Women's History and Culture Center February 2025 Newsletter



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Notes from the Editors

February starts a two-month cycle that looks back at history and honors contributions we have all benefitted from, with February being Black History Month, and March being Women's History Month.

All through February and March the Mesquite Library is showcasing a lobby exhibit that highlights eighteen women Prime Ministers, Monarchs and Presidents from countries all over the world and books about them. Our volunteers had a difficult job picking out just eighteen of the one hundred seventy plus women who have achieved that honor.

We are excited to tell you about a successful new WHCC initiative for the community. Four of our volunteers are taking picture books from our library into J. Bowler Elementary School, and reading them to Kindergarten, First and Second graders. These are true stories about women, past and present, who did remarkable things.

If this is something you would be interested in getting involved in, please contact Reenie McFarland at maureenmcfarland@live.com or come to our next Volunteer Meeting on Monday, February 10 at 4 PM.

We look forward to seeing you at the Women's Center during walk-in hours Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 11 AM and 3 PM, or by appointment. Our welcome mat is always out!!

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 whccmesquiteny@gmail.com.

WHCC Event/Class Details for February 2025

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

FEB 3 (MON) at 2 PM: Wondering Words Book Club / Kris Dorsey

FEB 6 & 20 (THU) 3 PM: Consciousness Circle / Terrie McArthur

FEB 7, 14, 21 & 28 (FRI) 12:30 to 4 PM: SAMBA Group / Lennie Chapman / Closed group

FEB 9 (SUN) at 11 AM: Love, Family Gathering / Dana Long

FEB 9 (SUN) at 4 PM: Mesquite Outdoor Group / Gary Halverson / Closed group

FEB 10 (MON) at 4 PM: WHCC Volunteer Updates / Reenie McFarland

FEB 10 & 17 (MON) at 1 PM: BUNCO Babes / Peggy Remely / Closed group

FEB 12 (WED) at 2 PM: Desert Dames Book Club / Sue Miller (Room 18)

FEB 12 (WED) at 6 PM: Search & Rescue Board Meeting / Larry McFarland

FEB 13 (THU) at 12:30 PM: P E O Canasta / Bev Valencia (Room 18) / Closed group

FEB 14 (FRI) at 10 AM: Desert Dames Bunco / Rosealee Lee

FEB 18 (TUE) 4 PM: WHCC Board Meeting / Jean Watkins (Room 18)

FEB 19 (WED) at 12 PM: Wip-Its Cross Stitch Club / Connie Fullmer (Room 18)

FEB 23 (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

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

Elizabeth Blackwell (February 3, 1821 - 1910)

The first fully accredited female doctor in the U.S. (1849). A pioneer who promoted education for women in medicine, co-founded the first medical school for women and provided for the first-time medical care for women by women.

- Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?
- Women in White Coats: How the First Women Doctors Changed the World of Medicine

Susan B. Anthony (February 15, 1820 - 1906)

National Suffrage Strategist, Lecturer, Activist; the Inspirational Leader of the Nineteenth Century Women's Right Movement

- Susan B. Anthony: The Making of America
- Heart on Fire: Susan B. Anthony Votes for President

Amy Tan (February 19, 1952 -)

Author of *The Joy Luck Club* (printed in 35 languages), *The Kitchen God's Wife, The Hundred Secret Senses, The Bonesetter's Daughter* and two children's books.

- Where the Past Begins: A Writer's Memoir
- The Opposite of Fate: Memories of a Writing Life

Barbara Jordan (February 21, 1936 -1996)

Lawyer, Congresswoman, Scholar and Renowned Orator who fought for civil and human rights. She defended the Constitution during President Richard Nixon's impeachment hearings.

What Do You Do With a Voice Like That?
 Barbara Jordan: American Hero

Zitkala Sa (February 22, 1876 -1938)

Sioux Indian writer and composer who founded the National Council of American Indians. Her activism led to citizenship rights, educational opportunities, improved health care and cultural recognition of indigenous people.

- My Life: Impressions of an Indian Childhood
- Red Bird Sings: Native American Author, Musician and Activist



Happy Reading!

