced me to travel and go forth with my dreams. She represents a phenomenal woman in every way.

Linda Stuart: For all the love and encouragement that I have received from Linda it was like my mother was here! This strong black woman has filled a spot in my heart that was missing when I came to college! I thank her for being such a wonderful woman and always making me smile! Thank you for your inner and outer beauty!!

Alexis Sturgeon: is one of the strongest, most forgiving people I have met. She has the ability to see the best in any situation. She is an excellent listener. She is a wonderful artist. She is a rad roommate. She is an all around awesome girl.

Dr. Rosalie Strong: Dr. Strong was an amazing FYS teacher. She also wrote an amazing recommendation for me so I could participate in NSE. I am really thankful that I had her last semester because I felt she challenged me in my work and the way in which I thought about issues. She is also a wonderful per-

son just to talk and laugh with. She has a great personality and is a dedicated teacher!

Allyson Schweifler: Thanks for being such a good friend. You always keep me on my toes and don't let me get away with any bullshit. That's what a good friend is made of.

Dennie Sueirro: Your courage and tenacity is a model we can all learn from. You have a beautiful and warm heart that you humbly share with many.

Karen Thompson: Karen is the sweetest friend and so fun to talk to on a long road trip! Karen would give you the shirt off her back if you were in trouble. Karen is also a wonderful Mommy to her daughter Bailey. Karen has managed to find the perfect balance of loving kindness and discipline when it comes to parenting. Karen is also a wonderful wife to her husband Dave, she never ceases to make him smile

Cheryl Trotter: These five phenomenal women are outstanding therapists who will go the extra mile to assist students through their personal issues. These women are exceptional individuals because they each have an open mind and are always willing to support and listen to students.

Arianne Tucker : Arianne is hands down the coolest woman I've meet in my whole life! She is so amazing and always lends an heart and an open ear whenever it's needed! I swear if you don't know Arianne you should because she's so amazing!!

Shahnaaz Tyrese: You claim and create radical spaces. You possess one of the most brilliant minds our time. You understand and demonstrate that justice and love are inseparable. You model what it means to hold on to your values and convictions through great struggle and strife. You are one of the most phenomenal women I know.

Elvia Urbano: Elvia is an incredible woman, friend, mother, co-worker, wife, daughter, sister, (just to name a few). She is phenomenal for so many reasons but her ability to juggle so many demanding roles and still have the character and spirit that she puts out is extraordinary. Thank you for your incredible sense of humor and for always keeping things in perspective. I am honored to have you as a friend.

Judy Uribe: Is on of the hard working women who keep this school running, while having a smile on her face.

Vagina Women 04: I am extremely impressed by each of the women in the cast of the Vagina Monologues. They have shown me just how supportive, strong, and inspirational a community of women can be. Each one of these beautiful women took their role in the Monologues and truly entered into that woman's experience and shared it with hundreds of people. These Vaginas epitomize beauty, life, compassion, humor, courage, strength, passion, enthusiasm, among so many other qualities. In just a few months these women came together and formed a group that is unconditionally there for one another and all other women. They have completely refreshed my sense of what is important in life and how to constantly have more love to give. Thank you Angela, Alison, Ashley Beem, Lili, Christa, Kim, Rosa, Renee, Tessa, Ingrid, Sara, Ashley Simmons, Molly, Sami, Patricia, Camille, Kat, Katie, Stephanie, and Shayla. Our CSUMB community is so fortunate to have you all in it. I personally want to thank each of you for entering my life, the least I can do is offer all my love and support back to you. I love you, Rhiannon. These ladies have changed my life and the lives of their peers and community members. They dedicated themselves to telling the stories of women who have been violated or otherwise have no voice, and to ending violence against women. Every day they blew me away with their love, honor, respect, hard

work, and intelligence. I feel so honored to have been able to work with them all. I love you dearly and encourage you all to keep the message alive, but I know that will happen without me having to say it. You are my Vagina Warriors!

