

Visit <https://womenscenter.vt.edu> for a complete and updated listing of the month's events. For more information, please contact Leslie Mathews, Women's Month Coordinator at 540-231-7806 or [lesliem2@vt.edu](mailto:lesliem2@vt.edu). If you are a person with a disability and require accommodations, please contact the Women's Center at 540-231-7806.

## **Thursday, February 28th — Friday, March 1st**

### **Women & Gender in Development Conference 2019: Out of the theory & into the field**

*Thursday, 11AM-7PM, Inn at Virginia Tech*

*Friday, 8AM-6PM, Inn at Virginia Tech*

Women and Gender in International Development at the Center for International Research, Education, and Development (CIRED) of Virginia Tech invites students, faculty, practitioners, and interested individuals to an intensive 1-1/2 day learning and networking opportunity engaging renowned experts in international development, with particular emphasis on gender. Keynote speakers and panelists will address gender equality, empowerment, masculinity, and intersectionality; agriculture, nutrition, and One Health; and access to resources including land, capital, and technology. The conference includes a careers lunch panel, a poster session, and three workshops, one of which is a conversation on discrimination, sexual harassment and other challenges in the field. It will be particularly beneficial for students and faculty preparing for fieldwork or considering future opportunities in development. It aims to raise awareness of potential international applications that students and faculty in all fields may be able to apply to their own work. Attendees need to register in advance and space is limited. Regular registration: January 24-February 20, 2019; Virginia Tech students - \$20; Virginia Tech Non-Students (faculty, staff, lecturers, postdocs, etc.) - \$35; All other students - \$40; All others - \$250. See [wgd.conf](http://wgd.conf) for more information.

## **Thursday, February 28th**

### **Digging in the Crates Volume 14: Gender & Hip-Hop Part III: The Return of the B-Girl**

*7-9PM, Newman Library Multipurpose Room*

Join the Virginia Tech hip hop arts community for a discussion on the intersection of gender and culture. Hip hop practitioners, scholars, and fans will all crack the mic. Free pizza and performances too! Contact Craig Arthur at [crarthur@vt.edu](mailto:crarthur@vt.edu) for more information.

## **Throughout the month of March**

### **The History of Women at VT digital timeline project**

*Online, Sponsored by Special Collections, University Libraries and the Women's Center*

Who were the first women admitted to Virginia Tech? Where did they live? What is the *Tin Horn*? Who were the first women graduates of VPI? When were black women first admitted and who were they? What is L-Squadron? In the spirit of this year's Women's Month theme, "Celebrating Milestones: building on the power of firsts," we are excited to "soft launch" the History of Women at Virginia Tech digital timeline project, a collaborative effort showcasing women's history at our university through archival documents, photographs, interviews, and more. This exhibit is in progress and new content is being added all the time, so please visit regularly. You can view the online exhibit of digitized items [here](#).

### **Moments in the History of Women at VT: a campus walking tour**

*Self-directed*

Did you know that the first women's basketball team was called "The Turkey Hens"? Or that VT's earliest women students were excluded from the campus yearbook, so they created their own? How about that prior to 1968, women students were not allowed to wear pants (skirts only!) on campus? Women's history at Virginia Tech is as fascinating as it is important! Enjoy a stroll around campus and learn about some of the interesting and significant moments and figures in VT women's history.

## **Monday, March 4th**

### **From the Lab Bench to the White Board: The Transition from Researcher at an R1 Institution to Professor at a PUI**

*1:30-2:30PM, Fralin Auditorium*

Dr. Kristen Long will talk about the importance of seeking teaching experience at the graduate and post-doctoral level. She will share about her personal experiences with the IRACDA (NIH funded, mentored research and teaching) program, the importance of networking, and the pressure of publishing while also working as an adjunct professor. This seminar will also include advice on how to prepare applications and interview materials. She will finish by talking about how to stay relevant as a researcher who is held to a limited budget and teaching full time. Contact Hannah Valentino at [hannahrv@vt.edu](mailto:hannahrv@vt.edu) for more information.

### **Breaking the Glass Slipper: Deconstructing Disney**

*Watch The Princess and the Frog @ 6:30PM, Squires Colonial Hall*

*Discussion immediately following the film, Squires Brush Mountain A*

All are invited to come to our film and discussion series centered on Disney princess films and their relation to women's issues including body image, gender roles, love, relationships, sexuality, leadership, and race. Contact Emily Mawyer at [emawyer@vt.edu](mailto:emawyer@vt.edu) for more information.

