

Women's History and Culture Center

January 2025 Newsletter



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Notes from the Editors

2024 was another busy year at the center with the addition of two community outreach programs, a second community meeting room, and a dedicated space for a Women's History Museum.

On community outreach, our speaker's program was kicked off with a presentation on Nevada's five historical markers, part of the National Votes for Women Trail. This will continue in 2025 with presentations on Suffrage in Clark County Past and Present, Women Firefighters in Nevada, and Women with Wings.

The second program that kicked off last year involved volunteers attended training and participating in a reading program for primary grades (K, 1 & 2) at Bowler Elementary in Bunkerville. For information on this program or to sign up as a volunteer, please contact Reenie McFarland at maureenmcfarland@live.com.

Our 2025 display in the Mesquite Library lobby will open on January 19 and highlight women Prime Ministers, Presidents and Monarchs and books written about them. We look forward to seeing you at one of these upcoming events, or at our center during walk-in hours, Tue-Thu between 11 AM and 3 PM.

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 January 2025

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

JAN 2 & 16 (THU) 3 PM: *Consciousness Circle* / Terrie McArthur

JAN 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 (FRI) 12:30 to 4 PM: *SAMBA Group* / Lennie Chapman / Closed group

JAN 6 (MON) at 2 PM: *Wondering Words Book Club* / Kris Dorsey

JAN 8 (WED) at 2 PM: *Desert Dames Book Club* / Sue Miller 801-309-9063 (Room 18)

JAN 9 (THU) at 12:30 PM: *P E O Canasta* / Bev Valencia (Room 18)

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

JAN 12 (SUN) at 11 AM: *Love, Family Gathering* / Dana Long

JAN 12 (SUN) at 4 PM: *Mesquite Outdoor Group* / Gary Halverson 216-347-6388 / Closed group

JAN 13 & 20 (MON) at 1 PM: *BUNCO Babes* / Peggy Remely 702-460-8172

JAN 13 (MON) at 4 PM: *WHCC Volunteer Updates* / Reenie McFarland

JAN 15 (WED) at 12 PM: *Wip-Its Cross Stitch Club* / Connie Fullmer (Room 18)

JAN 15 (WED) at 6 PM: *Search & Rescue Board Meeting* / Larry McFarland

JAN 21 (TUE) 4 PM: *WHCC Board Meeting* / Jean Watkins (Room 18)

JAN 26 (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

JANUARY 2025 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 (Center Closed)	2 (Center Closed)	3	4
				3 PM Conscious Circle Book Club	12:30 – 4PM SAMBA Group (Closed)	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	2 PM Wondering Word Book Club		2 PM Desert Dames Book Club	12:30 PM PEO Canasta	10 AM Desert Dames Bunco 12:30 – 4PM SAMBA Group (Closed)	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
11 AM – 1 PM Love, Family Gathering 4 PM Mesquite Outdoor Group	1 PM – Bunco Babes (Closed) 4 PM WHCC Volunteer Updates		12 PM Wip-Its Cross-Stitch Club 6 PM Search & Rescue Board Meeting	3 PM Conscious Circle Book Club	12:30 – 4PM SAMBA Group (Closed)	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	1 PM – Bunco Babes (Closed)	4 PM WHCC Board Meeting			12:30 – 4PM SAMBA Group (Closed)	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
11 AM - 1 PM Love, Family Board Meeting					12:30 – 4PM SAMBA Group (Closed)	

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

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

WHCC Board of Directors meet at 4 PM on Tuesday, 8 days after the Volunteer meeting.

Books at Our Center about Notable Women Born in January

Alice Paul (January 11, 1885 -1977)

Suffragist leader and founder of National Women's Party in 1916.
Her strategies helped pass the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote.
She initiated the Equal Rights Amendment in 1923

- *A Woman's Crusade: Alice Paul and the Battle for the Ballot* by Mary Walton

Betty White (January 17, 1922 -2021)

Television pioneer and veteran actress. Her later TV roles included *Mama's Family*,
The Golden Girls, and *Hot in Cleveland*. Advocate of animal welfare

- *Here We Go Again: My Life in Television, 1949-1995* by Betty White
- *Betty White: The First 90 Years*. Andrew Stoner

Nancy Dickerson (January 19, 1927 -1997)

The first woman on NBC to go on assignment worldwide from 1986-91
and Producer of *Face the Nation*

- *On Her Trail: My Mother, Nancy Dickerson, TV News First Woman Star* by John Dickerson

Julia Morgan (January 20, 1872 - 1957)

The first woman licensed architect in California
Innovative architect of Hearst Castle and over 700 extraordinary buildings.

