

TCP'S WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2021

DORIS DAY (1922-2019) Doris set out to be a dancer, but after an accident resulted in a crushed leg, she then turned to singing. For the rest of her life, she credited her first vocal teacher, Grace Raine, as having the biggest impact on her singing career and maintains that she taught her how to sing a lyric with feeling. Eventually, that talent led Doris to singing with bandleader Les Brown. Her *Sentimental Journey*, recorded in 1945, was reflected in the hearts of troops who were returning home from overseas after World War II. Fresh from a divorce and filled with raw emotion, Doris was asked to do a screen test after singing at a Hollywood party attended by songwriter Jule Styne, setting in motion her screen career which included a contract with Warner Brothers and working with Alfred Hitchcock. She worked alongside famous leading men such as Jimmy Stewart, Cary Grant, and Rock Hudson. Years later, Doris continued to stand alongside her dear friend Rock Hudson at a time when most people drew away, never questioning his lifestyle and always accepting him for the great person he was. She officially retired from acting in 1973 and started what she termed her second career: that of an animal activist. A life-long animal lover, Doris was determined to find homes for unwanted pets with her non-profit organization, The Doris Day Pet Foundation, and even ventured into politics with another non-profit, The Doris Day Animal League, which is now partnered with the current Humane Society. Doris was awarded the Medal of Freedom in 2004 for her work not only in the theater industry but also for her devotion to animal rights, but her fear of flying kept her from attending the ceremony. She died in 2019, but her legacies in both film and animal activism continue. Even now, new animal facilities open in her name to continue her work of bettering the lives of animals everywhere. "I chose to represent Doris Day because while most people tend to associate her as the quintessential girl next door, I remember her for her tireless work in both animal rights advocacy and her unquestioning acceptance of her friends. I also remember the sheer terror she portrayed so effortlessly in one of my favorite movies, *Midnight Lace*". Portrayed by Sarah Simmons

ANNE FRANK (1929-1945) Anne is one of the most well-known voices of the Holocaust because of her diary, which recounts much of her life after she and her family went into hiding over fear of their Jewish heritage during World War II when Anne was only 13 years old. They, along with others, lived for two years in a secret annex within a warehouse in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Discovered by two police officers in August 1944, the occupants of the Secret Annex were transferred to the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. In November 1944, Anne was transferred along with her sister Margot to the Bergen-Belsen camp. She and her sister died after contracting typhus in the Spring of 1945. Anne's father, Otto, the only surviving member of the Secret Annex,

published Anne's diary in 1947, giving the world not only a face but a voice to Anne's eternal optimism that embodies this famous quote: "I still believe that human beings are good at heart."

"I chose Anne Frank because she was a very brave woman in history, and she taught us more about the Holocaust and World War II. If you want to learn more about this brave woman, read *The Diary of a Young Girl*." - Portrayed by Julieann D.

MOTHER TERESA (1910 - 1997) Born Agnes Bojaxhiu to parents of Albanian descent, she took on the name Sister Mary Teresa at 18 years of age after joining the Sisters of Loreto in Dublin, Ireland. She was sent to Calcutta, India, where she taught impoverished girls, determined to help them escape poverty through education. She eventually went to work in the slums of Calcutta, where she spent the rest of her life in the service of others in numerous ways, such as founding charities, hospitals, and a leper colony, and opening a string of mobile health clinics. Eventually, Mother Teresa's work touched not only the people of Calcutta, but people throughout the world, no matter their circumstances. She was plagued with health issues towards the end of her life and died on September 5, 1997. In 2016, Pope Francis led the canonization mass after two miracles had been attributed to Mother Teresa's healing, and she was declared a saint on September 4, 2016.

