

Women's History and Culture Center

October 2024 Newsletter



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Notes from the Editors

In September, the Women's Center returned to regular hours, open from 11 AM to 3 PM, Tue, Wed and Thur. Our greeters look forward to your stopping by and answering any questions you may have.

Pages 11-12 are a new feature that will run in the newsletter for twelve months. It celebrates women who have achieved the highest office of leadership, as heads of state in their respective countries. Many names you probably have heard before, like India's Indira Gandhi, Bangladesh's Sheikh Hasina, Germany's Angela Merkel, Russia's Catherine II, Liberia's Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, and Argentina's Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, but there are many more.

There is a growing trend for countries to have woman leaders, but it is still a male dominated field. Women heads of state are outnumbered by men in a ratio of nine to one. Pages 11-12 highlight women who were appointed head of state in the month of October, starting from 1993 and running up to today. Next month's issue will highlight women who were appointed head of state in November, and so on through the coming year. Please enjoy!!

Jean Watkins Kathy Bakken Susan Schubert Melissa Eligul

Editorial Staff

To make changes or additions to the information shown for your group on pages 6 through 9, please contact Melissa Eligul at whcc.eventcalendar@gmail.com. To add or change an event on the Room 23 or Room 18 schedule, or to reserve the WHCC plaza for an outdoor event, please contact Susan Schubert at whcc.susan.schubert@gmail.com.

To receive this newsletter by email or make comments, please email whccmesquitenv@gmail.com.

WHCC Event/Class Details for October 2024

WHCC, 225 N. Willow St., Mesquite, NV, Room 18 & Room 23

OCT 3 & 17 (THU) 3 PM: *Consciousness Circle* / Terrie McArthur

OCT 4, 18 & 25 (FRI) 9 AM: *Artists Unite* / A group of diverse artists that meet to do their art! Led By Tammy Weese / Open group. Stop by and see if it's a fit for you!!

OCT 4, 11, 18 & 25 (FRI) 12:30 to 4 PM: *SAMBA Group* / Closed group

OCT 7 (MON) at 2PM: *Wondering Words Book Club* /

OCT 9 (WED) at 2 PM: *Desert Dames Book Club* / Kaye Hermie (Room 18)

OCT 9 (WED) at 6 PM: *Search & Rescue Board Meeting* / Larry McFarland

OCT 10 (THU) at 12:30 PM: *P E O Canasta* / Bev Valencia (Room 18)

OCT 11 (FRI) at 10 AM: *Desert Dames Bunco* / Rosealee Lee

OCT 13 (SUN) at 11 AM: *Love, Family Gathering* / Dana Long. To learn more about Love, Family, find them on Facebook or visit lovefamilynv.com for contact information.

OCT 13 (SUN) at 4 PM: *Mesquite Outdoor Group* / Ron & Debbie Carpenter / Closed group

OCT 14 (MON) at 4 PM: *BUNCO Babes* /

OCT 14 (MON) at 1 PM: *WHCC Volunteer Updates* / Reenie McFarland

OCT 15 (TUE) 4 PM: *WHCC Board Meeting* / Jean Watkins (Room 18)

OCT 16 (WED) at 12 PM: *Wip-Its Cross Stitch Club* / Connie Fullmer (Room 18)

OCT 26 (SAT) 2 to 4 PM: *WHCC 6th Anniversary Afternoon Tea*

OCT 27 (SUN) 11 AM to 1 PM: *Love, Family Board Meeting* / Dana Long

Most classes and groups are on-going each month.

You can find updates to our newsletter and late breaking announcements at whccmesquitenv.org.

