

Women's History Month Programs with the National Archives

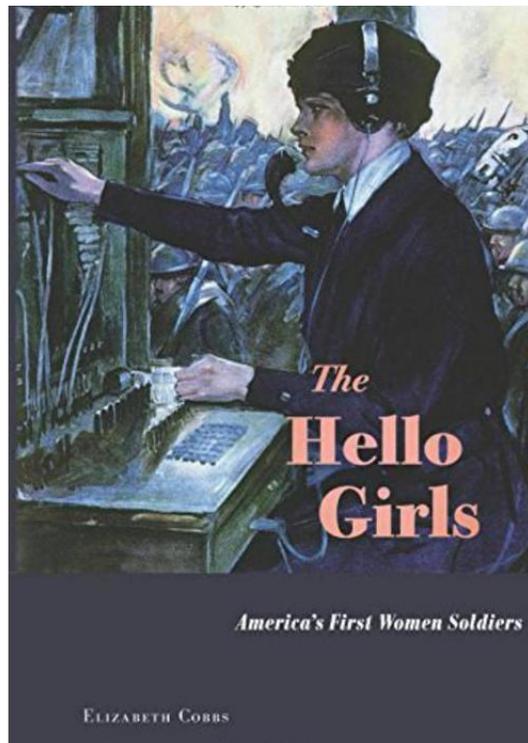
On **Saturday, March 10 at 2:00 p.m.**, the National Archives will co-present a screening of **Dolores** with Kansas City PBS. This program will take place at the Plaza Branch of the Kansas City Public Library, 4801 Main Street, Kansas City, Missouri.



This new PBS Indie Lens Pop-up documentary tells the story of Dolores Huerta, one of the most important, yet least known, activists in American history. Huerta co-founded the first farmworkers union with Cesar Chavez and led the fight for racial and labor justice, becoming one of the most defiant feminists of the 20th century. [Reservations](#) are requested for this **free program**.

On **Thursday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives will co-host **Elizabeth Cobbs**, author of *The Hello Girls* in collaboration with the National World War I Museum and Memorial. This program will take place at the National World War I Museum and Memorial, 2 Memorial Drive, Kansas City, Missouri.

This is the story of how America's first women soldiers helped win World War I, earned the vote, and fought the U.S. Army. In 1918, the U.S. Army Signal Corps sent 223 women to France. They were masters of the latest technology: the telephone switchboard. While suffragettes picketed the White House and President Woodrow Wilson struggled to persuade a segregationist Congress to give women of all races the vote, these competent and courageous young women swore the Army oath. Cobbs reveals the challenges they faced in a war zone where male soldiers welcomed, resented, wooed, mocked, saluted, and ultimately celebrated them. They received a baptism by fire when German troops pounded Paris with heavy artillery. The Army discharged the last Hello Girls in 1920, the same year Congress ratified the Nineteenth Amendment granting the ballot. When the operators sailed home, the army unexpectedly dismissed them without veterans' benefits. They began a 60-year battle that a handful of survivors carried to triumph in 1979. [Reservations](#) are requested for this **free program**.



(More programs on next page.)

March 2018

Inside This Issue

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH PROGRAMS | 1-2 |
| HIDDEN TREASURES FROM THE STACKS | 3-5 |
| HARRY BELAFONTE FILM SCREENING | 5 |

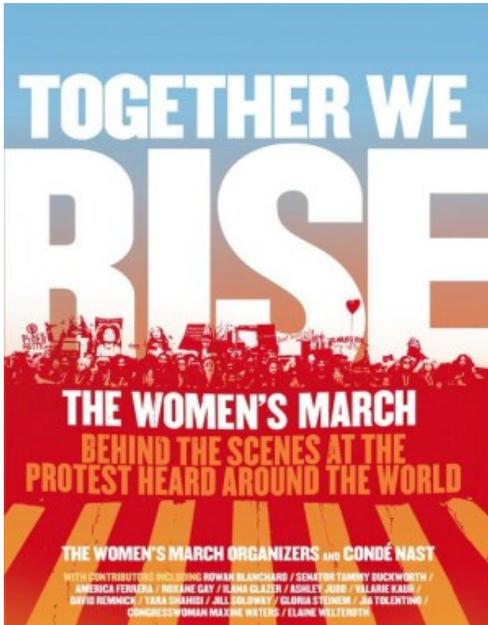
Upcoming Events

Unless noted, all events are held at the National Archives 400 W. Pershing Road Kansas City, MO 64108

- **MARCH 10 - 2:00 P.M.**
FILM AND DISCUSSION:
*DOLORES**
- **MARCH 13 - 6:30 P.M.**
PANEL DISCUSSION:
*FAKE NEWS**
- **MARCH 20 - 6:30 P.M.**
FILM AND DISCUSSION:
SING YOUR SONG:
*HARRY BELAFONTE**
- **MARCH 22 - 6:30 P.M.**
AUTHOR LECTURE:
ELIZABETH COBBS ON
*THE HELLO GIRLS**
- **MARCH 26 - 7:00 P.M.**
LECTURE: *TOGETHER WE*
RISE WITH PAOLA
*MENDOZA**
- **MARCH 28 - 6:30 P.M.**
FILM AND DISCUSSION:
EQUAL MEANS EQUAL

*DENOTES ACTIVITY IS OFFSITE.

