

SPRING  
2015

# CHOICE Remarks

## IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

### *How Sweet It Is... Volunteer Appreciation Reception*

Thursday, April 9  
6:30 to 8 pm  
UHPP Albany Health Center  
Conference Room

### *PPYL Presents Movie Night: Vessel*

Thursday, April 30  
Showtime: 6 pm  
The Arts Center in Troy  
\$20 per person (\$10 for  
students)

For more information visit  
[www.uhpp.org](http://www.uhpp.org)

## Local Students Partner with UHPP

Five students learned more than expected when they picked Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood as their community service project partner.

"I had no idea that Planned Parenthood taught young people about sexuality and healthy relationships," said Nicki Kern, a senior at Bethlehem High's Lab School. "We wanted to make sure that other students knew."

Nicki and her teammates held bake sales, participated in movie screenings, hosted a fundraiser at Emack & Bolio's in Albany, hosted a Yankee Candle fundraiser, and more. They also created a presentation about healthy relationships. Team UHPP proudly raised \$1,053.89.

UHPP VP for Development Laura Alpert said, "These creative and generous young leaders have a very bright future." The students will be recognized at UHPP's Volunteer Appreciation Reception on Thursday, April 9.



## National Condom Week in Albany, Hudson and Troy



On Valentine's Day weekend, UHPP held three "pub crawl" style events as part of its Condom Week outreach. Three groups of volunteers distributed 2,000 condoms in our four county service area and gave out safer sex kits, Mardi Gras condom beads, and temporary tattoos in 20 bars and clubs. Volunteers invited patrons to play a trivia game about issues of sexuality and sexual health and tested patrons' skills for the right way to put on a condom.



UHPP promoted the Condom Week events on local radio station JAMZ 96.3 FM, through a series of Facebook ads, on UHPP's website, and through social media. UHPP Vice President for Education Meaghan Carroll was interviewed by local radio stations about the importance of condom use and making sure you are always prepared. "Everyone deserves a sex life that is safe and healthy as well as pleasurable/fun. Getting comfortable talking about safer sex and using condoms is a good way to take care of your health and your partner's." UHPP also partnered with JAMZ 96.3 to distribute 100 safer sex kits at the Albany premiere of *Fifty Shades of Grey*.

# Annual Day of Action Rally in Albany



Hundreds of reproductive healthcare advocates from around New York State rallied in Albany on January 26 to kick off the 2015 Legislative Session with a visible reminder that comprehensive reproductive healthcare matters. Attendees heard from government leaders before meeting individually with their elected representatives and attending workshops.

The focus issues for the 2015 Legislative session are fully funding the Family Planning Grant, passing the Boss Bill, the Women's Equality Agenda and Paid Family Leave.

*"We are not going backward in New York state!" shouted the Bipartisan Pro-Choice Caucus to the packed house.*

For information about getting involved in advocacy issues, visit our website at [www.uhpp.org](http://www.uhpp.org).

## Production Empowers Women, Supports UHPP

Eight years ago, Amanda Brinke, Jeremy Ward and Mark Rennell began producing The Vagina Monologues to benefit UHPP. More than 100 individuals and groups participate as producers, cast members, sponsors, or audience members. Café 217 in Albany donates the space, and all cast members and producers volunteer their time. This February's performances brought the total funds raised for UHPP to more than \$10,000.



"What an incredible commitment!" UHPP President/CEO Chelly Hegan said. "We're so grateful."

## UHPP Honors Mayor Kathy M. Sheehan at Roe v. Wade Celebration



"We honor Mayor Sheehan today as an advocate and voice for women. When young girls see that they can be Mayor, they can be a Senator, they can make a difference...we all win," said Chelly Hegan, President/CEO of UHPP.

As she accepted the award, Mayor Sheehan said, "For woman to have to fight for access to reproductive healthcare is shocking and shameful. Thank you to all who support the rights of women in our community."

Nearly 100 guests, including local and state legislative leaders, clergy, healthcare and women's health advocates celebrated the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision at the Corning Tower Observation Deck in the Empire State Plaza.



**UHPP Advocates of NY**  
Facebook: [facebook.com/UHPPANY](https://facebook.com/UHPPANY)



**UHPP YouTube page:**  
[youtube.com/theuhpp](https://youtube.com/theuhpp)



**UHPP Sex+Health+Truth blog:**  
<http://sex-health-truthblogspot.com>



**UHPP Tumblr:** [omgpp.tumblr.com](https://omgpp.tumblr.com)



**UHPP Instagram:**  
[instagram.com/omgpp](https://instagram.com/omgpp)



**UHPP Advocates of NY Twitter:**  
[twitter.com/UHPPANY](https://twitter.com/UHPPANY)