

Bridgerland

Thursday,
October 4, 2007

Local, state and regional news

Victims of abuse to share stories at USU music, poetry show

Women who have escaped abuse will share their stories today at "Finding Voice," a music and poetry performance.

The free event will be held at 7 p.m. in Utah State University's Eccles Conference Center Auditorium.

The performers are current USU music therapy students, though the material was written by abuse survivors.

Former USU Music Therapy Director Elizabeth York created "Finding Voice" as part of her research and efforts to help survivors of domestic violence heal.

The first performance was held at CAPSA in 2002. Soon they were performing at the Utah Shelter Conference, University of Utah and USU.

The original survivors also made a CD of the project, which is distributed through CAPSA and at performances.

"The fact that they were willing to put their names, faces, and voices on the CD was almost unimaginable," said Maureen Hearn, current director of the Utah State University Music Therapy Program.

Hearn said in the end, both she and the women who created Finding Voice would like to see it help other victims of domestic violence understand that they are not alone.