Women's History Month Programs with the National Archives Continued



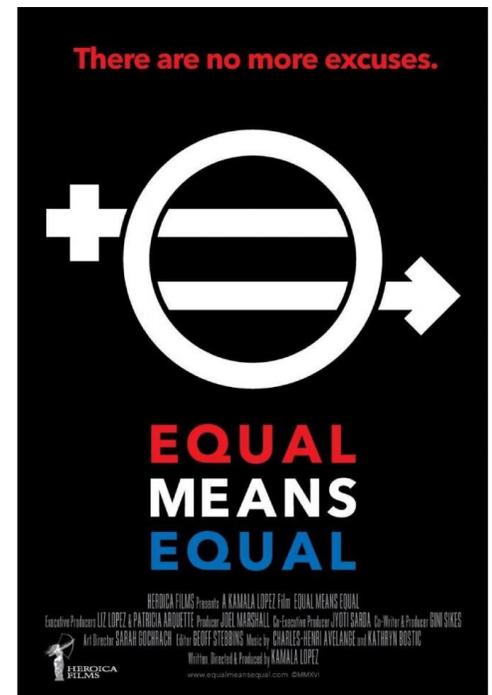
On **Monday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m.**, the National Archives will co-host **Paola Mendoza** for an evening lecture as she discusses her experiences as Artistic Director for the Women's March on Washington. This event is presented in partnership with Park University and Northland Progress and will take place on the Park University campus, 8700 NW River Park Drive, Parkville, Missouri.

Mendoza is a contributor to *Together We Rise: Behind the Scenes at the Protest Heard Around the World*, the definitive oral and visual chronicle of a momentous event as told by The Women's March organizers. This new book features contributions from writers, political figures, actresses, artists, and journalists. It offers an unprecedented, front-row seat to one of the most galvanizing movements in American history. *Together We Rise* interweaves stories with "Voices from the March" - recollections from real women who were there - plus exclusive images by photographers, and 20 short, thought-provoking essays by writers, celebrities, and artists including: Rowan Blanchard, Senator Tammy Duckworth, America Ferrera, Roxane Gay, Ilana Glazer, Ashley Judd, Valarie Kaur, David Remnick, Yara Shahidi, Jill Soloway, Jia Tolentino, Congresswoman

Maxine Waters, and Elaine Welteroth. [Reservations](#) are requested for this **free program**.

On **Wednesday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives will host a film screening and discussion of *Equal Means Equal* in collaboration with the United Nations Association Women's Group. This program will take place at the National Archives. A free light reception will precede the program at 6:00 p.m.

Equal Means Equal examines real-life stories and precedent-setting legal cases. Film director Kamala Lopez uncovers how outdated and discriminatory attitudes inform and influence seemingly disparate issues, from workplace harassment to domestic violence, rape and sexual assault to the foster care system, and the healthcare conglomerate to the judicial system. Along the way, she reveals the inadequacy of present laws that claim to protect women, ultimately presenting a compelling and persuasive argument for the urgency of ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment. Reservations are requested for this **free program**, RSVP to kansascity.educate@nara.gov or 816-268-8010.



National Archives and American Public Square Host Discussion on Fake News

In 2018, the National Archives at Kansas City will continue its program series related to current affairs topics. On **Tuesday, March 13 at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives and American Public Square will present an evening panel discussion titled *Fake News*. This program will take place at Unity Temple on the Plaza, 707 West 47th Street, Kansas City, MO. To learn more and register for this **free program**, visit the [American Public Square](#) web site.



The panelists include **Mark Alford**, co-anchor Fox 4 Morning News; **Colleen McCain Nelson**, vice-president and editorial editor at *The Kansas City Star*; **Kevin Madden**, CNN political commentator; and **Margaret Talev**, White House correspondent for Bloomberg News. This event is sponsored by the Missouri Humanities Council and Sue Seidler and Lewis Nerman; and is presented in partnership with *The Kansas City Star* and Kansas City PBS.

Hidden Treasures from the Stacks

Ice Rink Resurfacing Machine

The first artificial ice rink was established in London, England, in 1876. Skating caused gouges and chips on the surface of the ice. The surface would deteriorate to the point where skating became difficult or even impossible. During the time-consuming process of resurfacing, customers of the rink could not skate.

