



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Stories to remember





INTRODUCTION

- American Women's history
- Women of influence in the United States
- Women of influence in Colombia
- Heroes



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Picture: The History Channel

Women from all over the world have contributed to gain equal rights between men and women.

They have faced several challenges to obtain equality.



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Picture: The History Channel

At the beginning of 19th century women were considered as second class citizens, their household skills were not valorated. They did not have the right to own a property, neither to sign documents nor to take part in politics.



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



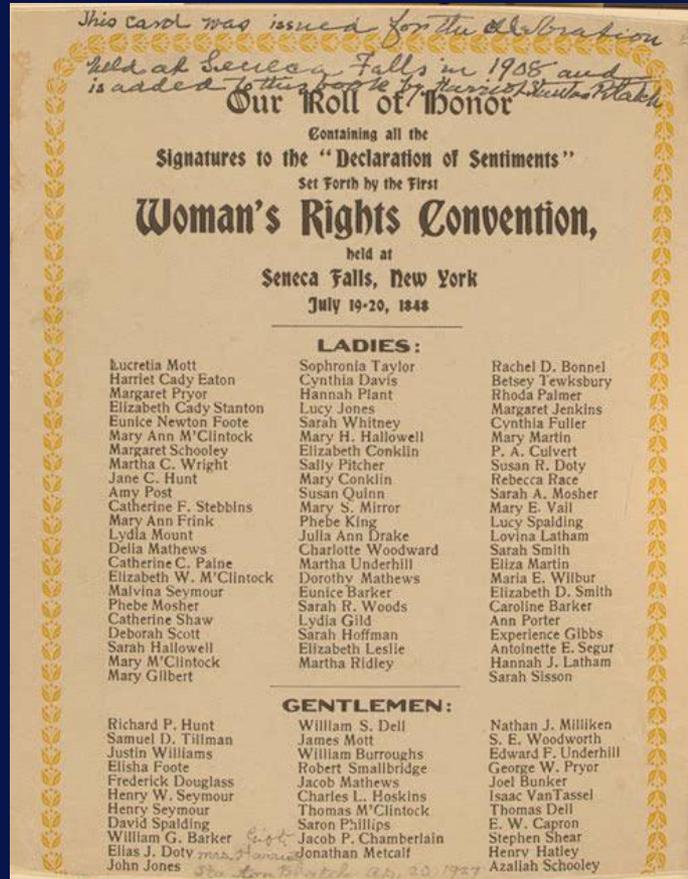
Picture: ©360Geographics, 2000 Women's Rights NHP Visitor's Center, Seneca Falls

In the United States, following the convention to abolish slavery in 1840 where women were forced to attend as viewers, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton decided to celebrate in 1848, in Seneca Falls, New York, the first convention for women's rights, where social, religious and civilian rights were discussed.



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The convention's success was materialized on the Ninth Resolution, which centered the debate on the gender equality and women's right to vote.

During the Civil War the high-priority was to abolish slavery.



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Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony

Activists like Sojourner Truth, Elizabeth Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, required that once the emancipation process concluded, women and slaves should have the same rights as white men.

At the end of the civil war, the government decided to divide both processes, the former slaves and women's right to vote, arguing that granting slaves the right to vote was an enormous political gain.



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*Women in New York , 1909.
Picture: Lewis Hine*

In accordance with the Declaration of the Socialist Party of the United States, on February 28th, 1909, the first National Women's Day was celebrated all over the United States.

The idea to celebrate the "International Women's Day came up in 1910, during the convention called "The Second International" carried out in Copenhagen.



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From the Albert R. Stone Negative Collection, Rochester Museum & Science Center, Rochester, N.Y.

Near 100 women from 17 different countries attended the convention.

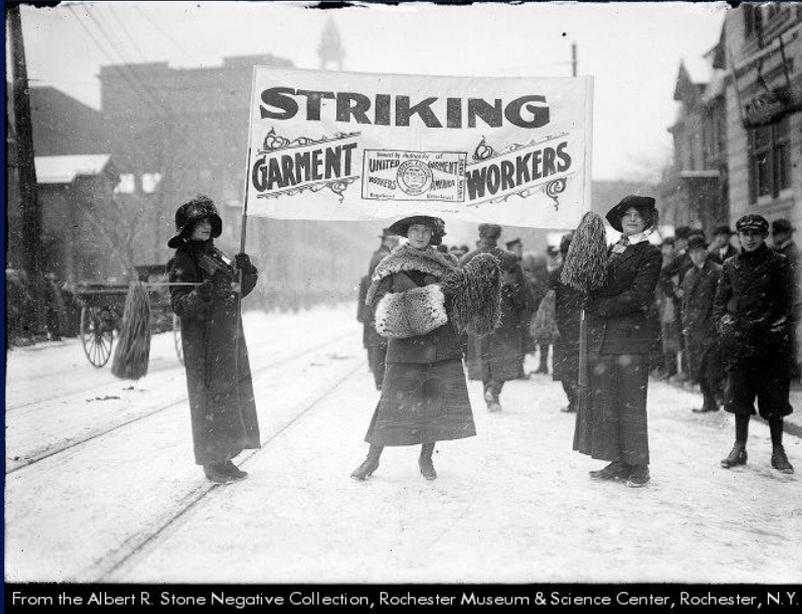
This day was proclaimed as an effort to support the women's movement to obtain political rights.