Connect with us at whccmesquitenv@gmail.com

OCTOBER 2024 Calendar

Women's History and Culture Center

Visit our Website: whccmesquitenv.org
 and Facebook Group: @whccmesquitenv
 Connect with us at whccmesquitenv@gmail.com

SUN By Appointment	MON By Appointment	TUE Open Hours 11-3	WED Open Hours 11-3	THU By Appointment	FRI By Appointment	SAT By Appointment
		1	2	3	4	5
				3 PM Conscious Circle Book Club	9 AM Artists Unite 12:30 – 4PM SAMBA Group	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	2 PM Wandering Word Book Club		2 PM Desert Dames Book Club 6 PM Search & Rescue Board Meeting	12:30 PM PEO Canasta	10 AM Desert Dames Bunco 12:30 – 4PM SAMBA Group	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
11 AM – 1 PM Love, Family Gathering 4 PM Mesquite Outdoor Group	1 PM – Bunco Babes 4 PM WHCC Volunteer Updates	4 PM WHCC Board Meeting	12 PM Wip-Its Cross-Stitch Club	3 PM Conscious Circle Book Club	9 AM Artists Unite 12:30 – 4PM SAMBA Group	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
					9 AM Artists Unite 12:30 – 4PM SAMBA Group	2 – 4 PM WHCC 6 th Anniversary Afternoon Tea
27	28	29	30			
11 AM - 1 PM Love, Family Board Meeting						

Meetings highlighted in red are held in Room 18. All other meetings are in Room 23.

The WHCC Board meets at 4 PM on the third Tuesday of the month.

WHCC Greeters and Volunteers meet at 4 PM on the second Monday of the month.

Books at Our Center about Notable Women Born in October

June Alemida (October 5, 1930 -)

Virologist who first discovered the coronavirus family and created techniques that led to huge strides in viral imaging and diagnosis.

June Alemida, Virus Detective: The Woman Who Discovered the First Human Coronavirus

Jody Williams (October 9, 1950 -)

Nobel Peace Prize winner in 1997 for her work toward banning and clearing anti-personnel mines and defending human rights, especially those of women.

My Name is Jody Williams: A Vermont Girl's Winding Path to the Nobel Peace Prize

Doris Payne (October 10, 1930 -)

International jewel thief with a 60-year long career. Her last arrest was at age 80 for stealing a diamond ring at Macy's.

Diamond Doris: The True Story of the World's Most Notorious Jewel Thief

Annie Smith Peck (October 19, 1850 - July 18, 1935)

61-year-old Suffragist who climbed the 21,083 tall Coropuna Peak in Peru in 1911 and placed a "Votes for Women" banner at its summit. Her final climb was at age 82.

A Woman's Place is at the Top: A Biography of Annie Smith Peck, Queen of the Climbers

Kamala Harris (October 20, 1964 -)

U.S. Vice President (2021-24), California Senator (2017-21), California Attorney General (2011-17) and San Francisco District Attorney (2004-11)

The Truths We Hold Dear: An American Journey

Indra Nooyi (October 28, 1955 -)

Chairman and C.E.O. of PepsiCo from 2006 to 2018, ranked #1 on Fortune's "Most Powerful Women in Business" List in 2009 and 2010.

My Life in Full: Work, Family and Our Future
Indra Nooyi, Mover and Shaker



Happy Reading!

October Highlights in Women's History

- **October 3, 2023:** Kim Ng became the first female general manager to take a Major League Baseball team to the playoffs (Miami Marlins).
- **October 4, 1976:** Barbara Walters became the first woman co-anchor of the evening news (at ABC).
- **October 4, 1993:** Ruth Bader Ginsburg joined the U.S. Supreme Court as its second woman Justice.
- **October 8, 1993:** Toni Morrison became the first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature.
- **October 9, 2023:** Claudia Goldin was the first solo woman awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics for studying the obstacles women face in obtaining equal pay.
- **October 10, 1983:** Dr. Barbara McClintock received the Nobel Prize for Medicine for her discovery in genetics about mobile genetic elements.
- **October 11, 1890:** The Daughters of the American Revolution were founded in Washington, D.C. The Sons of the American Revolution, which was founded in New York city on April 30, 1889, would not allow women to join.
- **October 11, 1984:** Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan was the first U.S. woman astronaut to "walk" in space during Challenger flight.
- **October 15, 1948:** Dr. Frances L. Willoughby was the first woman doctor in the regular U.S. Navy.
- **October 16, 1916:** Margaret Sanger opened the U.S.'s first birth control clinic in Brooklyn, New York.
- **October 23, 1910:** Blanche Stuart Scott was the first American woman pilot to make a public flight.
- **October 24, 1901:** Annie Edson Taylor, age 46, became the first person to survive going over Niagara Falls in a barrel. The barrel weighed 160 pounds and had a 150-pound anvil at its bottom, a screwed-on lid and mattress and padding for Annie. Her comment when rescued, "Nobody ought ever do that again."
- **October 24, 1956:** Reverend Margaret Towner was the first woman ordained a minister in the Presbyterian Church.
- **October 28, 1958:** Mary Roebling was the first woman director of a stock exchange (American Stock Exchange).

