

American Association of University Women

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# Celebrate 2017 with AAUW-NYS 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women's Suffrage in NYS

2017 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's suffrage in New York State, three years before the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. This presents a wonderful opportunity for AAUW Branches in New York to focus program energy on voting, elections, women's history and public policy that affects women and their families.

2017 presents an opportunity to work collaboratively in your local communities to focus on the history of women's suffrage – before and after getting the vote. The following pages represent just a few resources for you to use as you develop local programs.

Here's a short list of just some of the things you might think about doing, either for a branch event, a community event, or as part of a larger celebration that involved many groups as part of a year-long celebration!

- Present a selection of Suffrage songs or poetry (in costume for additional impact)
- Do a Reader's Theater presentation of a Suffrage play
- Re-enact a local Suffrage speech
- Research and write biographies of local Suffrage leaders and present their stories in costume as series of short vignettes
- Create a local Women's History Trail (on-line or in pamphlet form) to celebrate your area's history
- Create a local Timeline of Women's Political History in your community/area
- Interview local women in office what are political "firsts"
- Work with a local museum, library or Historical Association to create a display and/or a local women's history talk series
- Work with a high school debate team to research and present the pro- and antisuffrage arguments
- Create a local film series showcasing suffrage movie themes

Celebrating 2017 presents a wonderful opportunity for AAUW action, visibility, and collaboration in your community. And it might just inspire a new generation of women to run for office!

# NYS & National Suffrage Resources

## The New York History Blog

http://newyorkhistoryblog.org/tags/suffrage-movement/

#### By Popular Demand: "Votes for Women" Suffrage Pictures, 1850-1920

A selection of thirty eight pictures including portraits of many individuals, photographs of suffrage parades, picketing suffragists, and an anti-suffrage display, as well as cartoons commenting on the movement.

- Suffragists Marching, probably in New York City in 1913
- Three Suffragists Casting Votes in New York City(?).

http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/vfwhtml/vfwhome.html

# Guide to the New York Woman Suffrage Collection, 1914-1915

http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/EAD/htmldocs/RMM08041.html

**Western New York Suffragists: Winning the Vote -** This site was developed by the <u>Rochester Regional Library Council</u> (RRLC) and supported by Federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, awarded to The New York State Library by the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. <u>http://rrlc.org/winningthevote/about-this-site/</u>

**Votes for Women**, a timeline of the women's suffrage movement in the U.S. - sets the events of the film within a larger historical context, going back to 1776. <u>http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/naw/nawstime.html</u>

**Timeline of women's suffrage events internationally** - sets the U.S. history in a global context.

http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/suffrage.htm

**Woman Suffrage Memorabilia,** A Site Devoted to Such Artifacts as Buttons, Post Cards, Ribbons, Sheet Music, and Ceramics <u>http://womansuffragememorabilia.com/woman-suffrage-memorabilia/suffrage-buttons/</u>

SUFFRAGE SONGS and VERSES BY CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/gilman/suffrage/suffrage.html

#### Songs for Women's Suffrage - YouTube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5r4gRAYXaFI

**The Suffrage Song Book -** This song book contains 28 songs (all set to common tunes) that express the women's rights perspective. Titles include "Dare You Do It?" to the tune of the Battle Hymn of the Republic, "Freedom's Anthem" to the tune Swanee River, and "Woman" to the song America. The lyrics of these songs illustrate the major issues in the women's rights movement.

http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/204064

# "Votes for Women 2020 - the national woman suffrage centennial"

http://2020projectwomen.org/

**Suffrage Singalong!** (Download printable PDF) - These and more songs are found on Songs of the Suffragettes, recorded in the 1958 and reissued in 1995, with excellent liner notes about the women's suffrage movement. <u>http://creativefolk.com/suffrage.html</u>

#### Women's Suffrage: Their Rights and Nothing Less - Student Materials

http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/lessons/women-rights/rhymes.html

#### Women's Suffrage Poems: a Celebration of Women's History

http://womenshistory.answers.com/suffrage/womens-suffrage-poems-a-celebration-ofwomens-history

### Suffrage Plays:

Many suffrage dramas were written by British authors and playwrights, a number of American writers contributed to the overall body of pro-suffrage plays. Many of these authors were well known in their own right: <u>Charlotte Perkins Gilman</u> authored "Three Women", "Something to Vote For", "The Ceaseless Struggle of Sex: A Dramatic View", and the suffragist/<u>World War I</u> correspondent <u>Inez Milholland</u> composed "If Women Voted". Organizations such as the <u>National American Woman Suffrage Association</u> viewed theatre as an effective way to spread pro-suffrage sentiment and provided suffrage dramas to professional and amateur theatres.

