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Diversity Center

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at the center

As part of Diversity Week on campus, Gustavus Adolphus College announces free public screenings of the award-winning documentary *For the Bible Tells Me So*.

This film examines the intersections between Christianity and homosexuality through the stories of five U.S. Christian families who have gay children. Can the love between two people ever be an abomination? Is the chasm separating gays and lesbians and Christianity too wide to cross? Is the Bible an excuse to hate?

Through the experiences of very normal, very Christian, very American families—including those of former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson as well as Phil and Randi Reitan and their son Jacob, formerly of Mankato, Minn.—we discover how insightful people of faith handle the realization of having a gay child. Theologians inform the dialogue, with the inclusion of such respected voices as Bishop Desmond Tutu, Harvard's Peter Gomes, Orthodox Rabbi Steve Greenberg, and the Reverend Jimmy Creech. *For the Bible Tells Me So* offers healing, clarity, and understanding to anyone caught in the crosshairs of scripture and sexual identity.

The documentary will show at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 14, in Alumni Hall and at 10 p.m. in Wallenberg Auditorium. March 15 it will be shown at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. in Wallenberg Auditorium. The Friday showing at 7 p.m. in Alumni Hall will include a formal educational panel. Staff from the Human Rights Campaign, the Gustavus Chaplains' Office, and students from Gustavus's Queers and Allies will be present at the other three showings to take questions or comments.

This film is sponsored by The Human Rights Campaign and the following Gustavus organizations: Queers and Allies, Campus Activities Board, Chaplains' Office, and Diversity Center. ■

diversity week

Making Mosaics: Valuing Diversity on the Hill

Monday, March 10, | **Trivia Night with the Peer Assistants and Gustie Greeters** | Courtyard Café, 7–9 p.m.

Tuesday, March 11, | **Movie: Kite Runner Sponsored by CAB, Crossroads, and Pan-Afrikan Student Organization** | 3 Crowns, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Wednesday, March 12, | **Movie: Bangalamerica, created by Sid Selvaraj and Matthew Fillmore** | discussion after with the College Democrats, College Republicans and Roundtable | **Pizza will be served!** | The Dive, 6–8 p.m.

Thursday, March 13, | **Performance: "I Am...We Are"** | Alumni Hall, 6:30–7 p.m. | **Speaker Tim Wise: "White Like Me"** | Alumni Hall, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 14 | **For The Bible Tells Me So** sponsored by Queer and Allies, Chaplains' Office, HRC, Diversity Center, and CAB | Alumni Hall, 7 p.m. and Wallenberg, 10 p.m. | also Saturday, March 15, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. in Wallenberg

Saturday, March 15 | **"Doctors and Nurses Speak" with Africa Partners Medical** | Linner Lounge, 12:15–2:15 p.m.

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diversity center newsletter

Higher Ground

APRYL GALBREATH

student profile



My time at Gustavus is drawing to an end, and with the up-and-coming occasion of graduation approaching, I've been doing a great deal of reflecting. I have been asking myself the same question that everyone else always asks me, and that is, "What is someone from Texas doing all that way here in Minnesota (let alone in St. Peter!)" Finally, I think that I have come up with the answer. For whatever the reason may have been that I made the decision to come to Gustavus, I can honestly say that it was a decision that has defined my life for the better. Throughout my time here I have been able to contribute to an amazing organization, Zeta Chi Phi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. It was in this organization that I realized my potential as an inspirational leader, loyal sister, and a fun-loving friend. At one time or another I have been the secretary, vice president external, and now president. It has and continues to be a challenge for me, but my sisters make it all worth it. I never had sisters growing up, and now I have more than

I can count on my fingers and toes, and it grows every year. All in all, the mission and pillars of the organization are things that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

Another great thing that I got from Gustavus is a chance to see parts of the world that no one in my family has ever had the opportunity to see. I've been to London, Paris, Belgium, Rome, Amsterdam, and different places around Holland. Furthermore, I got to participate in a new pre-law program that offered invaluable knowledge and useful contacts that will help me in the future. That experience is something that I would not trade for anything; not even if I could have spent my college experience a little closer to home (and better weather!).

