

# International Women's Day Celebration

## Tuesday, March 8, 2016

*International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Join us as we celebrate International Women's Day in the Greenhouse Coreway at the Upper School with a diverse and inspiring program of events.*

**Please [RSVP](#) for the session(s) you wish to attend; we are happy to welcome individuals and classes.**  
**#PledgeforParity**

### **Session 1 (10:10-10:40) A Title IX Trailblazer Breaks Barriers Through Basketball\***

Pat McKinzie-Lechault

As a child growing up in the 1960s, Pat McKinzie was a misfit because she would rather play ball than Barbies. However, when McKinzie was sixteen years old, the passage of Title IX ensured that she, along with every other woman in the United States, would be allowed on America's playing fields. McKinzie was the first female scholarship recipient in Illinois, a draftee into the first women's professional basketball league and part of the premier wave of American ball players in Europe. Join us to hear her remarkable and inspiring personal story.

### **Session 2 (10:50-11:20) Visions of Women in Art: A Personal Review\***

Regina Lanford

Using subjects from western art with the exception of the Egyptian pharaoh Hatshepsut, we will look at famous representations of women for insights into how contemporaries viewed women, and how such images perpetuated cultural prejudices. Did female artists depict women differently than male artists? How successful are women at having their works exhibited in major museums compared to men? Have women gained greater equality in the art world since 1985 when seven women artists in gorilla masks protested against sexism at MOMA?

### **Session 3 (11:30-12:00) How to Avoid Gender Stereotypes\***

Eleanor (Tabi) Haller-Jorden

Corporations across Europe share the same problem: a dramatic gender gap in leadership. Although the size of this gap varies from country to country, men far outnumber women in senior business leadership. What makes the most senior positions in business so inaccessible to women -- even in countries where there is considerable government and social support for gender equality? Senior women leaders across Western Europe tell us that gender stereotyping is an important barrier to consider; and our research supports it. While solutions are often sought through policy and engineered approaches, the real barriers to change may be much more personal and insidious. The companies that focus on tackling deep-seated bias and making their organizations safer for mavericks -- who are less concerned with fitting in and more on making a contribution -- may be the most effective in fixing the gender gap and, more critically, in business.

### **Session 4 (12:05-13:00) #PledgeforParity**

Join us during the lunch hour to sign the *Pledge for Parity*, listen to live music from Grade 10 student Thandiwe van Wesenbeeck and the *Quantum Avocados* and purchase a tulip in honor of an important woman in your life. Everyone - men and women - can pledge to take a concrete step to help achieve gender parity more quickly and each of us can be a leader within our own spheres of influence and commit to take pragmatic action to help include and advance women. Stop by the Greenhouse Coreway to take action!

### **Session 5 (16:10-17:30) Discussion Panel: *Why is it important to promote equality?\****

Join us as we examine the question of *why it is important to continue to promote equality* and ask ourselves: *how and where can we recognize gender inequality in the world around us?* Students, teachers, and community members will come together to consider why it is important to promote equality in our community and beyond. We will hear from select panelists as they share their thoughts on these important questions. Afterwards, we will open the floor to questions and opinions, hopefully starting a conversation that will continue long after March 8th.

**\*Seating is limited so please [RSVP](#) if you would like to attend and/ or bring your class.**