

# PRIDE POST

Volume II, Issue 4

February 2006

## Upcoming Events

- February 11, 17, & 18—Vagina Monologues performances. Call Diane Sands ext.3102 for Ticket Info
- February 15—Safe Zone Training for Student Leaders, 3-5pm
- March 1—Safe Zone Training for faculty & staff, 1-5:30pm, Ursa Major

## Meetings & Gatherings

### QSAFE

Queer Students & Allies  
For Equality  
Meetings  
Tu 12-1pm @ Pride Center

Women's Rap Group  
Th 6:30pm-7:30  
@ Pride Center

General Rap Group  
T 5:30pm-6:30  
@ Pride Center

## Pride Faculty/Staff of the Month



**Dr. Terri Gomez**

Dr. Gomez is a professor in the Ethnic and Women's Studies Department, and is a proud ally of the Pride Center.

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## The Vagina Monologues Have Returned!

By Chester Lagmay



*The Vagina Monologues* will be returning to the Cal Poly Pomona Campus this February, after a one year hiatus. *The Vagina Monologues* has been a well attended production in the past, and this February's performances will most likely be well-attended. 2006's performances are being produced out of the Stop Violence Office by a student committee.

For those of you

who have never heard of the Vagina Monologues, it is a series of monologues compiled by Eve Ensler, all of which she has based on interviews with over 200 women about their memories and experiences with sexuality. This world-famous theatrical piece has been translated into over 24 languages and has been performed throughout the globe.

Some of the monologues are funny and light, while others are more serious and dramatic. All in all, the Vagina Monologues serves to celebrate the diversity of the experiences of all women.



Throughout the month of February, college campuses across the nation will also be performing the Vagina Monologues in honor of V-Day. V-Day is a campaign sponsored by Eve Ensler, and is described as an "organized response against violence towards women." The event is meant to educate the community on such issues as rape, domestic violence, sexism, and feminism.

The Vagina

## The Pride Center Honors Black History Month

By Shaundra Brown

*In honor of Black History Month and Shaundra Brown leaving her position as the Coordinator of the African American Student Center, the following article has been included in this month's edition of the Pride Post.*

It has been 80 years since Carter G.

Woodson founded Negro History Week in 1926. This week long celebration expanded to Black History Month over time. At Cal Poly Pomona, the African American Student Center, students, staff, faculty and community members celebrate our heritage and culture 365

days a year. During February's Black History Month, we are able to highlight this history in an impactful way.

The Sankofa symbol teaches us that it is not taboo to look back and fetch it when we forget, and our students,

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## Vagina Monologues

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Monologues Committee has planned a V-Day Fair prior to each performance. The fair will showcase a series of community agencies from on and off campus who work in programs geared towards domestic violence and/or violence toward women. There will be three performances held this year on February 11, 17, and 18. The performance on the 17<sup>th</sup> will be in Spanish. All performances are from 7pm-10pm and the fairs will be held right before the performances beginning at 5:30pm.

*Tickets: \$10 for Students, \$15 for General Admission. For more information, or ticket inquiries please call the Stop Violence Office at (909) 869-3112.*

**Save the Date!**  
**Pride and Excellence  
 Scholarship Dinner**  
 Coming your way!  
 Thursday, April 13th, 2006  
 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.  
 At Kellogg West

## Term of the Month: Domestic Partnership

Domestic Partnerships are *not* same-sex marriages, but were created in order to bridge the differences and promote equality for same sex couples. Domestic partnership rules and privileges differ from state to state, and even city to city. Here in California, our domestic partnership registry allows for access to adoption procedures, improved sick leave, disability coverage, enhanced employer-sponsored health coverage, medical decision authority for partners, and key state tax breaks.

Though the domestic partnership registry affords *some* benefits of marriage, it is hardly a substitute. Many marriage equality activists believe that it is a step towards marriage equality, but further activism and lobbying must be taken to guarantee true marriage equality.

There are very few barriers to filing for Domestic Partnership, and application is as easy as filling out a form, having it notarized, and then filing the form with the Secretary of State's Office along with a \$10 fee. For more information check the Human Right's Campaign's Website at:  
<http://www.hrc.org>

## Black History Month

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clubs and organizations have done just that with February's programming.

As students culminated the month with closing ceremonies, they reenacted the lives of historic figures that made history such as Booker T. Washington, Sojourner Truth, W.E.B. DuBois and Rosa Parks. Cal Poly Pomona's Closing Ceremonies is so unique in that students take an active part in their own education, by learning about historic Black leaders from the past, and then teaching their peers and our campus community with their reenactments. This increases our community's sense of Unity, Pride and Excellence which is just what Woodson envisioned 80 years ago as Black heritage was celebrated and highlighted for our own community and the world at large. Thank you for celebrating the achievements of African Americans for over 80 years by experiencing and learning about Black History this month. This will allow

us to continue to strive for change on our campus the entire year.

*For more information on Black History Month, please call the African American Student Center at (909) 869-5006.*

*The Pride Center Staff would like to thank Shaundra Brown for all of the hard work and dedication she has invested into creating a diverse and safe space on campus. We wish her the best of luck in all of her future endeavors.*

## Pride Faculty/Staff of the Month

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Her favorite book is Borderlands: La Frontera by Gloria Anzaldua, and enjoys salsa dancing, cooking, and working in the garden with her husband.

She believes that the "single most important issue faced by the LGBTQ community is the creation (and maintenance) of relatively safe spaces in an increasingly hostile, homophobic and racist society." One piece of advice she would like to give to everyone is "is to not fear knowing who you are; and, to have the audacity to think that you have something important to offer."