

# **That Takes OVARIES**

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**Celebrating gutsy women  
because courage is contagious**

**A book, play, event  
and empowerment program**

**[ThatTakesOvaries.org](http://ThatTakesOvaries.org)**

# That Takes OVARIES

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## CONTACT

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[ThatTakesOvaries.org](http://ThatTakesOvaries.org)



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## PRESS QUOTES

About our book, play and events

[S]alutes 'ballsy' acts by bold women -- the anatomically correct way.  
~ *Glamour magazine*

In praise of strong women...gynocentric tales of courage...  
~ *Washington Post*

Plenty of defiance was in evidence at a recent event celebrating "Ovaries"...  
~ *Chicago Tribune*

*That Takes Ovaries* is powerful theater... [P]erformed over 700 times around the globe, usually as a fundraiser for women's causes.  
~ *Ms. magazine*

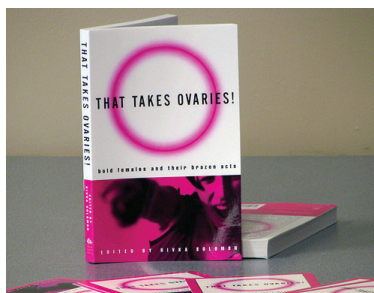
[F]unny, poignant, and sometimes shocking stories about women... dedicated to capturing moments of personal triumph.  
~ *Boston Globe*

Girl power profiles... The stories range from harrowing to sassy.  
~ *Detroit Free Press*

Stories of courage, tales of inspiration, anecdotes about spontaneity, audacity or just plain fun.  
~ *The Telegraph of India*

Irresistible idea of highlighting take-charge, no-nonsense women.  
~ *San Francisco Chronicle*

Australia, Amnesty International has become involved in hosting [TTO] Open Mikes as part of their Stop Violence Against Women Campaign.  
~ *The Australian Women's Book Review*





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"If you obey all the rules,  
you miss all the fun."

*Katharine Hepburn*

"Well-behaved women  
rarely make history."

*Laurel Thatcher Ulrich*



## SUMMARY OF ALL THINGS OVARIAN

**A best-selling book, multicultural play and inspirational event**

**A unique initiative that mixes the arts with activism for women and girls' empowerment**

### The Book

*That Takes Ovaries: Bold Females and Their Brazen Acts* (Random House/Three Rivers). Real-life stories from women and girls about the gutsy, outrageous, courageous things they have done. Jam-packed with 64 multicultural, fun, sassy, touching true tales of estrogen-powered deeds ranging from playful to political, including women fighting for their human rights. A Boston Globe bestseller.

### The Play

*That Takes Ovaries: Bold Women, Brazen Acts*

This 90-minute play is a collection of bold, brazen acts by diverse women and girls. Performed by theaters, community groups and schools. Directors can swap out stories in the script for true stories from local women. Perfect for guest appearances by local celebrities and leaders.

### That Takes Ovaries (TTO) Events

TTO events are a celebration of diverse women and girls' strength and courage. Over 1000 events have been held around the globe, led by TTO's professional staff or by local community women. Excerpts of our play are dramatically read, then (optional) gutsy gals and all who identify with female gender spontaneously share stories of times they acted boldly. Guys brag about the "ovaries" in their lives -- their mothers, sisters, daughters. Everyone who shares gets a chocolate egg wrapped in gold foil -- a Golden Ovary Award for their courage. Our celebratory programs make great, stand-alone PR/fundraiser events or can serve as a 1-hour addition to an already scheduled function or conference.

### Leading a Bold Life (LBL) Events

An event that celebrates the courage of both men and women by recognizing the risk-taker in all of us. Similar to our successful TTO events, however LBL is geared equally to a mixed gender audience. LBL celebrates multiculturalism and courage by showcasing the diversity in your community and simultaneously encouraging participants to lead bold lives.

### Press Coverage

We've garnered 500+ media pieces: *San Francisco Chronicle* said, "Irresistible idea of highlighting take-charge, no-nonsense women." *Glamour* magazine said, "Salutes 'ballsy' acts by bold women." *Ms.* magazine called us, "Powerful theater."

