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YWCA Spokane Joins With Gonzaga University Theatre Department For Public V-Day Campaign As A Call To End Violence Against Women And Girls

Spokane, WA — YWCA Spokane partners with Gonzaga University’s Theatre Department on February 14th in support of this year’s V-Day campaign, an annual global activist movement to end violence against all women and girls.

As part of this campaign, Gonzaga University’s Theatre Department will conduct a benefit production of The Vagina Monologues on February 14th in support of YWCA Spokane’s Domestic Violence Safe Shelter. The performance will be held at Gonzaga University’s Magnuson Theatre located at 502 E Boone Avenue. Doors will open at 7:00pm for ticket purchases. The performance will begin promptly at 7:30pm and will conclude at 9:30pm.

During the event, YWCA Spokane and Gonzaga University’s Theatre and Dance Department will also facilitate V-Day’s 1 Billion Rising campaign which will include a special surprise performance at the end of the event.

“Gonzaga’s Theatre and Dance department is proud to support the YWCA’s vital work by doing what theatre artists do best – telling stories”, shares Leslie Stamoolis, Gonzaga University’s Assistant Professor of Theatre and Dance who will be directing the performances. “The Vagina Monologues are powerful for the voices they give to so many people who are usually silenced by society. And telling those stories, in those voices, gives power to the narratives – it reminds us all that these stories matter, and in fact every woman’s story matters.”

This is the first time Gonzaga has opened up a performance of The Vagina Monologues as a public event through their theatre curriculum, making it a historic event for the university.

Additionally, Hope Stones, YWCA Spokane’s custom jewelry making program, will be selling hand-made earrings, necklaces, and bracelets before and after the performance. With materials donated by Tracy Jewelers, all proceeds raised from jewelry sales directly benefit YWCA Spokane’s Safe Shelter.

Event Registration

Tickets are available for $15 per person through Gonzaga University’s Theatre Department website. Proceeds gathered from this public event benefit YWCA Spokane’s Safe Shelter for domestic violence survivors with 10% of funds supporting future national V-Day campaign efforts.
“We deeply appreciate Gonzaga’s Theatre Department for their commitment to our agency and those we serve who have been impacted by domestic violence,” states Jen Haynes, YWCA Spokane Director of Housing.

About The National V-Day Campaign

V-Day is an international campaign and global activist movement to end violence against all women and girls started by author, playwright, and activist Eve Ensler. V-Day is a catalyst that promotes creative events to increase awareness, raise money, and revitalize the spirit of existing anti-violence organizations. V-Day generates broader attention for the fight to stop violence against women and girls, including rape, battery, incest, female genital mutilation (FGM), and sex slavery.

Through V-Day campaigns, local volunteers and college students produce annual benefit performances to raise awareness and funds for anti-violence groups within their own communities. Each year, thousands of V-Day benefit events take place produced by volunteer activists in the U.S. and around the world, educating millions of people about the reality of violence against women and girls. Learn more at vday.org.

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About YWCA Spokane

For over 115 years, YWCA Spokane has been helping women and children overcome social, economic, and personal barriers in order to accomplish their goals and achieve healthier and more fulfilling lives. Today areas of focus include supporting victims of intimate partner domestic violence, promoting early childhood education, and confronting racial and social justice issues that negatively impact our clients and community.

In 2018, we served over 16,800 women, children, and families. Services include a continuum of wrap-around support: 24 hour Helpline and Safe Shelter, Counseling Center, Mental Health Services, Child Advocacy, Civil Legal Assistance, Legal Advocacy, and Economic Empowerment Advocacy. YWCA’s Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) provides 3-and 4-year-old children with social and learning skills necessary for successful entry into kindergarten.

By working at the intersections of inequality, poverty, and domestic violence, YWCA Spokane is able to disrupt longstanding societal patterns of trauma.

Learn more at ywcaspokane.org.

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