"My daddy has this saying that he has told me all my life: "Always do your best." And I feel that is exactly what I have done."

My daddy has this saying that he has told me all my life, "Always do your best," and I feel that is exactly what I have done. Through all the hardships that I and those around me have endured, I have come out to be a more pro-active instead of re-active person, something that I don't think would have been driven home so much if I had been anywhere else. Hey, nobody ever said life was going to be easy, but I can pass on a bit of good advice... *Always do your best!* ■

"Deal with yourself as an individual worthy of respect and make everyone else deal with you the same way."

— Nikki Giovanni, *Poet*

Your Call to Citizenship: Day at the Capitol

Gustavus Adolphus

College invites its constituents to the State Capitol this spring to advocate for need-based student financial aid. Gustavus's "Day at the Capitol" will be shared with Macalester College and is scheduled for Thursday, March 6.

The day-long advocacy event, produced by the Minnesota Private College Council (MPCC), allows students and others to learn how to become effective advocates while urging state legislators to support Minnesota students. Currently more than 71,000 Minnesota undergraduate students receive need-based aid through the State Grant Program. The average State Grant award is currently \$1,748.

"The amount of student debt has grown 162 percent since 1995, and each year Minnesota students and their families have to borrow more than a billion dollars to cover the costs of higher education," Gustavus junior and Student Senate Co-President Anthony Spain said. "That's why we go to the Capitol every year—to ask our legislators to relieve the burden of increasing tuition costs on Minnesota families."

Interest in this year's Day at the

Capitol is growing well beyond the College's student body. St. Peter Middle/High School Principal Paul Peterson, a Gustavus graduate, is very supportive of the effort. "The Gustavus experience shaped how I think about 'community,' he said, "and that continues to this day."

At 7:30 a.m., participants will meet at Gustavus's Three Flags, where they will board a bus for St. Paul. At the Capitol, participants will speak with key lawmakers about the importance of this issue, hear from Gustavus alumni who work in the legislature, and tour the Capitol before returning to campus at approximately 7:30 p.m.

For Gustavus students, the day is free of charge, including lunch, dinner, and transportation. Faculty, staff, alumni, parents, and others impacted by the State Grant Program are also encouraged to attend. Sign up is available online at ga6.org/mnprivatecolleges/capitol.html.

If you have questions about Gustavus's Day at the Capitol you may contact Vice President of College Relations Gwen Freed at 507-933-6355 or gfreed@gustavus.edu. You may also contact Anthony Spain at aspain@gustavus.edu. ■

**ANSWER THE CALL
TO CITIZENSHIP**

SUPPORT DIRECT STATE GRANTS TO MINNESOTA COLLEGE STUDENTS

JOIN GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE'S
DAY AT THE CAPITOL
MARCH 6, 2008
A DAY PACKED FULL WITH LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY,
SIGHTSEEING, AND DINNER OUT!

REGISTER NOW:
[HTTP://GA6.ORG/MNPRIVATECOLLEGES/CAPITOL.HTML](http://ga6.org/mnprivatecolleges/capitol.html)

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT STUDENT SENATE CO-PRESIDENT TONY SPAIN (aspain@gustavus.edu) OR VICE PRESIDENT FOR
COLLEGE RELATIONS GWEN FREED (gfreed@gustavus.edu)

THIS YEAR'S DAY AT THE CAPITOL IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE SUPPORT AND HARD WORK OF MANY, INCLUDING
THE MINNESOTA PRIVATE COLLEGE COUNCIL AND THE FOLLOWING GUSTAVUS GROUPS: STUDENT SENATE,
CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD, COLLEGE RELATIONS, DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE, DIVERSITY CENTER,
FINANCIAL AID, ATHLETICS, AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS.

**KICK-OFF
RALLY!**
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
JACKSON CAMPUS CENTER
HERITAGE ROOM

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The Womyn's Awareness Center

The Womyn's Awareness Center (WAC) is an organization dedicated to raising consciousness of issues dealing with sex and gender. We promote a respectful and encouraging environment for all people and believe strongly that peace and progress can come only when there is equality among people, no matter what sex or gender. We hope to create a space on campus that appreciates the beauty and creativity that women have. WAC meetings and events deal with issues such as sexual assault, body image, domestic violence, birth control, abortion, careers/success, and many other things.

