The Global Neighborhood

The Newsletter of the Alfred University Women’s Leadership Center

SWAN DAY

SUPPORT WOMEN ARTISTS NOW
AN INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAY DESIGNED TO SHOWCASE THE
POWER AND DIVERSITY OF WOMEN’S CREATIVITY

This movement was designed to empower women artists and allies by sharing news about inspiring art creations and funding opportunities, as well as facilitating world-wide SWAN celebrations in the months of March and April.

Women Artists Working for Social Justice:
http://www.womenarts.org/harmony-project/introducing-harmony/

Women’s Employment in the Arts:
http://www.womenarts.org/womens-employment-in-the-arts/

Funding Resources and Skills Building
http://www.womenarts.org/funding-resources/index/

Worldwide SWAN Day Events:
http://network.womenarts.org/events/network/eventhome.php

May:
May 5: Cinco de Mayo
May 6: Nurse’s Day and Midwives’ Day
May 8: Teacher’s Day
May 11: Eat What You Want Day (really!)
May 12: Mother’s Day
May 15: Hug Your Cat Day
May 14-18: AU Senior Week
May 18: AU Commencement
May 18: Armed Forces Day
May 25: Jazz Day

HTTP://WWW.WOMENARTS.ORG/SWAN-DAY/SWAN/
Capstone Projects

Nicole Souter and Kelly Jo Stein

Project: W.O.W.

Nicole and Kelly Jo hosted a "mini" Women's Leadership Academy Experience for their women students majoring in the AU School of Business programs. There were four hour-long seminars over two days at which professionals on campus provided informational workshops pertaining to bettering oneself as a woman in the working world. Speakers discussed struggles working women face and prepared students with tools to use to address workplace issues. Topics included pay gap, finding mentors, salary negotiation and managerial tools.

Words from the creators...

“We hope to increase leadership interest in the school of business, and allow students to learn more about the Women's Leadership Academy, and also how much they have to gain from being a part of the experience. We also hope to create interest in starting a Woman in the Workplace (WOW) club!”

“This experience helped Kelly Jo and I grow as leaders in many different aspects. The main aspect we hoped to improve upon was actually taking a step back and not stressing/worrying so much about getting everything done perfectly and on point, and to just go with the flow more.”

Audrey Arnold and Ana Fredell

Project: Women in the Wilderness

Audrey and Ana organized a 3 mile hike for Sunday, April 14th. It included four information check points throughout the course. These stops offered instruction about basic outdoor activities, such as what to bring, basic first aid, understanding nature, and outdoor navigation. At the end of the course lunch was provided, and swag bags were distributed, including water bottles, sun screen, bug repellant and a bright bandana. The event took place on the Pine Hill trail system. Featured presenters included AU’s Kathy Woughter and Mark McFadden.

Words from the creators...

“We hope that this experience will encourage participants to become more confident with being outdoors and on their own. We both love the experience of being in the wilderness, and we hope to share this with those who may not usually venture out into nature.”

“We really hope to gain some more time management and project planning skills through this capstone project. Additionally, we would like to see an event like this happen again, and we would be more than happy to help someone else carry it on like a tradition.”

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Dianne Matter

Project: Strong STEMs

Dianne’s project is for female students at Alfred in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) majors. She is starting a club for these students with two components. One is for junior and senior level STEM women will be mentors to first and second year women students. The other component involves workshops and outside speakers to educate STEM students (particularly women) about the challenges and opportunities they face as a minority in a STEM field. Mentors will complete a substantial training process and a planning team will organize the workshops and speakers to occur beginning Fall 2013.

Words from the creator...

“This is probably the biggest project that I've taken on that I have to start from scratch. Having to shape this on my own has been a learning experience. It's taught me to trust myself and also to trust in the advice of others.”

“I hope I can develop my leadership skills, in particular how to delegate. On a more broad level, I want to give females in STEM here at Alfred the tools and confidence to succeed in their field and stay in their field. I also want to encourage them to fight for equality within their field.”

Brianna Opperman and Lauren Bishop-White

Project: S.A.F.E: Women’s Conference 2013

Brianna and Lauren, along with along with Emma Robinson and Haley O'Hagen-Kammerling, continue the tradition of the Alfred University Women's Conference. This year the theme is safety: “S.A.F.E.” standing for Safety Awareness and Female Empowerment. This will be a day-long event on September 8th, 2013, with a variety of workshops to choose from including Online Safety, Campus Safety, Travel Safety, Legal Rights, Safe Sex, and Party Safety. The day will also include lunch, a keynote speaker, and a self defense class. Email wc2013@alfred.edu for more information.