### Extended Empowerment Programs

Our extended programs combine story-sharing and drama therapy to raise participants' self-esteem and leadership skills so they can become all-around confident, risk-taking females. Our programs have a transformative effect on people's lives and can be focused for specific populations (e.g. sexually assaulted, prostituted girls) or Training of Trainers.

### Invite Us to Your Community

Our professional staff are available for leading events and trainings. We offer an interactive talk called "Why lead a bold life?", dramatic readings of true stories of courage and a fun, audience-participatory open mike where all are welcome to spontaneously share a personal story of courage.



ThatTakesOvaries.org

@ThatTakesOvaries



facebook.com/ThatTakesOvaries



@TTOvaries



# That Takes OVARIES

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## OUR EVENTS

### When to hold a TTO or LBL event

Any time is a good time to celebrate woman, girls, diversity and courage, including:

- Women's History Month – March
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April
- Women's Equality Day – August
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month – October
- Workplace or college orientation
- Conference opening, closing, keynote or lunch/dinner entertainment
- As a PR/fundraiser event for a worthy cause or organization

### Who brings us

Our audiences are all genders and all ages

Our clients include:

#### *Colleges, Universities, High Schools*

**Audience:** *Students, faculty and staff*

Who invites us:

- Student Activities and Resident Life Coordinators
- Diversity and Inclusion Directors
- Gender/Women's Studies Depts. and Resource Centers
- Health Centers and School Counselors
- Psychology, Sociology, English and Drama Depts

#### *Businesses, Governments, Community Organizations, NGOs*

**Audience:** *Staff, employees, clients, service personnel, constituents*

Who invites us:

- Human Resource and Service Directors
- EEO, Diversity and Inclusion Directors
- Women's Leadership Initiatives

#### *Conferences*

**Audience:** *Conference attendees*

Who invites us:

- Conference organizers

We are invited as:

- Keynote speakers
- Lunch/dinner/evening entertainment
- Opening or closing event



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## AUDIENCES & CLIENTS

Held, co-sponsored or benefited from our events  
(Sample only)

### *Government*

- US Dept of Veterans Affairs
- Office of Naval Intelligence, U.S. Navy. Attendees from HUD, Dept of Treasury, Air Force, Navy, Army, Justice Dept. and the Intelligence Community
- US Consulate (US State Dept), Kolkata, India
- West Bengal Government, India

### *Women's Organizations*

- YWCA
- NARAL
- Planned Parenthood
- National Organization for Women
- Feminist Majority (student groups)
- Women Against Gun Violence

### *Community Organizations*

- Los Angeles LGBT Senior Center
- Open House San Francisco LGBT Senior Center

### *Colleges, Universities, High Schools*

- Stanford University, CA
- Brandeis University, MA
- MIT, MA
- Duke University, SC
- Lancaster University, UK
- Women's Christian College, Kolkata, India
- Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School, MA
- Academy of Arts and Sciences High School, CA



### *International Events: Organizers/Sponsors*

- Amnesty International, Australia
- Peace Corps, Nicaragua (in high schools w/ police dept)
- YWCA, Australia
- Zonta Women's Organization, Thailand
- Women's Communal Bank, Costa Rica
- School for disabled children, Kenya, Africa
- Women's Center of Newfoundland, Canada

### *Conferences*

- LadyFest (citywide LadyFests across US)
- Women and Power Conf., Omega Institute (Eve Ensler event)
- NOW (National Organization for Women)
- AWID (Assoc. for Women's Rights/Development), Thailand

### *Teen and Girls' Groups*

- Just a Start (shelter for teen moms)
- G.I.R.L.S. Conference
- Teen Voices magazine



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## OUR PLAYS

### ***That Takes Ovaries: Bold Women, Brazen Acts***

This play by Rivka Solomon and Bobbi Ausubel, is a dramatic telling of women and girls' real-life stories about times they were bold, gutsy, brazen, outrageous, audacious and courageous. That Takes Ovaries can be performed with three or more actors. It is packed with multicultural, fun, sassy, often touching true tales of estrogen-powered deeds that range from playful to political, including stories of women fighting for their human rights. It embraces diversity with the voices of every day females from many ages and cultural backgrounds. It includes lighter stories, such as Joani opening the country's first sex-toy store for women in the 1970s and Alison staging a pee protest to secure wheelchair accessible toilets on campus, to deeper stories, such as Ruchira risking her life to help girls trapped as sex slaves in Asia and D.H. Wu, a child, stopping her mother from committing suicide after years of spousal abuse.

