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March 14, 2011

### **I'm Not a Feminist, But....:**

#### **An ensemble presentation about feminism in the lives of young women today**

PITTSFIELD, MA -- As part of the Berkshire Festival of Women Writers, WAM Theatre presents a one-night only showing of the Russell Sage Creative and Performing Arts Production of 'I'm not a Feminist, but....'. This ensemble presentation, written by Russell Sage college women working with director Leigh Strimbeck, looks at the topic of feminism in the lives of young people today using humour, irreverence, dance, song, and serious real-life monologues. A portion of proceeds from this one night event will be donated to Berkshire Women for Women Worldwide. The event takes place on Monday March 14, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the New Stage Performing Arts Center at 55 North Street in Pittsfield, MA. A talkback follows the performance.

"What a great forum to perform our show about young women's attitudes towards feminism! We're honored to be part of the Berkshire Festival of Women Writers and look forward to discussing our new work with the audience afterwards," states WAM Theatre's co-artistic director Leigh Strimbeck. Judy Nardacci of Berkshire Women for Women continues, "Since Kristen and Leigh introduced WAM Theatre to BWWW a year or so ago, we've looked forward to collaborating on a project. We're so pleased to be helping to make this event happen in Pittsfield, and very grateful to Leigh, Kristen and Nicki Wilson (of the New Stage Performing Arts Center). It's gratifying to see how well women can work together on behalf of our local and global mission to advance the welfare and power of women."

The cast used research and conducted interviews to create the work. Some of the questions explored include: Do they identify as feminists? Why or why not? How has feminist history impacted their lives. Song, dance, comedy and monologues are all interwoven in this reflection on feminism past and present.

DETAILS:

New Stage Performing Arts Center, 55 North Street, Pittsfield, MA (Above the Beacon Cinema)

Monday, March 14, 2011 at 8:00pm

TICKETS: \$10 adults, \$5 students

Tickets can be reserved by calling 413.418.0999.

*This performance is sponsored in part by grants from the Cultural Councils of Alford-Egremont, Becket, Dalton, Great Barrington, Monterey, Pittsfield, Richmond, Washington and West Stockbridge, local agencies which are supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.*

About WAM Theatre:

WAM Theatre is a theatre company based in the Berkshires of Massachusetts and the Capital Region of New York State. Inspired by the book 'Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide' by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, WAM Theatre was founded in 2009 by professional theatre artists Kristen van Ginhoven and Leigh Strimbeck. WAM's philanthropic mission is two-fold; first, producing theatrical events for everyone, with a focus on women theatre artists and/or stories of women and girls; second, to donate a portion of the proceeds from those events to organizations that benefit women and girls [www.wamtheatre.com](http://www.wamtheatre.com)

About Berkshire Women for Women Worldwide:

Berkshire Women for Women Worldwide (BWWW) reinforces empowerment and gender equality for women in developing countries by supporting United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)'s advocacy and fundraising efforts. BWWW (formerly a chapter of the United States Committee for UNIFEM) was established in 2000. [www.berkshirewomen.org](http://www.berkshirewomen.org)

Contact:

Leigh Strimbeck or Kristen van Ginhoven

Co-Artistic Directors, WAM Theatre

[www.wamtheatre.com](http://www.wamtheatre.com)

Judy Nardacci

Berkshire Women for Women Worldwide

[www.berkshirewomen.org](http://www.berkshirewomen.org)

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