



11-6-2008

Illinois Wesleyan Celebrates Discovering a New You

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Recommended Citation

Gallian '09, Allegra, "Illinois Wesleyan Celebrates Discovering a New You" (2008). *News and Events*. 320.

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November 6, 2008

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Illinois Wesleyan Celebrates Discovering a New You

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University will celebrate “Discovering a New You Week” from Nov. 10 to Nov. 14. Events will occur around campus each day and will end with a presentation by artist Frank Warren on Friday Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. in the Shirk Center (302 E. Emerson St., Bloomington).

“Discovering a New You Week,” formally known as “Gender Issues Week” sets out to inform, educate and provide programs dealing with issues pertinent to women and men. Programs include a presentation about AIDS prevention by Dr. David Walton, a sexual health panel and a sexism discussion. The Friday event features Warren, creator of PostSecret. See full schedule of events below for further information.

PostSecret began as an art installation for Washington D.C.’s Artomatic 2004, a month-long multimedia arts event that drew together visual artists, musicians and performers. Warren’s concept was to have people send in anonymous decorated post cards revealing a secret they had never before shared. Warren created a Web site for his project, www.postsecret.com, in January of 2005. The Web site is updated every Sunday and currently has a collection of over 200,000 post cards. The PostSecret Community an online discussion forum, was also launched in 2007 and since it began, over 39,000 people have registered.

The PostSecret project has been featured weekly in Washington D.C.’s *City Paper*, and inspired books including *PostSecret: Extraordinary Confession from Ordinary Lives*. In 2005 the band the All-American Rejects used poster-size PostSecret post cards in their music video, “Dirty Little Secret.” In 2006 and 2007, PostSecret won multiple awards including Web blog of the year at the sixth and seventh annual Web Blog Awards.

Illinois Wesleyan students, faculty and staff can enter the PostSecret event for free with a valid ID. For general admission, tickets can be purchased for \$8 on Ticket Master or for \$10 at the door.

“Discovering a New You Week” Schedule of Events

- ◆ **Monday, Nov. 10:** Dr. David Walton will speak about his work in Haiti as the senior resident for internal medicine as well as his work with AIDS prevention at 7 p.m. in the Hansen Student Center (300 E. Beecher St., Bloomington). The event is free and open to the public.
- ◆ **Tuesday, Nov. 11:** A sexual health panel will take place in the Hansen Student Center at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. It is a tie in with Dr. Walton to discuss sexual health as well as the resources we have on and off campus for students. The Female Majority Leadership Alliance will also host a “Love your Body” campaign at the steps of Bertholf Commons in the Memorial Center (104 University St., Bloomington). Students can circle their favorite body part of a poster.
- ◆ **Wednesday, Nov. 12:** The Black Student Union will host a Sexism Discussion in the Davidson Room of the Memorial Center at 8 p.m. to talk about the affects of being yourself in society and how sex plays a major part in the societal roles people assume. The event is free and open to the public.
- ◆ **Thursday, Nov. 13:** The PRIDE Alliance will host a Drag Workshop: Exploring the Queer Subculture. They will discuss the history of drag shows, the queer subculture and there will be a live workshop presentation in the Fellowship Room of Evelyn Chapel (1301 N. Park St., Bloomington) at 9 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.
- ◆ **Friday, Nov. 14:** Frank Warren will discuss his Web blog, PostSecret. He will talk about the stories behind the most memorable postcards, the importance of the blog and its affect of the larger society in the Shirk Center at 7 p.m.

For additional information, contact Student Senate Awareness Events Commissioner Aaron Massey at amassey@iwu.edu.