### ***That Takes Ovaries: Bold Girls, Brave Acts***

This is a girls' play, is similar to the all-ages TTO play but is geared specifically towards adolescents and teens. The audience is girls' groups, parents who want to share a fun, cultural experience with their daughters and parents who want their daughters to grow up self-assured and confident.

**Request the script: [Rivka@ThatTakesOvaries.org](mailto:Rivka@ThatTakesOvaries.org)**



**There have been dozens of productions and staged readings of the full That Takes Ovaries play, held in community theaters and on college campuses.**

**Separately, there have also been 1000+ TTO open mike events, where excerpts of the TTO play are dramatically read.**

***The full production history of the play is available upon request. This is a sample:***

- Horizons Theatre, Wash DC: 1 month run
- Bleecker Street Theater, NYC: 1 night staged reading
- Rasik Arts Theater, Toronto, Canada: 4 show run
- Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, Somerville, MA: 3 show run
- National Pastime Theater, N. Broadway, Chicago IL: 2 show run
- Zonta Int'l, Hotel Park, Chiang Mai, Thailand: 8 show run over 2 yrs
- Unity Theatre, Merseyside, Liverpool, UK: 5 show run over 2 yrs
- BroadStreet Theatre, Omaha NE: 6 show run
- Hardy Girls/Healthy Women and Ad Verb Productions, Portland, ME: 1 night
- Stella Adler Theatre, LA CA: 1 night
- Tim Robbins' Actor's Gang Theatre, LA, CA: 1 night
- Grand Valley State Univ., MI: 2 show run
- St. Cloud State Univ., MN: 2 show run





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## PRAISE FOR OUR EVENTS AND PLAYS

[J]ust what we were looking for – vibrant, intelligent, challenging, hilarious, completely unabashed. Genuinely inspiring.

~ **Co-President, Women's Health and Human Rights, Stanford University**

Electrified the audience.

~ **Women's Studies Dept Chair, William Paterson University, NJ**

[A] powerful reminder that we can all choose courage and that as we do, others find they are challenged to be courageous also. [E]mpowered and raised the consciousness of both men and women... I am sure that lives were changed as a result...

~ **Deputy Commander, Office of Naval Intelligence, US Navy, Suitland, MD**

[A]mazing... nothing short of a movement to embrace, affirm, share and discover our connectedness through stories of courage, wit and determination.

~ **Human Resources/Diversity Director, University of Nebraska Medical Center**

[I]nspiring and out of the ordinary.

~ **EEO Specialist, Headquarters, Dept. of the Army, Washington, DC**

[C]an move you to laugh, move you to tears, move your spirit and quite possibly move you to action.

~ **Artistic Director, Jimmy Tingle's OFF BROADWAY Theater, Somerville, MA**

[R]aises everyone's level of awareness and consciousness about women's issues – yet it does so in a way that does not put men in an uncomfortable position... [E]veryone leaves the event ready to go out and lead a more bold life.

~ **Former US Air Force Captain, CO**

[O]ver 200 people, standing, sitting on the floor, cheering the performance. The stage was so empowering... powerful and wonderful.

~ **Coordinator, Women's Center, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA**

We felt like we really had done something extraordinary and special with the play... It really moved people, men and women alike, made them think, and lifted them up.

~ **Director/Producer, BroadStreet Theatre Company, Omaha, NE**

The exit polls were super. We put on a play that we all can be proud of.

~ **Director/Producer, Chiang Mai, Thailand**



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## EXTENDED EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMS

**That Takes Ovaries and Leading a Bold Life**

### Who we are

- Our empowerment workshops have been offered to 100s of gatherings in urban and rural Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe, Australia, North America.
- Our empowerment model combines story-sharing, drama therapy, the arts and activism to raise self-esteem and leadership skills so participants can be all-around confident, risk-taking females.

