

WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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Edited by Rainey Bartram



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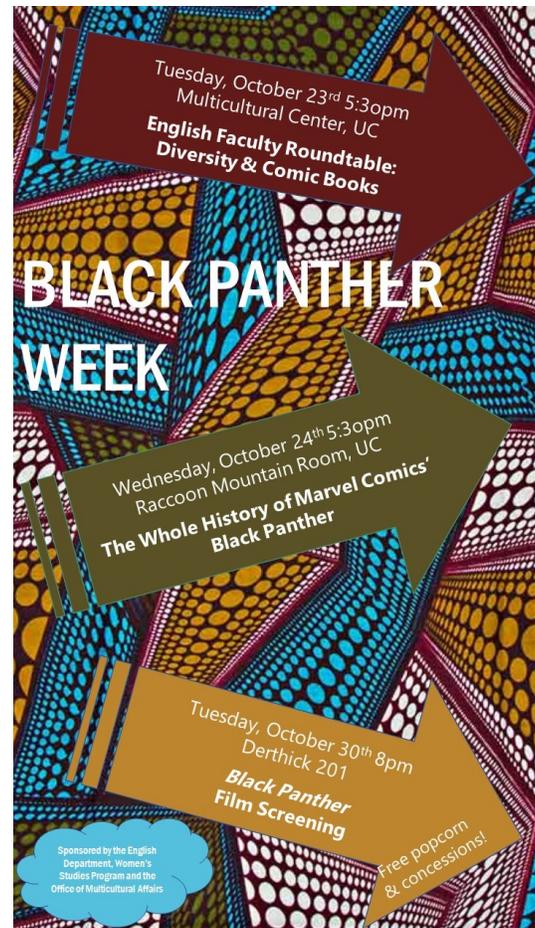
Revving Up the Vote

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October 10, 2018

Dr. Arnett Hosts Black Panther Week at UTC on October 23, 24, and 30, 2018

Dr. **James Arnett**, Assistant Professor of English, organized three events as part of Black Panther Week, which will include other comics as well. A diversity in comic books roundtable on October 23 in the Multicultural Center in the University Center at 5:30 pm. will feature **Dr. Jenn Stewart, Dr. Beth Pearce, Dr. Sarah Einstein, and Dr. Tom Balázs** as guests from UTC's English department. The goal of this event is to discuss things such as representation of disability, race, gender, and sexuality in written and televised comics. On October 24 in the Raccoon Room in the University Center at 5:30 p.m., students from Dr. Arnett's African Science Fiction class will host an event on the history of various Marvel characters that will feature a panel from the Office of Multicultural Affairs. The third event will be a showing of the Black Panther movie, on October 30 in Derthick 201 at 8:00 p.m. Dr. Arnett specializes in western humanities, transnational literature, and women's studies. He currently researches transnational African literature and says his inspiration for these events came from his recent sojourn in Zimbabwe, where he was a Fulbright Fellow for the 2017-18 academic year. He was there when Black Panther was released. "I've seen a new spike in interest in African cultures and futures as a result of the film," said Dr. Arnett., "and a new willingness to understand African futures as something other than blighted and



damned." He called the movie a "cultural milestone" due to the massive interest it sparked upon its release and decided a Black Panther Week would draw lots of attention and be a great opportunity to talk about the representation issues in comic books. Science fiction and comic book lovers who feel alienated by comic book character representation can attend this event to dig deeper into this topic.



Student Spotlight: Natalie Holbrook

Natalie Holbrook is a Women's Studies major with an International Studies minor. She is originally from Tampa, Florida, and attended USF for one year before she transferred to UTC. Natalie said she put twenty cities in a hat to decide where she would attend college. Chattanooga was what she landed on, and she has never looked back.

Natalie said, "I want to major in Women's Studies because I hear everyone say they want to make a difference, but not many end up doing so. I want to be one to make a difference." She wants to be able to educate on the history of the women's movement so the past will not be repeated and progress can be made. The two Women's Studies classes she has enjoyed the most are American Masculinities, taught by **Dr. Michael Jaynes**, and Gender and Contemporary Adolescent Literature taught by **Dr. Beth Pearce**.

Becoming a Women's Studies professor would be her dream job. Natalie hopes to be able to create new Women's Studies classes that aren't offered at many schools, such as one on sex work. She is currently working on creating a syllabus for this class with a Women's Stud-

ies professor from Duke.

