19th Amendment Centennial

The 19th Amendment was ratified in 1920, but this landmark event was not the beginning or the end of the story for women and the struggle for the right to vote. The National Archives holds the records that help tell this story, including petitions, legislation, court cases, and more.

As the home of the 19th Amendment, the National Archives is commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Constitutional amendment that guaranteed that “The right of citizens
of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.”

US National Archives on Giphy. Source: General Marshall is Sworn in as the New Secretary of State, 2/21/1947. National Archives Identifier 23889

We are kicking off this 19th Amendment Centennial Commemoration with a brand new Citizen Archivist mission! Join us and transcribe newly digitized records that document the suffrage movement.
These records include petitions to Congress for and against suffrage for women, resolutions, letters, telegrams, endorsements, resolutions, and memorials. Every word you transcribe helps make the records easier to find in the Catalog.

New to the citizen archivist program? Learn how to register and get started.

#19SuffrageStories

The campaign for women’s suffrage was long, difficult, and often dramatic.

Diverse communities and organizations blazed the trail for equal voting rights across the nation. For many women, especially women of color, the fight didn’t end when the 19th Amendment went into effect on August 26, 1920. Yet the stories of these suffragists have often been overlooked.

To mark the centennial of the 19th Amendment, the Smithsonian, Library of Congress, and National Archives are collaborating to bring these stories to you on social media.
Follow #19SuffrageStories on Instagram and Twitter now until August 26 to learn voting-rights history from the Library of Congress (@LibraryCongress on Instagram and Twitter), the National Archives (@USNatArchives), and the Smithsonian (@Smithsonian) about the many, diverse women who fought for voting rights, long before and long after the amendment passed.

Join us and use our set of animated social media GIFs and Instagram stickers on your social media posts to mark the centennial.

We also invite you to join the National Archives online as we highlight records from our holdings and examine the fight for women’s voting rights through virtual public programs for all ages. Throughout August, we will explore the complex story of the struggle for women’s suffrage, leading up to and beyond the certification of the 19th Amendment on August 26, 1920. Visit our 19th Amendment Centennial Events page to view and sign up for our events, programs and activities.
History Hub

Have a question? Find your answer on History Hub!

History Hub is our support community for researchers, genealogists, history enthusiasts, and citizen archivists. Ask questions, share information, work together, and find help based on experience and interests. Researchers can ask—or answer—questions on History Hub, or search to see if a question has been asked before.
Citizen Archivists, there's a group just for you! You can share tips and strategies, find new challenges, and get support for your work.

Once you’ve signed up, check out our poll:
  What kinds of records do you like to transcribe? ➔

COVID-19 Update

The National Archives is committed to the health and safety of our visitors and staff. We are closely monitoring the situation regarding COVID-19, and we are working with public health officials and our counterpart agencies to monitor and respond to the evolving conditions and following CDC guidelines.

For more information, visit https://www.archives.gov/coronavirus

Questions or comments? Email us at catalog@nara.gov.