

Milestones in Women's History

Before visiting the Museum

Vocabulary

Suffrage: A conference held in 1848 discuss women's rights- the first of its kind.

Seneca Falls Convention: Constitutional amendment passed in 1920 that granted all people the right to vote, regardless of gender.

Title IX: Ground-breaking legislation passed in 1972 that made it illegal for schools to discriminate against women in sports.

19th Amendment: The right to vote

Feminism: Philosphy and theory concerning the experiences of women.

What have women done in history?

More than you can imagine! Women have made numerous contributions to American society over the years. Some of these contributions are well known, but others have been overlooked. For instance, did you know that women fought in the American Revolution?

In exploring the *Milestones in Women's History* timeline, you will have the opportunity to learn about events and accomplishments that have impacted not only women, but all of American society.

Questions for Discussion:

What are some major accomplishments of women in history?

Do you think there are any events in history that women did not play a part of? Are you sure?

Can women today effect events around the world more than they could a hundred years ago? If so, why?

Women Changing History

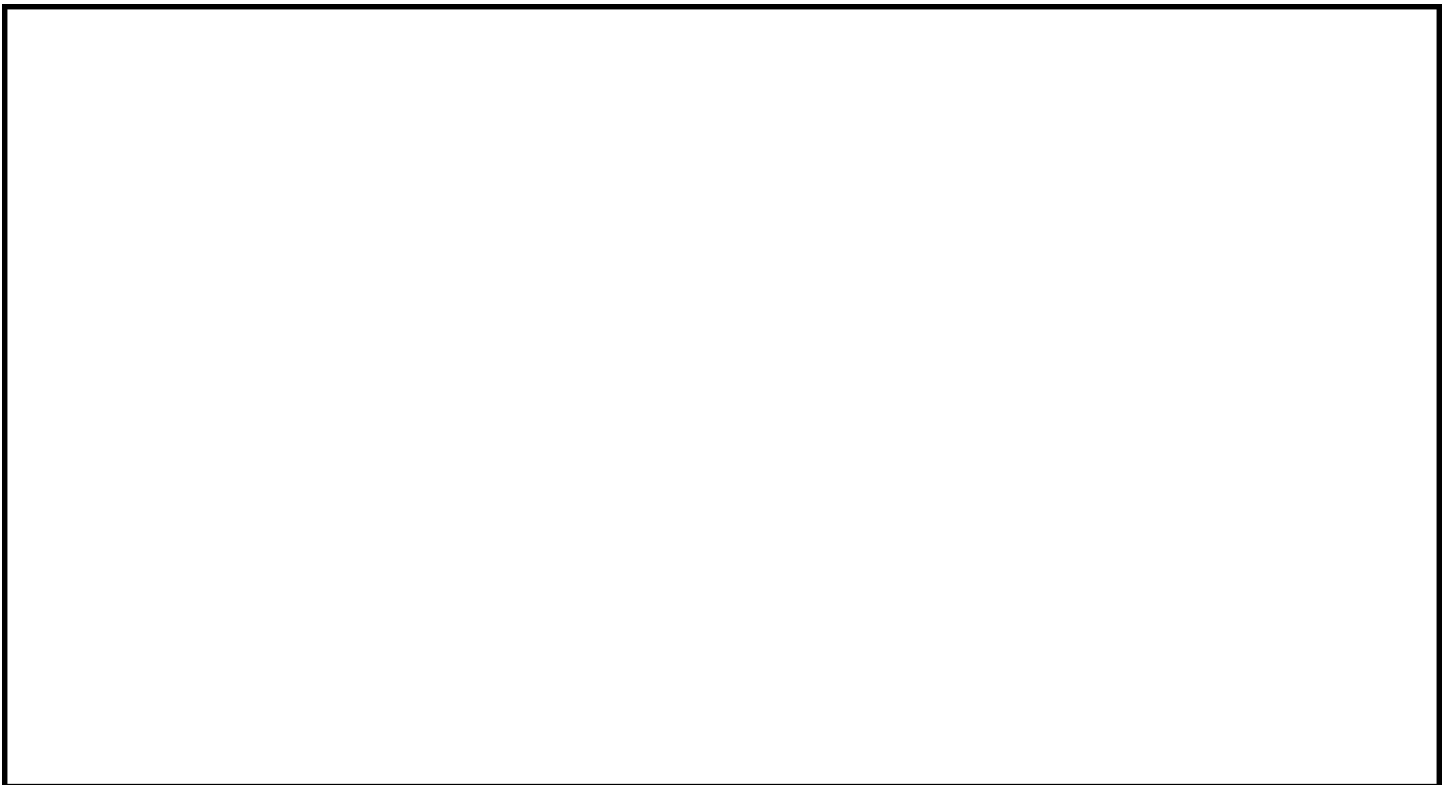
As you saw at *The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future*, women have contributed many great things to American history. Choose one milestone from the timeline that you think is the most important event or accomplishment by an American woman. (Please note- this event does not have to affect JUST women!)

Write an essay explaining why this event was important. Consider how this event has affected your life or the lives of others you know. Discuss how you think life in the United States might be different today if this event had never happened.

Creative Expression

Use the space below to draw a picture illustrating the milestone that you chose for your essay.

At the Museum



Milestones in Women's History

Find the *Milestones in Women's History* timeline (2nd floor).
Using the timeline, find the following events and fill in the blanks.

- A. In 1848, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott organized the _____
- B. In 1869, _____ became the first territory to allow women to vote.
- C. In 1833, _____ ' became the first college open to both men and women.
- D. In 1999, _____ was selected as the first female Secretary of State.
- E. In 1804, Sacajawea was the guide and translator for the _____ expedition.
- F. In 1981, _____ became the first woman on the Supreme Court.
- G. In 1932, _____ became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.
- H. In 1638, Margaret Brent became the first female _____ in the British colonies.
- I. In 1849, _____ became the first woman to graduate from medical school.
- J. In 1782, _____ enlisted as her "brother" so that she could fight in the American Revolution.

Now, fill in the timeline below by writing the letter of each event where you think it belongs on the timeline.

1600 1650 1700 1750 1800

1850 1900 1950 2000

How Can I Make History?

Milestones in MY History

A milestone can be defined as a significant event or achievement in the development, progress, or life of a person, group, nation, etc. You learned about several milestones in women's history at *The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future*. Can you think of any milestones in your own life?

Create a display of milestones in your history, starting with your birth. Think of at least 4 additional milestones you have had in your life. (Some suggestions: your first words, your first day of school, your family's moving day, your first bicycle, your first day of soccer, etc.) Talk to your parents, your friends, or other people who know you well if you cannot remember when these events occurred. Put these milestones on a timeline of your life, using drawings or photographs to decorate your timeline.

Women Who Paved The Way

The following books feature women and events that can be found in the *Milestones in Women's History* exhibit at The Women's Museum. Choose a book to read as a class. Discuss the book together, or have each student write a report about the book. See if you can find the event on the timeline during your visit to The Women's Museum.

What I Had Was Singing:
The Story of Marian Anderson
by Jeri Ferris

You Want Women to Vote,
Lizzie Stanton?
by Jean Fritz

Wild Rose: Nancy Ward and the Cherokee Nation by Mary Furbee

Sacajawea: Her True Story
by Joyce Milton

I am Rosa Parks by Rosa Parks

Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad
by Ann Lane Petry

After the Museum