- *Julia Morgan: The Road to San Simeon: Visionary Architect of the California Renaissance* by Gordon Fuglie

Maria Tallchief (January 24, 1925 -2013)

World-renowned ballerina and one of the premiere American ballerinas of all time.
The first Native American (Osage Tribe) to break into ballet

- *Who Was Maria Tallchief?* by Catherine Gourley
- *Tallchief: America's Prima Ballerina* by Maria Tallchief

Bessie Coleman (January 26, 1892 -1926)

The first African-American woman in the world to fly a plane
and earn an international pilot's license.

- *Fly High: Story of Bessie Coleman* by Louise Borden



Happy Reading!

January Highlights in Women's History

- **January 3, 1949:** Margaret Chase Smith (R-Maine) started her tenure in the Senate, where she stayed in office until 1973, becoming the first woman to serve in both the House and Senate as she previously served in the House (1940-49).
- **January 4, 2007:** Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif) became the first female speaker of the House of Representatives. In 2019 she reclaimed the title, becoming the first lawmaker to hold the office two times in more than 50 years.
- **January 5, 1925:** Nellie Taylor Ross was inaugurated as the first woman Governor in U.S. history (Governor of Wyoming).
- **January 7, 1896:** Fanny Farmer's first cookbook was published in which she standardized cooking measurements.
- **January 7, 1955:** Marian Anderson was the first African American woman to sing at the Metropolitan Opera.
- **January 8, 1977:** Anna Pauline "Pauli" Murray was the first African American woman ordained to the Episcopal priesthood, by Bishop William F. Creighton at Washington National Cathedral in Washington D.C.
- **January 11, 1935:** Amelia Earhart made the first solo flight from Hawaii to North America.
- **January 12, 1932:** Hattie Wyatt Caraway (D-Arkansas) was the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate. She was the first woman to chair a Senate Committee and the first to serve as the Senate's presiding officer.
- **January 20, 2021:** Kamala Harris was the first woman and first woman of color sworn in as vice-president of the United States.
- **January 22, 1973:** In *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court ruled the Constitution protects a woman's legal right to an abortion. In June 2022, the Supreme Court overturned the ruling.
- **January 23, 1997:** Madeleine Albright was sworn in as the nation's first female secretary of state.
- **January 24, 2013:** The U.S. military removed a ban against women serving in combat positions.
- **January 25, 1890:** Nellie Bly, journalist, completed her around the world trip in 72 days, 6 hours, 11 minutes, and 14 seconds after setting sail east to prove she could circle the globe in less than 80 days.
- **January 25, 1980:** Mary Decker became the first woman to run a mile under 4 1/2 minutes, running it at 4:17.55
- **January 29, 1926:** Violette Neatly Anderson was the first black woman to practice law before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Upcoming Community Events

