

## **The Vagina Monologues / V-Day Information**

### **About the National V-Day Organization:**

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 worldwide violence against women and girls, including rape, battery, incest, female genital mutilation (FGM) and sexual slavery. Through V-Day campaigns, local volunteers and college students (like us at UC Irvine!) produce annual benefit performances of *The Vagina Monologues* to raise awareness and funds for anti-violence groups within their own communities. In 2006, over 2700 V-Day benefit events took place by volunteer activists in the U.S. and around the world, educating millions of people about the reality of violence against women and girls. The 'V' in V-Day stands for Victory, Valentine and Vagina.

### **About the show: *The Vagina Monologues***

The show's author and original performer, Eve Ensler, went around the country interviewing women about their lives, their history, and their Vaginas. She then turned the information she gathered into a series of monologues that in full, form *The Vagina Monologues*. There are 18 monologues in this year's show and their topics cover a full breadth of themes and emotions. The show is about empowerment, about understanding, about respect. It sheds light on the full range of women's issues - from something as amazing as childbirth, as terrible as rape, something as taboo as menstruation and as sexual as orgasms.

### **About V-Day UCI:**

V-Day was brought to UC Irvine in 2003 by then-student Janelle Eagle. In the past 5 years, V-Day UCI has raised well over \$60,000 and introduced thousands of students and community members to *The Vagina Monologues* and its causes. It has consistently supported UCI's own Campus Assault Resource and Education center, a valuable and irreplaceable asset on the UCI campus that helps women deal with the aftermath of violence and helps run programs to educate and prevent future acts of violence. V-Day UCI is responsible for putting on the performance of *The Vagina Monologues* each year and strives to involve any and all who wish to participate. For our 6<sup>th</sup> year in 2008, we have a very diverse cast made up of a wide variety of ethnicities and backgrounds. Our cast includes staff members as well as undergraduate students of all majors and our production team includes two graduate directors and two male students. We are very excited for what we are sure will be an amazing and successful performance in 2008!

For more information, please visit [www.vday.org](http://www.vday.org), [www.vdayuci.com](http://www.vdayuci.com), or feel free to contact our Organizer / Executive Producer Jacob Knobel at [Jacob@VDayUCI.com](mailto:Jacob@VDayUCI.com)