

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March 2020



Women's History Month is an annual declared month worldwide that highlights the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society. National Women's History Month is a way to celebrate the role of all American women, of all backgrounds, who

have helped to shape America.

In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued a presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8, 1980, as National Women's History Week. In 1987, after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as Women's History Month. Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1988, U.S. presidents have issued annual proclamations designating the month of March as Women's History Month.

The significance of the month of March dates to the mid-19th century when, on March 8, 1857, a group of female garment workers in New York City staged a protest to demand better working conditions and pay. Police aggressively halted the demonstration, but several years later the determined women formed their own union.

DID YOU KNOW?

Wyoming was the first state to grant women the right to vote.

In 1770, a bill proposing that women using makeup should be punished for witchcraft was put forward to the British Parliament.

Women often wrote under pen names in times when it was not seen as appropriate for them to contribute to literature.

Until 1846, the practice of obstetrics was a female-dominated field. It was then that most medical colleges decided women could not attend and the newly founded American Medical Association barred women.

In St. Louis, you can visit the Old Courthouse in downtown St. Louis and reenact the Virginia Minor trial. Minor v. Happersett where she was refused to register to vote in 1872. Call 314-655-1700 for more information.

In Her Place: A Guide to St. Louis Women's History

Check this gem of a resource out. It recounts women in St. Louis and how they created spaces for themselves throughout St. Louis. Written by Katharine Corbett, it is a book of essays documenting events, institutions and people. It displays the how relevant women are to the history of St. Louis. <https://www.nps.gov/jeff/blogs/in-her-place-a-guide-to-st-louis-women-s-history.htm>

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Visit: [Missouri History Museum on Facebook](#) and learn about the following events:

Hyer and Hyer: The Hyers Sisters and the Legacy of Black Women in Opera | Lee Auditorium
Friday, March 20

Presented with [Opera Theatre of Saint Louis](#) and [Nine Network](#)

Trust the Process | Lee Auditorium
Tuesday, March 24
Presented with [Mosaic Ceiling](#)

CreativeMornings: "Identity" with Alyson Haylor
AT&T Foundation Multipurpose Room
Friday, March 27

SCHEDULE

Breakfast and networking | 8am Talk | 8:30am Q&A | 9am
Presented with CreativeMornings

Living Legends: Heroines of the Millennium Literary Exhibition | Lee Auditorium
Saturday, March 28

YEAR-ROUND EDUCATION

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH ARCHIVES – EXPLORE ST. LOUIS
<https://explorestlouis.com/we-shall-we-shall-not-be-moved/>

FAMOUS ST. LOUIS WOMEN
https://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/famous-st-louis-women/collection_0cf56f53-b9a2-52b6-85ba-9797bea7ba1f.html

DISCOVER DATABASES: WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
<https://www.stlmag.com/events/discover-databases-womens-history-month/>

SOURCES

Women's History Month, In Wikipedia. Retrieved February 24, 2017 from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women%27s_History_Month

National Women's History Month In Encyclopedia Britannica Retrieved February 24, 2017 from: <https://www.britannica.com/event/National-Womens-History-Month>

<http://www.genderacrossborders.com/2011/03/07/50-fascinating-facts-for-women%E2%80%99s-history-month/>

PHOTO: carenmerrick.com/celebrating-womens-history-month-5-women-who-reinvented/