President’s Message

Dear Members,

Wow, what a year we’ve had with BPW/WA!

My theme for 2018-2019 was to Embrace New Possibilities. It means exactly what the following quote says: “Accept, then act. Whatever the present moment contains, embrace it as if you had chosen it. This will miraculously change your whole life.” ~Eckhart Tolle

I know members have been concerned about the future of BPW/WA. I wanted to reassure you that the Executive Committee has worked very hard this year to provide you with an interesting Fall Board at the King County Library Service Center and a Political Symposium at Bellevue College. Our Winter Board was held at the YWCA Family Village.

I want to thank everyone who has worked so hard for making this year successful!

Some of our BPW/WA members including myself have chosen to get involved with the following community service activities:

- The Washington State Business and Professional Women’s Foundation hosted an event this past December where volunteers from many organizations helped with stuffing holiday stockings to help support the women of the Angeline House.

- The Hospitality House recently held a Spring Fling Dinner and Fundraiser in Burien. This organization is committed to helping homeless women find home, health, and hope. Several members of the SW Seattle Local and Campus Local attended the auction and donated funds to help promote this great cause.

I also wanted to thank our members who attended the AAUW Washington 2019 Lobby Day in Olympia on January 28, 2019. Speakers included Fajer Saeed Ebrahim, a specialist on reproductive justice with Legal Voice, and Pam Crone, a lawyer, and lobbyist who has represented AAUW-WA, Legal Voice, and other clients in Olympia.

We also support the YWCA, and our members encourage you to join them for the upcoming events held in Snohomish on April 18 and in Seattle on May 16. We have strong roots to the YWCA. For over three decades, YWCA’s Inspire Luncheons have brought people together to celebrate their mission and to learn how their programs change lives.

I also must thank DeLona Kent, Past State President from 1974-1975 for her generous gift to help BPW/WA. We have created the DeLona Kent Memorial Fund in her memory. I have a challenge for you; I would like to encourage you to bring guests to your meetings. We also need your help in promoting your guests to join our organization. There will be recognition and prizes at our Annual State Conference for everyone who participates.

I look forward to seeing you at the BPW/WA State Conference! BPW marks its first 100 years in 2019. We invite you to join us at this meeting to celebrate our long history of women helping women politically, personally, and professionally through networking, legislative awareness, mentoring, and enlightening programs and speakers.

Best Personal Wishes,

Jacqueline Petrick-Lee
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BPW/WA Legislative Platform

Preamble
The Equal Rights Amendment, as authored by Alice Paul, shall stand first, foremost and above all other items which may appear on the platform of this Federation until equal legal rights for women and men become guaranteed in the United States Constitution, because all statutory law derives there from.

The Equal Rights Amendment
“Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on the account of sex.”

Platform

Economic Equity
Support pay equity, equal educational and economic opportunities at all stages of life; and promote affordable, quality dependent care to help support economic self-sufficiency for women and their dependents.

Health
Support full access to all women’s health services and education, including reproductive choice*; support funds for research into and protections for women’s health care needs; and support the national health care policy sections specifically recognizing the special health care needs of women.

Civil Rights
Support equal rights and remedies for women in all phases of their lives; support affirmative action; eliminate sexual harassment and violence against women.

* Addendum: Clarification clause on the words “including reproductive choice” is explained constitutionally, per the Equal Rights Amendment, as a legal right for a woman and a man to jointly decide on having a pregnancy, birth, or birth control.

Renew Your PAC Membership
Traditionally at our Annual State Conference, we renew our membership in PAC. Through PAC we can make a difference in supporting those candidates for office that support our Legislative Platform. Over the past two years we have contributed to three campaigns, all of them winning their elections: State Senator Patty Kuderer, State Representative Bill Ramos and US Representative Dr. Kim Schrier.

ONLY MEMBERS can contribute to BPW/WA PAC. Therefore, we need your donations once a year to keep the political arm of BPW/WA viable. A minimum of $25 would be greatly appreciated from every member! There will be donation forms handed out at the conference or contact Sylvia Valine at sevaline123@gmail.com for a form.