## **Tuesday, March 5th**

### **Screening of the film *Dolores***

*7PM, The Lyric Theatre, Downtown Blacksburg*

Join us for a screening of *Dolores*, the story of Dolores Huerta, a working-class mother of eleven children, who helped to establish a farmer's union that later developed into a platform for feminism and gender equality. The movie will be shown at The Lyric Theater in downtown Blacksburg on Tuesday, March 5 at 7PM. Tickets are FREE for VT students with a student ID and for children under 12 years and \$5 for all others. Everyone is welcome! For more information contact Erin Ling at [ejling@vt.edu](mailto:ejling@vt.edu).

## **Wednesday, March 6th**

### **Women's Center Book Discussion Group: Zadie Smith's *On Beauty***

*12-1:30PM OR 5:30-7PM*

*Women's Center, 206 Washington Street*

Do you want to engage with Zadie Smith's work prior to her

visit this month to Virginia Tech? Join us for one of our two book discussion groups. We will discuss her book, *On Beauty*, winner of the 2006 Orange Prize for fiction. Click [here](#) to register. Those who register and attend will receive Women's Center 25th anniversary swag, discussion questions developed specifically for this project, and be entered to win two free tickets to the March 19th Zadie Smith performance at the Moss Arts Center.

**The First Sexual Harassment Case: The Supreme Court Discovers Discrimination on the Basis of Sex, Lecture by Dr. Mary Atwell**

6:30PM, 125 Goodwin

Dr. Mary Atwell, Professor Emerita of Criminal Justice at Radford University, discusses the first Supreme Court case dealing with sexual harassment (1986), defining this as discrimination on the basis of sex, prohibited by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, 1964. After this first case, victims could assert that the law was on their side. Dr. Atwell will present stories of relevant cases, and their current importance. For more information contact Suchitra Samanta at [ssamanta@vt.edu](mailto:ssamanta@vt.edu).

**Thursday, March 7**

**El fútbol femenino en la Argentina: una charla virtual con Dr. Verónica Moreira (Universidad de Buenos Aires) Note: this talk is in Spanish**

12:30-1:30PM, Fralin Auditorium

Dr. Verónica Moreira (Universidad de Buenos Aires) will be giving a short skype lecture on women's soccer in Argentina (**conducted in Spanish**). The session forms a part of the Culture of Fútbol course in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures. Q&A will follow the lecture. In comparison to men's soccer, the Argentine Football Association has historically underfunded the women's national soccer team and the practice of women's soccer in the country. However, in recent years, women have used the sport as a platform for questioning social inequality, demonstrated by recent public protests and strikes against the game's governing body. Despite this, the women's national team has qualified for the upcoming World Cup for the first time since 2007. Sociologist Dr. Verónica Moreira will speak on these issues, as well as the representation of women athletes in the Argentine media and the gender pay gap. Her talk will explore how these women continue to fight against these prejudices in order to compete in the world's most prestigious competitions. Contact Patrick Ridge at [ptridge@vt.edu](mailto:ptridge@vt.edu) for more information.

**Texting with God: Writing and Erasing, Feminism and Misogyny**

7PM, 135 Goodwin

Jen Taylor Friedman is a Jewish scribe, scholar, and educator. She presently has five Torah scrolls to her credit. She has an MA in Jewish Studies from McGill, for which she wrote a history of the material culture of tefillin. She is notorious for having created Tefillin Barbie, who has been featured in several quite serious publications describing twenty-first century Judaism. For more information, contact Megan Case at [mlcase@vt.edu](mailto:mlcase@vt.edu).

**Tuesday, March 12**

**Women Are Always Growing: A Potted Plant Workshop**

Noon-1PM, Hahn Garden Greenhouse Classroom GH100

Women are like plants ... always growing. They need care and nurturing, but are strong and resilient. Learn about the many benefits of enjoying the growth of plants, both inside and out. Learn the mental and physical benefits of plants. Gain an appreciation for plants. For more information, contact Stephanie Huckestein at [vtgarden@vt.edu](mailto:vtgarden@vt.edu).

**Monday, March 18**

**Poetry Reading with Laura Eve Engel and Rebecca Morgan Frank**

4-5PM, 370/380 Shanks

Join us for a reading to celebrate the publication of poet Laura Eve Engel's, *Things That Go* (Octopus Books, 2019), and Rebecca Morgan Frank's, *Sometimes We're All Living in a Foreign Country* (Carnegie Mellon University Press, 2017). This is Laura Eve Engel's first book and is a re-telling of the story of Lot's wife (reimagined). Rebecca Morgan Frank's book gives voice to perpetual outsiders, and Frank is also the long-time editor of *Memorious* journal. Contact Erika Meitner at [meitner@vt.edu](mailto:meitner@vt.edu) for more information.