As a result of the decision made in Copenhagen the previous year, the International Women's Day was first celebrated on March 19th, 1911 in Germany, Austria, Denmark and Switzerland.



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From the Albert R. Stone Negative Collection, Rochester Museum & Science Center, Rochester, N.Y.

More than a million women and men participated at the marches.

In addition to the right to vote and to occupied public positions, the right to work, to gain professional development and to avoid labor discrimination were also demanded.

Until 1913, the celebration was held the last Sunday of February.



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*Triangle Shirtwaist factory building, in
Nueva York*

Less than a week later, on March 25th, more than 140 young women workers, most of them Italian and Jewish immigrants, died in the tragic fire of the Triangle factory in the city of New York.

This event had great consequences in the labor legislation of the United States and the later celebrations of the International Women's Day.



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From the Albert R. Stone Negative Collection, Rochester Museum & Science Center, Rochester, N.Y.

Russian women celebrated their first International Day the last Sunday of February, 1913.

The following year, in the rest of Europe, women celebrated meetings around March 8th to protest against the war or to support other women.



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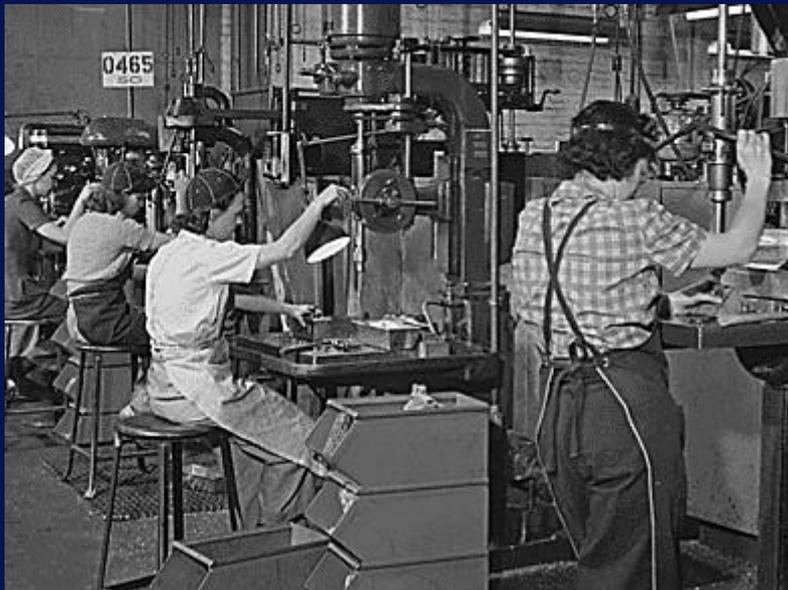
Picture: The History Channel

United States participation in World War I (1918) delayed the approval of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution that grants women political rights.

With the absence of men, many women got into the labor market for the first time.



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Picture: The History Channel

The 19th Amendment was approved in 1919 and ratified in 1920 under the government of Woodrow Wilson. Women were given the right to vote for the first time.

It was the first great triumph of the movement that allowed women the equality of rights and rolls in the United States.



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'Rosie the Riveter,' or 'Rosie, the welder', is an icon of women who worked in the machine factories in the 40's, while six million American men took part in World War II.

When the war finished, many women did not want to leave their jobs. They realized how much they liked independence.



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*Celebration of the International Day of the Woman.
Republic of Congo, 2005*

A letter of the United Nations, signed in San Francisco in 1945, was the first international agreement that proclaimed that equality was a fundamental human right.

Since then, the UN has contributed to create a historical legacy of strategies, norms, programs and objectives internationally arranged to improve the condition of women all over the world.



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Celebration of the International Women's Day. Brazil, 2006

The International Women's Day should be an opportunity to think about the advances gain, demand changes and celebrate the courageous acts and decisions of common women who played and extraordinary role in the history of women's rights.



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WOMEN'S
HISTORY
M·O·N·T·H

In 1981, U.S. Senators Orrin Hatch and Barbara Mikulski submitted a proposal to the U.S. Congress, to proclaim the celebration of the “Women’s History Week” in the country,

In 1987, the Congress extended the celebration to a month, declaring March the “Women’s History Month”.



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WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



March 2009



POCAHONTAS AND SACAGAWEA



Pocahontas (North Wind Picture Archives)

These two women played a fundamental role in the survival of the first colonies in the United States.