Thank you for your continued support of BPW/WA PAC
Sylvia Valine
PAC Chair

Gifts Received from DeLona E. Kent Estate:
$5,000 check to “BPW of WA Federation” (BPW/WA federation)
$5,000 check to “BPW of WA Foundation” (Washington State BPW Foundation)
Call to Conference and Registration for 98th State Conference 2019

To The Following Members: Elected officers, the immediate past president, chairs of standing committees (or duly authorized representatives), local organization presidents (or duly authorized representatives), corresponding secretary and nominations chair. Only those listed above may vote at the Pre and Post Board of Directors Meeting, Saturday and Sunday. All members may enter into discussions for all of state conference.

Saturday - Sunday, MAY 18-19, 2019, Doubletree Suites by Hilton at Southcenter
16500 Southcenter Parkway, Tukwila WA 98188

REGISTRATION DEADLINE MAY 6, 2019. All who register are welcome at all meetings and meals.

Name

Main Local Organization You Belong To

List ALL: State Office ☑ State Chair ☑ Local President ☑

Email Address

Address

City Zip Code


AGENDA IN BRIEF:

Saturday, May 18
7:00-8:00 am Executive Committee Meeting in Pinnacle Room.
8:00-9:00 am Registration
9:00 am 98th State Conference Convenes: Business and Speaker
10:15 am Pre-Conference Board of Directors segment: Business and Task Force Reports.
1:15 pm 98th State Conference Reconvenes: Speaker, Pres & Committee Rpts, Elections.
6:30-8:00 pm Evening Entertainment, YC Winner, Awards, and Installation of New Officers.

Sunday, May 19
7:00-8:00 am Executive Committee Meeting in Pinnacle Room.
8:00-8:30 am Memorial Service.
8:00-9:00 am Registration
9:00 am Post-Conference Board of Directors segment: Speaker, Business, Workshops.
3:00 pm State Conference Adjourns.

HOW ARE YOU PAYING FOR CONFERENCE? By Check ☑ or with credit card via Eventbrite website ☑.

• If you are paying by check, make check payable to “BPW/WA” and mail it with this 2-page registration form to:
  Eldean Montgomery, 2611 S 288th Street #64, Federal Way, WA 98003

• If you are paying via Eventbrite, email this 2-page registration form to: eldeanmont@aol.com

Do you require special accommodations under the American Disabilities Act? Yes ☑

Do you have any food restrictions or requests? Yes______________________________ If yes, we will contact you.

Cancellation or Refund Policy: Refunds will be made if a cancellation request is received in writing/email by the Registration Chair prior to May 6, 2019. A processing fee of $20 will be charged for refunds requested after that date. No refunds will be made for no shows.
Call to Conference and Registration for State Conference 2019

Name again please:

STAYING OVERNIGHT? Contact hotel directly to make room reservations: Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Seattle Airport/Southcenter, 16500 Southcenter Parkway, Seattle, WA 98188  Phone: 800-222-TREE  Group code to follow soon.

Hotel reservations MUST be made before May 6 to receive the BPW rate of $119/night plus taxes and fees, double occupancy.

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SATURDAY – May 18

| Breakfast: On your own - complimentary ($13 value) with Friday night hotel stay. | ____ | ____ |
| Lunch: Chicken Caesar Salad OR Oven Roasted Turkey Club Sandwich. Lunches Include: Starbucks Coffee and Tazo Teas. | $37.25 |
| Dinner: Garlic Roasted Chicken Breast with Wild Mushroom Risotto OR Pork Filet Mignon with Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes. Dinners Include: Rolls/butter, Hearts of Romaine Salad, Seasonal Veggies. | $51.00 |

SUNDAY – May 19

| Breakfast: On your own - complimentary ($13 value) with Saturday night hotel stay. | ____ | ____ |
| Lunch: Southwest Chicken Salad OR Hickory Smoked Ham & Swiss Sandwich. Lunches Include: Starbucks Coffee and Tazo Teas. | $37.25 |

TOTAL $
BPW/WA Annual State Conference
Doubletree Suites by Hilton, Tukwila WA 98188

May 18 - 19, 2019

Business and Professional Women (BPW)
Proudly Present 3 Great Speakers!
Saturday Nite Offers Special Entertainment to Celebrate BPW's & Suffrage's 100 Year Anniversary!