### What we offer

- **Empowerment events & workshops:** Fun, celebratory, deeply personal, participatory (1 hr-1 month).
- **Training of Trainers (ToT):** Our replicable model can be used long after we leave.
- **Dramatic plays:** We collect local women/girls' true stories of courage, including victories overcoming gender-based obstacles. We then turn these inspirational stories into a play that workshop participants perform for the larger community.
- **Participants:** Everyone. Or tailored for specific populations (e.g. sexually assaulted, prostituted, at risk).

### Description of extended programs

- Women and girls celebrate their courage by relaying real-life stories of times they were bold, often in their fight against sexism, discrimination and sexual assault.
- This simple but important act of sharing affirms the storyteller's confidence and determination to keep taking risks in her life, personally and politically.
- Our programs have a transformative effect on people's lives: participants are motivated to take more risks, such as stepping through fear of public speaking to speak out for their needs.
- Men and boys can join in and proudly share stories of the courageous deeds of mothers, wives, daughters.
- We facilitate discussions for action plans -- sustainable, long-term change to be initiated by participants.



### Examples of extended programs

- **India:** Brought by NGO Apne Aap to work in their urban/rural centers in red light and slum districts with sex trafficked/prostituted women and children. Plus, Training of Trainers (ToT) for community leaders.
- **Nepal:** With NGO Rural Women's Network, trained adults to lead workshops for high school girls.
- **Guyana, South America:** Brought by NGO Partners of the Americas (funded by US Dept of Labor) to work with vulnerable adolescent girls. Plus, ToT programs for social workers and teachers.
- **Training Manuals:** Created two detailed manuals for training others in our approach.

### Outcomes of our extended programs

Found at [ThatTakesOvaries.org](http://ThatTakesOvaries.org) or available upon request.

### Praise: US State Dept (sex trafficking) staff called our model

- "Highly effective, low cost and easily replicable by staff in the field."



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## GLOBAL REACH

Over 1000 That Takes Ovaries and Leading a Bold Life events and performances have been held around the globe with women and girls and men and boys from a wide range of cultures, in a wide variety of settings. Below are just a few examples:

**LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS:** From a shelter for teen mothers in Massachusetts, **USA**, to a YWCA in **Australia**, to a Women's Communal Bank in a small mountain-side village in **Costa Rica**, women have gathered to discuss gender roles, hear true stories of bold deeds and share their own personal stories of courage.

**SCHOOLS:** Our model of empowerment was used in a high school in California, **USA**, with both girls and boys. And it was used with 100+ high school girls in **Nicaragua**, led by Peace Corps staff, assisted by the local police station's domestic violence task force.

**COLLEGES:** Our events have been held on campuses in the **USA, Canada, England** and **India**, from larger universities, such as Stanford University and MIT, to smaller colleges.

**TRAINING OF TRAINERS:** Social Workers from across **Guyana, South America**, gathered for a week long TTO Training of Trainers so they could bring our replicable model of empowerment back to the teens in their home communities.

**PARENT'S GROUPS:** Parents of children with disabilities in **Kenya** shared stories at a TTO gathering. (The teens at the same center had their own TTO open mike event.)

**FIVE STAR HOTELS:** A TTO event was held in **India** on Int'l Women's Day, attended by hundreds of women from all walks of life. Over a dozen additional TTO events have been held in India, one hosted by the US Consulate.

**ART CENTERS, GALLERIES, MUSEUMS:** In an art center in **China**, women and men gathered to hear and share stories of courage. In a **UK** art gallery, during Int'l Women's Week, they watched excerpts of the TTO play.

**LIVING ROOMS:** Women in **Italy** gathered in homes to use our model of empowerment.

**BOOKSTORES:** Partnering with Amnesty International, women in **Australia** celebrated women's strength and courage at a TTO event held in a bookstore.

**RESTAURANTS:** An organization supporting migrant farmworkers held an event in Spanish at a restaurant in California, **USA**.