Vagina Week is one of the largest events sponsored by the WAC. This week began with the Heterodoxy release party in the Courtyard Café. Heterodoxy is our semi-annual publication made up of poetry, short stories, and artwork revolving around the theme of

spotlight on

World Watch and **Cultural Connections** are brought to you by *Crossroads*. Through their shared interest in world cultures, languages, and contemporary global issues, members work to develop a broader understanding of the world in which they live and contribute to the education of the College community as a whole. Think Globally, Act Locally—The Crossroads Program.

World Watch

Europe: UN debates future of Kosovo —

Russia and Serbia argued Monday that an independent Kosovo violates the U.N. Security Council's orders in a last-ditch attempt to stem the tide of diplomatic recognition for Europe's newest state. Kosovo won recognition Monday from three of the five other veto-wielding powers on the Security Council and many other European Union nations also have moved to recognize Kosovo.

Asia: Pakistan holds election key to democracy —

Pakistanis fearful of militant attacks voted Monday for a new parliament in a key step toward democracy after eight years of military rule under President Pervez Musharraf. Polling got off to a sluggish start in major cities amid tight security after a wave of suicide bombings.

South America: Brazil to expand Antarctic base —

Brazil intends to increase its operations in Antarctica, President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said Sunday after visiting the region with his wife, son, and several government officials. "We are going to have to expand our presence here with more investments and laboratory ships."

Cultural Connection

March 6— Shivaratri (Hindu): Marks the date that the Hindu deity Lord Shiva performed Tandav, the cosmic dance of creation and destruction. Devotees fast for 24 hours and visit shrines.

March 8— International Women's Day (UN)

March 17— St. Patrick's Day (Ireland, Christian): Marks the death of the patron saint of Ireland.

March 19— Eid-Moulud un Nabi (Islamic): Observed birthday of the Prophet Muhammad

women. We also had an Indulgence Party in the WAC. This event is designed to familiarize students with the WAC and also give them a chance to relax and have treats, get a massage, and meet other students. The Vagina Monologues is the biggest event that occurred during V-Week. This event is a component of V-Day and is a global effort to end the systemic use of violence against women and girls. All proceeds from The Vagina Monologues are donated to charities or shelters that deal with domestic and sexual violence.

"Take Back the Night" is the final event WAC will be sponsoring this year. It will occur toward the end of April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness month. "Take Back the Night" acknowledges that sexual assault is not an uncommon theme on college campuses and encourages women and men to speak out against it. It is also intended to provide support for survivors of sexual assault. We hope to plan this event in conjunction with other events during the week, such as a second Heterodoxy release and off-campus speakers.

Womyn's Awareness Center meetings are held every Wednesday at 8 p.m.. The WAC is located downstairs in the Campus Center to the left of the Dive. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. ■

goings on

Diversity Center

March 7

Gustavus Idol, 7 p.m.

March 8

- "Building Bridges", 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
- Hip Hop Festival, 8–10 p.m.

March 13

Speaker Tim Wise, 7 p.m.

College Calendar

March 1

- A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, 8 p.m.
- Leap Year Retreat, All Day

March 2

- Leap Year Retreat, All Day
- A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, 8 p.m.

March 3

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Lecture, 7:30 p.m.

March 4

- Meditation, 7 p.m.
- Proclaim, 9 p.m.

March 5

Internship Fair, 11 a.m.
Swing Night, 9 p.m.

March 6

Day at the Capitol, 7:45 a.m.

March 8

Neal Hagberg in Concert, 7:30 p.m.

March 9

Sacred Space, 8 p.m.

March 11

- Interviewing with Confidence, 3:30 p.m.
- Meditation, 7 p.m.
- Proclaim, 9 p.m.

March 12

Swing Night, 9 p.m.

March 15

President's Ball, All Day

March 18

- Meditation, 7 p.m.
- Proclaim, 9 p.m.

March 19

Swing Night, 9 p.m.

March 21-30

Spring Break, 9 p.m.