Words from the creators...

“As leaders we know this project will help us grow a lot. It will help us face different challenges such as conflict within groups, time management, delegating of tasks, budgeting and so much more.”

“As programming chair (Brianna), I am seeking more experience in my networking capabilities and truly putting myself out there developing relationships with people I've never met. Also, I
Feminism

Musings by Emily Chiara, The Global Neighborhood editor

Feminism; a powerful word yet, holds much stigma. Along with this stigma associated with feminism, come stereotypes. I must admit that before I become the graduate assistant at the Women’s Leadership Center, I fell into some of these stereotypes that can be found within our society surrounding feminism. The biggest one I was brainwashed into was the idea that feminists hate men. Now I know there are always exceptions to the rule, but that was the main aspect that drew me away from this idea of feminism. When I first met Julia, she asked me what I thought feminism meant, and to be honest I scrambled for a definition. I knew that feminists strive for equal rights (which I deem very important), but in the back of my mind, I was still thinking about the various stereotypes that are associated with feminism, and thought to myself, “great, this woman is going to turn me into a man-hater”.

She did just the opposite. Julia, as well as the discussions held with the Women’s Leadership Academy members, opened my eyes to the true meaning of feminism. The stereotypes that once fled my mind when I heard the words feminism and feminist were silenced. Another important message that I learned was that the definition of feminism isn’t always black and white. There are various definitions that can be created to define what feminism means to a person. Furthermore, it is important to remember that men can be feminists too!

Now, after a year of involvement with the WLC, to me, feminism is to be able to recognize that there are stereotypes associated with feminism—just like there are stereotypes of any belief or value system—and to bring these stereotypes to other’s awareness. We are not man-haters, but individuals who strive to create a valued and equal role in society. Becoming a member of the Women’s Leadership Center, has opened my eyes to these subtle

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discriminations that I was once unaware of, which has empowered me to educate others about these issues, and to raise awareness and inspire others to do the same. I now have a broader sense of where I stand on this issue, and I am proud to say that I am now a feminist.

AU Hot Dog Day
5K Color Run/Walk

**What:** During the Color Run/Walk participants will have the option to be splattered with powder at each Kilometer mark!

**When:** April 27, 2013, Hot Dog Day! (rain or shine)

- Registration begins at 9:15am
- Run/Walk starts at 10:00am

**Where:** Alfred Village Bandstand

**Who:** Open to the public! Feel free to bring your family!

- Registration is $10 for AU and A. State students and $15 to the general public (non-refundable)
- Register at: [www.my.alfred.edu/csdc](http://www.my.alfred.edu/csdc)
- Registration closes April 19th, register before then to help guarantee your shirt and a quick check-in!
Reflections on the Year… From the memory of Julia Overton–Healy, director, Women’s Leadership Center of Alfred University

AUGUST: Orientation / Saxon Sidekicks / Block Party / New Cohort of Women’s Leadership Academy

SEPTEMBER: Leadership Week / High Tea for the WLC / Workshops on Social Etiquette, Inclusion, and Your Leadership Identity

OCTOBER: Women of Influence speaker Linda Rivero / Homecoming / US Presidential Election / WNY AAUW Conference / Workshop on Social Courage

NOVEMBER: Women of Influence speaker Christine Hoek / Viewing and Discussion of Miss Representation / Workshops on Values–based Leadership and Project Management Basics

DECEMBER: End of semester / Holiday break

JANUARY: Start up for new semester and WLA capstone projects

FEBRUARY: Healthy Heart Sock Hop / F Word in the Classroom / Girls in Engineering Day / Women of Influence speaker Marnie Shaffer / Featured speaker Michelle Courtney Berry / Workshop on Writing Well

MARCH: Women of Influence/Riley Lecturer Liz Abzug / Women in the Workforce capstone seminars / Marlin Miller Outstanding Senior Woman Named (Jordyn Larkins, WLA, class 5) / Workshops on Salary Negotiation and Real World Money Management

APRIL: Women in the Wilderness capstone event / Recruit and select new WLA cohort / Student Leadership Dinner / Honors Convocation / Strong STEMS capstone launch / Workshops on Public Speaking and Conflict Management

Whew… what a great year!

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