

Women's History and Culture Center

March 2025 Newsletter



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Notes from the Editors

Come celebrate March as Women's History Month with a trip to the Mesquite Library to see the lobby display highlighting eighteen inspirational women who made their mark in history as prime ministers, monarchs and presidents. Many broke glass ceilings in their country when they got elected and are role models for girls and women of what can be achieved when they follow their dreams.

At the Women's Center, there is a flip-out reference on women in the Inventors Hall of Fame (IHF). Because women were not allowed to apply for patents until 1790, inventions made by women were patented under other people's names, usually their husband. Women were considered property of their husbands, so any intellectual property a wife developed automatically became the property of her husband, and he had the right to the patent. This was probably also true for slaves who made inventions.

Unfortunately, after it was legal for a woman to apply for patents, there was so much pressure against women applying for patents, that few women did so, letting their inventions go public without getting credit. Of the 603 inventors in the Inventors Hall of Fame, only 48 are female and 30 are black. Looking at the vast majority of products and services we use today and have for decades, if there is no registered patent holder, it was probably invented by a woman.

Page 9 has a chart showing which countries have the best record for encouraging innovation by women, based on the percent of women inventors applying for international patents in 2021.

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 March 2025

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

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

MAR 5 (TUE) at 4:30 PM: *Ms. Sr. Mesquite Pageant* / Becky Boyd / Films from past pageants

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

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

MAR 8 (SAT) at 8 AM to 3 PM: *Showgirls Garage Sale on the Plaza* / Becky Boyd

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MAR 30 (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

MARCH 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
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	2 PM Wandering Word Book Club		4:30 PM Ms Sr Mesquite Pageant – Past Pageant Films	3 PM Conscious Circle Book Club	12:30 – 4PM SAMBA Group (Closed)	10 AM-3 PM Showgirls Garage Sale PLAZA 6 AM Setup
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	
					12:30 – 4PM SAMBA Group (Closed)	
30	31					
11 AM - 1 PM Love, Family Board Meeting						

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 March

Jerrie Cobb (March 5, 1931 - 1997)

A record-setting aviator and the first woman to qualify for astronaut training (1959) who was not allowed into the astronaut program because she was a woman

- *Fighting for Space: Two Pilots and Their Historic Battle for Female Space flight*

Ruth Bader Ginsburg (March 15, 1933 - 2020)

The second woman and first Jewish woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court (1993) who inspired generations of women to break gender barriers

- *Justice, Justice Thou Shalt Pursue: A Life's Work Fighting for a More Perfect Union*
- *I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark*
- *The RBG Way: The Secrets of Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Success*

Bonnie Blair (March 18, 1964 -)

Speed skater, and five-time gold medalist; one of the most successful Winter Olympians in United States history

- *A Winning Edge*

Nancy Pelosi (March 26, 1940 -)

The first woman Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives (2007-11 and 2019-23) and the first woman to lead a major political party in either chamber of Congress

- *Madam Speaker: Nancy Pelosi and the Lessons of Power*

Effa Manley (March 27, 1897-1981)

Co-owner and manager with husband Abe of the Negro League baseball team the Brooklyn Eagles (1935-46), who worked to get Negro League players included in the Baseball Hall of Fame

- *The Most Famous Woman in Baseball: Effa Manley and the Negro Leagues*



Happy Reading!

March Highlights in Women's History

- **March 1**, 1987: Congress passed a resolution designating March as Women's History Month.
- **March 2**, 1903: The Martha Washington Hotel opened in New York City, becoming the first hotel exclusively for women.
- **March 3**, 1913: Over 8,000 women met at the Washington, DC Women's Suffrage Parade to demand a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to vote.
- **March 4**, 1917: Jeannette Rankin became the first female member of Congress.
- **March 4**, 1933: Frances Perkins became Secretary of Labor, the first female member of the United States Cabinet.
- **March 8**, 1975: International Women's Day was established, tracing back to protests in the U.S. and Europe to honor and fight for the political rights for working women.
- **March 12**, 1912: Juliette Gordon Low brought eighteen girls together in Savannah, Georgia, for the first-ever Girl Scout meeting.
- **March 12**, 1993: Janet Reno was sworn in as the first woman U.S. Attorney General.
- **March 13**, 1986: Susan Butcher won the first of three straight and four total Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Races in Alaska.
- **March 17**, 1910: Camp Fire Girls was established as the first interracial, non-sectarian American organization for girls.
- **March 17**, 1917: Loretta Perfectus Walsh became the first woman to join the navy and the first woman to officially join the military in a role other than a nurse.
- **March 20**, 1852: Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, was published and became the best-selling book of the 19th century.
- **March 21**, 1986: Debi Thomas was the first African American woman to win the World Figure Skating Championship.
- **March 23**, 1917: Virginia Woolf established the Hogarth Press with her husband, Leonard Woolf.
- **March 24**, 2002: Halle Berry became the first African American woman to win an Oscar for Best Actress.