While still a child, Pocahontas served as a bridge between the first European arrivals and local Indian tribes.

She saved an explorer and acted as an intermediary during tough times between both groups.



POCAHONTAS AND SACAGAWEA



Painting by Michael Haynes

Sacagawea was part of the first expedition who drew maps from the territories to the west of the Mississippi river.

She contributed with her linguistic ability to communicate with the different indigenous tribes and to protect the Pacific coast explorers.



ABIGAIL ADAMS



Abigail Adams portrait by Benjamin Blythe, 1766.

During United States Independence War (1775-1783), the women's role was decisive. Most of them were in charge of their families' farms and companies while men were fighting in war.

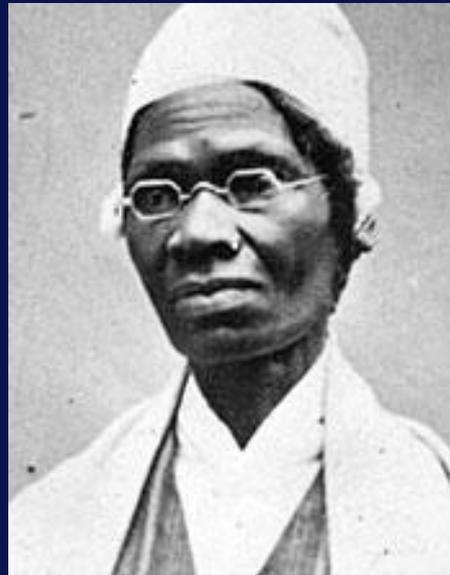
Others fought next to men, taking care of the patients and burying the dead. Abigail Adams was one of the first presidents' wife. She advised her husband to think about the women's rights when a new nation and the U.S. government was founded.



HARRIET TUBMAN AND SOJOURNER TRUTH



Harriet Tubman



Sojourner Truth

In the 19th century women were essential in the emancipation movement and many of them stood out due to their leadership.

Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth, former slaves, witnessed the cruelty of slavery.



JEANNETTE RANKIN



Jeannette Rankin

When women gain the right to vote in the 20's, they started conquering innumerable victories in the politics and government. Montana was the first state to recognized women's right to vote, and to choose the first Congresswoman, Jeannette Rankin.



NANCY PELOSI



Nancy Pelosi, a democrat from California, assumed the position of president of the House of Representatives on January 4th, 2006 as a result of the legislative elections held in November, 2005. Shortly after those elections, president Bush (republican) commented on the Pelosi's promotion as "an historical fact for our country. And like father of young women, I consider it very important".



CONDOLEZZA RICE



Condoleezza Rice began her career as Political Science Professor and then became Provost of Stanford University. She is the first African American woman Secretary of State in the United States.



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WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN COLOMBIA



March 2009



SHAKIRA



Shakira, Colombian singer, has the greatest world record in sales. She initiated her career in 1998 with her first album “Barefoot Feet” which made her famous. In spite of being a great star, she has a foundation named after her first album, which helps thousands of unprivileged children in Colombia.



Carolina Barco



Carolina Barco has made an outstanding career in the diplomatic field and was Chancellor of Colombia between 2002 and 2006. She is currently Ambassador of Colombia in the United States.



Cecilia Baena



AKA “Chechi Baena” began skating since she was 3 years old and fell in love with her sport.

In 2000 she broke the 500m world-wide record.

In 2004 she obtained her first three world-wide titles in the championship celebrated in Italy. In spite of her short age the “Chechi” has a great social sense and works with UNICEF.



Martha Lucía Ramírez



Marta Lucia Ramirez, Colombia's first female Defense Minister (2002-2003), stood out for her voice of command and left it very clear that no army is too big for a woman. She is currently a Colombian Senator.



PERSONAL HEROES





ROSA PARKS



- She initiated the movement of civil rights in the United States when refusing herself to give her seat on a bus to a white man.
- Her brave act began a boycott of the transportation system in Alabama.
- The Supreme Court finally declared the end to the legal segregation in the United States in 1956.



KATHARINE GRAHAM



- One of the most important women in mass media in the United States.
- When her husband committed suicide in 1963, she assumed control of the newspaper “The Washington Post”.
- As director of this newspaper in 1973-1991, she advanced in the investigative journalism and fortified the freedom of speech.



MAY STEWART URRY



- First woman in her family to attend to a University.
- Pediatrician for about 30 years
- Mother of three daughters to whom she offers her support and love.



RUSSELL URRY



- Father of three daughters.
- The fathers' role in educating their daughters is as important as the paper of the mothers.
- A strong relation between parents and daughters offers them greater academic and professional success.



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WHO ARE YOUR PERSONAL HEROES?

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¿WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES FOR THE COLOMBIAN WOMAN NOWADAYS?

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THANK YOU!!

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