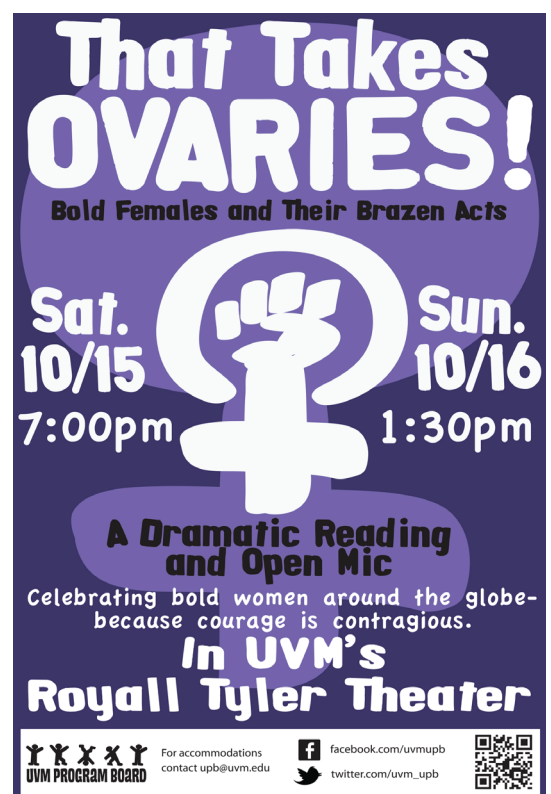
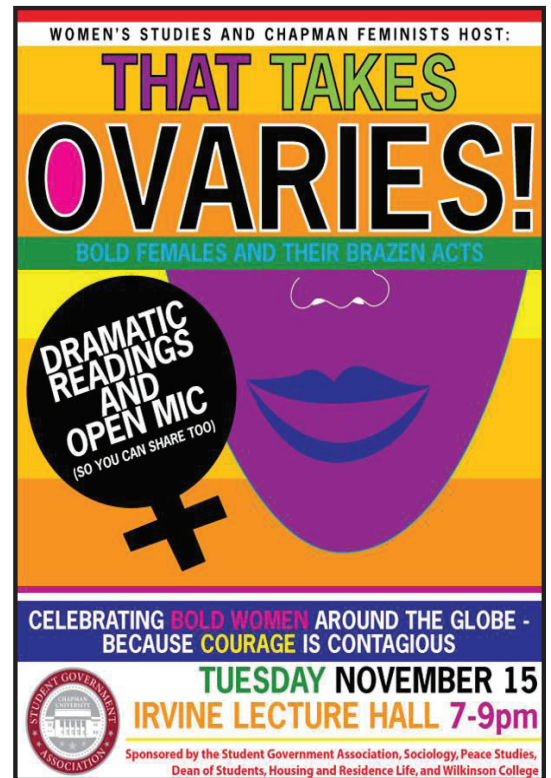
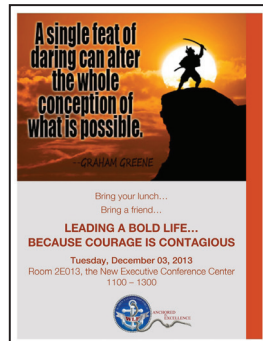
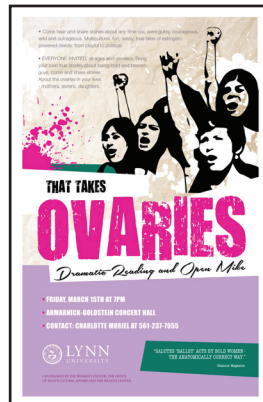
**CONFERENCES:** At an AWID (Assoc. For Women's Rights and Int'l Development) conference in **Thailand**, we held a TTO skills building workshop, attended by women from around the globe who are working in the field of women's development and human rights.

**ON STAGE:** TTO stories have been dramatized and staged in the **USA, UK, Canada, India** and **Thailand**, where the event was a fundraiser for grandmothers supporting AIDS orphans.





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because courage is contagious**





# That Takes OVARIES

Celebrating gutsy women  
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**Wednesday, March 31st**  
**7:00 PM**  
Virginia Beach Room,  
Webb Center

**That Takes Ovaries**  
empowers women and girls  
by mixing art with activism.  
A celebration of the gutsy,  
sassy and often touching  
true tales of women's  
estrogen-powered deeds  
through an open mic  
movement, a play and best  
selling book, *That Takes  
Ovaries: Bold Females and  
their Brazen Acts*.