Register and Pay at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bpw-wa-state-conference-tickets-59269506690
or go to: bpwwa.org, to obtain a Registration Form and Pay by Check.

Monique Valenzuela Trudnowski lives in Tacoma, is married, and has 6 children. She is the Owner and Manager of Adriatic Grill Italian Cuisine & Wine Bar. From 2007 to the present Monique is the Regional Education Executive, Lancome from 2001-2007. She is a board member of the Broadway Center for the Performing Arts 2011 to the present, an inaugural Founding Board Member of the Washington Tourism Alliance 2011 to the present and 2013 Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Monique is our Keynote Speaker Saturday morning. Her speech is very entertaining and motivational.

Kent Mayor Dana Ralph is the fourth generation of her family to call Kent home. Dana first entered local government about 15 years ago when she volunteered to serve on the Land Use and Planning Board and the Kent Arts Commission, combining her passions for smart growth and cultural arts. As she learned more about the inner working of city government, she wanted to be more involved. Dana was elected to the Kent City Council from 2012 – 2017. Wanting to further serve the city's 129,000 residents and 4,000+ businesses, Dana ran for mayor and was elected by the Kent voters and began her term on January 1, 2018.

Every day as Mayor is different, but Dana loves meeting with business owners to help them form a vision for being a part of Kent. Dana also enjoys meeting with residents to hear their ideas and concerns. Dana is a dynamic leader with a fresh approach to government.

Senator Patty Kuderer is a mom, attorney, and long-time community advocate. Patty grew up in southern Minnesota and is one of nine children. Her dad was an attorney and her mom a homemaker.

She was first appointed to the House of Representatives in September of 2015 and won her first election to retain the seat the following year. In January 2017, Patty was again unanimously appointed by the King County Council to fill the vacant Senate seat in the 48th Legislative District. She now represents her constituents as their first female state Senator. She was selected by her colleagues to chair the new Senate Housing Stability & Affordability Committee. Kuderer serves as the Senate’s assistant majority floor leader, as vice chair of the State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections, and as a member of the Law & Justice and Rules.

Saturday night Linda Allen, Singer of Stories and Voyager of the Heart, will entertain and educate you about the women and men who shaped our history through images, stories and songs. Her goal is for us to have fun, learn, and sing along with music.

The silencing of women’s experience and the empowering of women’s voices as they struggled for the vote are showcased in this presentation. We meet among others: Helga Estby who walked across America in 1896, Suffragists Emma Smith Devoe, May Arkwright Hutton, Alice Paul and more. BPW was right there with these courageous women in furthering Women’s rights.
BPW/WA Officer Candidates for 2019/2020

**Judy Johnson-Keyt – Candidate for PRESIDENT**

Judy is a wife, mother of 4 and a grandmother of 8. She is a two-time breast cancer survivor. She is a graduate of Seattle University where she acquired her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Master’s degree in Business. She is an animal advocate and an advocate for the elderly.

Judy fell into a leadership role unexpectedly in 1996. She began the first Hospital within a Hospital for Group Health Cooperative in Pierce County at the age of 26. She was in Hospital Administration for ten years followed by a role as a Chief Nursing and Operations Officer for a Continuous Retirement Community in Pierce County. In 2006 she was sought out to build a Home Health Agency in Pierce and King County. In 2014 she was asked to build a Home Health agency for Catholic Health Initiatives in Pierce County, and currently runs the operations for Pierce, King and Kitsap County.

Judy has been an active and committed member of BPW for 10 years. She has held the roles of BPW State Finance Chair, BPW/WA Treasurer, VP, and BPW/WA President in 2017-2018 where she shared her passion of mentorship. She has plans to make this coming centennial year outstanding for BPW/WA.

**Eldean Montgomery – Candidate for RECORDING SECRETARY**

I joined Totem BPW in 1988 and am currently a member of Southwest Seattle BPW. In the Summer of 1966, I was hired to run the West Seattle YWCA Youth Employment Service Office. I have been a Table Captain for the YWCA Annual Inspire Luncheon fundraisers 25+ years.

