

GET EDUCATED

RAISING FUNDS FOR V-DAY

"The Vagina Monologues" will be performed at 8 p.m. Friday, and again at 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday at MSU's Fairchild Theatre.

Each year during V-Day campaigns, volunteers and college students worldwide produce benefit performances of the monologues in an effort to raise awareness and funds for anti-violence groups within their own communities.

V-Day is a global movement started in 1998 to end violence against girls and women including the effort to stop rape, battery, incest, female genital mutilation (FGM) and sexual slavery.

In 2001, V-Day was named one of Worth Magazine's "100 Best Charities" and in 2006 was one of Marie Claire Magazine's Top 10 Charities. In 10 years, the V-Day movement has raised more than \$60 million.

This year, 10 percent of the MSU production's profits will go toward this year's spotlight campaign for the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The other 90 percent will benefit the MSU Sexual Assault Program — a cause that is all too needed with the number of sexual assaults taking place recently on campus, said Krysta Michorczyk, a Journalism senior and one of three co-directors of "The Vagina Monologues."

"I think it was important to us to keep the money close in the community, where it was going to benefit the people who are coming to see the show," said Michorczyk. "It was really important to us that we're making this money accessible (to) those here who need it."

Ticket prices, before service charges, are \$11 for students, and \$15 for general admission. They can be purchased at the Wharton Center Box Office, at whartoncenter.com, or by calling (517) 353-1982.

For more information on V-Day, visit www.vday.org.

—Compiled by Julie Baker, The State News

FACES + PLACES

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HELLO, MY NAME IS

Jon Hayes

Jon Hayes found her passion for yoga six years ago after attending a class with her mother. She found the exercising art extremely helpful in clearing her mind.

Hayes opened Yoga State, 515 E. Grand River Ave., more than a year ago to offer the people of East Lansing a relaxing environment to challenge and find themselves.

"You stop thinking about all the crap that you are usually thinking about," Hayes said. "It allows you to take a break from normal worries." She said teaching yoga is a great way to help people improve their way of life. She tries to challenge her students physically, mentally and emotionally with routines that defeat the from the common notion that yoga is only for stretching.

"Once they start doing it, they start feeling better from the inside out," Hayes said.

She also works with many MSU athletes to prevent injury and to improve their range of motion and strength.

—Compiled by Ursula Zerilli, Photo by Katie Rausch/The State News



Wednesday



Nursing senior Danielle Krasman, center right, performs "The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy" as part of a rehearsal for "The Vagina Monologues" Sunday night at the Union. Krasman plays a dominatrix for women and delivers a vocal demonstration of a "triple orgasm." The performance runs Friday and Saturday night at the Auditorium.

MONOLOGUE MOVEMENT

By Julie Baker
THE STATE NEWS

This week, the letter "V" has three meanings for a group of past and present students and community members — it stands for Victory, Valentine and Vagina. As a part of a global movement to end violence against women and girls called V-Day, a group of about 30 MSU students, alumni and faculty are putting on Eve Ensler's award-winning play "The Vagina Monologues" this weekend at Fairchild Theatre.

This is the 10th year MSU has put on the production, which is based on Ensler's interviews with more than 200 women about their vagina experiences — from rape and domestic violence, to menstruation, to sex. Last year, more than 4,000 V-Day benefit events took place in the U.S. and around the world.

A community of vaginas
Since the cast list was decided during fall semester, the cast has taken part in rehearsals and bonding activities on a weekly basis. During this last week before the show, they're putting on V-Week, in which they will rehearse and have events every day.

"It's kind of like a vagina family," Abby Schottenfels, a Residential College of Arts and Humanities freshman, said of being a part of the cast. "It's really interesting because I've never really had a group of people that I can talk to about that stuff, specifically."

Noel Schroeder, an international relations and psychology senior, said she has enjoyed having the sense of community with the cast, and being able to celebrate common aspects of their lives. "During the week before the show, there was a night where we just talked about our vagina experiences, good and bad," she said. "It's just a good way to bond with the rest of the cast and get to know them and talk



The cast of the 2008 MSU production of "The Vagina Monologues" gathered together Monday night at the Union to make "pussy art." Supplies like glitter, fake fur, plastic gemstones and googly eyes were used to make vaginas on paper.

about these things that previously might be uncomfortable to talk about, but you're close enough to these people that you can really get these issues out in the open."

The newcomer
Schottenfels decided to try out for "The Vagina Monologues" after seeing a poster advertising the show in the

Snyder-Phillips Hall basement that said "We hope you cum." She and a friend went to tryouts, never expecting to get cast in the show. "We didn't think we'd make it because we're just freshmen, and it's a community-wide thing and there are so many qualified people," Schottenfels said. "But we did make it,

and found out it's really this cool feminist movement and we're proud to be vagina warriors now." She has a part in a group monologue called "Wear & Say," in which a reporter asked women what their vaginas would wear

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To hear an audio interview with co-director Krysta Michorczyk, visit stateneews.com