“I am an example of what is possible when girls from the very beginning of their lives are loved and nurtured by people around them. I was surrounded by extraordinary women in my life who taught me about quiet strength and dignity.” - Michelle Obama

“A woman with a voice is by definition a strong woman. But the search to find that voice can be remarkably difficult." -- Melinda Gates

Compiled by:
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Presidential Proclamation -- Women’s History Month

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Throughout history, extraordinary women have fought tirelessly to broaden our democracy's reach and help perfect our Union. Through protest and activism, generations of women have appealed to the values at the heart of our Nation and fought to give meaning to the idea that we are all created equal. As today's women and girls reach for new heights, they stand on the shoulders of all those who have come before and carry forward their legacy of proud achievement. This month, we celebrate countless pioneering women and the victories they won, and we continue our work to build a society where our daughters have the same possibilities as our sons.

Courageous women have called not only for the absence of oppression, but for the presence of opportunity. They have demonstrated for justice, but also for jobs -- ones that promise equal pay for equal work. And they have marched for the right to vote not just so their voices would be heard, but so they could have a seat at the head of the table. With grit and resolve, they have fought to overcome discrimination and shatter glass ceilings, and after decades of slow, steady, and determined progress, they have widened the circle of opportunity for women and girls across our country.

Today, more women are their family's main breadwinner than ever before. Women are nearly half of our Nation's workers, and they are increasingly among the most skilled. At the same time, more than 60 percent of women with children under the age of 5 participate in the labor force. This increasing participation of women in our workforce has bolstered our economy and strengthened our families, and it has demonstrated that the policies that benefit women and working families benefit all of us.

But not all of the rules that govern our workplaces have caught up with this reality, and today, too many of the opportunities that our mothers and grandmothers fought for are going unrealized. That is why I am committed to tearing down the barriers to full and equal participation in our economy and society that still exist for too many women. All women deserve equal pay for equal work and a living wage; the Congress needs to raise the minimum wage and pass a law that ensures a woman is paid the same as a man for doing the same work. I continue to call for increased workplace flexibility and access to paid leave -- including paid sick leave -- so that hardworking Americans do not have to choose between being productive employees and responsible family members. And I have proposed a plan that would make quality child care available to every middle-class and low-income family in America with young children. These are not only women's issues -- they are family issues and national economic priorities.

We know that when women succeed, America succeeds. The strength of our economy rests on whether we make it possible for every citizen to contribute to our growth and prosperity. As we honor the many patriots who have shaped not only the destinies of other women, but also the direction of our history, let us resolve to build on their efforts in our own time. As a Nation, we must join our voices with the chorus of history and push forward with unyielding faith to forge a more equal society for all our daughters and granddaughters -- one where a woman's potential is limited only by the size of her dreams and the power of her imagination.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 2015 as Women's History Month. I call upon all Americans to observe this month and to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8, 2015, with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities. I also invite all Americans to visit www.WomensHistoryMonth.gov to learn more about the generations of women who have left enduring imprints on our history.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-seventh day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-ninth.

BARACK OBAMA
2015 International Women of Courage Award

International Women’s Day (March 8) is a time to reflect on progress, to call for change, and to celebrate acts of courage and determination by women who have made a difference in their communities and countries. The Secretary’s Award for International Women of Courage (IWOC) honors women around the globe who have exemplified exceptional courage and leadership in advocating for human rights, gender equality, and social progress, often at great personal risk.

2015 Award Winners

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<tr>
<th>Captain Niloofar Rahmani</th>
<th>Marie Claire Tchecola</th>
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<tr>
<td>Afghan Air Force</td>
<td>Emergency Room Nurse, Donka Hospital</td>
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<td>Afghanistan</td>
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<th>Nadia Sharmeen</th>
<th>Sayaka Osakabe</th>
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<tr>
<td>Journalist</td>
<td>Founder and Representative, Matahara Net</td>
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<td>Bangladesh</td>
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<th>Rosa Julieta Montano Salvatierra</th>
<th>Arbana Xharra</th>
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<tr>
<td>Founder and Director, Oficina Juridica para la Mujer</td>
<td>Editor-in-Chief, Zeri</td>
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<td>Bolivia</td>
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<th>May Sabe Phyu</th>
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<td>Director, Gender Equality Network</td>
<td>Kwendo Jirga (Sister’s Council), Swat, Pakistan</td>
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<td>Burma</td>
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<th>Beatrice Epaye</th>
<th>Majd Chourbaji</th>
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<td>President, Fondation Voix du Coeur</td>
<td>External Relations Director, Women Now for Development Centers</td>
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<td>Central African Republic</td>
<td>Syria</td>
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10 reasons to invest in women and girls

How to end violence against women and girls

Women’s March madness creates basketball stars ... and business executives

Will women enjoy equal employment opportunity?