EDITH WHARTON (1862 - 1937) Born into the tightly controlled world of wealth and privilege of a New York family, Edith spent most of her young life in Europe developing a love and appreciation of art, architecture, and literature. She married at 23 to Teddy Wharton, and together, they built their home in Lenox, Massachusetts called "The Mount," a house dedicated to showcasing Edith's love of art and beauty. She permanently moved to France after divorcing Teddy due to his mental instability. In 1914, war broke out, but Edith stayed in Paris, organizing numerous charitable organizations for those affected by war, consequently earning the French Legion of Honor. She published her first novel at age 40 and was a prolific writer of novels, poetry, short stories and non-fiction. She drew on both events and people around her to produce riveting novels such as *Ethan Frome*, published in 1911 and based on events in Massachusetts. The novel *The Age of Innocence*, published in 1921, was aimed directly at the gilded class of Old New York, and earned Edith a Pulitzer Prize in literature, making her the first woman to receive a Pulitzer in fiction. She died in 1937 and is buried in the Cimetiere des Gonards in Versailles.

"She was one of the first women who inspired me to try and become a professional creative. I further investigated her history and learned that while she was naturally gifted, her work ethic was of equal importance to her success, and that deeply impressed upon me." Portrayed by Margaret Cox

BETSY ROSS (1752 - 1836) Although she is credited as being a seamstress, Betsy was actually a successful upholsterer. Born and raised a Quaker, Betsy ending up eloping with Anglican John Ross. Happy with her life, Betsy and her husband ran a successful upholstery business, but her happiness was cut short after John Ross died unexpectedly two years into their marriage. She continued with upholstery, even making cartridges and flags for the Continental Army for extra income. It was during this time that George Washington approached Betsy and asked her to make a new flag, which she finished before the signing of the Declaration of Independence. While stories are conflicting about the exact timeline and ultimate product, records show that Betsy was paid in 1777 by the Pennsylvania State Navy Board for a flag. Betsy went on to have two more marriages, with her third marriage to John Claypoole lasting 34 years. She had seven children, five whom lived to adulthood. She died peacefully in her sleep after having lived 84 years. Her grandson, William Canby, started the legend of Betsy Ross years after her death. Famous quote attributed to Betsy Ross: "One time during the war I had to use the restroom, so they forced me to use it in the bushes, they treated me like a man." Portrayed by Susan Plee.

JUDIT POLGÁR (born 1976) is a Hungarian chess player, widely lauded as the greatest female player of all time. When Judit was only 12, she was the youngest player to break into the FIDE top 100 list. At 15, she achieved the title of Grandmaster (the youngest at the time), breaking the record previously held by World Champion Bobby Fischer. Polgár is the only woman to have won a game against a reigning world number one player and has defeated 11 current or former world champions. She was the No. 1 rated woman in the world from 1989 until she retired in August 2014 with a rating of 2735. "I chose Judit Polgár so fans of Netflix's *The Queen's Gambit* would know about a real life female International Grandmaster who kicked butt, and to show little girls that no age is too young to achieve greatness." Portrayed by Paige Smillie

FELISA RINCON DE GAUTIER (1897 - 1994) Felisa was born in Ceiba, Puerto Rico in 1897, and was a pharmacist, expert seamstress, business owner, and women's rights activist. Felisa actively campaigned for women's right to vote in Puerto Rico by going door to door. It was during this time that she became aware of the poverty affecting others, and it was this image and the desire to help others that became the driving force of her political agenda. She was the first woman to be elected as the mayor of a capital city in the Americas (San Juan, PR) and served as mayor for 22 consecutive years. During her years as mayor, Felisa established the first preschool centers which became the model for the Head Start programs in the U.S. She was responsible for the establishment of the School of Medicine in San Juan. In 1952-1954, she had plane loads of snow delivered to San Juan so that the children who had never seen or played

in snow would be able to do so. When she died at the age of 97, she was given the burial honors of a head of state, and dignitaries from all over the world attended her funeral service. "As a Puerto Rican woman, I am so inspired by FELISA RINCÓN de GAUTIER, a Puerto Rican woman who was strong, influential, and highly respected and loved. A remarkable woman who loved life, who accomplished amazing things, and whose legacy lives on." Portrayed by Lizbeth Benjamin

