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Professor to Discuss Book at Women Authors Event
November 10, 2006

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - Venus E. Evans-Winters, assistant professor of educational studies and sociology at Illinois Wesleyan University, will discuss her book, *Teaching Black Girls: Resiliency in Urban Classrooms*, as part of the Women Authors of Bloomington-Normal Presentation and Reception Friday, Nov. 17. The event is tied to the American Association of University Women in Bloomington-Normal (AAUW-BN) book fair fundraiser at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 1701 E. Empire St., in Bloomington.

The book fair will run from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., and the author's event will take place at 6:00 p.m. that same evening. Directly following the presentation at 7:00 p.m., AAUW-BN will sponsor the second annual High School Senior Essay Contest Awards Ceremony. Both events focus on education, and, according to Grace Foote Johns, AAUW-BN co-vice-president for programming, will "hopefully raise money for AAUW-BN's projects."

Johns selected Evans-Winters to speak because she believes *Teaching Black Girls* is "timely and interesting." The program anticipates between four and six women authors to speak about their works and answer questions. The authors have been chosen from different disciplines and write varying types of books, including those in the scholarly, popular and diversity genres. Other authors who have committed to participating are Roberta Seelinger Trites, professor of English at Illinois State University, and Maura Toro-Morn, associate professor of sociology at Illinois State University. Barnes & Noble will order each author's books for a small book signing after the event, during which light refreshments will be served.

A portion of the proceeds for all of the books purchased at the Barnes and Noble location on Nov. 17 will go to AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund Project, which supports individuals engaged in wrongful termination court cases.

The AAUW-BN would like to stress that in order for the organization to receive the donation, those purchasing items must use the Book Fair voucher created for the event. The voucher is available for download in either pdf or MSWord format on the AAUW-BN website at <http://www.aauw-il.org/bloom/index.html>.

AAUW aims to promote education and equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change. The association has over 100,000 members, 1,300 branches and 550 college/university institution partners nationwide. Since its founding in 1881, members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day in the educational, social, economic and political spheres. The association has long influenced legislative debate on critical social issues such as education, sex discrimination, civil rights, reproductive choice, affirmative action, Title IX, welfare reform, vocational education, pay equity, family and medical leave and health care reform. The Bloomington-Normal Branch of AAUW was founded in 1913.

For additional information, please contact Johns at (309) 438-8758 or at johns@phy.ilstu.edu.



Venus E. Evans-Winters

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