In June of 2017, I retired from SEIU6 with 11 years of service.

I have been a BPW Local President, District Treasurer, District VP, and District Director. From District offices I went on to State BPW as a YC Chair, Program Management Chair, Treasurer for two terms, State President 2011-2012, and Recording Secretary 2018/2019.

**Diane Lam - Candidate for TREASURER**

It is my pleasure to serve the Washington State Federation of Business and Professional Woman as State Treasurer in 2018-2019. It is my honor to be considered as a candidate for the State Treasurer position in 2019-2020.

I have been Campus Treasurer for three years and served as the SouthWest Seattle President in 2012-2013. I am currently an Audit Chair of Washington State Business and Professional Women’s Foundation. I also served as Audit Chair for BPW/WA for the 2014-2015 year.

I graduated from San Jose State University in Accounting and earned a Masters in Public Administration from Seattle University. As a CPA working for UW Medicine and seasonal for Abacus Tax, I have over 30 years of professional accounting experience.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute and to celebrate Women Suffrage 100 year’s legacy.

**Patty Slagle - Candidate for NOMINATIONS CHAIR**

Patty Slagle has been a member of Business and Professional Women since 1989, and is affiliated with the Republic local. A Pharmacist by trade, she and her husband own and operate the Republic Drug Store, and Patty also serves as the pharmacist at Ferry County Hospital.

Within BPW, she has held a variety of positions from all of the Executive Committee officers at the local level and the State BPW recording secretary.

In addition to BPW, Patty enjoys playing in the outdoors and hanging with her family.
BPW Eastside News

Eastside BPW has focused on rebuilding our membership and we have created a few ways to accomplish that goal.

The first way is to encourage current members to bring guests to meetings, and we offer a “reward” to those who bring them! Each meeting the guests and the members who brought them, get a ticket for a drawing. Only the guests and members bringing the guests get tickets. At the end of the meetings, we draw a winner and present that person with a prize. So far prizes have ranged from spa products to chocolate! We are asking all the drawing participants to return for our end of year meeting, where we have budgeted a reasonable amount in order to make that drawing prize very special.

In addition to the incentive, we are posting our meetings on Meet Up, the social media site. So far, we have had several inquiries from those postings as well as attendees who are welcome to drop by, listen to our speakers, and get to know us. Because our Kirkland Chamber of Commerce membership allows us a free meeting room and we structure our luncheon meetings as brown bag meetings, guests are not required to pay anything and we get to meet them and show them what we do as a group without either asking them to cover expenses, or feeling like guests are eating into the budget. It makes a very comfortable setting and arrangement.

Programming is an area we have changed a bit this year. We have always had outside speakers come to the meetings, and that has been a great experience, but this year we decided to focus on getting to know our members better, and we have featured our own members for program this year. It has enabled us to discover the businesses and talents of our own membership and has also broadened our topics of interest. One member who owns a business helping disabled people identify and secure Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations, presented on the employers’ requirements for accommodation under the ADA and detailed types of disabilities, including the invisible ones. Another member covered “Growing Old is Not for Sissies,” with a comprehensive discussion about insurance, care plans, types of facilities and care needed as we age, and was even able to tell us trends in the long-term care industry.

One other action that we are all proud of is our recent submission of $1000 to the Washington
Wenatchee BPW Hosts Women’s History Month Tea

Wenatchee celebrated Women’s History Month in March at the Historical Wells House on the Wenatchee Valley College Campus.

At this annual luncheon event, we invite our 3 high school librarians and present each with a “Women’s History Book” for their libraries.

Wenatchee BPW has been presenting a Women’s History Book to the 3 High Schools for over 20 years.

Wells House - Women in Action

Wells House is the only publicly-held mansion in the Wenatchee Valley and has been taken care of by the Wells House Committee, originally made up of 10 women, for the past 40+ years.

It was built in 1909 by William T. and Adelaide Clark, who lived in the home with their five children until 1919.

AZ Wells bought the home in 1919 and lived there with his wife until 1951 when it was donated to the Wenatchee School District for a college campus.