Michelle Valentyne: Michelle has taken on so much responsibility this semester, with 26 units, a play, a boyfriend who is also an actor, and costume design for everyone under the sun. This woman knows over commitment and still pulls through. She will have a long semester ahead of her, but in the end it will fly by. Michelle is amazing, wonderful and phenomenal in every way.

Stephanie Vargas: A paragraph won't do it for all the reasons I love Stephanie. She is an inspiring feminist, she is ridiculously kind hearted, she is sexy, she is strong, she is supportive. All of this and still her outer beauty can outshine everything, even her inner-beauty. I adore the relationship I have with this shining gem of a girl. She can make me laugh when I am blue, make me think of things I never would have thought of, and make awesome stir fry. I love watching her grow, and growing with her. A million words couldn't tell you how much I love her, just look at her shining smiling face and you will love her too. I love Stephanie! She is so powerful! Stephanie is my friend and teacher! I have learned so much from her! Every time I see her she brightens up my day, she's always has something nice to say to me! Thank you for being such a great friend! I love you!!!

Rachel Vizcarra: Rachel you are a great friend. I'm so glad that we have gotten to know each other and become better friends. You are so bright and hilarious. You crack me up with your amazement of the world. I love your enthusiasm. Your dedication to your students and towards social responsibility and change are amazing and wonderful. Thanks you for being in my life. I love you!

Sara Villagrana: Sara is an incredible woman. I was so lucky to get to be her other Eve. She was amazing in the performance and is so much fun to hang out with. She is a smart activist and she will always have an ally in me. Sara is an AMAZING Woman! She is so down for helping out and contributing her voice to the cause! I admire Sara for her courage and vibrant personality!

Camille Walker: Camille is so awesome! She's smart, compassionate and an amazing actress! I enjoyed having the actor's process with her (and her back talk to the teacher, always made me laugh!!) and being able to work with her in a production was so amazing!! You are so great! Such a wonderful woman to have around!

Shannon d Walsh: She has shined her first year here at CSUMB. She was an awesome lighting designer for the Vagina Monologues, especially since it was her first time ever doing that. She is very involved in the power of yoga, even though I can't go with her to yoga she brings the power to me.

Lisa Crawford Watson: Ms. Watson is an amazing teacher, she is always full of fun and enthusiasm in her teaching. She is an inspiration to me because she is a very busy woman who writes articles for tons of newspapers and magazines, as well as raising her two small twin babies, and teaching. I have only known her for a short period of time, but that's all the time it takes to see that this woman is a spectacular inspiration to all women.

Olivia Weatherbee: this is the most patient person I've met in my whole entire life! I hope to be as patient as Olivia! Thanks for all the hard work that you have contributed, thank you for being my friend! You're awesome!

Lynne White-Dixon : These five phenomenal women are outstanding therapists who will go the extra mile to assist students through their personal issues. These women are exceptional individuals because they each have an open mind and are always willing to support and listen to students.

CSUMB Women's Rugby Team: Gina Merolla (the best hooker ever!), Christina Biondini (where's christina?), Channele Raboteau (seconds in), Kim Char (dude, I can't run), Shannon McElfresh (I just need my knee popped back in), Meghann McDonald (...hettty...), Tracy Huckaby (where's my interception?), Elizabeth Romanoff (don't tackle around the neck!), Melissa Fehn (shoot the boot - with water), Amy Vigallon (give vig the ball!), Hayley Huffman (bye for now), Jennifer Burfelnd (ATTN: RV Riders), Sundy Sosavanh (sundy girl), Bethany Ramirez (i can walk normal), Goretti Gutierrez (I have the ice cream truck song stuck in my head), Nancy Martinsen (number one in my eyes!), Karen Weeks (the cleats hurt my feet), and Stacie Teixeira (i need support out here): To the Team Who Plays With a lot of Heart: Thank you for being phenomenal women and for sharing the game and your lives with me

Bethina Woodridge: you inspire and teach me every day. you are wise, beautiful, and a great friend to have. phenomenal.