Upcoming Community Events

OCTOBER 2024

OCTOBER 2024			
October	All Month	College of Southern Nevada Fall 2024 Courses Mesquite Senior Games Fall Season Registration closes Oct 1	Continuing from Late August mesquiteseniorgames.org 702-345-3347
Oct 1 Tue	2 PM	Ribbon Cutting - New Medical Assisting and Air Conditioning Technology Program Labs	College of Southern Nevada 140 N Yucca
Oct 2 Wed	6-8 PM	Mesquite Police & Fire Night Family entertainment and fun	Mesquite Rec Center Field 100 W Old Mill IRd
Oct 5 Sat	10 AM-4 PM	Welcome Back Treasure Hunt • Steven's Boutique Danielle's Chocolate • Juniper Outpost • Alt Om Bling Bootlegger Trading • Sun America Mortgage	Prizes and hidden treasures at 6 local businesses
	10 AM	Pumpkin Painting including paint, pumpkins, and snacks	Eureka Casino Town Square
	11 AM	Vietnam Veterans Fall Barbecue	Veterans Center, 840 E Hafen
Oct 5-6 Sat-Sun	All Day	Boulder City Art in the Park at these parks: North & South Escalante, Bicentennial and Wilbur	www.visitbouldercity.com.events
Oct 7-13 Mon-Sun		New PGA Tournament debut in Utah at the FedExCup Fall	Black Desert Resort Golf Course 1500 E Black Desert Dr, Ivins
Oct 9 Wed	11:30 AM	Chamber Luncheon Speaker - Nikkie Nguyen, Government Affairs Manager, Chamber of Commerce Western Region	Casablanca, 950 W Mesquite Reservations: 702-346-2902
Oct 10 Thu	6 PM	Mesquite Debate Night Seat 2: Kevin Parrish • Ron Shackelford Seat 5: Wes Boger • Jeff Hoyt Mayor: Alan Litman • Jesse Whipple	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Oct 11 Fri	8 AM	Cornhole Tournament For info: georad57@gmail.com	Mesquite Lutheran Church 450 Turtleback Road
Oct 11-13 Fri-Sun	10 AM - 5PM	Art in Kayenta Festival Also Kayenta's Street Painting Festival	875 Coyote Gulch Court Ivins, UT
Oct 10-13 17-20	Thu, Fri 7PM Sat, Sun 2 PM	Poe's Midnight Dreary Thursdays & Fridays at 7 PM Saturdays & Sundays at 2 PM	Mesquite Community Theater 150 N Yucca
Oct 12 Sat	8 AM	Monster Mash 5K and Fun Run (1 mile) Registration: 702-346-8732	Rec Center West Field 100 W Old Mill Road
	11AM -2 PM	Glitter & Gold Resource Fair Food, Face Painting, Balloon Art, Music	Mesquite Library 160 W First
	11 AM & 2 PM	Mesquite Showgirls Bingo Bash Fundraiser Reservations: 801-699-9947 or 702-420-4494	Elks Lodge 545 Riverside
Oct 17 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Reception and Award Ceremony Theme: Beneath the Surface	Fine Arts Center Gallery 15 W Mesquite
	4-8 PM	Witches Gathering	Fine Arts Center Amphitheatre
Oct 18 Fri	TBA	DAR Workshop - Veteran Day Cards For veterans in local care facilities	Fine Arts Center Gallery 15 W Mesquite
Oct 19 Sat	10 - 3 PM	1st Annual Swap Meet - Food & Music To rent a spot (\$20) 801-699-9947	3577 S. Meadow Mist Lane Scenic, AZ
Oct 23 Wed	10 AM 6 - 9 PM	Resident Craft Fair Hope Starts Here Luncheon Safest Domestic Violence Shelter Benefit	Sun City Pioneer Center Casablanca, 950 W Mesquite Reservations: 702-346-2902

