

Women's studies, urban expert Abzug to deliver annual Riley Lecture Monday

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Renowned professor of urban studies and women's leadership expert Liz Abzug will deliver the 18th annual Riley Lecture in Women's Studies on women in 21st century politics at 5:30 p.m., Monday, March 4 at Alfred University's Knight Club, Powell Campus Center, with a catered reception immediately to follow. The event, sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Judson Leadership Center, is free and open to the public.

Abzug is an adjunct professor in urban studies at Barnard College/Columbia University, where she teaches courses on urban American and international cities, community building, economic development and women and leadership. In addition to teaching, Abzug owns and operates her own national public affairs and management consulting company, Liz Abzug Consultant Services, providing strategic planning, management, political consulting, marketing, public relations and lobbying services for businesses, governments and universities.

The daughter of renowned feminist and former New York Congresswoman Bella Abzug, Abzug is also the co-founder of the Bella Abzug Leadership Institute, a leadership training organization for young women providing debate training, leadership skills and professional mentoring.

In 2008, Abzug was named one of the "21 Leaders for the 21st Century" by Women's E-News, the only online women's international news organization. She was also honored in 2008 as "Woman of the Year" by the Stonewall Democratic Club of New York City.

The Elizabeth Hallenbeck Riley and Charles P. Riley Lectureship in Women's Studies is presented annually in memory of Elizabeth &36 and Charles &35. Their daughters, Pamela Riley Osborn &62, Patricia A. Riley &65, and Melissa Riley, have generously sponsored the lecture series.

Recent Riley Lecturers have included Hedia Ouertani-Khadar, a professor of French literature who presented "North African Women: Arab Spring, Tunisian Revolution Activists and Women's Rights Warriors" in 2012; feminist comedian DeAnne Smith &98 who gave the 2011 lecture, "Amusing, Alliterative Title: Then a String of Academic Words like 'Paradigm,' 'Mechanism' and 'Identity' (or how Feminists can be Funny);" and Meda Chesney-Lind, a professor of women's studies who presented in 2010 on "Girls Going Wild: Facts and Myths about Girls' Violence."

