

National Women's History Project

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[Women's Rights and Women's Equality Day Resources](#)

If you are going to participate in a 4th of July event, please consider reminding people that 2015 is the 95th anniversary of women in the United States winning the right to vote. Consider making copies of the hand-out that you can download from our website [Women's Equality Day Brochure](#)

[95th Anniversary Foil Stickers](#) and [95th Anniversary Buttons](#) are now available.

July Highlights in US Women's History

July 2, 1979	– The Susan B. Anthony dollar is released
July 2, 1937	– Amelia Earhart's plane is lost in the Pacific Ocean near Howland Island
July 2, 1964	– President Lyndon Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act; Title VII prohibits sex discrimination in employment
July 4,	– Suffragists crash the Centennial Celebration in Independence Hall to present the Vice President with the "Declaration of the Rights of Women" written by Matilda Joselyn Gage
July 6, 1957	– Althea Gibson is the first African American woman player to win a Wimbledon title in women's tennis singles
July 7,	– President Reagan nominates Sandra Day O'Connor as the first woman Supreme Court Justice?
July 12, 1984	– Representative Geraldine Ferraro (D-New York) is chosen as the first female to run for Vice President of the United States on the Democratic Party ticket with Walter Mondale (D-Minnesota)
July 14, 1917	– 16 women from the National Women's Party were arrested while picketing the White House demanding universal women's suffrage; they were charged with obstructing traffic
July 19-20, 1848	– The Seneca Falls Convention, the country's first women's rights convention, is held in Seneca Falls, New York Women's Rights Movement

July Birthdays

July 1, 1895 (1997)	– Lucy Howorth, attorney, U.S. magistrate, legislator, suffragist, held positions in federal agencies during the 1930s and 1940s
July 1, 1904 (1998)	– Mary Steichen Calderone, physician and sex educator, Medical Director of Planned Parenthood (1953-1964), principal founder and president of Sex Information and Education Council of the United States (1964)
July 1, 1915 (1979)	– Jean Stafford, writer of short stories and novels, won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1970
July 1, 1916	– Olivia de Havilland, actress, winner of the Academy Award for Best Actress in 1946 and 1949, played Melanie in "Gone With the Wind"
July 1, 1931	– Leslie Caron, actress and dancer, starred in "An American in Paris" (1951) and "Gigi" (1958), wrote autobiography "Thank Heaven" in 2010