JANUARY 2025

Jan	TBA	Ms. Senior Mesquite Queen's Tea	Beckyboyd661@gmail.com
Jan 3 Fri	5 -7:30 PM	Palette & Pour: "Snowbound" Instructor: Chris Picior	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
Jan 7 Tue	Noon - 1PM	Community Health Care Sara Ruiz on comprehensive services available at Canyonlands Healthcare	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
Jan 8 Wed	5:30 PM	Best of Mesquite Award Dinner Mesquite Chamber 702-346-2902	Eureka Casino Ballroom 275 Mesa Blvd
Jan 10 Fri	5 -7:30 PM	Palette & Pour: "Aspen" Instructor: Wendy Douglas	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
Jan 12 Sun	9AM -1PM	Champagne Sunday Brunch Fundraiser Benefit for two local families with children battling cancer (Warrior Women of Mesquite)	Eureka Casino Town Square Buffet
Jan 16 Thu	2-4 PM	Fine Arts Center Award Ceremony Theme for the Month: Casting Shadows	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
Jan 17 Fri	5 -7:30 PM	Palette & Pour: "Nose Trouble" Instructor: Vanessa	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
Jan 17-19	9-6 PM Fri-Sun	Mesquite Motor Mania Vehicles also at Virgin River and Eureka	Casablanca, 950 W Mesquite
Jan 19-Apr	All Month	Women Presidents and Prime Ministers Women's History and Culture Center Display	Mesquite Library Lobby
Jan 24 Fri	5 -7:30 PM	Palette & Pour: "Sleepy Owl" Instructor: Chris Picior	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
Jan 24-26	Fri-Sun	Hot Air Balloon Festival Fri & Sat evening glows, weather permitting Sun 7:30 AM Balloon Final Launch	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
Jan 31 Fri	5 -7:30 PM	Palette & Pour: "Beau in the Snow" Instructor: Vanessa	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite

FEBRUARY 2025

Feb	TBA	Kids for Sports Charity Golf Tournament Shotgun Start	Wolf Creek Golf Club Shanna 702-345-6707
Feb	7-15	Anne of Green Gables	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Feb 14 Fri	AM PM	Mesa View Heart Walk Denim and Diamonds Dinner Dance benefitting the Mesquite Showgirls	Rec Center, 10 W Old Mill Rd TBA
Feb 20 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Award Ceremony Theme for the Month: Touch of Red	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 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 23 Sun	10 AM	2025 Las Vegas Toy Show	Ahern Luxury Boutique Hotel
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	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 15 Sat	8 AM	What's Happening Mesquite Reservations required 702-346-2902	Elks Lodge 545 Riverside
Mar 6 Thu	8:30 AM	March Against Cancer Walk starts at 9 AM	Rec Center Outdoor field 100 W Old Mill
Mar 20 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Award Ceremony Theme for the Month: Naturally Beautiful	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	2 PM & 7 PM	The Edwards Twins Las Vegas Top Impersonators	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Apr 17 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Reception Theme for the Month: Grand Bazaar	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite

MAY 2025

May 15 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Award Ceremony Theme for the Month: Places To Remember	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
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JUNE 2025

Jun 19 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Award Ceremony Theme for the Month: Life Is Music	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
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JULY 2025

Jul 17 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Award Ceremony Theme for the Month: Chasing the Sun	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
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AUGUST 2025

Aug 21 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Award Ceremony Theme for the Month: The American West	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
Aug 26 Tue	5 PM	Proclamation making August 26 "Women's Equality Day in Mesquite"	City Council Chambers 2nd 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 Hafen
2 nd Tue	5:30PM	Cancer Peer-Led Discussion	Mesquite Library Community Room
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 Hafen
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 Hafen

WEDNESDAY

Every Wed	5:30PM	Rotary Weekly Meeting	Usually at the Mesquite Library
1 st Wed	4 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 Hafen

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 Hafen
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 Hafen

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

Other 2025 Events Around Nevada

Please contact travelnevada.com for details.