February Highlights in Women's History

- **February 1**, 1978: The first postage stamp to honor a black woman, Harriet Tubman, was issued in Washington, D.C.
- **February 3**, 2009: Harry Potter author Joanne Rowling was made a knight of the Légion d'Honneur, France's highest civilian award.
- **February 4**, 1987: The first "National Women in Sports Day" was celebrated by Presidential Proclamation.
- **February 8**, 1998: The first female hockey game in Olympic history took place. Finland defeated Sweden 6-0.
- **February 10**, 1870: The YWCA (Young Women's Christian Association) was formally founded in New York City.
- February 11, 1963: The French Chef, starring Jula Child, debuted on WGBH in Boston, MA.
- **February 11**, 1989: Reverend Barbara Harris became the first woman bishop in the American Episcopal Church and in the Anglican Communion worldwide.
- February 12, 1869: The Utah Territorial Legislature passed a bill allowing women to vote.
- February 14, 1920: The League of Women Voters formed in Chicago, IL.
- **February 15**, 1921: The Suffrage Monument, depicting Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott, sculpted by Adelaide Johnson, was dedicated at the U.S. Capitol.
- **February 15**, 1953: Tenley Albright became the first American woman to win the World Figure Skating championship.
- **February 17**, 1870: Esther Hobart Morris in Wyoming became the first American woman Justice of the Peace.
- **February 24**, 1912: Henrietta Szold founded Hadassah, the largest Jewish organization in American history, focusing on healthcare and education in Israel and the United States.
- **February 24, 1967**: Jocelyn Bell Burnell made the first discovery of a pulsar, a rapidly rotating neutron star.
- **February 27, 1922**: The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, guaranteeing women the right to vote.
- **February 28**, 1953: Cambridge University scientists James Watson and Frances Crick announced they had found the double-helix structure of DNA, the molecule containing human genes. They had seen Rosalind Franklin's crucial photograph of DNA and her unpublished data at the Cambridge University lab and claimed the discovery as their own, writing Franklin out of her discovery. They received the Nobel Prize whle Franklin did not, symptomatic of the discrimination women scientists faced at the time.
- **February 29, 1940**: Hattie McDaniel became the first African American to win an Academy Award for her role as Mammy in *Gone With The Wind*.

Upcoming Community Events

		FEBRUARY 2025	
Feb	TBA	Kids for Sports Charity Golf Tournament	Wolf Creek Golf Club
		Shotgun Start	Shanna 702-345-6707
Feb 7	5 PM	Palette & Pour Party	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom
Fri		Theme: Love Boat	15 W Mesquite
Feb 10	9:30 AM	Kids for Sports Golf Tournament	Wolf Creek Golf Club
Mon	Check in	For Info: 702-345-6707	403 Paradise Parkway
Feb 11	All Day	International Day of Women and Girls in So	cience
Tue	5 PM	Announcement - 2025 Ms. Senior	City Council Chambers
		Mesquite Contestants	10 W Mesquite
Feb 13	3 PM	Valentines – In the Key of Love	Mesquite Community Theatre
Thu		Producer: Cary Koski	150 N Yucca
Feb 14	AM	Mesa View Heart Walk	Rec Center Basketball Gym
Fri		Concludes at the Mesa View Hospital	100 W Old Mill Rd
	5 PM	Palette & Pour Party	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom
		Theme: You Warm My Heart	15 W Mesquite
	6 PM	Denim and Diamonds Dinner Dance	CasaBlanca Ballroom
		benefitting the Mesquite Showgirls	950 W Mesquite
Feb 15	5 PM	Palette & Pour Party	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom
Sat		Theme: Baby Owl	15 W Mesquite
	7 PM	Southern Nevada Symphony Orchestra	Virgin Valley High School Theater
		Concert: Director Susan Thiriot	820 Valley View
Feb 20	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Award Ceremony	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom
Thu		Theme for the Month: Touch of Red	15 W Mesquite
Starting	7 PM	Anne of Green Gables	Mesquite Community Theatre
Feb 20		Director: Jacqui Thomassen	150 N Yucca
Feb 21	5 PM	Palette & Pour Party	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom
Fri		Theme: Mixed Media Sun	15 W Mesquite
Feb 21 & 22	Fri 7 PM	18 th Annual Western Roundup	Mesquite Community Theatre
Fri & Sat	Sat 1 & 7 PM	Cowboy Poets	150 N Yucca
Feb 24	Noon - 1 PM	Suffrage in Nevada: Past to Present	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom
Mon		Presentation by WHCC Staff	15 W Mesquite
Feb 25	5 PM	Proclamation by the Mayor: "March is	City Council Chambers
Tue		Women's History Month in Mesquite"	10 W Mesquite
Feb 25	5 PM	Wyoming Rendez-vous	Desert Event Center
Tue		(location is behind the strip shopping center)	Riverside & Hafen Lane
Feb 28	5 PM	Palette & Pour Party	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom
Fri		Theme: Mardi Gras Mask	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: call 801-699-9947 or 702-420-4494	Elks Lodge 545 Riverside

