## **Activities for National Women's History Month**

- For each day in March, select a staff person to read one of the thirty-one women's history public service announcements in the booklet, <a href="Public Service Announcements Women's History">Public Service Announcements Women's History</a>, prepared by the National Women's History Project.
- For each day in March, celebrate a birthday of a famous woman who was born in March:

March 1, 1844	Lillian Stevens, temperance leader, suffragist
2, 1873	Inez Irwin, World War I reporter
3, 1911	Jean Harlow, movie star
4, 1815	Myrtilla Miner, founded Colored Girls School, Washington, D.C.
5, 1854	Mary Garrett, raised \$100,000 for Johns Hopkins Medical School provided that women would be admitted
6, 1791	Anna Peale, miniaturist artist, specialized in portraits and still lifes
7, 1875	Mary Norton, Congresswoman, elected to Congress from New Jersey in 1924, was the first woman to head a Congressional Committee
8, 1923	Lydia Rapoport, social work educator, designed treatment for emotionally disturbed children
9, 1928	Graciela Olivarez, first woman chair of Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund
10, 1867	Lillian Wald, founded Henry Street Settlement, New York City, pacifist

11, 1849	Eliza Nicholoson, first woman newspaper publisher in the South
12, 1877	Annette Adams, lawyer, judge, first woman federal prosecutor
13, 1892	Janet Flanner, journalist, wrote features from Paris for "New Yorker" magazine
14, 1833	Lucy Hobbs Taylor, first woman to obtain dental degree in U.S.
15, 1838	Alice Fletcher, ethnologist, lobbied Congress for Indian Reform Bill
16, 1924	Sarah Caldwell, opera producer, director, conductor, first woman to conduct at the Metropolitan Opera House
17, 1863	Anna Williams, physician, isolated diphtheria bacillus
18, 1840	Marilla Ricker, lawyer, practiced before Supreme Court, 1891
19, 1881	Edith Rogers, first Congresswoman from New England
20, 1925	Romana Bañuelos, first Mexican-American woman to serve as U.S. Treasurer, 1971-74
21, 1857	Alice Henry, Women's Trade Union League leader and editor
22, 1905	Phyllis McGinley, poet, author, received first Pulitzer prize for light verse
23, 1857	Fannie Farmer, standardized cooking methods
24, 1827	Candace Wheeler, designed fabrics and tapestries in her firm, employing only women

- 25, 1923 Edna Jo Hunter, expert on military families and prisoners of war, was the first woman named as Distinguished Military Psychologist of the American Psychological Association Sandra Day O'Connor, first female U.S. Supreme Court 26, 1930 Justice 27, 1945 Anna Mae Aquash, American Indian Movement and civil rights activist, participated in takeover of Wounded Knee 28, 1854 Rhoda Nicholls, prize-winning watercolor artist 29, 1903 Vera Dean, international affairs specialist, advised American delegation at UN founding conference 30, 1863 Mary Calkins, first woman president of American Psychological Association and of American Philosophical Association 31, 1889 Muriel Wright, Choctaw Indian, fought for recompense for **Native Americans**
- For each day in March, select and post quotations by a famous woman from *The New Beacon Book of Quotations by Women* by Rosalie Maggio. The subject index includes relevant topic such as courts, equality, fairness, injustice, law, rights.
- ➤ Make Women's History Handouts with a FREE copy master from the National Women's History project. Visit <a href="www.nwhp.org">www.nwhp.org</a> and download a full-color copy master for a one-page brochure introducing women's history and 6 notable women who are featured on our "Women Sustaining the American Spirit" poster. You can print as many as you need to hand out to your colleagues or at an event or a program or to give to friends and family members.
- > Organize luncheon discussion groups around the five-part video "Women in American Life" that include rare historical photographs and a fast-paced

narration. Each video comes with a study guide and runs from 15-24 minutes in length. The five videos are:

Program 1 1861-1880: Civil War, Recovery, and Westward Expansion

Program 2 1880-1920: Immigration, New Work and New Roles

Program 3 1917-1942: Cultural Image and Economic Reality

Program 4 1942-1955 War Work, Housework, and Growing

**Discontent** 

Program 5 1955-1977: New Attitudes Force Dramatic Changes.

- Schedule a special showing of the video *Adelante Mujeres*, a video focusing exclusively on the history of Mexican-American/Chicana women. The result of two years of research and correspondence, the video includes hundreds of previously unpublished photos gleaned from the archives and private collections across the continent. Narrated by Maria Cuevas, a founding member of the National Women's History Project and augmented by authentic Mexican folk music. Produced by the National Women's History Project. Partial funding was provided by the Women's Educational Equity Act Program, U.S. Department of Education. Running Time: 30 minutes. A comprehensive study guide is included.
- Schedule a viewing and discussion of *Alice Paul: We Were Arrested Of Course* which will be shown on the FJTN on the following dates and times:

March 19, 2002 12:30 – 1:00 pm E.S.T.

March 26, 2002 12:30 – 1:00 pm and 3:30 – 4:00 pm E.S.T.

March 29, 2002 1:30 – 2:00 pm E.S.T.

- Schedule a program that opens with the 7-minute music video, "A Fine and Long Tradition," and features a staff person presenting the pre-printed twenty-minute speech "Women Sustaining the American Spirit," prepared by the National Women's History Project.
- Schedule one or more live performances by a costumed women's history performer. For a state-by-state listing of performers, go to: <a href="http://www.nwhp.org/tlp/performers/performers.html">http://www.nwhp.org/tlp/performers/performers.html</a>
- ➤ Invite staff members to write a letter, or a poem or an essay, about how a woman has significantly changed her or his life and post their material on the intranet. This material can also be sent to the National Women's History Project's Remembering Project that is creating a massive national

- archive to preserve the stories of women of the 20<sup>th</sup> century from all walks of life famous or family, alive or deceased, outrageous or angelic.
- ➤ Put out a daily challenge for your colleagues to identify a woman from history based on clues you give them via e-mail, bulletin board notices, memos, or fliers. An example: "She has seven letters in her first name, seven in her last name. In 1933, she was appointed U.S. Secretary of Labor, making her the first woman to serve in a president's cabinet. While she was in office, Social Security and unemployment insurance were signed into law. Can you name her?" (*Frances Perkins*) More examples are listed on the "Women's History Potpourri" in Section 8.
- ➤ Highlight March 8, which is International Women's Day. In the early days of this observance, International Women's Day was celebrated as a socialist holiday honoring working women. With the resurgence of the women's movement in the 1960s came a renewed interest in International Women's Day.