LOUISE BROOKS (1906 - 1985) was a legendary silent film actress and an icon of the Jazz Age. Louise was born in Cherryvale, Kansas and started her dancing career at the early age of 15, touring with the Denishawn School of Dancing and Related Arts. She later moved on from this career to be a chorus girl for "George White's Scandals" and "Ziegfeld Follies" (which, for the time, were quite scandalous). She was noticed by a Paramount Pictures producer and signed a 5-year contract. Her first heroine's role was in the 1928 film *Beggars of Life*. During this time, she became intimate friends with Hollywood actress Marion Davies and joined the social circle of other elites such as William Randolph Hurst and Charlie Chaplin. In the late 20s and early 30s, Brooks, dissatisfied with the Hollywood scene, moved to Germany and achieved international stardom with her roles in *Pandora's Box*, *Diary of a Lost Girl*, and *Miss Europe*. By the time she retired from acting, Brooks had starred in seventeen silent films and eight sound films. After retirement, Brooks suffered many personal and financial struggles; however, her flapper style, alluring personality, and liberated sexuality has had a significant legacy in novels, comics, music, and film. Along with her beauty and talent, she had an independent streak and refused to accept the restricted role American women had in society at the time.

"I was inspired by actress Louise Brooks for her portrayal of strong femme fatales, bucking the norm with her iconic bob and flapper style." Portrayed by Rebecca Maxey
I was always late but just too damn stunning for them to fire me.

MARIE SKLODOWSKA CURIE (1867-1934) Higher education was not available to women in Poland, so Marie became a tutor and governess to finance not only her education, but her sister's as well in Paris. While waiting and studying on her own from textbooks, Marie also secretly attended an illegal free "university" to keep up with lectures and laboratory practicals. After earning enough money, Marie followed her sister to Paris and studied chemistry, mathematics and physics at the Sorbonne, earning a master's degree and top student honors by age 26. She married Pierre Curie two years later, and working together, discovered polonium (named after her native Poland) and radium. She was awarded the first Nobel Prize ever awarded to a woman in Physics in 1903, sharing the prize with her husband and Henri Becquerel six months after receiving her Ph.D. After her husband's death, she accepted the first ever

women's professorship position at the Sorbonne and earned another Nobel Prize in 1911 in Chemistry for isolating a pure metallic sample of radium. She set up the Radium Institute in 1919 to explore the use of radioactivity in medical applications. After suffering from aplastic anemia most likely caused from her work with radioactivity, she died in 1934 and her ashes were enshrined at the Pantheon in Paris.

"I am inspired by Marie's outstanding scientific accomplishments, especially regarding radioactivity, alongside her husband and independently. Her husband Pierre famously protested his nomination for the Prize with a colleague when they found out Marie's contributions had been ignored by the committee. They were able to have her rightfully added to the nomination." Portrayed by Janine Kunitz

CLARA BARTON (1821 - 1912) Painfully shy, Clara was encouraged to become a teacher. At 18, in her first teaching job, she founded a school for worker's children. Eventually, she moved to Bordentown, New Jersey and established the first free school there. She resigned her position when she became aware of a man who had been hired at double her salary and declared she'd never work for less than a man. In 1854, she was hired as a recording clerk at the United States Patent Office and initially offered the same wages as men. Eventually, the Secretary of the Interior reduced her salary and position, and the Buchanan administration eventually eliminated her position entirely. In 1860, she returned to the same office as a copyist during the Lincoln administration. When the Civil War started in 1861, Clara was determined to do all she could for the Union troops, which included bringing supplies to troops. She also tended to wounded soldiers and was at every major battlefield in Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina, earning her the nickname "Angel of the Battlefield." After the war, Barton toured Europe to regain some of her health. While there, she was able to witness the International Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland, an organization designed to help those in need. Returning to the US, Clara wrote pamphlets and gave lectures to build support for an American Red Cross. On May 21, 1881, the American Association of the Red Cross was formed, and Clara was elected president in June. She attended conventions, gave aid in disasters, and helped the poor and homeless. In 1904, she formed the National First Aid of America, which focused on emergency preparation and developed first aid kits. She died in her home in 1912 from pneumonia. Portrayed by Savannah H.