01/17 to 01/18	Fire and Ice Festival	Ely - Broadbent Park
01/27 to 02/01	National Cowboy Poetry Gathering	Elko - Western Folklife Center
02/01	Chinese New Year Parade	Las Vegas - Fremont Street
02/01	New Year Cultural Performances	Las Vegas - Downtown Container Park
02/06 to 02/09	Eagles and Architecture	Carson City - Various locations
02/12 to 02/17	Dam Short Film Festival	Boulder City - Elaine K Smith Center
02/21 to 02/23	Dark Sky Festival	Death Valley - Various locations
02/26 to 03/02	Ranch Hand Rodeo Weekend	Winnemucca - Winnemucca Events Center
03/15	Rocky Mountain Oyster Fry	Virginia City - Eagle River Center
03/09	Beerfest	Boulder City - Wilbur Square Park
05/02 to 05/04	Western Heritage Days	Genoa - Various locations
05/04 to 05/04	Spring Jamboree	Boulder City - Bicentennial Park
05/10 to 05/11	Extraterrestrial Full Moon Races	Rachel - Little A'Le'Inn
05/16 to 05/18	Electric Daisy Carnival	Las Vegas - Motor Speedway
05/23 to 05/24	Best Dam Barbecue Challenge	Boulder City - Bicentennial Park
05/23 to 05/25	Run-a-Mucca Motorcycle and Music Festival	Winnemucca - Winners Inn Casino
06/14 to 06/16	Father's Day Powwow	Carson City - Stewart Indian School Museum
06/16 to 06/28	Reno Rodeo	Reno/Sparks - Livestock Events Center
07/01 to 07/31	Reno is Artown	Reno - Riverwalk
07/05 to 07/06	National Basque Festival	Elko - Basque Clubhouse
07/05 to 08/24	Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival	North Lake Tahoe - Sand Harbor State Park
07/13	Sierra Nevada Lavender and Honey Festival	Reno - Idlewild Park
08/01 to 08/10	Hot August Nights	Reno/Sparks - Virginia Street
09/05 to 09/07	Great Reno Balloon Race	Reno - Rancho San Rafael Park
09/06 to 09/08	International Camel and Ostrich Races	Virginia City - Arena and Fairgrounds
09/18 to 09/20	Great Astronomy Festival	Baker - Great Basin National Park
09/28 to 09/29	Candy Dance Arts and Crafts Faire	Genoa - Downtown Main Street
10/03 to 10/04	Rise Lantern Festival	Las Vegas - Jean Dry Lake Bed
10/05 to 10/06	World Championship Outhouse Races	Virginia City - 86 South C Street
10/05 to 10/06	Art in the Park	Boulder City - Downtown Parks
10/24 to 10/26	Beatty Days Festival	Beatty - Cottonwood Park
11/21 to 11/23	Pahrump Social Powwow	Pahrump - Petrack Park
11/14 to 12/27	Christmas Train Rides	Statewide - Various locations
12/01 to 12/31	Christmas at Coffinwood	Pahrump - 2875 Sunset Street
12/01 to 12/31	Christmas on the Comstock	Virginia City - 86 South C Street

WOMEN IN MALE DOMINATED FIELDS – POLITICAL LEADERS SERIES

#4: WOMEN APPOINTED HEAD OF STATE IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY

January 1, **2011: Dilma Rousseff**

36th President of Brazil from 2011 to 2016, the only woman to serve as president of Brazil. She was impeached and removed from office in 2016 and cleared of all charges in 2022 by the Brazilian Judicial System. As a high school student, she joined the underground movement against the Brazilian military dictatorship, was arrested in 1970, tortured and released from jail in 1972. She went on to become an economist and politician who served in a number of administrations and was responsible for “Light for Everyone”, a program that expanded rural electrification to millions of households in the countryside.

January 5, **2012: Portia Simpson-Miller**

7th Prime Minister of Jamaica from 2012 to 2016 and earlier from 2006 to 2007, the first female head of government of Jamaica. She also served as the leader of the People’s National Party from 2005 to 2017. She supports replacing the Jamaican monarchy with an elected president and formally endorsed civil rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens during her election campaign.

January 6, **2009: Sheik Hasina**

Prime Minister of Bangladesh from January 2009 to August 2024 and before that from June 1996 to July 2001. Hasina is the longest-serving prime minister in Bangladesh history and the world’s longest-serving female head of government. Her early pro-democratic regime raised millions of people out of poverty and created a thriving economy, but as she became more autocratic in her later years, inequities and social unrest caused political uprisings and demands for her resignation. She went into self-imposed exile in 2024.

January 16, **2006: Ellen Johnson Sirleaf**

24th President of Liberia, serving from 2006 to 2018, the first elected female head of state in Africa. Sirleaf used her presidency to rebuild post-conflict war-torn Liberia, revitalize its national economy and infrastructure, and restore Liberia’s international reputation and credibility. Due to term limitations, Sirleaf could not run for office a third time. She is considered the best president Liberia has ever had.