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Oct 24 Thu	6 – 9 PM	Shreeek Reeka and Decorating for Dollars Contest (Tap Team performs at 6:30 and 7:15 PM)	Eureka Casino Parking Area 275 Mesa Blvd
Oct 26 Sat	8 AM 10 AM	Sun City Community Garage Sale Doggie Costume Contest	Various Locations Eureka Parking Area, 275 Mesa
Oct 31 Thu	5 PM	18th Annual Trunk or Treat	Casablanca Parking Garage

NOVEMBER 2024

November	All Month	College of Southern Nevada Fall 2024 Courses Artists Association Christmas Boutique Open Mon-Sat from 10AM-4PM	Continuing from Late August Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery 15 W Mesquite
Nov 2 Sat	10AM-3PM 7 PM	Ms. Senior Mesquite Pageant Sign Ups Moapa Valley Community Resource Fair Tribute to the Blues – Dealt A Straight “I’ve Got the Blues”	Clark County Fairgrounds Logandale Mesquite Community Theater 150 N Yucca
Nov 2-3 Sat-Sun	All Day	Moapa Valley Arts Guild Pomegranate Art Festival	Clark County Fairgrounds Logandale
Nov 4 Mon	Noon	Lunch and Learn – Beehive Homes Presentation	Mesquite Senior Center 102 W Old Mill
Nov 6 Wed	11:30 AM	Take a Veterans to Lunch Event	Casablanca, 950 W Mesquite Reservations: 702-346-2902
Nov 7 Thu	7 PM	A L’il West O’ Here, Long Road Home	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Nov 8	Fri 5 PM	Ladies Night Out at Ace Hardware	102 W Mesquite
Nov 9 Sat	7:45 AM 10 AM 2 PM	Veterans Memorial Service Veterans Day Parade A Country Western Jamboree 5 th Annual Veterans Party	Veterans Park, 501 Hillside Drive Mesquite Blvd & Arrowhead Virgin River Event Tent 100 Pioneer
Nov 10 Sun	5:30 PM	USMC 249th Birthday Celebration Reservations: rah4446@gmail.com	1880 Grill Sun City
Nov 11-16	Mon-Sat	1,000 Flags Over Mesquite Sponsored by the Exchange Club 6 PM: Mon Nov 11 – Opening Ceremony 2 PM: Sat Nov 16 – Closing Ceremony	Mesquite Rec Center West Field
Nov 13 Wed	11AM	Desert Dames Fashion Show	Casablanca 950 W Mesquite
Nov 27 Wed	11 AM-3PM	Community Thanksgiving Dinner Options: In-door dining, take out or drive through	Mesquite Senior Center 102 W Old Mill
Nov 29 & 30 Fri & Sat	7 PM	LIGHTS ON! A White Christmas	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Nov 30 Sat	All Day	Small Business Saturday – Sign up at Mesquite Chamber of Commerce	Various Locations

DECEMBER 2024

December	All Month	Artists Association Christmas Boutique Open Mon-Sat from 10AM-4PM Ms. Senior Mesquite Pageant Sign Ups Sign up period runs through December	Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery 15 W Mesquite
Dec TBA	9 AM	Jingle Bell Dash – 5K and Fun Run	Rec Center West Feld
Dec 4 & 5 Wed & Thu	4 – 7 PM	Open Auditions Anne of Green Gables Show	Mesquite Community Theater 150 N Yucca

Dec 5 Thu	8 AM	What's Happening Mesquite Reservations required 702-346-2902	Elks Lodge 545 Riverside
Dec 6 Fri	5:30 PM	Parade of Lights - 2024 Theme: Winter Wonderland Food drive for Salvation Army	Staging at 100 Arrowhead
	Followed by	Photos with Santa & Mrs. Clause	At City Hall - 10 E Mesquite
Dec 6 & 7 Fri & Sat	1 PM	Mesquite Toes " 'Tis the Season" Christmas Show"	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Dec 7 Sat	5-7:30 PM	Friends of Gold Butte 8th Annual Celebration & Auction	Fgb.betterworld.org On-line bidding starts Nov 22.
Dec 13 Fri	12-2 PM	Mingle & Jingle Holiday Luncheon	Casablanca 950 W Mesquite 702-346-2902
Dec 19 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Reception and Award Ceremony	Fine Arts Gallery 15 W Mesquite