Natalie is a hard-working bartender at Basecamp. Between classes and her 45-hour work weeks, she loves any outdoor activity. Hiking, rock climbing, trail biking, and kayaking are some of her favorites. Natalie plans to graduate in the summer of 2019, and hopes to attend UTK's online graduate school program and earn her master's degree in social work.



Alumni Spotlight: Blake Harris

Blake Harris ('11), who earned an MFA in Theatre Directing from the California Institute of the Arts last year, will direct Moliere's *Tartuffe* for the UTC's Theater Company; **performances will be at 7:30 p.m. on November 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 with a matinee on November 17 at 2:00 p.m.** "This production is set in the 1990s," said Blake. "The audience will experience the play within three temporalities: the eighteenth century, the 1990s, and the present." While at UTC, Blake was a mentor for an academically challenged freshman student as part of the Women's Studies Program's mentoring initiative; he and other mentors presented research that they conducted as part of this program at UTC's Research Day and at the National Women's Studies Association conference. A Women's Studies major and Theatre and Speech minor, Blake directed two fund-raisers for the Women's Studies Program: *The Rocky Horror Show* and Catherine Trieschmann's *Crooked*. At graduation he won the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Student in Women's Studies Award. After graduation, Blake was an administrative assistant for the Women's Fund of Greater Chattanooga and was later promoted to coordinator. As founding member and artistic director for the Theatre for the New South here in Chattanooga, he directed twelve plays, including Aeschylus's *Prometheus Bound*, Euripides's *Medea*, and Maria Irene Fornes's *Mud*. Currently based in Los Angeles, Blake directed Sarah Treem's *When We Were Young and Unafraid* for the Lee Strasberg Institute this past summer.



Revving Up the Vote on September 5

Women's Studies partnered with the League of Women Voters of Chattanooga on Wednesday, September 5, 2018, to register voters on campus at the University Center; one hundred new voters were registered. Student volunteers from Women's Studies courses who staffed the information booth inside the University Center were **Kait Sons, Teresa Ledbetter, Heidi Bittenbender, El Taylor, Ashley Ferrell, Hannah Waggoner, Alexis Tyler, Cyara Artaud, Alexandra Vansledright, Bre-Anna Willis, Melissa Lopez, Nolan Vail, Mikayla Dreer, Mikaela Lifford, Kiersten Reagan, Abigail Crews, and Krishanda Upton.** Teresa Garland and Lee Ann Mills from the League of Women Voters of Chattanooga headed up the voter registration process; assisting them were **Jo Coke, Steve Kuhn, Kerry Lansford, Nicola Crisp, Criss Skinner, Susan Feingold, and Julianne O'Neal.**

Revving up the Vote was coordinated by **Dr. Marcia Noe**, Director of the UTC Women's Studies Program, and **Shelby O'Quinn**, UTC Education major; both sit on the board of the League of Women Voters of Chattanooga. "This was an ideal opportunity to create life-long voters by registering students on campus," said Dr. Noe. "We want students to form the habit of voting when young, so they don't wait until they're senior citizens who are worried about their Medicare and Social Security before they get serious about their responsibilities as citizens. Remember, if you don't do politics, politics will do you."



Julianne O'Neal and Teresa Garland



Kait Sons

Attention: If you are

MAJORING or MINORING in Women's Studies, please declare on the Records Office website as soon as possible.



Melissa Lopez and Nolan Vail



Kerry Lansford, Lee Ann Mills, and Nicola Crisp



Teresa Garland and Steve Kuhn



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UTC is a comprehensive, community-engaged campus of the University of Tennessee System. UTC is an EEO/AA/Titles VI & IX Section 504/ADA/ADAA institution.



The Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literature, the Multicultural Center, and the Women's Studies Program are sponsoring this event.

October 10, 2018
7:00 p.m.
Roland W. Hayes Concert Hall
Fine Arts Center
Free Admission!

A Chamber Music Theater work conceived and performed by the **Core Ensemble** is celebrating the lives of three significant Latin women: **Frida Kahlo, Alfonsina Storni, and Rufina Amaya**. Jenyette Vega portrays multiple characters while interacting with the onstage musical trio of cello piano and percussion. Come celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month!

TRES VIDAS