Upcoming Community Events

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 Registration Open – Spring Schedule is:	Mesquiteseniorgames.org 702-345-3347
		Table Tennis: March 8 ▪ Golf: March 11 ▪ Golf Tournament: March 12 ▪ Bowling: March 15-16 ▪ History Tour: March 22 ▪ Fitness Hikes: March 22 & April 5 ▪ Pickleball: March 24-26 ▪ Basketball: March 28 ▪ Track & Field: March 29 ▪ Pistol & Shotgun: April 4 ▪ Women's Softball: April 5-9 ▪ Cornhole: April 12 ▪ Bocce: April 14-17 ▪ Tennis: April 21-25	
Mar 3 & 5 Mon & Wed	9 AM	Beginning Line Dance New class starts	Mesquite Rec Center Dance Room 100 W Old Mill
Mar 4 Tue	8 AM	Chair Boogie New class starts	Senior Center 102 W Old Mill
	Noon	Tuning Fork & Frequency Bowl Demo Renisha O'Donnell & Michelle Graves	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
Mar 6 Thu	8 AM	What's Happening Mesquite Reservations: call 702-346-2902	Elks Lodge 545 Riverside
Mar 8 Sat	10 – 3 PM	Garage Sale / Swap Meet Benefit for Mesquite Showgirls	WHCC Plaza & Parking Lot 225 N. Willow
	11 – 3 PM	Donkey Jamboree Producer: Ronnie Austin	Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue 150 N Yucca
Mar 15 Sat	9 AM	Warrior Women of Mesquite Walk Against Cancer	Rec Center Outdoor field 100 W Old Mill
	4:30 PM	Search for Gold Dinner Benefit for Search and Rescue Group	Rec Center Outdoor field 100 W Old Mill
	7 PM	Dealt A Straight Producer: Ronnie Austin	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Mar 20 Thu	4-6 PM	Fine Arts Center Award Ceremony Theme for the Month: Naturally Beautiful	Fine Arts Gallery Classroom 15 W Mesquite
Mar 25 Tue	5:30 PM	"Back to the Good Old Days" Dinner Fundraiser for the Mesquite Community Education Foundation	Virgin Valley High School 820 Valley View

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
		Artists Association Grand Bazaar	Fine Arts Gallery, 15 W Mesquite
Apr 4 & 5 Fri & Sat	Fri 7 PM Sat 1 PM	"Salute to America" Mesquite Toes Spring Spectacular	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Apr 25 Sat	TBA	Small Business Expo Presented By Ella Mae's Brew and Flour	Virgin River Hotel and Casino 100 E Pioneer
	7 PM	Rockin' Rod Stewart Producer: Martin Andrews	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
	2 PM & 7 PM	The Edwards Twins Las Vegas Top Impersonators	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
Apr 19 Sat	TBA	Ms. Senior Mesquite Pageant	Virgin Valley High School Theater 820 Valley View

MAY 2022

Starting May 2		Steel Magnolias Director: Dr. Kenna Higgins	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
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
May 17 Sat	7 PM	Variety Show & Band Producer: Denis Fehan	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca
May 27	TBA	Summer Youth Theatre Director: Wendy Killinger	Mesquite Community Theatre 150 N Yucca

JUNE 2025

June 5 Thu	8 AM	What's Happening Mesquite Reservations: call 702-346-2902	Elks Lodge 545 Riverside
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

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

TUESDAY

Every Tue	8 AM	Chair Boogie (New Class)	Senior Center, 102 Old Mill Road
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

3 rd Fri	10:30 AM	Desert Doodlers (Open to Beginners)	Fine Arts Classroom, 15 W Mesquite
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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

The chart below shows the ratio by country of women inventors to men inventors in applications for international patents, based on 2021 data from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