The following passages from U.S. Patent 2,642,679 described resurfacing an ice rink during the 1940s.

The maintenance of a satisfactorily smooth surface on the ice is one of the major problems in connection with the operation of a skating rink, and after several hours of use, it is necessary to clear the ice of skaters to resurface the ice by scraping or shaving the same lightly, removing the shaved ice, and then spreading a thin film of water over the surface of the ice to fill in cracks or other depressions. Within a short time the water freezes, leaving the surface of the ice quite smooth and unblemished, and skating can be resumed.

Heretofore, the usual method of cleaning off and smoothing the surface of the ice has been to send attendants out onto the ice to sweep off the cut ice with scrapers or sweeps that are pushed ahead of them; while in other instance, the ice is scraped clean by scraper blades mounted on towed sleds or on automotive vehicles such as the small, four-wheel drive vehicles formerly used in the military services and known popularly as the "jeep." In either case, after the surface of the ice has been scraped clean, a thin film of water is spread over the ice to fill in the cracks and low spots. And surplus water is then squeegeed away, usually by a number of attendants on skates, pushing the squeegees ahead of them.

Frank J. Zamboni was well aware of the issues involved in keeping an ice rink in operation. In the 1920s, he and his brother Lawrence owned a business that installed refrigeration units in dairy operations and later provided blocks of ice to produce growers for shipping their produce by rail. The demand for block ice decreased as the use of refrigeration rose. The Zamboni brothers, looking for a new use for their knowledge of ice, opened the Iceland Skating Rink in Paramount, California.

Iceland Paramount launched as an open air skating rink in 1940, but the warm, dry air of Southern California made keeping a suitable layer of ice difficult. A dome roof was soon installed over the rink's 20,000 square feet of ice. Then Frank J. Zamboni turned his attention to solving the time-consuming task of resurfacing ice rinks. In 1942, he equipped a tractor with a sled that was towed behind, but it failed to work effectively.

In 1947 a front-wheel drive machine was constructed using surplus war parts. The newer model scraped the ice, and a conveyer delivered the shavings to a storage tank mounted on top of the vehicle. A separate tank carried water that was applied to the ice by a sprayer mounted behind the scraper.

This version failed: as the scraping blade tended to chatter across the ice; the storage tank was too small to hold the shavings from one resurfacing; and the front wheel drive was ineffective on the ice -- even with tire chains.

Using parts from the 1947 model and additional war surplus materials, the Model A was constructed in 1949. This model had four wheel drive and four wheel steering, a larger tank for ice shavings, and a blade that could be firmly held in place to prevent chattering. It also included a wash water system to distribute water after the shaving blade had passed, and a squeegee to spread the water into a thin layer that would freeze to make a smooth skating surface.

Driving along the edge of the rink and attempting to steer away from the wall resulted in the rear tires turning into the wall, trapping the vehicle against the wall of the rink. A simple solution was found by trading the four-wheel steering for two-wheel steering.

In 1949 Frank J. Zamboni applied for a patent based on the Model A and an improved Model B that used a surplus war jeep. The application was submitted on May 16, 1949, and was issued on June 23, 1953, as patent 2,642,679. Although this was neither Zamboni's first nor last patent, it did lead to the founding of his successful Frank J. Zamboni & Co., Inc.

(Continued on next page.)



Left: Photograph of Model B Ice Rink Resurfacing Machine from U.S. Patent 2,642,679, Ice Rink Resurfacing Machine issue to Frank J. Zamboni, June 23, 1953. Record Group 241, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Patent Case Files, 1836-1976. Patent 2,642,679, National Archives Identifier 302050.

2017-2018 Film Series Continues with American Jazz Museum and the Greater Kansas City Black History Study Group

On **Tuesday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives at Kansas City, in collaboration with the American Jazz Museum and the Greater Kansas City Black History Study Group, will offer a free screening and discussion of ***Sing Your Song: Harry Belafonte***. This program will take place at the American Jazz Museum, 1616 East 18th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

Told with a remarkable sense of intimacy, visual style and musical panache, Susanne Rostock's inspiring biographical documentary *Sing Your Song* surveys the life and times of singer/actor/activist Harry Belafonte. From his rise to fame as a singer and his experiences touring a segregated country to his provocative crossover into Hollywood, Belafonte's groundbreaking career personifies the American civil rights movement. This event is part of a free (monthly) film series through May 2018. All film programs are **free** to attend. [Reservations](#) are requested.

GENERAL INFORMATION: The National Archives is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather. The National Archives is located at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64108.

The National Archives at Kansas City is home to historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by Federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. For more information, call 816-268-8000, email kansascity.educate@nara.gov or visit www.archives.gov/kansas-city. Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity. Tweet us @KCArchives or #KCArchives. Find and follow us on Instagram at: kansascity.archives.



NATIONAL
ARCHIVES

KANSAS CITY