HEDY LAMARR: Once billed as the World's Most Beautiful Woman, the title actually bored her. Hedy Keisler wanted to be known for fighting Nazis and to be taken seriously for her technical knowledge and creativity. Born in Austria in 1914, she appeared in Ecstasy, one of the most controversial Czech films of the time in 1933. Also considered a trophy wife of arms merchant Freidrich Mandl, Hedy took advantage

of the many dinner conversations that she was witness to regarding weapons and munitions, all of which took place in the years leading up to WWII. The men never imagined that someone as beautiful as Hedy would care or understand any of their conversation. Little did they realize that she was taking notes, and after moving to America and becoming a film star in yet another country, Howard Hughes, the airplane magnate, actually listened to her and had his own group of scientists work around her ideas when she suggested “swept back” wings to improve air speed. After working with composer George Antheil, she developed a system of “frequency swapping” between receivers and transmitters to jam radio signals. The patent, approved in 1942, never came to fruition until the Cuban Missile Crisis when her original idea was taken and modified into moving small bits of information quickly, forming the basis for what is now known as Spread Spectrum Technology. She eventually moved away from Hollywood and built a small chalet in Aspen, Colorado, basically kick-starting the ski resort community. She felt deeply the unacknowledged contributions that she had brought to the world, and finally, in 1997, Lamarr and Antheil were awarded the Electronic Frontier Foundation’s Pioneer Award. Hedy went on to become the first woman awarded the Invention Convention’s Spirit of Achievement Award. 14 years after her death in 2000, Hedy was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

"While she was indeed beautiful, I find Hedy Lamarr’s personality and outlooks to be far more inspiring. Her unique creativity and utter frankness are awe-inspiring." Portrayal and model photoshop by Cassandra File.

GRACE KELLY (1929 - 1982) Grace Kelly initially wanted to be on Broadway, but her graceful, elegant voice was better suited for film rather than the volume necessary for successful stage performance. Her father, Jack Kelly, was a prominent figure and knew important people. Grace was often accused of using his influence to start her film career in 1951 with *Fourteen Hours*, but Grace insisted on succeeding on her own merit. When she met Alfred Hitchcock, she went on to star in three iconic movies of the master of suspense: *Rear Window*, *Dial M for Murder*, and *To Catch a Thief*. While in Monaco for the filming of “*Thief*” a publicity stunt arranged the meeting between Grace and the bachelor prince of Monaco, Prince Rainier. A fairy tale come to life, Grace and Prince Rainier married, and Grace became a princess. In the process, however, she gave up her acting career, and after 11 films in five years, she retired and instead devoted herself to Monaco and its people. While much of Grace’s humanitarian work focused on furthering social services of women and children, such as setting up daycares, visiting new mothers and their babies in the hospital, and setting up World Association of Children’s Friends (AMADE), a service dedicated to helping over 40,000 children worldwide every year, Grace’s interest in the arts was just as prevalent as it was during her acting career. She established charities that encouraged artists, both performance and creative, to realize their dreams. In 1982, Grace died from injuries

sustained from a car accident that occurred along the same cliffs of Monaco that started her destiny of a modern-day fairy tale. After her death, her family established the Princess Grace Foundation in the United States that assists young artists with their career goals.

“We should try our best to help others so that we could be remembered in a good way.” Grace Kelly

DIANA SPENCER wanted to be a ballerina. Instead, she grew up to become the People’s Princess and one of the world’s most fondly recognized humanitarians under the title, Diana, Princess of Wales. She gained that title when she married the heir to the British throne, Charles, in 1981. The wedding was televised in 74 countries with almost 1 billion people watching. With the eyes of the world watching the normally shy woman, Diana’s every move was chronicled, photographed, praised, and criticized. Eventually, she and Charles divorced, but Diana, after giving up all rights to the throne, retained her Princess of Wales title. It was after the divorce that Diana, while always doting on the couple’s two children William and Harry, was finally free to pursue her own interests and support her own charities. Her numerous charities included helping the homeless, children in need, supporting people with HIV and bringing awareness to leftover landmines in Angola. Diana’s charismatic nature that included genuine caring for others, an intense sense of humor and a great awareness of her own humility is what the world fell in love with. They continued to follow her every move, and she became one of the world’s most photographed women, known not only for her works but for her sense of style. She found happiness spending time with her children and supporting others, and also found happiness in her partner, Dodi Fayed. Tragically, Diana and Fayed were killed in a car accident in Paris after being chased yet again by a group of determined photographers and paparazzi. The world mourned the loss of Diana, their People’s Princess, and her funeral was televised and watched by over 2.5 billion people. Diana’s giving legacy continues in the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund to provide resources for palliative care, penal reform, and asylum. The fund has since been incorporated with The Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

