

Dream Your Career

Before visiting the Museum

Women and Careers

Women have had many jobs throughout history: wife, mother, teacher, nurse, cook, housekeeper, seamstress, gardener, and so many more.

Until women in the United States went to work in the factories during World War II, fewer than 5% of all women graduated from college. This limited professional career choices, and indeed, the average married woman stayed at home to raise her children while the father worked outside the home. Today, there are hundreds of women who followed their own career path. You will have the opportunity to learn how these women achieved success, in many cases by breaking "glass ceilings."

Vocabulary

Resume: A summary of somebody's educational and work experience, for the information of possible future employers

Credentials: Proof of ability or trustworthiness; a certificate, letter or experience that qualifies someone to do something

References: Statements concerning someone's character, or qualifications to an employer.

Gender Discrimination: The act of making a judgment based solely on the gender of a person.

Glass Ceiling: A barrier that prevents promotion based on gender discrimination.

Career: A long term job. A profession.

Degree: A specific certificate awarded after the completion of a course of education.

Salary: A fixed amount of wages earned over a fixed time period.

Mentor: A trusted friend, counselor or teacher; usually a more experienced person.

Recruiter: A person that actively seeks to bring people into an organization or position.

Interview: A meeting between a potential employer and potential employee designed to determine whether he or she will be hired.

Education and Salary

Level of Education	Years to Obtain	Current Average Yearly Salaries	Lifetime Earnings at Current Salaries
High school dropout	0 years	\$11,000	\$440,000
High school graduate	4 years	\$18,000 - \$22,000	\$880,000
Two years of college or vocational school	2 years	\$25,000 - \$30,000	\$1,200,000
Bachelor's Degree	4 years	\$30,000 - \$45,000	\$1,800,000
Master's Degree	+2 years or more	\$45,000 - \$70,000	\$2,800,000
Advanced Degree (Ph.D., doctors, lawyers, etc.)	+4 years or more	\$70,000 - \$1,000,000	\$40,000, 000

The changing family profile has had a great impact on how women and men balance family and career decisions. Today, there are more career choices than ever before. Consider the *estimated* differences in lifetime earnings when young people decide to get a higher education before starting their careers.

At the Museum

In the spaces below draw a cartoon representing a way in which women have to balance career choices and family.

Dream Your Career: During Your Visit. ..

Explore the *Dream Your Career* computer station. Find a career in each of the following categories and note the expected salary and the requirements for education or experience. Throughout the museum exhibits, these categories are represented by women who achieved success. Write the name of at least one successful woman in each category.

1. Business and Commerce	2. Arts and Aesthetics
3. Transportation	4. Physical Health
5. Social Relationships	6. Psychological Health
7. Environment	8. Basic Needs
9. Education	10. Defense
11. Technology	12. Economics
13. Recreation	14. Law and Justice
15. Government and Politics	16. Communications
17. Ethics and Religion	18. Future

Writing a Resume

Deciding what career path you would most like to pursue is very important. Once you have made this decision it is also very important to know how to get that job. One of the most widely used tools in job hunting is a resume.

Go to www.monster.com on the internet to learn how to write a resume, how to prepare yourself for a job interview, and to find tips and information about the real world of job hunting. Learning what the competition is and what you must do to qualify for the career of your dreams will take planning. The more you know, the farther you can go.

After the Museum

What is your dream career? Hopefully you have a better idea of the answer to that question after your visit to *The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future*. Now is your chance to put your dream down in writing. Your teacher can help you and your fellow classmates make a "yearbook". Each person in class gets a page with a picture of themselves and a paragraph that states where they see themselves in ten years. When the yearbook is complete, you can see what everyone's dreams are and discuss the best ways to achieve them.

The Key Components of a powerful resume are:

Title: Write a title using keywords to link the reader to your skill

Objective: identify your personal goal, but let the employer see how he could use you

Contact information: include all details of your name, address, and phone numbers

Target job: describe your dream job

Target company: describe the ideal company you would like to work for

Location: state where you are willing to live

Work experience: tell about the positions you have held, the responsibilities you have had, what you have accomplished, and awards you have earned

References: be sure to offer references with the permission of the referrers

Education: give complete information about schools you have attended, locations, diplomas, licenses, or special training you have completed

Affiliations: list memberships, organizations and any leadership roles you have held

Key skills: tell about your strongest assets and "sell" yourself as the most desirable candidate for this employer

Conclusion: let the employer know when you will be available