Infographic: Why invest in Women?

The Journey of Women's Rights: 1911-2015
Resources in the American Library

Read Online - http://elibraryusa.state.gov

To read these call the American Library at 26724231/4024 or email libref@state.gov
Women Entrepreneurs: Making a Difference
produced by Pixie Bigelow. 1998, 24 minutes
The focus of this documentary is the unique entrepreneurial qualities that women possess and the spirit with which they face the challenges of their personal and business lives.

The Women of Summer directed by Suzanne Bauman;
produced by Rita Heller and Suzanne Bauman. 1986, 1 hour 19 minutes
The documentary captures an historic moment when feminists, unionists, and educators came together to pursue a common social ideal.

The Secret to Change
On August 9, 2000, former President Bill Clinton awarded Mildred McWilliams Jeffrey the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. In this inspiring film, Senator Ted Kennedy, Gloria Steinem, Geraldine Ferraro, John Conyers and others reveal why the diminutive Millie stands tall as a galvanizing activist in the twentieth century's revolution for social justice.

Iron Ladies
by directed by Kennedy Wheatley; Filmakers Library, 2002, 30 minutes
Louise was a hairdresser. Jackie was a cocktail waitress. How did these two women end up working on a construction site, high above the ground, welding two-ton iron beams together? Iron Ladies tells the story of 49 year-old Louise and 37 year-old Jackie, new iron-worker apprentices who left their jobs to try the lucrative but dangerous trade of ironworking.

The Unsexing of Emma Edmonds
by directed by Pepita Ferrari. New York: Filmakers Library, 2006, 1 hour
This is the amazing true story of a nineteenth century Canadian girl who ran away from home disguised as a travelling Bible salesman and served in the American Civil War as a nurse, dispatch carrier and spy.
Select list of eJournals available with full text

**Alternative therapies in women's health**
Full text available from 1998

**Archives of women's mental health**
Peer-Reviewed, Full text available from 2010
Most recent 1 year(s) not available

**Harvard women's health watch**
Peer-Reviewed, Full text available from 2011

**International Journal of Women's Health**
Peer-Reviewed, Full text available from 2012

**Journal of international women's studies**
Peer-Reviewed, Full text available from 2001

**On Campus with Women**
Peer-Reviewed, Full text available from 2007

**Women, gender, and families of color**
Peer-Reviewed, Full text available from 2013
Most recent 1 year(s) not available

**Women in business**
Full text available from 1990

**Women in higher education**
Full text available from 2002

**Women in welfare education**
Peer-Reviewed, Full text available from 2006

**Women & music**
Peer-Reviewed, Full text available from 1999

**Women's health advisor**
Full text available from 2006

**Women's Studies in Communication**
Peer-Reviewed, Full text available from 1998
American Civil Liberties Union, Women's Rights (ACLU) – Women’s Rights
https://www.aclu.org/human-rights/womens-rights

National Organization for Women (NOW)
http://www.now.org/

2015 National Women’s History Month Honorees

Smithsonian Institutions Archives—2015 Women's History Month
http://siarchives.si.edu/category/blog-tags/[2015-womens-history-month

U.N. Women
http://www.unwomen.org/en

United Nations, Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)
http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/daw/

University of Michigan - The Institute for Research on Women and Gender (IRWG)
http://irwg.research.umich.edu/

U.S. Department of Commerce—United States Census Bureau, Facts for Features
http://www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2015/cb15-ff05.html

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women’s Health
http://www.womenshealth.gov/nwghaad/

U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence against Women (OVW)
http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/

U.S. Department of State—IIP Digital
http://iipdigital.usembassy.gov/

Office of Global Women’s issues (GWI)
http://www.state.gov/s/gwi/

Violence against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013

The White House—Council on Women and Girls
https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/cwg

Women’s History month
http://womenshistorymonth.gov/

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