



Look forward with confidence that you can achieve all you can set your mind to do!



What is Lunafest?: Lunafest is an independent film festival, in which all of the films are made by women, for women, and about women. This year the St. Kate's Activities Team will be hosting Lunafest in Rauenhurst Hall on **Friday, February 27th at 7pm**. The mission of this event is to increase awareness about breast cancer, celebrate cinema and enhance appreciation of women in film.

All of the proceeds will be going to the Pay It Forward Fund and Breast Cancer Fund.

Pay It Forward Fund: (Payitforwardfund.net) This foundation's mission is to help women fighting cancer who are struggling financially during treatment. 100% of all donations go to the women; there are no administrative fees taken out. You will be helping pay for their everyday bills such as telephone, electric, heating, child care, mortgage, rent, and food.

Silent Auction: St. Kate's community members are invited to donate handmade items to be part of the silent auction. These handmade items can range from quilts, mittens, scarves, and hats to jewelry, gift certificates, prints and more. Donations can be delivered to the SCA office, CdC 270 by February 20th. The silent auction will begin February 23rd in the SCA office, 2nd floor CdC. The auction will end Friday, February 27th at 9:30pm

Attend the Event: The evening's festivities include nine short films, silent auction, concession stand snacks, and information about breast cancer and the foundations that your donations will benefit. If you have any comments or questions in regards to Lunafest please contact the SKAT team by calling 651-690-6041 or contact SKAT Advisor Brigitte Marty at bmmarty@stkate.edu.

Lunafest tickets will be \$6 students (must show a valid ID) and \$8 for guests. And remember, all of the proceeds will be going to the Pay It Forward Fund and Breast Cancer Fund.

Next WEC Board Meeting: Saturday, February 7th @ 7:15am, Student Organization Center, CdC

Access and Success News: A program for Students who are Parents

Are you feeling the winter doldrums? Too much cold, too much darkness, too cooped up? Cheer up! We are gathering about two minutes of sunlight daily. Since the winter solstice (December 21) we have an additional 1 hour and 18 minutes of daylight. Spring will be here before you know it! In the meantime, a couple of ideas to help raise your spirits:

Celebrate winter! Attend St. Kate's Snow Day, sponsored by Students Who Are Parents club. SWAP invites all student parents and their children to Dew Drop Hill on Saturday, March 7th from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. There will be sledding on the hill, as well as snow painting. Hot cocoa and cookies will be available right inside the Coeur de Catherine.

Dream about your future ... at our next WEC lunch. On **Saturday, March 7 from noon to 1:00 p.m.** while enjoying free lunch, hear a 20-minute presentation by WEC Career Specialist, Jacquelyn Goodman. Jacquelyn will explain the wide range of Career Development services available to you. There will also be time for questions. RSVP to me at mjbick@stkate.edu or 651-690-8696, if you plan to attend.

Need a cheap retreat? The *Star Tribune* (1/27/09) suggests bringing some house plants into the bathroom, filling up the tub, playing some reggae music, making a fruity drink, and reading a fit-for-the-beach fluffy novel as you soak your doldrums away. Great self-care for free!

Take a walk on the wild side! Visit the Wild Rumpus Book store in south Minneapolis. Besides a great collection of books, they have many live animals: birds, chinchillas, fish, lizards, even a tarantula. Cats and two chickens roam freely around the store. There are lots of comfy spots to sit and read stories to the kids. They even have a great selection of used books for purchase between \$0.25 & \$1.00. www.wildrumpusbooks.com.

Nominate a Faculty Member for the 2008-2009 Faculty Teaching-Advising Award

Have you had a professor who has made a difference in your college experience and deserves special recognition? Please take a minute and nominate your exceptional teacher for St. Catherine's Faculty Teaching-Advising Award.

Stop by the Coeur de Catherine Information Center and pick up a nomination form or access the form electronically through the Daily Update posting.

Nominations are due no later than February 25th! Questions? Contact Jackie Schroeder at 651-690-8845 or jjschroeder@stkate.edu

What brought you to St. Kate's?

The Weekend College format was the biggest reason for coming to St. Kate's. However, once I decided on an Education major, I was really happy with my decision because St. Kate's is known for their teaching program.

Is this your first college experience? If not, how does it compare?

This isn't my first college experience, but it has been night and day from my other attempts at college. Until I came to St. Kate's in September 2006, I really never took college as seriously as I maybe should have and I saw the same attitudes in the other students from my classes. Here at St. Kate's, the professors often tell you that they have high expectations of their WEC students and there is something in that which makes me strive harder and instills a sense of pride in being a WEC student.

Why does the WEC format work well for you?

I work full time, so going to school during the day is not an option for me. Taking evening classes just meant that I would miss having dinner with my family and putting my kids to bed. WEC allows me to be home with my family after work, but still gives me the opportunity to earn my degree by taking classes every other weekend.

Considering St. Kate's mission is to educate women to lead and influence, what experience(s) have helped you to become a more effective leader or more influential?

Most of the courses I have taken at St. Kate's are heavy on discussions so you learn quickly that speaking your mind is accepted and even expected. The fieldwork components of my Education classes have also helped me to be a more effective leader because they have increased my confidence in working with large groups of people and given me techniques to manage classrooms effectively.

What is a homework assignment that you would love to get?

I generally like assignments which are more project based, ones where you can work on it for awhile and it evolves. I always feel like those types of assignments will be impossible to complete, but sure enough, they always turn out and I am so proud of myself for completing them. A lot of my homework now is related to my major work, so I don't mind doing lesson plans or observations because I know that it will serve me well when I have a classroom of my own.

What motivates your best work?

I'm really motivated by my family, especially my three children, and my friends. They are truly the reason I work as hard as I do in my job and at school. I'm a non-traditional student who is making a major career change all because teaching is where my heart is - it is a risky move, for me or for anyone. I want them to know that if you want something (and you are willing to work for it), nothing is impossible.

Please share a positive experience you have had at St. Kate's.

There have been so many positive moments during my time at St. Kate's, so I have a hard time narrowing them down to one. In general, going through this journey with my fellow "Education nerds" has been the most fulfilling part of my experience at St. Kate's. It is exciting to know you have this support group behind you and that they want you to succeed as much as you want them to. Plus spending as much time together as you do, there isn't any of that initial awkwardness you may feel with a new group of classmates and you are able to just focus on learning and just as importantly, having fun!

In your free time, what are some of your hobbies, interests, or community involvement?

With school, work and other family obligations, I don't have a lot of free time. When I do find a spare second, you can find me reading, cooking, doing crosswords or spending time with my family. Last year, I took a hip hop class at my daughter's dance school which was an interesting mix of embarrassing and liberating; I'd love to keep that up, but I might have to wait until school is finished. I also am interested in gardening, but I do not have enough knowledge or skill to have a successful flower or vegetable garden . . . yet!

The school/life balance is difficult for the non-traditional student. What advice would you give a new student?

Organization is key! I keep all of my work in binders with tabs outlining the different assignments/projects so I know exactly where to find things at a moment's notice. It might be a bit obsessive for some, but I work better when things are organized clearly and consistently. I would also say that you have to pace yourself

Jennifer Elle is a Senior at the College of St Catherine and her major is Elementary Education. She will graduate in December 2009.

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Qualities of Leadership:

Intelligence, Determination, Self-Confidence, and Social Ability