When the college wanted to demolish Wells House in 1972, a group of “concerned women” (many of who had attended the college and lived in the house in the earlier years) formed the Wells House Committee. “We met with the college and told them that we really didn’t think they should tear it down, and for a number of years we were waiting on the edge of our seats for them to vote to tear it down in a board meeting. Finally, they agreed, they were tired of looking at us I guess, and they agreed they would give us the house if we would meet certain conditions in five years.”

Thanks to their commitment, the State Board of Education deeded the property to the group in 1975 and they continue to manage and maintain Wells House.

Sylvia Valine presents “BPW/WA’s State of the Union Address” at Winter Board. A copy of her “Winter Board Membership Brainstorming Recap” is available in the Members Only section on the BPW/WA website, www.bpwwa.org.
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
WOMAN STUDENT AND A US CITIZEN
- Meet age requirements for specific scholarship or grant (if any).
- A resident of Washington State for one or more years, except applicant for Military scholarship.
- Officially accepted into a program or course of study of an accredited school in Washington State or enrolled in an "online" accredited program accepted as a Washington State Education institution.
- Demonstrate scholastic ability.
- Be in need of financial assistance.
- Submit a copy of official transcript of grades.
- Complete all pages of the application form and include all required additional documentation

FOUNDATIONS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
A completed application and documents must be submitted for each scholarship category you are applying for:

GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS
Mature Woman Educational Scholarship ($1,000.00)
Scholarships offered to women age 30+ (by March 15) for retraining or continuing education.

Single Parent Scholarship ($1,000.00)
Offered to a single woman, any age, planning to return to school or to continue her education beyond the high school level. She must have one or more dependent children, under 18 years of age, living at home.

BPW/WA Past President Memorial Scholarship ($1,000.00)
Warded to a woman age 30+ (by March 15) in memory of one or more past presidents of Washington State Business and Professional Women.

Lulu Fairbanks Memorial Scholarship ($500.00)
A scholarship offered to a woman (any age) who plans a career in journalism, communications or related career, in memory of the first Washington State BPW President, Lulu Fairbanks.

BPW/WA Member Scholarship (up to $1,000.00)
Awarded to a current member of Washington State Business and Professional Women who is in need of funds to attend an educational program to enhance career or potential advancement opportunity.

DESIGNATED FUNDS SCHOLARSHIPS (Funds donated by a local organization, a business or an individual, most with additional criteria.)

SouthWest Seattle BPW (Eileen Henry Memorial Scholarship ($500.00)
Offered to a mature woman in South King County wishing to continue her higher education.

Margaret Way Scholarship $500.00
Offered to a woman, age 30+, living and planning to attend an accredited school in Greater Puget Sound area. No restrictions on major of study. Preference will be given to returning students.

Diane Lam Minority Woman Veteran Scholarship ($1,000.00)
Offered to a minority woman veteran re-entering school for skills to land or get back to the job market. Proof of minority and veteran status required.

Business and Professional Women (BPW/WA) Woman Military Scholarship $500.00
Offered to a female member of the Armed Forces or Honorably Discharged Veteran, 18 years of age or older, attending any accredited school in the State of Washington. No restrictions on major of study. Proof of military status (current or discharge) required.

Emerald City BPW Foundation Scholarship ($1,000.00)
Offered to a woman living in the Greater Puget Sound area (King, Kitsap, Pierce or Snohomish Counties) with the following criteria: She will be entering, or continuing, a curriculum at an accredited school, in the field of study that will advance her career goals; be in need of assistance; have demonstrated a high scholastic ability.

Patrick Healy and Bobbie Healy Scholarship ($1,000.00)
A scholarship offered to a woman, living and planning to attend an accredited school in the State of Washington, for a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) advanced degree (Masters or Doctorate) whose goal is to work in the research field of either cancer or heart disease.

Joyce Kelly Memorial Scholarship ($1,000.00)
A scholarship offered to a woman, aged 30+, living in Washington and planning to attend an accredited school in the Puget Sound area (Snohomish, King, Pierce, Kitsap and Island Counties) in a course of study of Horticulture or Business Administration.

Go to http://bpwwafoundation.org/scholarships/ to download an application form.
Is there liberty and justice for all? Or the eternal question…will the Equal Rights Amendment ever be ratified?