Mar 3 & 5	9 AM	Beginning Line Dance	Mesquite Rec Center
Mon & Wed		New class starts	Dance Room
Mar 6	8 AM	What's Happening Mesquite	Elks Lodge
Thu		Reservations: call 702-346-2902	545 Riverside
Mar 8		Garage Sale / Swap Meet	WHCC Plaza & Parking Lot
Sat		Benefit for Mesquite Showgirls	225 N. Willow
Mar 15	9 AM	Warrior Women of Mesquite	Rec Center Outdoor field
Sat		Walk Against Cancer	100 W Old Mill
	4:30 PM	Search for Gold Dinner	Rec Center Outdoor field
		Benefit for Search and Rescue Group	100 W Old Mill
	7 PM	Dealt A Straight	Mesquite Community Theatre
		Producer: Ronnie Austin	150 N Yucca
Mar 20	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Award Ceremony	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom
Thu		Theme for the Month: Naturally Beautiful	15 W Mesquite
		APPIL 2025	
		APRIL 2025	
April	All Month	Decorate Saxon the Suffrage Cat Contest	Women's History and Culture Center
		Sign up period runs to May	225 N Willow #23
		Mesquite Senior Games Spring Season	Mesquiteseniorgames.org
		Poker, Bowling, Pickleball, Basketball, Tennis, Track & Field	702-345-3347
			Eine Auto College, 15 W/Magazita
Ann TD A	2 DM	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	2 PM	"Salute to America"	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
	7 DM	Mesquite Toes Spring Spectacular	
Apr 12	7 PM	Rockin' Rod Stewart	Mesquite Community Theatre
Sat	4 C DM	Producer: Martin Andrews	150 N Yucca
Apr 17	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Reception Theme for the Month: Grand Bazaar	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom
Thu	2 PM &	The Edwards Twins	15 W Mesquite Mesquite Community Theatre
	2 PM & 7 PM		150 N Yucca
Apr 10	TBA	Las Vegas Top Impersonators Ms. Senior Mesquite Pageant	Virgin Valley High School Theater
Apr 19 Sat	IDA	Ms. Semoi Mesquite Pageant	820 Valley View
sat			620 Valley View
		MAY 2025	
Starting		Steel Magnolias	Mesquite Community Theatre
May 2		Director: Dr. Kenna Higgens	150 N Yucca
	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Award Ceremony	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom
	4-0 F M		
Thu		Theme for the Month: Places To Remember	15 W Mesquite
Thu May 17	7 PM	Variety Show & Band	Mesquite Community Theatre
Thu May 17 Sat	7 PM	Variety Show & Band Producer: Denis Fehan	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Thu May 17 Sat		Variety Show & Band Producer: Denis Fehan Summer Youth Theatre	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca Mesquite Community Theatre
Thu May 17 Sat	7 PM	Variety Show & Band Producer: Denis Fehan	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Thu May 17 Sat	7 PM	Variety Show & Band Producer: Denis Fehan Summer Youth Theatre	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca Mesquite Community Theatre
May 15 Thu May 17 Sat May 27	7 PM	Variety Show & Band Producer: Denis Fehan Summer Youth Theatre Director: Wendy Killinger JUNE 2025	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Thu May 17 Sat May 27	7 PM TBA	Variety Show & Band Producer: Denis Fehan Summer Youth Theatre Director: Wendy Killinger	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca Elks Lodge
Thu May 17 Sat May 27 June 5	7 PM TBA	Variety Show & Band Producer: Denis Fehan Summer Youth Theatre Director: Wendy Killinger JUNE 2025 What's Happening Mesquite	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca

		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
		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 2 nd Floor, 10 E Mesquite
Aug 27 Wed	TBA	Women's History Museum Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting	Women's History Museum 225 N Willow #18
		SEPTEMBER 2025	
Sep 4 Thu	8 AM	What's Happening Mesquite Reservations: call 702-346-2902	Elks Lodge 545 Riverside
Starting Sep 12	7 PM	Bye Bye Birdie Director: Christy Lindberg	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
		OCTOBER 2025	
Starting Oct 10	7 PM	Now I Get It! Director: Loren Marsden	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
		NOVEMBER 2025	
Nov 8 Sat	7 PM	Off the Rails Producer: Al Vysinka	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Starting Nov 28	7 PM	Lights On! Community Variety Show Director: Mitzi Bender	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
		DECEMBER 2025	
Dec 4 Thu	8 AM	What's Happening Mesquite Reservations: call 702-346-2902	Elks Lodge 545 Riverside
Dec 4 & 5 Thu & Fri	2 PM	Holiday Spectacular Mesquite Toes Winter Benefit	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Dec 20 Sat	2 PM & 7 PM	The Edwards Twins Las Vegas Top Impersonators	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca

Monthly Meetings & Ongoing Community Events

MONDAY			
2 nd Mon 3 rd Mon	6PM 11AM	Ham Radio Club Artists Association Monthly Meeting	Airport Fire Station #2 Fine Arts Center Classroom
		TUESDAY	
1st Tue 1st & 3rd Tue 1st Tue 2nd Tue 2nd Tue 2nd Tue 2nd Tue 2nd & 4th Tue 3rd Tue 3rd Tue	Noon 2:30PM 5:30PM 10AM 5:30PM 5:30PM Noon 5PM PM 6:30PM	Brown Bag Cultural Series City Council Technical Review Arts Council Conservative Club Cancer Peer-Led Discussion MFA Photographic Society Exchange Club City Council Amateur Radio Club 801-643-4952 VFW Meeting (Veterans of Foreign Wars)	Fine Arts Classroom, 15 W Mesquite Council Chambers, 2 nd Floor, City Hall Fine Arts Classroom, 15 W Mesquite Veterans Center, 840 Hafen Mesquite Library Community Room Fine Arts Classroom, 15 W Mesquite Veterans Center, 840 Hafen Council Chambers, 2 nd Floor, City Hall Airport Fire Station Veterans Center, 840 Hafen
		WEDNESDAY	
Every Wed 1 st Wed 2 nd Wed 2 nd Wed	5:30PM 4 PM 11:30 AM 5 PM	Rotary Weekly Meeting Desert Dames Hump Day - Open event Chamber of Commerce Luncheon Republican Women	Usually at the Mesquite Library Call 209-993-6907 for details Various Locations Veterans Center, 840 Hafen
		THURSDAY	
1st Thu 1st Thu 1st & 3rd Thu 1st & 3rd Thu 2st & 3rd Thu 2nd Thu 2nd Thu 2nd Thu 2nd Thu 2nd Thu 4th Thu	10AM 6PM 11:30AM 5PM 2PM 6PM 9 AM–1PM Noon-5PM 12-1PM	Mesquite Public Arts Commission Elks Lodge #2811 Lions Club Ms. Senior Mesquite Pageant Mesquite Caregivers Support Group Desert Fox Flyers Radio Control Club Rotary Mesquite Reads Book Sale Blood Drive www.redcrossblood.org Toastmasters	Council Chambers, 2 nd Floor, City Hall 545 Riverside Rd, 702-345-2811 Veterans Center, 840 Hafen Women's Center, 225 N Willow, #23 Mesquite Library Learning Center Beaver Dam Fire Station #1 College of So. NV, 140 N Yucca Rec Center First Baptist Church, 830 E Hafen
		FRIDAY	
3 rd Fri	10:30 AM	Desert Doodlers (Open to Beginners)	Fine Arts Classroom, 15 W Mesquite
SATURDAY			
Every Sat 1 st Sat 3 rd Sat	9AM 9-11AM 5PM	Desert Fox Flyers Radio Control Club We Care for Animals Pet Adoptions RAISE Mesquite	150 N Yucca, #1 Women's Center, 225 N Willow, #23
SUNDAY			
Every Sun 2 nd Sun	3-4PM 11AM	Al-Anon Family Weekly Meeting Love, Family Gathering	Veterinary Clinic, 371 Riverside #A Women's Center, 225 N Willow, #23

