

A MEMORY, A MONOLOGUE, A RANT AND A PRAYER

For Immediate Release

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V-DAY LAKE TAHOE JOINS GLOBAL EFFORT TO STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

V-Day Lake Tahoe 2010 Presents a Benefit Reading of:

A MEMORY, A MONOLOGUE, A RANT AND A PRAYER Writings To Stop Violence Against Women and Girls

Join us as we raise funds and awareness to end violence against women and girls

March 18, 2010 South Lake Tahoe, CA: On April 16 (Spanish version), & 23 (English version), 2010, at 7:00pm, V-Day Lake Tahoe will present a benefit reading of V-Day's *A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant and A Prayer* at Opal, inside of Mont Bleu Casino. This will be the eighth year a V-Day Event has been held in Lake Tahoe. Local beneficiaries: Tahoe Youth & Family Services, El Dorado Court Appointed Special Advocates, and The South Lake Tahoe Women's Center.

Last year over 4200 V-Day benefits took place around the world raising funds and awareness towards ending violence against women. Since 1998, V-Day and these highly successful events have raised over \$70 million for local beneficiaries working to end violence against women and girls. Tahoe has been a long time part of this global movement as part of the V-Day 2010 Campaign, and hopes for this year are to raise over the \$4,000 from local 2009 events in Tahoe.

A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant and A Prayer: Writings To Stop Violence Against Women and Girls, is a groundbreaking collection of monologues by world-renowned authors and playwrights, edited by Eve Ensler and Mollie Doyle and commissioned by V-Day for the first V-Day: UNTIL THE VIOLENCE STOPS festival, which took place June 2006 in New York City. Proceeds from the book benefit V-Day.

These diverse voices rise up in a collective roar to break open, expose, and examine the insidiousness of violence at all levels: brutality, neglect, a punch, even a put-down. The volume features such authors and topics as: Edward Albee on S&M; Maya Angelou on women's work; Michael Cunningham on self-mutilation; Dave Eggers on a Sudanese abduction; Edwidge Danticat on a border crossing; Carol Gilligan on a daughter witnessing her mother being hit; Susan Miller on raising a son as a single mother; Sharon Olds on a bra; Patricia Bosworth on her own physically abusive relationship; Jane Fonda on reclaiming our Mojo; and many more.

These writings are inspired, funny, angry, heartfelt, tragic, and beautiful. But above all, together they create a true and profound portrait of how violence against women affects every one of us.

What is V-Day?

V-Day is a global movement to stop violence against women and girls. 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 sexual slavery.

Through V-Day's College and Community Campaigns, local volunteers and college students produce annual benefit performances of *The Vagina Monologues A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant and A Prayer*, and *Any One Of Us: Words From Prison* and screenings of V-Day's documentary *Until The Violence Stops* and the PBS documentary *What I Want My Words To Do To You* to raise awareness and funds for anti-violence groups within their own communities. In 2009, over 4200 V-Day benefit events took 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.

To learn more about **V-Day Lake Tahoe**, call (775) 843-7142 or e-mail the nategoddess@yahoo.com. To learn more about V-Day and its campaigns visit www.vday.org

Where: Opal inside of Mont Bleu Casino

When: April 16th (Spanish version) April 23rd (English version)

Time: Doors 6:30pm, Show 7:00pm

Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door; available at www.ticketweb.com, or at the Tahoe Youth & Family Services Office in South Lake Tahoe.

Information: All ages welcome (Mature themes and content), Silent Auction will all proceeds to beneficiaries.

Dress Rehearsal Wednesday April 21, 2010 at the Divided Sky in Meyers \$8 at the door.

About local beneficiaries:

Tahoe Youth & Family Services is a non-profit organization that has been serving youth and families in the South Lake Tahoe community since 1971 and the Douglas County, Nevada area since 2005. Our mission is to promote the healthy development of children, youth, and families in our community by providing counseling, education and support services. Our primary goal is to provide a safety net of services. We serve families through professional and confidential individual and family counseling, community outreach, mentoring, Project Safe Place, Wraparound services, emergency youth shelter and a 24-hour crisis line. Current Services include:

Individual & Family Counseling

Adolescent Recovery Groups

Individual Teen Drug & Alcohol Counseling

Life Skills Group

Juvenile Treatment Center Counseling

Play Groups

Play Therapy

Mentoring Program (*Mentoring programs also available in Alpine County, CA)

Street Outreach Program

Teen Drop In/Resource Centers

Project Safe Place

24 Hr. Crisis Line

Thrift Store which employees homeless/couch surfing youth

South Lake Tahoe Women's Center is dedicated to improving the emotional, social, and economic condition of women and families in our community through prevention, intervention and treatment programs and services that address domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and basic needs. We provide comprehensive services that directly benefit the health and well-being of our community's families. Our services are free, confidential, available to women, men, and children, and include:

- Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter for up to 90 days
- Transitional Housing for up to 18 months
- Legal advice and / or representation for low-income survivors
- Advocacy / accompaniment through legal and medical processes
- 24-hour crisis hotline and crisis intervention counseling
- Response-team services with law enforcement, district attorney, and hospital staff
- Individual counseling for adults and children
- Weekly support groups for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors
- Child abuse prevention education in local schools
- 52-week Batterers Intervention and Prevention program for men and women
- Anger Management program for teen boys and teen girls
- 12-week parenting course
- 80-hour crisis intervention certification course (required for all staff and volunteers)
- Emergency clothing, food and transportation
- Referrals to other social service providers and local government agencies

CASA El Dorado Established in 1992 and incorporated in 1993, CASA El Dorado is a non-profit organization established under the umbrella of the National CASA Association, which supports 950 programs throughout the United States. CASA El Dorado's mission is simple:

“A passionate and powerful voice — CASA El Dorado's trained and court-appointed volunteers advocate on behalf of abused children and at-risk youth. Together with our community's involvement and generous support, we will positively impact the lives of our children.”

CASA El Dorado serves children both on the Western slope of the county and throughout South Lake Tahoe. With seven full-time and four part-time employees, and a dedicated Board of Directors, CASA El Dorado and its 130 active advocates have served close to 400 children thus far in 2009. The team has represented approximately 80 percent of the children in the El Dorado County Child Welfare System this year – a high percentage, but naturally, their goal is to serve all children needing their services within the county.