

# Women's History Month



[umaryland.edu/whm/](http://umaryland.edu/whm/)

## What is Women's History Month?

Every year during the month of March the contributions of women in history and contemporary society are recognized and celebrated.

Women's History month traces back to the first International Women's Day in 1911. In 1979 Gerda Lerner chaired a 15 day Women's history conference at St. Lawrence University with great success. This led others to initiate their own celebrations and recognitions. In 1980 President Jimmy Carter declared the week of March 8th as National Women's History Week. It wasn't until 1987 before Congress designated the entire month of March as Women's History Month.

Since 1988 US Presidents have issued annual proclamations designating March as Women's History Month.

1

### DID YOU KNOW?

Every year there is a theme for WHM. This years theme is "Women providing healing, promoting hope"

2

### WOMEN'S DAY

International Women's Day is a global holiday celebrated March 8th. This is why WHM is recognized in March.

3

### TODAY

The US, United Kingdom and Australia celebrate WHM in March. While Canada recognizes WHM in October.



<https://www.whitehouse.gov/kbj/>

### KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

On February 25, 2022 President Joe Biden nominated Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to become the 116th Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

Judge Brown Jackson served as a public defender and trial court judge before being elevated to the US Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit last year.

This historic choice fulfills the President's pledge to nominate the first Black woman to the Supreme Court.

"I can only hope that my life and career, my love of this country and the Constitution, and my commitment to upholding the rule of law and the sacred principles upon which this great nation was founded will inspire future generations of Americans." - Jackson

## Women Making History Today

Sarah C. Rutherford	Artist who created the "Her Voice Carries" series of murals throughout the city of Rochester.
Olivia Kim	Sculptor who created the Frederick Douglass Statue in downtown Rochester.
Amanda Gorman	American poet and activist. The first person ever to be named as the National Youth Poet Laureate in 2017.
Yolande Cornelia "Nikki" Giovanni Jr.	Poet, writer, commentator, activist and educator. Nikki Giovanni has won numerous awards for her writing and has been named as one of Oprah's 25 "Living Legends"
Dominika Lasota	A young (21 years old) climate activist from Poland. Dominika is active in campaigning for European climate law and working to fight the climate crisis.
Jessica Watkins	The first Black woman on the international space crew, Watkins will fly to the space station in April of 2022.
Dr Katalin Karikó, Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett, Dr. Lisa Jackson, Dr. Kathrin Jansen, Hamilton Bennett, Lauren Gardner	Each of these women worked on and helped discover the Covid-19 vaccine with the goal of combating the global pandemic and help get us back to a more familiar way of experiencing the world.

## Women to know in the Rochester Area

**Kenita R. Miller** - Actor, Penfield graduate <https://www.broadway.com/buzz/stars/kenita-r-miller/profile/>

**Kellie (Mrs.) McNair** - First woman principal at Cobbles

**Renee Fleming** - World renowned opera singer from Churchville Chile

**Mary Abigail "Abby" Wambach** - Gold medal winning Olympic soccer player form Pittsford

**Sandra Berchtold and Rosa Ford** - First women FBI agents in the Rochester branch of the FBI.

### DIG DEEPER



Visit: Susan B. Anthony Museum and House : Public tours reopened with online reservations.



Visit: Women's Rights National Historical Park- Seneca Falls, NY



Watch: PBS Kids All about Women's History Month



Read: 15 Children's Books to Celebrate Women's History Month.