JANUARY 2025

Jan 8 Wed	5:30 PM	Best of Mesquite Award Dinner Mesquite Chamber 702-346-2902	Eureka Casino Ballroom 275 Mesa Blvd
Jan 16 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Reception and Award Ceremony	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
Jan 17-19	Fri-Sun	Mesquite Motor Mania	Casablanca, 950 W Mesquite
Jan 24-26	Fri-Sun	Hot Air Balloon Festival	Casablanca, 950 W Mesquite
Jan 27 Mon	Noon - 1 PM	Suffrage in Clark County, Past and Present Presentation by WHCC Staff	Fine Arts Gallery 15 W Mesquite

FEBRUARY 2025

Feb	TBA	Kids for Sports Charity Golf Tournament Shotgun Start	Wolf Creek Golf Club Shanna 702-345-6707
Feb 14	Fri	Denim and Diamonds Dinner Dance benefitting the Mesquite Showgirls	TBA
Feb 20 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Reception and Award Ceremony	Fine Arts Gallery 15 W Mesquite
Feb 21 & 22	Fri 7 PM Sat 1 & 7 PM	18th Annual Western Roundup Cowboy Poets	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Feb 24 Mon	Noon - 1 PM	History of Women Firefighters in Nevada Presentation by WHCC Staff	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite

MARCH 2025

March	All Month	Decorate Saxon the Suffrage Cat Contest Sign up period runs to May	Women's History and Culture Center 225 N Willow #23
		Mesquite Senior Games Spring Season Poker, Bowling, Pickleball, Basketball, Tennis, Track & Field	Mesquiteseniorgames.org 702-345-3347
Mar TBA	Sat	Mesquite Showgirls Bingo Bash Fundraiser Reservations: 801-699-9947 or 702-420-4494	Elks Lodge 545 Riverside
Mar 3 & 5 Mon & Wed	9 AM	Beginning Line Dance New class starts	Mesquite Rec Center Dance Room
Mar 6 Thu	8 AM	What's Happening Mesquite Reservations required 702-346-2902	Elks Lodge 545 Riverside
Mar 20 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Reception and Award Ceremony	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite

APRIL 2025

April	All Month	Decorate Saxon the Suffrage Cat Contest Sign up period runs to May	Women's History and Culture Center 225 N Willow #23
		Mesquite Senior Games Spring Season Poker, Bowling, Pickleball, Basketball, Tennis, Track & Field	Mesquiteseniorgames.org 702-345-3347
		Artists Association Grand Bazaar	Fine Arts Gallery, 15 W Mesquite
Apr TBA	2 PM	Ms. Senior Mesquite Pageant	Community Theatre, 150 N Yucca
Apr 4 & 5 Fri & Sat	1 PM	"Salute to America" Mesquite Toes Spring Spectacular	Community Theatre, 150 N Yucca
Apr 17 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Reception and Award Ceremony	Fine Arts Gallery 15 W Mesquite
Apr 28 Mon	12 -1 PM	Fine Arts Center Reception and Award Ceremony	Fine Arts Gallery 15 W Mesquite

AUGUST 2025

Aug 26 Tue	5 PM	Proclamation making August 26 "Women's Equality Day in Mesquite"	City Council Chambers 2 nd Floor, 10 E Mesquite
Aug 27 Wed	TBA	Women's History Museum Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting	225 N Willow #18

Monthly Meetings & Ongoing Community Events

MONDAY

2 nd Mon	6PM	Ham Radio Club	Airport Fire Station #2
3 rd Mon	11AM	Artists Association Monthly Meeting	Fine Arts Center Classroom