(posted on https://www.suffragecentennials.com by Marguerite Kearns)

ERA means the Equal Rights Amendment.

There is no deadline for equal human rights. That's what increasing numbers of people are saying. The ERA, affirming the equal application of the Constitution to all persons regardless of their sex, was written in 1923 by Alice Paul, suffragist activist and founder of the National Woman's Party. After women's right to vote was guaranteed by the 19th Amendment in 1920, she proposed the ERA as the next step in confirming "equal justice under law" for all citizens.

The ERA was introduced into every Congress between 1923 and 1972, when it was passed and sent to the states for ratification. The Equal Rights Amendment extends the 14th Amendment's "equal protection" clause to effectively end sex discrimination under law. If you've ever been confused about the ERA or felt overwhelmed about the ratification process, here's a crash course.

TEXT OF ERA

- Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.
- Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.
- Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

ERA HISTORY:

The Equal Rights Amendment was introduced in Congress in 1923. Fifty years later in 1972, the U.S. Congress chose to impose a seven-year deadline for state ratifications; this deadline ended in 1982. A total of 38 states were needed and 35 states ratified. Only three states fell short of the 1982 deadline. And so the ERA has been languishing. Legal analysis sponsored by the ERA Summit at the University of Richmond argued that the ERA's deadline is not permanent and could be extended again or removed altogether. In 2001, the ERA Campaign Network commissioned a survey from the Opinion Research Corporation and found that 96 percent of Americans believed "male and female citizens should have equal rights," with 88 percent of those polled believing that equal rights should be written into the Constitution.

Follow SuffrageCentennials.com for updates.

[Reprinted with permission from the author.]
National Women’s Suffrage Marker Grant Program

The National Collaborative for Women’s History Sites (NCWHS) and the William G. Pomeroy Foundation have partnered to launch a historic marker program commemorating the history of women’s suffrage in the U.S. The Pomeroy Foundation is providing grants through its National Women’s Suffrage Marker Grant Program to recognize historically significant individuals, places or things across the United States instrumental to women gaining the right to vote. Suffrage was a national movement involving a diversity of women and men from all walks of life.

FREE HISTORIC ROAD MARKERS ARE COMING TO YOUR STATE (MAYBE)
Historic markers awarded through the program will highlight sites on the National Votes for Women Trail (NVWT). The NVWT, a project of the NCWHS, identifies the many sites that were integral to the women’s suffrage movement and makes them accessible on a mobile friendly website to be easily searched by location, suffragist, ethnicity, and a variety of other useful criteria.

HOW TO FIND OUT IF YOUR STATE QUALIFIES FOR FREE MARKERS FOR VOTES FOR WOMEN TRAIL IN 2020
If you have an idea for a historic marker to commemorate women’s suffrage in your community, please contact your NVWT State Coordinator to begin the nomination process: https://ncwhs.org/votes-for-women-trail/state-coordinators/. You can also contact the NCWHS directly: https://ncwhs.org/about/contact-us/. Municipalities, nonprofit academic institutions and 501(c)(3) organizations are especially encouraged to submit a nomination. Pomeroy Foundation signage grants are fully funded and cover the entire cost of a marker, pole and shipping. The local partner is responsible for installation of the marker.

About NCWHS and the Votes for Women Trail
The National Collaborative for Women’s History Sites is a non-profit organization established to support and promote the preservation and interpretation of sites and locales that bear witness to women’s participation in American history. NCWHS is dedicated to making women’s contributions to history visible so all women’s experiences and potential are fully valued. Visit: www.ncwhs.org

About the Pomeroy Foundation
The William G. Pomeroy Foundation is a private foundation established in 2005. The Foundation is committed to supporting the celebration and preservation of community history; and to raising awareness, supporting research and improving the quality of care for patients and their families who are facing a blood cancer diagnosis. To date, the Foundation has awarded nearly 800 grants for historic signage in New York State and beyond.
Visit: www.wgpfoundation.org

Submitted by Margaret Way, BPW/WA Archivist/Historian

Celebrate Women's Resistance – and Triumph

American women have been calling for equal political rights for more than 13 decades. Women’s resistance – and suffragists’ ultimate triumph over reactionary, often racist opposition – fueled the drive to pass the 19th Amendment that guaranteed women the right to vote in 1920.