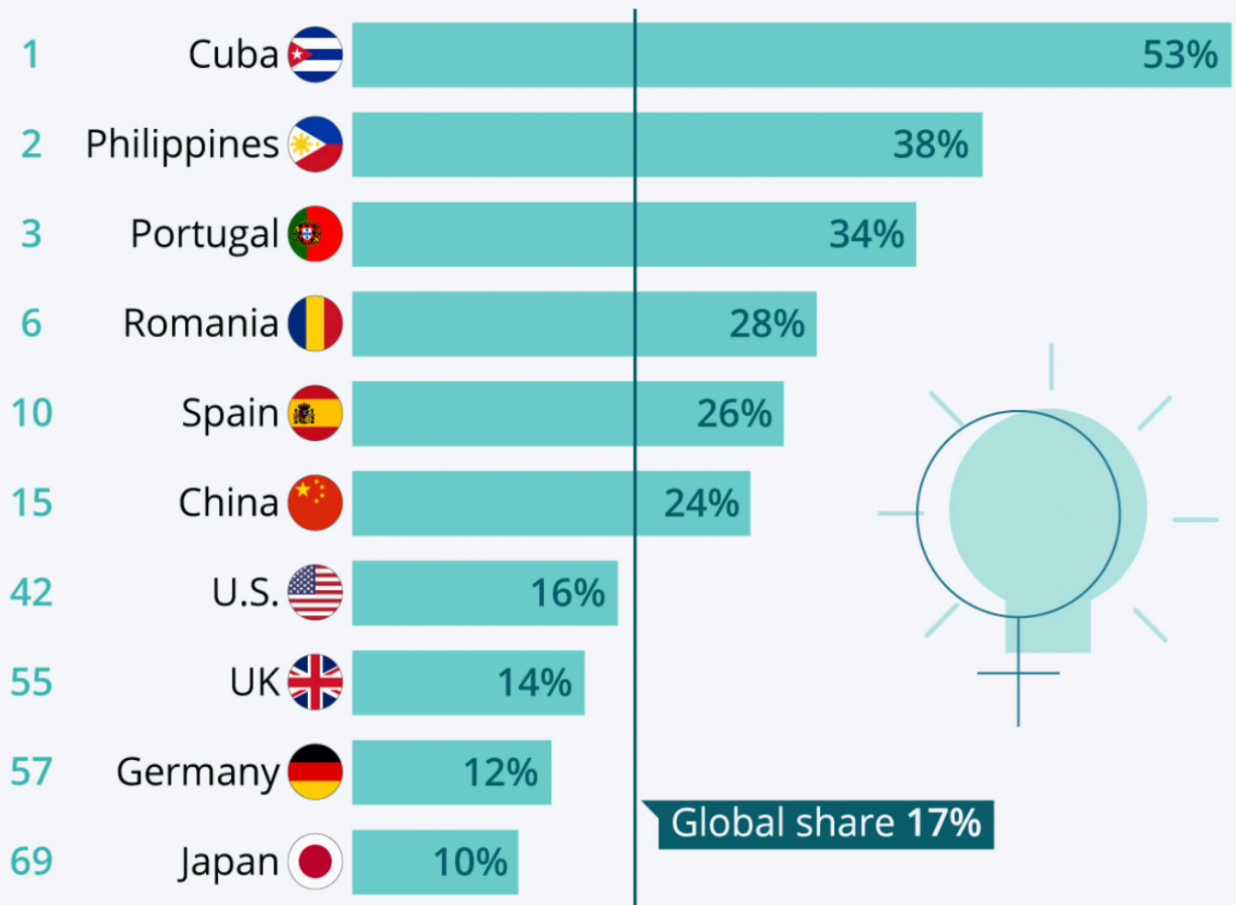
The 2015 WIPO invention research also showed patent application ratios vary by technological field.

For example, fields where the ratio of women to men was the greatest started with Biotechnology at 58%, then Pharmaceuticals at 55%, Organic Chemistry at 54%, and Food Chemistry at 51%.

The technologies where the ratio of women to men was the least ended with Mechanical Elements at 11%, Transport at 13%, Machine Tools at 14% and last, Engines at 15%.

The Countries With the Most Female Inventors

Share of women inventors among applicants for international patents in selected countries (2021)



Out of 74 countries where data is available

Source: World Intellectual Property Organization

WOMEN IN MALE DOMINATED FIELDS – POLITICAL LEADERS SERIES

#6: WOMEN APPOINTED HEAD OF STATE IN THE MONTH OF MARCH

March 1, **2000: Taria Halonen**

11th President of Finland, from 2000 to 2012, the first woman to hold that position. As a lawyer who served in a number of Ministerial positions before becoming president, Halonen was widely known for her interest in human rights issues. As an extremely popular president, with a peak 88% approval rating in 2003, she was ineligible to run in the 2012 presidential elections because of term limits.

March 3, **2001: Mame Madior Boye**

7th Prime Minister of Senegal, from 2001 to 2002, the first woman to hold that position. Boye founded the Association of Senegalese Lawyers in 1974 and served as its president until 1990. As Prime Minister, she increased female representation in government, going from two to five women among the 25 ministers of Senegal. In 2004 she was appointed African Union Special Representative for the protection of civilians in armed conflicts.