TUESDAY

1 st Tue	Noon	Brown Bag Cultural Series	Fine Arts Classroom, 15 W Mesquite
1 st & 3 rd Tue	2:30PM	City Council Technical Review	Council Chambers, 2 nd Floor, City Hall
1 st Tue	5:30PM	Arts Council	Fine Arts Classroom, 15 W Mesquite
2 nd Tue	10AM	Conservative Club	Veterans Center, 840 Hafén
2 nd Tue	5:30PM	MFA Photographic Society	Fine Arts Classroom, 15 W Mesquite
2 nd & 4 th Tue	Noon	Exchange Club	Veterans Center, 840 Hafén
2 nd & 4 th Tue	5PM	City Council	Council Chambers, 2 nd Floor, City Hall
3 rd Tue	PM	Amateur Radio Club 801-643-4952	Airport Fire Station
3 rd Tue	6:30PM	VFW Meeting (Veterans of Foreign Wars)	Veterans Center, 840 Hafén

WEDNESDAY

Every Wed	5:30PM	Rotary Weekly Meeting	Usually at the Mesquite Library
1 st Wed	4 – 6 PM	Desert Dames Hump Day – Open event	Call 209-993-6907 for details
2 nd Wed	11:30 AM	Chamber of Commerce Luncheon	Various Locations
2 nd Wed	5 PM	Republican Women	Veterans Center, 840 Hafén

THURSDAY

1 st Thu	10AM	Mesquite Public Arts Commission	Council Chambers, 2 nd Floor, City Hall
1 st Thu	6PM	Elks Lodge #2811	545 Riverside Rd, 702-345-2811
1 st & 3 rd Thu	11:30AM	Lions Club	Veterans Center, 840 Hafén
1 st & 3 rd Thu	5PM	Ms. Senior Mesquite Pageant	Women's Center, 225 N Willow, #23
2 nd Thu	2PM	Mesquite Caregivers Support Group	Mesquite Library Learning Center
2 nd Thu	6PM	Desert Fox Flyers Radio Control Club	Beaver Dam Fire Station #1
2 nd Thu	9 AM – 1PM	Rotary Mesquite Reads Book Sale	College of So. NV, 140 N Yucca
2 nd Thu	Noon-5PM	Blood Drive www.redcrossblood.org	Rec Center
4 th Thu	12-1PM	Toastmasters	First Baptist Church, 830 E Hafén

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Every Sat	9AM	Desert Fox Flyers Radio Control Club	
1 st Sat	9-11AM	We Care For Animals Pet Adoptions	150 N Yucca, #1
3 rd Sat	5PM	RAISE Mesquite	Women's Center, 225 N Willow, #23

SUNDAY

Every Sun	3-4PM	Al-Anon Family Weekly Meeting	Veterinary Clinic, 371 Riverside #A
2 nd Sun	11AM	Love, Family Gathering	Women's Center, 225 N Willow, #23

WOMEN IN MALE DOMINATED FIELDS – POLITICAL LEADERS SERIES

#1: WOMEN APPOINTED HEAD OF STATE IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

Note: Many current and former women presidents and prime ministers are members of the Council of Women World Leaders, an international network whose mission is to mobilize the highest-level women leaders globally for collective action on issues of critical importance to women and equitable development.

October 19, **1993: Benazir Bhutto**

11th and 13th Prime Minister of Pakistan, serving from 1993 to 1996 and earlier from 1988 to 1990.

Benazir was the first woman leader of a Muslim nation in modern history. She was repeatedly imprisoned and accused of corruption and nepotism, while at the same time pushing for reforms, including economic privatization, women's rights, civilian oversight of the military and opposition to growing Islamist violence. She was assassinated on December 27, 2007.

October 7, **1999: Adrienne Clarkson**

26th Governor General of Canada, serving from 1999 to 2005.

Adrienne was the first Chinese American and refugee to be appointed Governor General of Canada, and the second woman after Jeanne Sauve to serve in that position. She was one of the first minority figures to hold a prominent position on Canadian TV, an Award-winning reporter, author and TV host over a 30-year career.

October 3, **2002: Maria das Neves**

11th Prime Minister of Sao Tome and Principe, serving from 2002 to 2004.

Maria is a professor of Economics and the first woman head of government in the country, having served in major government posts as Minister of Economics, Finance, Trade, Industry and Tourism.

October 3, **2011: Helle Thorning-Schmidt**

26th Prime Minister of Denmark, serving from 2011 to 2015.

Helle was Denmark's first female Prime Minister and Leader of the Social Democrats from 2005 to 2015. She served as CEO of Save the Children International from 2016 to 2019.

