

From: National Women's History Project [nwHP@nwHP.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 7:22 PM
To: Stauch, Chelsea
Subject: April Highlights and Birthdays in Women's History from NWHP

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Red

April is National Poetry Month. Can you name a woman poet? *Emily Dickinson. Lucille Clifton. Maya Angelou. Adrienne Rich. Anne Sexton. Alice Walker.*

1. How about you or your classroom writing your own poem in honor of a special woman in your life? Here are some prompts to get you started: *She inspires me by . . . I believe in her because . . . I like . . .*
2. Do you know who was America's first woman poet? *Anne Bradstreet*. She lived during the colonial period in American history. Her book of poems was published in 1650.
3. Can you name America's first black woman poet? *Phillis Wheatley*. Born in 1753, she became well-known in 1770 when one of her poems was published.
4. Did you know that some of the suffragists were poets? Thanks to Nancy McDonald and her website, www.HerStoryScrapbook.com, which contains questions about 90 women to honor the 90th anniversary of women's suffrage this year: *Angelina Weld Grimké* (Question 58). *Charlotte Forten Grimké* (Question 38). *Frances Ellen Watkins Harper* (Question 36). *Frances Dana Gage* (Question 23). *Sara Bard Field* (Question 90).

April Highlights in U.S. Women's History

Apr 2, 1931 - 17-year-old Jackie Mitchell, the second woman to play baseball in the all-male minor leagues, pitches an exhibition game against NY Yankees and strikes out both Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. The next day, the Baseball Commissioner voided her contract, claiming baseball was too strenuous for women. The ban was not overturned until 1992

Apr 5, 1911 - 100,000 to 500,000 people march in New York City to attend the funeral of 7 unidentified people who died in the Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire in late March

Apr 7, 1805 - Sacagawea begins helping the Lewis and Clark Expedition as an interpreter

Apr 7, 1987 - Opening of the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, DC, the first museum devoted to women artists

Apr 9, 1939 - Marian Anderson sings an Easter Sunday concert for more than 75,000 at Lincoln Memorial

Apr 13, 1933 - Ruth Bryan Owens is the first woman to represent the U.S. as a foreign minister when she is appointed as envoy to Denmark

Apr 19, 1977 - 15 women in the House of Representatives form the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues

April 22, - Earth Day - honor Rachel Carson today, a woman who changed America and greatly influenced the environmental movement; buy her revolutionary book, *Silent Spring* at www.nwHP.org

April 26, 1777 - American Revolution heroine Sybil Ludington, 16 years old, rides 40 miles by horseback in the middle of the night to warn the American militia that the British were invading

Apr 28, 1993 - First "Take Our Daughters to Work" Day, sponsored by the Ms. Foundation; in 2003 it became "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work" Day.

April Birthdays

Apr 3, 1934 - Jane Goodall, primatologist and conservationist; world's foremost authority on chimpanzees

Apr 4, 1928 - Maya Angelou, author, poet, civil rights activist, actress; composed and read her poem at President Clinton's inauguration in 1993

Apr 7, 1944 (2002) - Julia Miller Phillips, film producer; first woman to win a Best Picture Academy Award (1973, "The Sting") as a producer; also produced "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and "Taxi Driver"

Apr 9, 1887 (1953) - Florence Price, first African American woman symphony composer

Apr 10, 1880 or 1882 (1965) - Frances Perkins, first woman cabinet member, Secretary of Labor in 1933; key contributor to the Social Security Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act

Apr 10, 1903 (1987) - Clare Booth Luce, playwright, Congresswoman (R-CT), Ambassador to Italy (1953-1956)

Apr 10, 1930 - Delores Huerta, Chicana activist; co-founder United Farm Workers union

Apr 12, 1909 (2001) - Eudora Welty, writer, won Pulitzer prize for Fiction in 1973; photographer; winner of Presidential Medal of Freedom, the National Medal of Literature, and the French Legion d'Honneur

Apr 14, 1866 (1936) - Anne Sullivan Macy, famous teacher of Helen Keller who was blind, deaf, and mute; the two worked and traveled together

Apr 25, 1917 (1996) - Ella Fitzgerald, "First Lady of Song", internationally renowned jazz singer, winner of 13 Grammy Awards

Apr 27, 1927 (2006) - Coretta Scott King, civil rights, human rights, and peace activist

Apr 30, 1939 - Ellen Zwilich, first woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for Music (1983)

Please feel free to use this information in any of your newsletters or forward it to colleagues or other interested parties. A year-round women's history calendar is available on our website www.nwhp.org in the News and Events category.

Watch people crowd around to see whose birthday they share. 750 women from U.S. history are named on this oversized poster with day by day listings and a colorful border with images representing their many activities.

Alphabetical index included for cross reference.

24" x 37" Celebrate Women! Poster. Created and Researched by Margaret Zierdt

[Celebrate Women Poster +Index of Names](#)

National Women's History Project

3440 Airway Dr Ste F

Santa Rosa, CA 95403

<http://www.nwhp.org>

(707) 636-2888

nwhp@nwhp.org

If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please click [here](#).