GRACE O’MALLEY (1530 - 1603) Grace O’Malley, the Pirate Queen, was born to a wealthy fleet merchant in western Ireland. Her family wanted her to attend school on land and become a lady, but Grace, because of her fierce love of the sea, decided instead to stow away on one of her father’s ships, cut her hair, and dress like a sailor. Her advantageous marriages to both Donal O’Flaherty and Richard Bourke left her with wealth, land, and political influence. After her father’s death, Grace took over his fleet of ships and carried out several attacks towards pirates along Ireland’s coast. In turn, Grace soon pirated as well, as she told her crew to attack and pillage any ship that

decided not to cooperate. Eventually, her plundering left her with a string of five castles along the coast, making her even more wealthy. It was said that Grace, a fierce leader, never let an attack against her ships go without retaliation. During one of those attacks, Grace, after having given birth to a son hours earlier, wrapped her newborn son against her and commanded her crew to victory. Eventually, England tried to buy off the Irish lords, but Grace was determined to stay independent. She was captured by Richard Bingham and charged with rebellion and piracy. She managed to escape the death penalty but was forced to give up her entire wealth. She continued to be a respected political player in Ireland, and at one time had direct negotiations with Queen Elizabeth I to save the life of her son, who had been captured by Bingham. Elizabeth was in awe of Grace and not only released her son, but also allowed her to return to a form of authorized piracy to recover her lost wealth. She died in 1603.

QUEEN VICTORIA (1837 - 1901) Princess Alexandrina Victoria of Kent became Queen of the United Kingdom in Great Britain in 1838 at the age of 18, following the death of her uncle, King William IV. Life in Britain during the 19th century was known as Victorian England because of Victoria's long reign and the indelible stamp it and her persona placed on the country. Her strict ethics and personality have become synonymous with the era. Queen Victoria survived seven assassination attempts during her time on the throne, and she continued on with one of the longest reigns in history, second only to her great-great-granddaughter Elizabeth II. Queen Victoria married Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha in 1840 -- because she was Queen, Prince Albert could not propose to her, so she proposed to him. They had 9 children and 42 grandchildren, whose eventual marriages were linked with a vast number of Europe's royal families, earning Queen Victoria the nickname 'the grandmother of Europe'. Prince Albert died unexpectedly of typhoid fever when he was only 42 years old. This sent Victoria into a deep depression, and she stayed in mourning black for him for the rest of her life. Victoria's reign saw great cultural expansion; advances in industry, science and communications; and the building of railways and the London Underground. "I chose Queen Victoria because I have been learning about all the things she accomplished, and I am inspired by her perseverance in knowing what she needed to do and doing it." Portrayed by Elaina C.

QUEEN ELIZABETH (1926 -) Born Elizabeth Alexandra Mary, she is the longest reigning British monarch and the longest-serving female head of state in world history. Queen Elizabeth was born in Mayfair, London as the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York. When the Duke's brother, King Edward VIII, abdicated the throne in 1936, he ascended to the throne to become King George VI, after which time Elizabeth was the heir presumptive. Elizabeth began her lifetime of public service during WWII. When she was only 14 years old, Elizabeth made her first broadcast during the BBC's Children's