Heather Yeager: Heather works with rescued sea lions, the compassion and love with which she talks about these animals shines through in the way she talks about her friends and family. A womyn with such endless love is a special thing, for love makes the world go round. To often there is not enough, with Heather around there shall never be a lack of it.

Lynn Yee: Is on of the hard working women who keep this school running, while having a smile on her face.

Sherice Weaver Youngblood: One of the pioneering students as CSUMB, Sherice has gone on to truly exemplify the truest values of why CSUMB was created. With as much passion and fervor as ever Sherice continues to strive to improve her community and all who live within it. She's a full-time student, mom, wife, social worker, and community activist. How she does it all I will never understand. But I am in awe of her, her strength, tenacity, and pure sense of justice and what's right.

Michele Serros



Michele Serros was still a student at Santa Monica City College when her first book of poetry and short stories, *Chicana Falsa and other stories of Death, Identity and Oxnard*, was published. When Lalo Press, the original publisher of *Chicana Falsa*, went out of business, Michele sold copies of the book from her garage and since then, *Chicana Falsa* has been reissued by Riverhead Books (a division of Penguin Putnam) and become required reading in high schools and universities across the country.

An award-winning poet and commentator for **National Public Radio** (Morning Edition, Weekend All Things Considered), Michele has released a spoken-word CD on Mercury Records and toured nationally with Lollapalooza as a Road Poet, reading her work to stadium crowds of 25,000+. She was selected by the Getty Research Institute and the Poetry Society of America to have her poetry placed on MTA buses throughout Los Angeles County and has been a featured contributor for the Los Angeles Times' children's fiction section.

Serros' new collection of fiction, *How to be a Chicana Role Model*, (Riverhead Books) was published in July 2000, and instantly reached the Los Angeles Times bestseller list. She was recently named by **NEWSWEEK** as "one of the top young women to watch for in the new century."

Michele spent 2002 living in Los Angeles and writing for the ABC television sitcom, **The George Lopez Show**. "An opportunity," she says, "that hopefully with my contribution opens the door for a wider representation of Latinos in the mass media."

MultiCultural Feminist Group

Recognizes:

Debra Busman

Writer, Teacher, and Friend



Debra Busman is faculty in the Department of New Humanities for Social Justice, Division of Humanities and Communication, at California State University Monterey Bay. The courses she teaches include: Introduction to Creative Writing; Social Action and Creative Writing; Social Impact of the Mass Media Service Learning; Reading, Writing and Critical Thinking; and Environmental Creative Writing.

She is currently a Faculty Mentor serving first-year students with a focus on those who are EOP, migrant, low-income, and first-generation college students. She was formerly the Human Communication Service Learning Coordinator, and continues to serve on various hiring committees for Service Learning and Human teacher, writer and friend. Communication. She is a professional writer and published author, focusing on creative nonfiction. Most recently her essay, *You Gotta Be Ready for Some Serious Truth to be Spoken*, appears in *Pedagogies for Social Change*, a special issue of *Social Justice: A Journal of Crime, Conflict and World Order*.

Despite her heavy workload, Deb is committed to providing unconditional support to students working on capstone projects, graduate school applications, and job applications. She is beloved by her students for her kindness and compassion, which is demonstrated by her generous availability to us. She offers a great deal of time providing personal guidance and informal counseling. She asks us, "What can I do for you?" and then she does it!

She inspires us to tell our truth, to find the creativity inside of us, and to use the creative process to heal ourselves and make the world a better place. Deb, we honor you and thank you for all you've given us as a teacher, writer and friend.

This Event Brought to you by:

**Multicultural Feminist Club, Events Work Group, Academic Affairs-
Human Communication, ICC, and RHA**

Special Thanks to:

**Lambda Sigma Gamma, Sigma Theta Psi, E-MC2,
and the Washington Middle School Students**