**Breaking the Glass Slipper: Deconstructing Disney**

Watch *Tangled* @ 6:30PM, Squires Colonial Hall

Discussion immediately following the film, Squires Brush Mountain A

All are invited to come to our film and discussion series centered on Disney princess films and their relation to women's issues including body image, gender roles, love, relationships, sexuality, leadership, and race. Contact Emily Mawyer at [emawyer@vt.edu](mailto:emawyer@vt.edu) for more information.

**Monday, March 18 — Thursday, March 21**

**Women on Weights**

Monday & Wednesday: 7-8PM, War Memorial Multi B

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:15-6:15PM, War Memorial Multi B

Do you feel intimidated by the thought of going to the gym? Or are you someone who feels overwhelmed by the idea of lifting? We know that 'gymtimidation' is real and we are here to help! Join us in our private strength and condition room. Women on Weights is a small-group training class specifically designed to teach anyone the essential foundation of strength training and proper lifting technique, provide knowledge for participants to create their own workouts, and help build confidence when exercising in the gym. This is a free week of programming that allows anyone interested to give it a try. There is the potential to continue with the group for a six week session if they are interested. More information can be found [here](#). For more information contact Shelly Rasnick at [rasnicks@vt.edu](mailto:rasnicks@vt.edu).

**Tuesday, March 19**

**Encourage Her**

Noon-4PM, Lavery Hall (in front of Turner)

There is power in numbers and numbers is something the Virginia Tech campus has. As a community, let's show women on our campus that we support each other not just

in actions, but in words. At our booth, we will have a corkboards with notes that people can take, and notes that people can leave. *Take a Compliment, Leave a Compliment* is the idea we are going for, but we don't want the notes to stop there. We want to see women leaving empowering statements, positive quotes, or happy thoughts that can inspire and empower someone else. So, *encourage her* with a positive message and help her achieve the next milestone. For more information, contact Kristen Lopez at [kris98@vt.edu](mailto:kris98@vt.edu).

**An Onstage Conversation with Zadie Smith, author**  
*7:30PM, Moss Arts Center In the Street and Davis Performance Hall, Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre*

New York Times bestselling novelist Zadie Smith was born in North London in 1975 to an English father and a Jamaican mother and graduated from Cambridge in 1997. Her acclaimed first novel, *White Teeth*, is a vibrant portrait of contemporary multicultural London, told through the stories of three ethnically diverse families. The book won many awards, including the Guardian First Book Award, the Whitbread First Novel Award, the Commonwealth Writers Prize, and two awards from the Ethnic Multicultural Media Academy. Smith's *On Beauty* was one of the New York Times' "10 Best Books of 2012." Since her debut novel, Smith has established herself not just as one of the world's preeminent fiction writers, but also a brilliant and singular essayist. She regularly contributes to *The New Yorker* and the *New York Review of Books*. Just released in February, her collection of essays, *Feel Free*, offers a survey of important recent events in culture and politics, as well as her own life. Smith is a tenured professor of creative writing at New York University.

*Presented in partnership with the Department of English Visiting Writers Series and the Women's Center at Virginia Tech in celebration of its 25th anniversary*

Tickets for the performance are \$25 for general admission and \$10 for students and youth 18 and under. Tickets can be purchased online; at the Moss Arts Center's box office, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday; or by calling 540-231-5300 during box office hours.

**Wednesday, March 20**

**Online Launch: VT Women Connect Directory**  
*Online*

VT Women Connect is launching a new way for Virginia Tech's women in management and leadership roles and those who aspire to these roles to connect and network. Visit our page for more information and to participate in this new online forum. VT Women Connect is an informal network that promotes, develops and supports Virginia Tech women by providing a forum to forge relationships, develop supportive networks, and share ideas and information. This project is supported by members of the Business Administration Management Systems team. If you have questions about the group or the directory, please contact Anna LoMascolo or Donna Cassell Ratcliffe.

**Wednesday, March 20 — Saturday, March 23**

**Lois Gottlieb: Architect Extraordinaire**

*9AM-5PM, Cowgill Hall Lobby and the Art + Architecture Library, Cowgill Hall*

An exhibition of Gottlieb's architectural and photographic work. The program pays tribute to an important architect whose work is housed in the Special Collections of Newman Library as part of the International Archive of Women in Architecture (IAWA). Ms. Gottlieb served for several years as a member of the Board of Directors of the IAWA. For more information, contact Bert Rodriguez at [hcamir@vt.edu](mailto:hcamir@vt.edu).