Hour, addressing children who had been evacuated from their homes. In 1945, at the age of 19, Elizabeth was appointed as an honorary second subaltern in the Auxiliary Territorial Service, a service group which would become the Women's Royal Army Corps in 1949. She trained as a driver and a mechanic during her service and was given the rank of honorary junior commander (female equivalent of captain at the time) five months later. Elizabeth was engaged at the age of 21 to her future husband, Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark, and gave birth to her first child, Prince Charles, in 1948 - her second child, Princess Anne, was born two years later. Elizabeth ascended to the throne at the young age of 26 after her father passed away. Her mother would die shortly after. Almost immediately after her coronation, Queen Elizabeth began a tour of the world, becoming the first reigning monarch of Australia and New Zealand to visit those nations. Later she would become the first British monarch to visit mainland China and the first British monarch in 100 years to visit the Republic of Ireland. Though there has been much criticism of the Royal family during the latter part of her reign, the Queen has still maintained her deep sense of civic duty and maintains high approval ratings in British polls. She is a patron for over 600 organizations and charities and has helped raise over £1.4 billion for her patronages during her reign.

"I picked Queen Elizabeth because I was reading a book about WWII and it talked about how this future Queen was working as a mechanic and I thought that was so cool." Portrayed by Ella B.

SALLY RIDE (1951 - 2012) Sally originally planned to be a professional tennis player, and at one point was ranked in the top 20 of the national junior tennis circuit. She left college her sophomore year to pursue the tennis career, but realized that college, and specifically, the science field, was the place for her. She earned both a Master's and Doctorate of Science at Stanford University by 1978. Sally was selected by NASA to be 1 of 5 women chosen as a mission specialist for their space program and began training as a pilot. Sally was a member of the five crew members aboard the space shuttle Challenger STS-7, and on June 18, 1983, she became the first American woman in space. Serving as flight engineer for that particular mission, Sally approached it as business as usual in an effort to concentrate on what needed to be done, but afterwards, realized what an honor it was to have been selected. She was aboard another shuttle, the STS-41G, and this time conducted scientific observations of the earth for eight days. In 1986, Sally worked on investigating the Challenger disaster, and went on to be a special assistant for NASA for long range and strategic planning. A private person, it wasn't until her death in 2012 after suffering from pancreatic cancer that a special relationship between Sally and a former tennis player, Tam O'Shaughnessy had been in place for 27 years. She is the author of seven children's books with space exploration themes, as she was passionate about fostering an interest

in science in young women. Together, Sally and Tam promoted Sally Ride Science, a non-profit organization that encourages all children from all backgrounds to take an interest in science, technology, engineering and math, also known as STEM. Sally was awarded posthumously the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2013 by President Obama.

ANNIE OAKLEY (1860 - 1926) Phoebe Ann Moses never set out to become Little Miss Sure Shot with an accuracy of 483/500 or even 943/1000, but that's exactly who she came to be. She was born in Woodland, Ohio, and her family, although poor, were happy living in a log cabin on their farm. When her father died after "Annie" turned six, she was forced to live at a local poor house where she sewed clothes. She eventually went to live with another family and work for them in exchange for an education, but the wolves, as she called them, treated her so poorly that she escaped and found her way back to her mother. Annie then turned to hunting to provide money and food for her family and became such a sure shot that she was able to supply local restaurants and hotels with extra game. When Annie was 15, she entered a shooting contest and went up against famous sharpshooter Frank Butler. Not only did Annie beat him, but she eventually married him as well. Annie and Frank joined Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show, and after filling in for an ill participant, Annie became the star of the show. She performed all sorts of tricks, including hitting dimes thrown up into the air, putting out burning candles, and shooting corks off of wine bottles. Some of these tricks she could even perform while standing on the back of a galloping horse. Annie met many famous people during her lifetime, including Queen Victoria, Kaiser Wilhelm, and even legendary Native American Sitting Bull, who gave her the nickname Watanya Cicillia, or Little Sure Shot. When tensions became too great with another female sharpshooter, Annie, instead of confronting her, traveled with a rival Wild West group and only returned to Cody's show after her rival left. She and Frank made a great deal of money traveling around the country, but Annie never forgot her roots in poverty. She and Frank donated money to orphan charities and supported family members as well. During World War I, Annie offered to raise a regiment of female sharpshooters, but President William McKinley ignored her. Determined to help, Annie raised money by touring various army camps across the country to hold shooting demonstrations and donated the money to the Red Cross. She retired a wealthy woman and died in 1926. Her beloved husband died 18 days later.

