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Transgender Activist and Sportswriter Christina Kahrl to Speak

Oct. 23, 2014

Transgender activist and Chicago-based sportswriter Christina Kahrl will present “Becoming a Woman in a Man’s World” at 8 p.m. on Nov. 6. The event will be held at the Hansen Student Center at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Born Chris Kahrl and raised near Sacramento, Kahrl began the process of gender transition during the mid-2000s, and later began gender reassignment surgery. The co-founder of Baseball Prospectus, a website devoted to the empirical analysis of baseball, Kahrl was profiled in a 2010 report on Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel.



Christina Kahrl

An activist for the transgender community, Kahrl currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Chicago House’s TransLife Center and the boards of GLAAD and the You Can Play Project. She has previously served on the boards of Equality Illinois and ONE Northside, and worked for Center on Halsted, the Midwest’s largest community center for LGBT persons.

She is an editor and writer at *ESPN* and contributor at *Cosmopolitan* magazine. In 2013, she was inducted into the inaugural class of the National Gay & Lesbian Sports Hall of Fame. Kahrl earned an undergraduate degree in history from the University of Chicago and a master’s degree in history from Loyola University Chicago.

The Division of Student Affairs, the Mellon Center, the Women’s and Gender Studies Program and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion are sponsoring the event. Kahrl’s presentation is also part of Illinois Wesleyan’s 2014 intellectual theme, “Walls and Bridges.”

By Tia Patsavas '16