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Sexual Assault Survivors Reclaim Voices with Take Back the Night Week

CHICO, Calif. – The [Associated Students Gender & Sexuality Equity Center \(GSEC\)](#) is proud to announce the return of our annual Take Back the Night event, which will take place Thursday-Friday, April 26-27 on Chico State's campus. This year's theme "Reach Out, Speak Out!" was created to empathize that survivors are not alone and that survivors are brave. It is every survivor's choice when they want to reach out and/or speak out. We are here to say that we support the choices survivors make in their journey to healing.

[Take Back the Night](#) provides an opportunity for students and community members of Chico to come together and recognize the ongoing issue of rape culture, violence against women, and to involve themselves in the protest against it. This event is an opportunity to acknowledge and empower survivors and to reclaim the right to everyone's security. Individuals may stand in solidarity with survivors to support the collective action against this ongoing violence. The event will culminate in a silent candlelit march through the streets of downtown Chico, providing a chance for survivors of sexual assault to reclaim their right to feel safe and secure at all times in their community. **Below is a schedule of events:**

Thursday, April 26

- **[Keynote Speaker:](#) Kimberlea Dehoney**, a poet and student of CSU, Chico will be the keynote speaker.
 - **Time and Location:** 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. in the BMU Auditorium
- **["Survivor Speak-Outs:"](#)** Attendees will be given a chance to debrief their experiences in a safe space.
 - **Time and Location:** 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
 - Women's only (BMU 211)
 - Women's only (BMU 210)
 - Gender-Inclusive (BMU 312)
- **[Self-Care Workshop](#) facilitated by Rape Crisis:** Attendees will be given a chance to attend a workshop in lieu of the survivor speak-outs. The workshop will discuss the importance of self-care and share strategies for doing so.
 - **Time and Location:** 7 p.m. – 8 p.m. in BMU 008
- **[Take Back the Mic:](#)** This spoken word event will focus on the experiences and feelings surrounding sexual assault. Submissions are due to asgsec.wom@csuchico.edu by April 15, 2018.
 - **Time and Location:** 8 p.m. – 9 p.m. in BMU Auditorium
- **[Silent Candlelit March:](#)** We will be having a silent candlelit march through Downtown Chico to raise awareness. *We ask that attendees please avoid wearing branded clothing and instead wear black to stand in solidarity with survivors.*
 - **Time and Location:** 9 p.m. begins at SSC Plaza through Downtown Chico

Friday, April 27

- **[Debriefing Brunch](#)** After Thursday's night of emotions, activism and togetherness, the GSEC invites all TBTN attendees to a debriefing brunch in the Cross Cultural Leadership Center (CCLC).
 - **Time and Location:** 11:00 a.m. – 1 p.m. in CCLC (Meriam Library 172)

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The Associated Students Gender & Sexuality Equity Center (GSEC) is a student-run activist organization that strives to empower all students through its four programs: the Women's Program, the Queer Program, the Trans Program, and the Outreach Program. The GSEC challenges societal norms that have been used to oppress and marginalize by providing opportunities for leadership, personal development, and referral services. We offer a safe and inclusive space where the campus and community can effectively support the academic mission of the university.