October 16, **2013: Erna Solberg**

35th Prime Minister of Norway, serving from 2013 to 2021, re-elected in 2017.

Erna was the second woman elected to that position after Gro Harlem Brundtland, and has been the Conservative Party Leader since 2004. Her interest is in gender issues, like girl's rights and education, and she joined the board of Global Citizen in 2022 to help mobilize people, especially young people around the world, to fight poverty and achieve the UN's sustainability goals.

October 28, **2015: Bidya Devi Bhandari**

2nd President of Nepal, serving from 2015 to 2023.

Besides being the second President of the Republic of Nepal, Bidya was the first President after the promulgation of the Constitution of Nepal in 2015. A resolution in this 2015 Constitution guarantees at least 33% women representation at every level of Nepal's political structure. This was the result of her determined effort as the three-term President of the All Nepal Women Association, whose goal was to end gender-based inequities and discrimination and ensure it was part of the new constitution.

October 10, **2016: Kersti Kaljulaid**

5th President of Estonia, serving from 2016 to 2021.

Kersti is the first and only female head of state and the youngest president at age 46. Kersti was the first woman to head a power plant in Estonia. She heads the PRAXIS Center for Policy Studies, chairs the Development Monitoring Advisory Board at the chancellery of Estonian Parliament, and co-chaired the United Nations High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession, alongside Paula-Mae Weekes.

#1: WOMEN APPOINTED HEAD OF STATE IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

October 2, **2017: Julie Payette**

29th Governor General of Canada, serving from 2017 to 2021.

Julie was the Canadian Space Agency's chief astronaut and the first Canadian astronaut to board the International Space Station. An accomplished musician and athlete, Payette serves on the Canadian Olympic Committee's board of directors.

October 26, **2017: Jacinda Ardern**

40th Prime Minister of New Zealand, serving from 2017 to 2023.

Jacinda was the world's youngest female head of government at age 37. After the Christchurch mass shooting in March 2019, she passed legislation to ban semi-automatic weapons in just ten days. Her elimination strategy during the first wave of COVID-19 gave New Zealand one of the lowest COVID-19-related death rates in the Western world. Of New Zealand's five-million population, less than 2,500 fatalities were reported.

October 25, **2018: Sahle-Work Zewde**

5th President of Ethiopia, serving from 2018 to today.

Sahle is the first woman elected to this position, elected unanimously by members of the Federal Parliamentary Assembly. She heads the United Nations Office to the African Union, at the level of Under-Secretary-General.

October 27, **2019: Sophie Wilmes**

70th Prime Minister of Belgium, serving from 2019 to 2020.

Wilmes also served as Belgium's Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2019 to 2020, the first woman in both positions. She is currently Vice-President of the European Parliament.

October 11, **2021: Najla Bouden**

41st Prime Minister of Tunisia, serving from 2021 to 2023.

Najla is the first female prime minister both in Tunisia and in the Arab world. She is a university professor specializing in geosciences, seismic hazards and earthquake engineering.

October 21, **2021: Cindy Kiro**

22nd Governor-General of New Zealand, 2021 to today.

Cindy is the first Maori woman and the third person of Maori descent to hold this office. As a public-health academic, administrator and advocate, she is a champion for social justice, equity and public health.

October 22, **2022: Giorgia Meloni**

31st Prime Minister of Italy, 2022 to today.

Besides being the first female prime minister of Italy, Meloni is the first not to have a university education. Her political schooling started in her early years as a hard right political activist, entering Parliament at age 29 and becoming minister of youth in Italy's Chamber of Deputies in 2008, the youngest in Italy's history.

October 2, **2023: Sylvanie Burton**

9th President of Dominica, 2023 to today.

Sylvanie is the first woman and first Indigenous (Kalinago) president of Dominica, with prior experience in the many Ministries, including Community Development, Environment, Rural Modernization, Foreign Affairs, Trade, Youth, Social Services and the Ministry of Kalinago Affairs..

October 1, **2024: Claudia Sheinbaum**

66th President of Mexico, 2024 to today.

Claudia is the first woman in 200 years elected to this position, winning the Mexican general election in a landslide. Claudia has a Doctorate in energy engineering and has authored over 100 articles and two books on energy, the environment and sustainable development.