**CO-SPONSORED by**  
Feminist Majority Leadership  
Alliance, Trieta, the Monarch  
Sweethearts, Delta Zeta Sorority,  
and Sigma Lambda Upsilon  
Sorority

Dessert reception following  
program Sponsored by The ODU  
Alumni Association

**THAT TAKES OVARIES!**

**Bold Females  
and  
their brazen acts.....**

The Women's Center  
Division of Student Affairs  
1000 Webb Center  
757.683.4109  
womenctr@odu.edu  
http://StudentAffairs.odu.edu/WC

Old Dominion  
UNIVERSITY

**unitytheatre**  
**THAT TAKES OVARIES!**  
BOLD WOMEN AND THEIR BRAZEN ACTS

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

**THAT TAKES OVARIES!**  
BOLD WOMEN AND THEIR BRAZEN ACTS

The Sold out Success is back!

"That Takes Ovaries!" is a celebration of women's courage, perseverance and  
daring! It's an opportunity for women to tell their stories from around the  
world. These tales of daring-do include the tales of a disabled woman who organ-  
izes a "piss protest" to secure her right to an accessible toilet on campus, the school  
girls who fight for their right to wear trousers and the brave women who risked their  
lives to highlight worldwide issues such as child prostitution and human rights.

After the performance we invite you all, women and men, to join in an open mic  
session to tell your own stories of female bravery! Tell a story and claim your  
golden ovary award!

All profits will go to Merseyside Women's Movement nominated charities for 2011:  
RADA, Merseyside's Rape & Sexual Assault Support Service and Stopgap, a Bangla-  
desh women's village helping to support women through poverty & trauma.

www.merseysidewomen.org.uk

We would like to thank the Unity Theatre and Unite the Union branch, 4/523 for  
their support.

**10TH, 11TH & 12TH MARCH 2011**  
1 Hope Place (off Hope St) L1 9BG  
£12/£10 concessions  
Box office: 0844 873 2888  
unitytheatre@verpool.co.uk  
merseysidewomen.org.uk

**10TH, 11TH & 12TH MARCH 2011**  
£12/£10 concessions  
unitytheatre@verpool.co.uk  
box office: 0844 873 2888

**unitytheatre**

Elizabethtown Community &  
Technical College Presents: **bold women, brazen acts**

**That Takes Ovaries!**  
It's a play! It's a book!  
It's an open-mic event!

**Thursday, March 8th, 6:30 pm**  
Where: 212 Regional  
Postsecondary Center  
Who: Everyone is welcome!

At this open mic event, excerpts of the  
play are enacted and then gutsy gals  
(that's you!) share stories about the  
times they acted boldly. Guys brag  
about the women in their lives --  
their mothers, sisters, daughters.  
Everyone who shares receives  
a Golden Ovary Award --  
a chocolate egg wrapped in gold foil.

**Elizabethtown**  
Community & Technical College

KENTUCKY COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

**That Takes Ovaries presents:**  
**Empowerment Workshop for Girls' and Women**  
**"Leading a Bold Life"**  
Kathmandu  
**Organized by:**

RUWON Nepal  
www.ruwonnepal.org.np

SPACE  
Space Nepal  
www.spacenepal.org.np

Purdue University Calumet  
**Women's History Month 2015**  
Women's work: Challenges & Rewards

Featuring  
**That Takes Ovaries**

A unique initiative that  
mixes the arts with  
activism for women and  
girls empowerment  
through multicultural play  
and highly participatory  
events.

**Tuesday, March 17**  
**1-3 p.m.**  
at Alumni Hall, Student Union and Library

Further info: purdue.edu/essw/m2015

**That Takes Ovaries**  
Celebrating gutsy women and the girls  
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**PURDUE**  
UNIVERSITY  
CALUMET

**FREE and Open to the Public**

**That Takes OVARIES!**

**DRAMATIC  
READING**

**OPEN MIC**

**WHO:** Everyone, all AGES &  
GENDERS

**WHEN:** Tuesday, October 26  
6:30 - 8:30 pm

**WHERE:** Boston Public Library  
Copley Square

Come hear and share stories about any time you were  
**GUTSY, courageous, WILD and outrageous.**  
Stories will be read from the book *That Takes Ovaries:*  
*Bold Females and Their Brazen Acts.*