January 20, **1975: Elisabeth Domitien**

2nd Prime Minister of the Central African Republic from 1975 to 1976, her country’s first prime minister and the first female prime minister in any country in Africa. In 1973 she led the first national congress of Central African farmers and worked to strengthen the income and position of women. After opposing the plan of her country’s president to declare himself emperor, she was fired, her cabinet dismissed and given a brief prison term.

January 20, **2001: Gloria Macapagal Arroyo**

14th President of the Philippines from 2001 to 2010, the longest-serving president since Ferdinand Marcos. She was a professor of economics and one of only two Filipinos to hold at least three of the four highest offices in the Philippines: Vice President, President and House Speaker.

January 22, **2014: Laimdota Strauiuma**

21st Prime Minister of Latvia from 2014 to 2016. As Latvia’s first female prime minister, she focused on strengthening Latvia’s national defense when Russian illegally annexed Crimea and prepared Latvia for its role as rotating president of the European Union Council of Ministers in 2015. When Latvia left the Soviet Union in 1991, Laimdota used her doctorate in agricultural economics to help Latvian farmers adapt to a market-based environment and later successfully campaigned to increase contributions by the European Union to Latvian farmers.

#4: WOMEN APPOINTED HEAD OF STATE IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY

January 23, **2014: Catherine Samba-Panza**

Transitional President of the Central African Republic from 2014 to 2016, the first woman to serve as head of state in the Central African Republic. She served as transitional president after the country's Civil War and restored stability to the nation, disarmed militant groups, and emphasized economic recovery through employment and foreign aid. She supported women in government, assistance for sexual violence victims, ending female genital mutilation, and African governments doing more to further women-owned businesses.

January 24, **1966: Indira Gandhi**

3rd Prime Minister of India from 1966 to 1977 and later from 1980 until her assassination in 1984. In 1971 she went to war with Pakistan to support the war of independence in East Pakistan, securing an Indian victory and the independence of Bangladesh, as well as increasing India's influence to the point where it became the sole regional power in South Asia.

January 24, **2005: Yulia Tymoshenko**

Prime Minister of Ukraine in from January to September 2005 and again from December 2007 to March 2010, the first and only woman to hold that position in Ukraine. She supported NATO membership for Ukraine and Ukraine's integration into the European Union rather than into the Russian Union. She was jailed from 2011 to 2014 under Ukraine's Pro-Russia President Yanukovich, then released by the Supreme Court of Ukraine and the European Court of Human Rights when Zelenskyy became Ukraine president. She consistently receives awards for her ongoing defense of democracy, freedom and the struggle to restore the rule of law in Ukraine.

January 25, **2023: Borjana Kristo**

Chair of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina from January 2023 to today. She previously served as the 8th president of Bosnia and Herzegovina from 2007 to 2011, the first woman to hold both positions. She is leading the charge to address conflicts of interests, money laundering, terrorist financing and other reforms needed to clear the way for Bosnia and Herzegovina's accession into the European Union.

January 26, **2021: Kaja Kallas**

19th Prime Minister of Estonia, serving from 2022 until 2024, when she resigned to become the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. When Russian invaded Ukraine, Kalas was praised domestically for sending military equipment to Ukraine, supporting admission of Ukraine to the European Union and demanding the European Union introduce sanctions against Russia. She warned against "peace at any price" with Russia and has been referred to as "Europe's New Iron Lady."

January 27, **2022: Xiomara Castro**

39th President of Honduras, serving from 2022 to today, the country's first female president, and also first lady during the presidency of her husband Manuel Zelaya. She is the first president from outside the country's two-party system since democracy was restored in 1982.

January 28, **2016** and January 3, **2024: Hilda Heine**

8th and 10th President of the Marshall Islands, serving from 2016 to 2020, and from 2024 to today. Heine is the first woman to lead any sovereign country in Micronesia and the first person from the Marshall Islands to earn a doctorate. She is a women's rights activist and has taken an international role in addressing climate change since becoming president.

January 29, **2018: Viorica Dancila**

67th Prime Minister of Romania, serving from January 2018 to November 2019, the first woman in Romania history to hold both the office of Prime Minister and that of president of the Social Democratic Party (PSD). She also served on the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality and secured her party's commitment to have at least 30% female candidates on the slates they put forward for elections.