# Chronology of Suffrage Plays, 1907-1914

http://www.thesuffragettes.org/resources/chronology-of-suffrage-plays/

# The Methuen Drama Book of Suffrage Plays

The Methuen Drama Book of Suffrage Plays is an anthology of eight exciting pieces written by supporters of the Suffrage Movement and by members of the Actresses Franchise League. Immediately playable, the plays offer strong, varied roles for female casts, while also providing invaluable source material to students and scholars from a wide range of disciplines.

http://www.bloomsbury.com/us/the-methuen-drama-book-of-suffrage-plays-9781408176580/

# Woman Suffrage and the 19th Amendment: Failure is Impossible

The original production of Failure is Impossible occurred on August 26, 1995, for the National Archives commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the 19th amendment. The play brought to life both the facts and the emotions of the momentous struggle for voting rights.

Over the years the National Archives has commissioned more than a dozen original plays based on the records in its holdings, presented the plays in the Archives' Theater, and shared the scripts with its Presidential libraries, regional archives, and other educational institutions and theaters. Time and again these presentations have

demonstrated the effectiveness of using dramatic interpretation as an educational tool for bringing history to life.

Read the Script: http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/woman-suffrage/script.html http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/woman-suffrage/script-intro.html

#### Suffrage Costumes: Women's Suffrage on Pinterest https://www.pinterest.com/missrosiebeau/womens-suffrage/ https://www.pinterest.com/laurannthornton/womens-suffrage/

Suffrage Speeches: Notable Speeches and Addresses by U.S. Women, 1849-present http://www.infoplease.com/spot/whmspeeches.html

Susan B. Anthony - Women's Rights to the Suffrage, 1873 http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1841228 1841749 1841738.00.html Carrie Chapman Catt - Address to the Congress on Women's Suffrage http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/carriechapmancattsuffragespeech.htm The Fundamental Principle of a Republic by Anna Howard Shaw, Suffrage Orator and Social Reformer (Speech made during the New York State equal suffrage campaign at the City Opera House in Ogdenburg, New York on June 21, 1915.) http://gos.sbc.edu/s/shaw.html

# Suffrage Movies & Videos

Not For Ourselves Alone: The Story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton & Susan B. Anthony - This Emmy-winning 3 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-hour PBS miniseries from 1999 chronicles the suffrage movement in the basic Burns style — archival photos, some expert talking heads and readings where important persons are voiced by notable actors, including Julie Harris as Susan B. Anthony and Keith David as Frederick Douglas. Sally Kellerman narrates the story of Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who together fought for half a century for women's rights. www.pbs.org/stantonanthony/

**Iron Jawed Angels** - Defiant young activists take the women's suffrage movement by storm, putting their lives at risk to help American women win the right to vote. http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0338139/ www.teachwithmovies.org/guides/iron-jawed-angels.html

Suffragette (2015) - The film centers on early members of the British women's suffrage movement of the late 19th and early 20th century. The film stars Carey Mulligan, Helena Bonham Carter, Meryl Streep, Ben Whishaw, Brendan Gleeson and Anne-Marie Duff. Poster: http://www.ropeofsilicon.com/new-suffragette-poster-art-featuring-mulliganstreep-and-carter/ Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=056FI2Pg9RY

How We Got the Vote: The Exciting Story of the Struggle for Female Equality -Jean Stapleton narrates this fabulous documentary about how women in the early 20th century fought to achieve the right to vote. This documentary includes great original films, and personal interviews. Alice Paul, Mabel Vernon, and surviving suffragettes describe the sometimes harrowing campaign. Many of these leaders were arrested and even tortured. The documentary won numerous awards, including two Emmys, the Freedom Foundation Physical Award, and the silver medal at the New York International Film Festival.

Alice Paul: We Were Arrested, Of Course - A documentary about Alice Paul. The story of Alice Paul and America's militant suffragist who were arrested thrown into prison and forcibly fed for demanding women's right to vote. Includes rare archival footage and dramatic re-enactments. Produced by EPH Productions, 28 min., available through EPH Productions (Tel: 312-583-1024)

**Lucretia Mott, a historical drama** - The story of Lucretia Mott, Quaker minister, woman's rights advocate, and social reformer who steadfastly worked for justice and equality against overwhelming odds. Produced by EPH Productions, (58 min.) available through EPH Productions (Tel: 312-583-1024)

**The American Experience: One Woman, One Vote** A history of the seventy-year battle for women's suffrage, produced and written by Ruth Pollak, (1 hour 46 minutes) available through PBS. http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/films/OneWomanOneVote/

#### Suffragettes in the Silent Cinema

http://www.wmm.com/filmcatalog/pages/c749.shtml

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