For more info on the  
Feminist Culture Club,  
contact [yfnw@yahoo.com](mailto:yfnw@yahoo.com).  
For more info on the *That Takes  
Ovaries* book and movement,  
visit [www.thattakesovaries.org](http://www.thattakesovaries.org)

Pine Manor College Performing Arts 2008  
Presents an Evening of Empowerment for Women

**that takes ovaries**  
by Rivka Solomon & Bobbi Ausubel

**Friday, April 11**  
**Saturday, April 12**  
**7.30 PM**

PERFORMANCE AND OPEN MIKE

Ellsworth Theatre  
400 Heath Street  
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

Admission: \$5  
FREE to the PMC Community  
For Information: 617.731.7041, [www.pmc.edu](http://www.pmc.edu)  
Ellsworth Theatre is handicapped-accessible

**THAT TAKES OVARIES!**

**BOLD FEMALES AND THEIR BRAZEN ACTS**

EDITED BY RIVKA SOLOMON

**Women's History Month 2015**  
Women's Work: Challenges & Rewards

Featuring **That Takes Ovaries**  
a unique initiative that mixes the arts with activism for women and girls  
empowerment through multicultural play and highly participatory events.

**Tuesday, March 17**  
**1-3 p.m.**  
Alumni Hall, Student Union and Library

Further info: [purdue.edu/essw/m2015](http://purdue.edu/essw/m2015)

**That Takes Ovaries**  
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**PURDUE**  
UNIVERSITY  
CALUMET

The GVSU Women's Center  
presents

**That Takes Ovaries!**  
**Bold Women, Brazen Acts**

The bold, gutsy stories of women who've stood  
up and stood out. Be bold, be brave, be brazen.

**FEBRUARY 9th**  
7pm in the Grand River Room  
Kirkhof Center, GVSU Alameda Campus  
Tickets available at the 2010 Ask

**FEBRUARY 10th**  
7pm at Washtenaw Theatre  
Tickets available at the Washtenaw Theatre Box  
Office: [www.washtenawtheatre.org/boxoffice](http://www.washtenawtheatre.org/boxoffice)

**\$10** for students  
**\$15** for community  
members

For special  
accommodations or  
questions about the event,  
please contact the GVSU Women's  
Center at 616.332.2100 or  
[ThatTakesOvaries@GVSU.edu](mailto:ThatTakesOvaries@GVSU.edu)

**US 201**  
**LIB 100**

# THAT TAKES OVARIES

Celebrating Gutsy Women Around The Globe – Because Courage Is Contagious

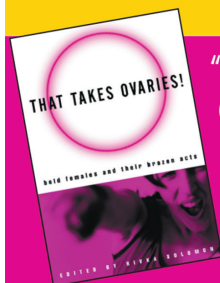


## AN ENTERTAINING, DRAMATIC EVENT SHOWCASING WOMEN'S ESTROGEN-POWERED DEEDS!

Salutes ballsy acts by bold women - the anatomically correct way. — *Glamour magazine*

[The] irresistible idea of highlighting take-charge, no-nonsense women. — *San Francisco Chronicle*

Look no further. That Takes Ovaries is powerful theater.  
— *Ms. magazine*



"Our audience-participatory program celebrates everyday women's strength and courage — including your own local feisty females. Invite us to your community, campus or conference to lead this empowering, transformational event."

—Rivka Solomon, Writer & Exec. Director

- Hundreds of our events held around the globe
- Multicultural, diverse, all ages, all genders
- Based on our best-selling book and dramatic play
- Raises women and men's consciousness

"We wanted a big culmination to International Women's Week. Just what we were looking for: Vibrant, intelligent, challenging, hilarious, completely unabashed, genuinely inspiring." — *Women's Program, Stanford University*

"Our group, Diversity Initiatives, was named Educational Program of the Month because of That Takes Ovaries. We want [students] to experience life as culturally competent citizens; your event helped us achieve that goal." — *Student Activities Office, Christopher Newport University*



Colorful Video & PR Packet at:

**ThatTakesOvaries.org**

or Call 781-583-1515