The centennial of suffragists’ great political victory will be celebrated nationwide throughout 2020. Be a part of the Women’s Suffrage Centennial. 2020 offers the perfect opportunity for both women and men to honor women’s hard won progress and expand our work for universal freedom, justice, and equality.

Centennial projects have already begun in many states. Search for activity in your area and contact these groups to get involved. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity!
National Women's History Alliance, www.nwhp.org
National Votes for Women Trail, www.ncwhs.org
American Journalism, www.SuffrageandtheMedia.org

Join in celebrating and building women's power in 2020!
News from the National Women’s History Alliance

From a March 20, 2019 email – Women’s History Congressional Commission’s Exciting News:

We have more exciting news in honor of National Women’s History Month.

As many of you may recall, in November of 2016, the U.S. Congressional Commission on the study of a potential American Women’s History Museum in Washington, D.C. presented its final report to the President of the United States and the U.S. Congress. The full report is available online. For those of you that volunteered on this project and took their important survey, a special thanks to you!

In the report, the Commission (www.amwh.us) concluded that women’s history is integral to the American story, and the Smithsonian Institution, in the nation’s capital, is a natural place to honor women’s contributions to this country.

The Commission also recommended that the first step should be creating the American Women’s History Initiative at the Smithsonian.

We have good news to report! The initiative is up and running! The Smithsonian began efforts on the American Women’s History Initiative last fall and things are moving quickly now.

A National Advisory Committee is forming. The Smithsonian launched its #BecauseOfHerStory marketing campaign on March 1, and had more than 90M social media impressions in the first 10 days. The Smithsonian is also in the midst of hiring six new curators with expertise in women’s history, developing major exhibitions and public programs, publishing a landmark book and surveying its vast collection!

A few signature projects to look for in 2019 and 2020 include the following:

- **Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence** opens at the National Portrait Gallery on March 28, 2019. This groundbreaking exhibition will celebrate the 100th anniversary of American women’s suffrage. The grand opening event, titled “Shattering the Glass Ceiling,” coincidently will take place in the National Portrait Gallery’s courtyard under the famous and gorgeous glass ceiling designed by Norman Foster!

- **Smithsonian American Women’s History 100** will showcase the institution’s rich collection of art and artifacts that tell the story of women’s contributions to art, history, science, culture and education in a beautifully produced book to be published in Fall 2019.

- **Girlhood (It’s Complicated)** opens at the National Museum of American History June 2020 for an 18-month run before a 10-city tour across the country. This exhibition will explore that crucial time when young women become politically minded and realize the power of their own ideas.

With so much to celebrate, including the 100th anniversary of American women’s right to vote, we want to keep you involved and informed. To ensure you’re hearing the latest announcements and updates on the Smithsonian Women’s History Initiative, you can simply get on their mailing list via https://womenshistory.si.edu/join-the-community.

From a March 26, 2019 email – Online Dictionary of the Woman Suffrage Movement:

The first installment of the Online Biographical Dictionary of the Woman Suffrage Movement in the United States (OBD) is now freely accessible online at https://documents.alexanderstreet.com/VOTESforWOMEN.

Edited and compiled by Thomas Dublin, as part of the online database and journal, WOMEN AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN THE UNITED WAS, and published by Alexander Street, the OBD is the work of hundreds of volunteers who have researched, written, copyedited, and fact checked the first 950 biographical sketches that appear in this first installment. We expect to add about 500 bio sketches every six months going forward and by June 2021 to have completed the project with some 3,300 bio sketches accessible online. Divided into three sections, the OBD will include substantial numbers of Black women suffragists, militant suffragists associated with the National Woman’s Party, and mainstream suffragists of the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

Roughly a third of the anticipated number of sketches are not yet assigned and prospective volunteers should contact tdublin@binghamton.edu to express their interest. He will put you in touch with a state coordinator or assign 1-2 suffrage activists for you to work on. We also need volunteers interested in copyediting completed sketches or using genealogical skills to find birth, marriage, and death records for suffrage activists. Please join the project commemorating the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

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