**2019 International Archive of Women in Architecture Symposium**

*March 20 @ 7PM*

*March 21 & 22 @ 9AM - 5PM*

*All events @ School of Architecture + Design, Cowgill Hall*  
Expanding the 'Archive': Latent Connections: Evidence and Speculation. This symposium will discuss architectural research and practice that reimagines, re-thinks and re-frames the architectural world as we know it, by focusing upon the diverse practices of women in architecture. For more information, contact Donna Dunay at [ddunay@vt.edu](mailto:ddunay@vt.edu).

**Thursday, March 21**

**Battle of the Sexes Film Screening and Discussion**

*2-5PM, North End Center Room 2420*

View the movie *Battle of the Sexes* followed by a conversation on the topics addressed in the film, including equality and equitable pay, sexism, LGBTQ rights, and diversity, inclusion and the prevalence of privilege. Contact Alicia Cohen at [acohen@vt.edu](mailto:acohen@vt.edu) for more information.

**Friday, March 22**

**Workplace Massage for VT Faculty and Staff**

*1-5PM, Hahn Garden Pavilion*

Tod Whitehurst, LMT of Massage Therapy Associates of New River Valley will perform workplace massage on campus for Women's Month. Therapeutic massage promotes health and well-being through reduced stress, increased circulation, relaxing tense muscles, increased body awareness and reduced anxiety. **Fee:** \$1/minute with a 25-minute minimum. Contact Tod Whitehurst LMT at [staff@nrvmassage.com](mailto:staff@nrvmassage.com) or 540-392-3723 to schedule your massage.

**HEDY! The Life & Inventions of Hedy Lamarr**

*2PM and 7PM, The Cube, Moss Arts Center*

This theatre production explores the life, inventions, and person of Hedy Lamarr, Viennese-born Hollywood film star of the 1930s-1950s. Hedy Lamarr was more than the most beautiful woman in the world. She invented frequency hopping and spread spectrum technology that make the world of wireless communication tick. From Austria to Hollywood, WWII, torpedoes, ecstasy, and intrigue to the very cell phone in your pocket, she was there! The true story of Hollywood glamour and scientific genius is written and performed by Heather Massie. Cost is free and tickets

are required. Contact Phyllis Newbill at [pnewbill@vt.edu](mailto:pnewbill@vt.edu) for more information.

### **Saturday, March 23**

#### **Women On Ropes**

2:30-4:30PM, *The Venture Out Challenge Course*  
Open Recreation on the new Venture Out Challenge Course. Open to any individual who identifies as female. \$20 per person. For more information, contact Matt Lattis at [lattis@vt.edu](mailto:lattis@vt.edu).

### **Monday, March 25 — Friday, March 29**

#### **Clothesline Project Workshops & Displays**

Workshops: 3/25-3/29 @ 9:00AM-4:30PM in the Women's Center  
Displays: 3/26-2/27 @ 9:00AM-5:00PM on the Drillfield; Rain location: Squires

The Clothesline Project, an effort to raise awareness of gender-based violence, is a visual testimony to the shattering effect of violence and the impact it has on society. Survivors of violence — and friends and families of victims — create shirts emblazoned with direct messages and strong illustrations. The shirts demonstrate the pain and suffering of the survivors, aid in their healing process, and celebrate their strength and courage to overcome the past. The shirts are hung side-by-side on a clothesline, as though the survivors were standing there themselves, shoulder-to-shoulder, bearing witness to the violence committed on a daily basis. The shirts are color coded: white for those who have died of violence; yellow or beige for survivors who have been battered or assaulted; red, pink, or orange for those raped or sexually assaulted; blue or green for survivors of incest or child sexual abuse; purple or lavender for survivors attacked because of their sexual orientation; and black for those handicapped by violence. The project encourages survivors to come forward to break the silence by creating shirts to share their stories. All materials are supplied free of charge. Please consider dropping by the Women's Center to create your own shirt in a quiet, comfortable environment. Contact Susan Anderson at [anderson@math.vt.edu](mailto:anderson@math.vt.edu) for more information.

### **Monday, March 25**

#### **Martyrdom and Gender: Lecture and Interactive Discussion with Dr. Shaily Patel**

Noon -1PM, *Black Cultural Center, 126 Squires Student Center*  
Dr. Shaily Patel, Assistant Professor of Religion and Culture, will give a short talk and lead discussion on martyrdom and gender in early Christianity. Early Church Fathers spilled a great deal of ink on limiting women's roles in Church leadership. They developed rules for women, addressing everything from marriage to hairstyling. At the same time, however, we see a proliferation of texts wherein women have a very special kind of charismatic authority. These texts are typically martyrdom accounts. Dr. Patel's talk will explore this contradiction between Church Fathers' writings and martyrdom accounts. Contact Kimberly Williams at [knwilliams@vt.edu](mailto:knwilliams@vt.edu) for more information.