July 1, 1941	– Twyla Tharp, dancer and choreographer, widely-honored founder of Twyla Tharp Dance company (1965; merged with American Ballet Theatre in 1988), which expanded boundaries of ballet and modern dance
July 2, 1922 (1987)	– Eleanor Leacock, cultural anthropologist, studied the Native North Americans, and issues of gender and class, racism, and poverty July 3, 1908 – author of 31 books on culinary arts, travel, and memoirs, founder of the Napa Valley Wine Library in California
July 4, 1898 (1997)	– Dr. Pilar Barbosa de Rosario, historian and teacher, first woman to teach at University of Puerto Rico (1921), established the history and social studies departments there, named official historian of Puerto Rico in 1993
July 4, 1918 (2013)	– Pauline Esther Friedman, also known as Abigail Van Buren, was an American advice columnist and radio show host who began the “Dear Abby” column in 1956
July 5, 1899 (1990)	– Anna Hedgeman, civil rights activist and educator, first African American woman to serve in the cabinet of the New York mayor (1954–58), helped plan the 1963 March on Washington
July 7, 1861 (1912)	– Nettie Stevens, biologist, discovered X and Y sex chromosomes
July 7, 1908 (1986)	– Harriette Simpson Arnow, writer and educator, author of “The Dollmaker” (1954), writer with the Federal Writer’s Project of the WPA (1934–39)
July 7, 1915 (1998)	– Margaret Walker, poet and novelist, her poem “For My People” (1942) won the Yale Series of Younger Poets Award, wrote novel “Jubilee” in 1966
July 8, 1902 (1981)	– Gwendolyn Bennett, Harlem Renaissance poet, short story writer and artist, wrote a column “The Ebony Flute” for the journal “Opportunity,” co-founder of “Fire!!” a literary journal
July 8, 1926 (2004)	– Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, writer and lecturer, developed techniques for counseling the dying and their families
July 10, 1875 (1955)	– Mary McLeod Bethune, educator, founder of the National Council of Negro Women, served as Minority Affairs Advisor to Franklin Delano Roosevelt
July 10, 1882 (1975)	– Ima Hogg, Texas philanthropist, patron of the arts, supporter of mental health and child welfare organizations, and savior of many historic structures
July 10, 1891 (1982)	– Edith Quimby, biophysicist, pioneer in the use of radiation in medicine and the development of standards for radiation protection
July 10, 1910 (1998)	– Mary Bunting, microbiologist, president of Radcliffe College (1959–72), oversaw the integration of Radcliffe into Harvard, founded the Bunting Institute at Radcliffe which helped women return to careers after family obligations, first woman on the Atomic Energy Commission
July 10, 1933 (1989)	– Jan DeGaetani, versatile mezzo-soprano and an outstanding teacher at the Aspen Music Festival and the Eastman School in Rochester
July 13, 1910 (1983)	– Josefina Niggli, playwright, moved to North Carolina from Mexico after penning prize-winning short stories; wrote first novel, Mexican Village, in 1945, later wrote television scripts including “The Twilight Zone”
July 14, 1911 (1998)	– Gertrude Goldhaber, physicist, an early researcher into nuclear structure and the properties of nuclei, the third woman to be elected to the National Academy of Sciences (1972)
July 14, 1916 (1988)	– Muriel Snowden, civil rights worker, co-founded Freedom House (1949) with her husband in Boston as a community organization to promote self-sufficiency and social justice
July 15, 1899 (1990)	– Estelle Ishigo, artist, joined her Japanese-American husband in a Wyoming internment camp during WWII, made sketches of her experience for the War Relocation Authority, published “Lone Heart Mountain” in 1972 chronicling her internment
July 15, 1923 (1995)) – Connie Boucher, artist, helped start the charactermerchandising industry by licensing characters such as Charles Schulz’s “Peanuts” and Maurice Sendak’s “Where the Wild Things Are”
July 16, 1821 (1910)	– Mary Baker Eddy, founded the Church of Christ, Scientist
July 16, 1862 (1931)	– Ida B. Wells-Barnett, journalist, newspaper editor, crusader against lynching, and civil rights leader
July 16, 1907 (1990)	– Barbara Stanwyck, actress, started as a dancer in the Ziegfeld Follies in 1922, worked on stage, and most notably in movies and television, highest paid woman in the United States in 1944

July 16, 1911 (1995)	– Ginger Rogers, actress and dancer, partnered with Fred Astaire, won Academy Award for “Kitty Foyle” (1940)
July 17, 1898 (1991)	– Berenice Abbott, photographer, artist, teacher, and writer, famous for her portraits, documenting the architecture of New York, and science photography
July 17, 1908 (1987)	– Carmelita Maracci, dancer, choreographer, and teacher, created a blend of ballet and Spanish dance techniques
July 18, 1892 (1980)	– Doris Fleischman Bernays, first married woman to gain a U.S. passport in her maiden name (1925), writer and editor for the “New York Tribune,” and publicist
July 18, 1908 (1981)	– Mildred Ryder, adopted the name “Peace Pilgrim” in 1953, a peace activist who was the first woman to walk the Appalachian Trail in one season, walked more than 25,000 miles promoting peace for 28 years
July 19, 1902 (1983)	– Anna Marie Rosenberg, an assistant secretary of defense (1950 – 1953), served in many other government positions
July 21, 1856 (1913)	– Louise Bethune, first American woman to work as an architect in 1881
July 21, 1905 (1996)	– Diana Trilling, literary critic and author, compiled her feminist essays in “We Must March My Darlings” (1977)
July 21, 1938	– Janet Reno, first woman to serve as U. S. Attorney General (1993 – 2001, under President Clinton), attorney
July 22, 1849 (1887)	– Emma Lazarus, poet, wrote “The New Colossus,” (1883), which was later inscribed on the Statue of Liberty: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free”
July 22, 1898 (1976)	– Miriam Underhill, mountaineer and environmentalist, in first all-women ascent of the Matterhorn in 1932, developed “manless climbing,” which means all-women climbing groups
July 23, 1844 (1929)	– Harriet Strong, agriculturist, inventor, patented water storage dams
July 23, 1892 (1984)	– Icie Hoobler, biochemist and physiologist, first woman to head a local section of the American Chemical Society and to serve as its national president, Director of the Research Laboratory of the Children’s Fund of Michigan