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Other 2025 Events Around Nevada

Please contact <u>travelnevada.com</u> 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
07/01to 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

#5: WOMEN APPOINTED HEAD OF STATE IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

February 1, 2009: Johanna Sigurdardottir

28th Prime Minister of Iceland, serving from 2009 to 2013, the first female prime minister and the world's first openly LGBT head of government. She started as a flight attendant, served in many trade-union executive positions, eventually entering politics and retiring as then-Iceland's longest serving member of Parliament. Asked what the most important gender issue today is, she answered, "To fight the pay gap between men and women."

February 4, 1981: Gro Harlem Brundtland

22nd Prime Minister of Norway, serving the first of three terms as Prime Minister (1981, 1986 to 1989 and 1990 to 1996). Brundtland is an internationally recognized environmentalist known for advocacy of sustainability, public health and human rights. She was Director-General of the World Health Organization from 1998 to 2003 and U.N. Special Envoy on Climate Change from 2007 to 2010.

February 9, 1997: Rosalia Arteaga

39th President of Ecuador, serving for only three days in February 1997. When President Bucaram was declared unfit to govern, Arteaga, as Vice President claimed the presidency and was sworn in by Congress, only to be replaced several days later when Congress with the support of the army, appointed Fabian Ernesto Alarcon Rivera President of Ecuador.

February 15, 1982: Agatha Barbara

3rd President of Malta, serving from 1982 to 1987, Malta's first female president. She founded the Women's Political Movement in Malta and was a defender of social reforms including compulsory full-time education for all children, special schools for the disabled, science classes for girls as well as boys, equal pay for women and men, paid maternity leave, a 40-hour work week and retirement and unemployment benefits. She also set up a number of national museums.

February 19, 2015: Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic

4th President of Croatia, serving from 2015 to 2020, Croatia's youngest president and first female president. Prior to that, in her role as Croatia's Foreign Minister in 2005, Kolinda was responsible for guiding Croatia into the European Union and NATO. She also served as Croatian Ambassador to the U.S. and NATO Assistant Secretary-General for Public Diplomacy, the first woman Assistant Secretary General in the history of NATO and the highest-ranking woman in NATO.

February 25, 2013: Park Geun-hye

11th President of South Korea, serving from 2013 to 2017. Park was the first woman to be elected president of South Korea, and also the first woman to be popularly elected as a head of state in East Asia. She is also the first South Korean president to be born after the founding of South Korea. In 2016 Park was impeached on charges related to influence peddling and removed from office in 2017. The South Korean courts sentenced her to over 20 years in prison in 2018 for corruption and abuse of power, but she was pardoned in 2021 on compassionate grounds and released from prison.

February 25, 1986: Corazon Aquino

4th President of Philippines, serving from 1986 to 1992. She was the most prominent figure of the 1986 People Power Revolution, which ended the two-decade rule of President Ferdinand Marcos and led to the establishment of the current democratic Fifth Philippine Republic. Prior to her election as president, Aquino had not held any elected office. She was the first female president of the Philippines.