**Breaking the Glass Slipper: Deconstructing Disney**  
*Watch Maleficent @ 6:30PM, Squires Colonial Hall*  
Discussion immediately following the film, *Squires Brush Mountain A*

All are invited to come to our film and discussion series centered on Disney princess films and their relation to women's issues including body image, gender roles, love, relationships, sexuality, leadership, and race. Contact Emily Mawyer at [emawyer@vt.edu](mailto:emawyer@vt.edu) for more information.

### **Tuesday, March 26 & 27**

#### **A Black Love Conversation: Being B.A.D. Embodying Redemption Through Theatre**

4:00PM with talk back immediately following  
*Perspective Gallery, 225 Squires Student Center*  
Theatre faculty member Brittney S. Harris performs her solo piece *Being B.A.D.* amidst the Perspective Gallery Black Love exhibit. Post-performance talk back hosted by Alicia Swiz, Program Coordinator of Women's Center, immediately follows. *Being B.A.D.* is a piece about personal acceptance and redemption from the cycle of abuse through self-love. For more information, contact Alicia Swiz at [aliciaswiz@vt.edu](mailto:aliciaswiz@vt.edu).

### **Thursday, March 28**

#### **Take Back the Night Rally and March**

7PM, *College Avenue at the Henderson Lawn Outdoor Stage*

This 30th annual rally and march raises awareness of gender-based violence, shares resources available locally, and gives individuals tools to help create positive change. Enjoy pre-rally music at 6:30PM; the rally begins at 7PM. People of all genders and ages are encouraged to participate, either as individuals or as part of a group, in the rally and march through Virginia Tech and Downtown Blacksburg. Organizations are invited to bring a group banner and all are encouraged to bring signs. Candles will be provided. Raise your voice to help lessen violence in our community. Together we'll Take Back the Night! Contact Susan Anderson at [anderson@math.vt.edu](mailto:anderson@math.vt.edu) for more information.

### **Coming in April**

#### **Wednesday, April 3**

#### **Pursuing the Extraordinary: An Evening with Mae Jemison**

7PM, *Street and Davis Performance Hall in the Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre, Moss Arts Center*

Dr. Mae Jemison, the first woman of color to go into space, has shifted her trailblazing focus to paving the way for human interstellar travel. Her talk "Pursuing the Extraordinary" will share her personal experience as a space voyager, and her plans for her new Endeavour, the 100 Year Starship, a global initiative seed funded by DARPA to ensure the capabilities for human travel to another star within the next 100 years. Dr. Jemison believes pursuing an extraordinary tomorrow builds a better world today. Sponsored by: Elizabeth A. "Betsy" Flanagan Women in Leadership and Philanthropy Endowed Lecture Fund, Virginia Tech Student Affairs, I

WILL Council, I WILL Institute. For more information, contact Hunter Gresham at [hgresham@vt.edu](mailto:hgresham@vt.edu).

**Tuesday, April 9**

**An Evening with Jodi Kantor**

7:30PM, Lyric Theatre, 135 College Avenue, Blacksburg

Jodi Kantor is a prize-winning investigative reporter and best-selling author whose work has revealed hidden truths about power, gender, technology, politics and culture. For more information, [click here](#).

*Presented by the Women's Center at Virginia Tech in celebration of our 25th anniversary. Generous support and co-sponsorship from the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost; English Department; Pamplin College of Business; Howard Feiertag Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management; Marketing Department; Business Leadership Institute; Division of Student Affairs; The Graduate School; Moss Arts Center; University Libraries; Virginia Tech MFA Program; Residential College at West Ambler Johnston; Department of Psychology; Science, Technology and Society; Department of Religion and Culture; Program in Philosophy, Politics and Economics; Office for Inclusion and Diversity; United Feminist Movement; Women's and Gender Studies Program; and Sociology Department.*

**Saturday, April 6 — Sunday, April 28**

**#SEXYNOTSILENT Exhibit by Edith Grey**

9AM—5PM, Monday through Friday, Wallace Hall Gallery, 108 Wallace Hall

Artist Edith Grey's exhibit #SEXYNOTSILENT aims to "redefine what sexy looks like for women of color who embrace their struggle against systems, stigma and mental or physical illness without negating their sexuality". For more information or to arrange a private showing contact Peggy Quesenberry at [ppqberry@vt.edu](mailto:ppqberry@vt.edu) or 231-4331.