March 11, **2006: Michelle Bachelet**

33rd and 35th President of Chile, serving from 2006 to 2010 and 2014 to 2018, Chile's first woman president. As a physician with studies in military strategy, Bachelet was the first woman in a Latin American country to hold the position of Minister of National Defense. She was the first Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and served as U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights.

March 13, **1990: Ertha Pascal-Trouillot**

41st President of Haiti, from 1990 to 1991, the first woman to hold that office and the first female president of African descent in the Americas. She steered Haiti through its first major test from a dictatorship to a new democracy with free democratic elections, and encouraged Haitian girls and women to become leaders and run for important jobs in government, like serving as a senator, deputy, minister or president.

March 13, **2020: Katerina Sakellariopoulou**

8th President of Greece, from 2020 to today, the first woman to hold that office. Prior to her election, she served as president of the Council of State, the highest administrative court of Greece. She publishes regularly in academic journals and has a progressive record on issues like the environment and human rights and considers the Russian invasion of Ukraine a conflict of values between freedom and authoritarianism.

March 17, **1969: Golda Meir**

4th Prime Minister of Israel, from 1967 to 1974, Israel's first and only female head of government, the first female head of government in the Middle East, and the fourth elected female head of government in the world. Meir also served as labor minister and foreign minister and was referred to as the Iron Lady of Israeli politics.

March 17, **1990: Kazimira Danute Purnskiene**

1st Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania, serving from 1990 to 1991, after the declaration of independence on March 11, 1990. In 1980 she moved from a career as a university professor to help found a grass roots movement that grew into Lithuania's leading pro-independence group, followed by service as Deputy Chairwoman of the Council of Ministers of Lithuania. Her book, *The Role of Women in Democracy: The Experience of Lithuania*, addresses women's vastly unequal pay in comparison to men, the conservative tradition of a Catholic country, and the general status of women and political influence in Lithuania.

WOMEN IN MALE DOMINATED FIELDS – POLITICAL LEADERS SERIES

#6: WOMEN APPOINTED HEAD OF STATE IN THE MONTH OF MARCH

March 19, **2018: Paula-Mae Weekes**

6th President of Trinidad and Tobago, from 2018 to 2023, the first female president. After serving as a prosecutor for 11 years, she went into private practice, was appointed to the Judiciary in 1996 and to the court of Appeals in 2005 until her retirement in 2016. In 2023 Weekes was appointed co-chair of the United Nations High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession.

March 19, **2021: Samia Suluhu Hassan**

6th President of Tanzania, from 2021 to today, the first woman to serve as president, as well as the first woman to serve as vice president from 2015 to 2021. As president, Suluhu made democratic reforms to reverse the policies her predecessor set up to stop political opposition. She also implemented policies to limit the spread of COVID-19 in Tanzania, expanded the country's infrastructure and increased globalization of the Tanzanian economy through investors and tourism.

March 20, **2013: Alenka Bratusek**

7th Prime Minister of Slovenia, from 2013 to 2014, the first woman to hold that position. She served later in the National Assembly from 2014 to 2018 and State Secretary at the Ministry of Infrastructure in 2018. Her master's was in the field of non-profit organization management.

March 20, **1991: Begum Khaleda Zia**

1st Prime Minister of Bangladesh, from 1991 to 1996 and later from 2001 to 2006. She led the struggle for democracy against the dictatorship of the 1980s and the rise of fascism since 2009. As prime minister, she advanced compulsory free education, especially for girls up to 10th grade, education stipends for girl students, food for education programs, and increases in budgetary allocations to the education sector. She was enormously popular for her commitment to freedom, independence and sovereignty of Bangladesh.

March 20, **2023: Christine Kangaloo**

7th President of Trinidad and Tobago, from 2023 to today, serving as vice president, then president of the Senate before becoming president. Kangaloo has a degree in law and served as Minister of Legal Affairs, Minister of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education and in the House of Representatives.

March 30, **2006: Portia Simpson-Miller**

7th Prime Minister of Jamaica, serving from 2006 to 2007 and again from 2012 to 2016, the first female prime minister of that country. Simpson-Miller was the leader of the People's National Party from 2005 to 2017 and served in a number of Ministerial positions until her retirement from Parliament in 2017.

March 31, **2008: Zinaida Greceanii**

7th Prime Minister of Moldova, from 2008 to 2009, Moldova's first female prime minister and the second female head of a Communist government in Europe, after Milka Planinc of Yugoslavia. As prime minister she increased the number of women ministers from two to five (for 25% representation) and followed up on laws of gender equality. Since then, she has served as President of the Moldovan Parliament and led the Party of Socialists of the Republic of Moldova. Her colleagues refer to her as the "Moldovan Margaret Thatcher."