ROSALIND FRANKLIN (1920 - 1958) By the time Rosalind Franklin was 15, she knew she was going to be a scientist, even though her father, who didn't believe in higher education for women, wanted her to be a social worker. She persisted and enrolled at Newnham College, Cambridge, eventually getting her doctorate in physical chemistry at Cambridge University. In 1946, one year after obtaining her doctorate, she went to

Paris to work at the Laboratoire Central des Services Chimiques de L'Etat, where she started working on X-ray imaging, forming the groundwork for her eventual discovery of the structure of DNA. By using the X-ray technology, Rosalind realized it could capture imaging of crystallized matter. By 1951, she was back in England at King's College in London and used the X-ray imaging to discover that DNA was made up of a double helix, or twisted ladder, structure. A photograph, known by the title of Photograph 51, was the primary evidence of the double helix structure, but after a colleague of Rosalind's showed it to James Watson, it was used as evidence in a paper later submitted by both Watson and Francis Crick, giving them credit for obtaining the visual image. No credit or recognition was given to Rosalind. Rosalind, however, turned her attention to working with virus structure and RNA structure, and by 1953, after authoring numerous papers, worked on structures of the tobacco mosaic virus and the polio virus, paving the way for important physiological research on virus structure for the future. In 1956, Rosalind was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. She continued on with research and publications, and even enjoyed a brief remission, but finally lost her battle with cancer in April, 1958 at only 37 years old.

MARY MARTIN (1913 - 1990) was an American actress, singer, and Broadway star. Martin had a secure and happy childhood in Weatherford, Texas where she loved climbing trees, riding ponies, and singing every chance she got. By the time she was just 17, Martin was married to her high school sweetheart and pregnant with her first child. The marriage wouldn't last -- Martin's creative ambitions called too strongly to her. She moved to LA and began auditioning for so many roles she was known as "Audition Mary." Her career started in radio in 1939 as a vocalist and singer for CBS and NBC. At the same time, Martin was cast in Cole Porter's "Leave it to Me" on Broadway. She became a star overnight. In 1949, Martin opened on Broadway as Nellie Forbush in "South Pacific" for which she would win a Tony award. Her next major success was in the role of Peter Pan in 1954, for which she won another Tony award. From there, she would win yet another Tony award for her role as Maria in "The Sound of Music" in 1959. Martin's career was mainly limited to the stage. She expressed that she didn't like making films because there was no connection to a live audience. Her television appearance as Peter Pan in 1960 was one of the few performances that were preserved on film -- for that performance, she won an Emmy. Martin's performing career spanned nearly five decades. "I chose Mary Martin because of her love for theatre. She had a deep connection with her audience, and preferred being on stage over being in films. She was able to act, sing, and dance in a way that was inspiring and energizing.and I have had many people over the years tell me I look like her, which usually results in me belting out 'I won't grow up' in true Mary Martin fashion." Portrayed by Beth Ward

ELIZA HAMILTON (1757-1854) Elizabeth Schuyler, the strong-willed daughter of a senator, never knew she would become a founding mother of America, but when she married Alexander Hamilton and started assisting him in his political career, that's exactly what happened. She helped him found the African Free School, which was an initiative of the anti-slavery movement, of which Alexander was a member. During their 24-year marriage, they had 8 children before Alexander was killed in the famous duel between he and Aaron Burr in 1804, just two years after their oldest son, Philip, had died in his own duel. Heartbroken and with mounting debt, Eliza's house was sold at an auction, but Alexander's executors of his estate purchased the property and sold it back to her for a bargain. With careful management and an eye towards the frugal, Eliza cared for her children in a variety of resourceful ways. Inspired by her husband's growing up an orphan, she established the Orphan Asylum Society in 1806, which was New York's first private orphanage. Not only did she raise funds and purchase supplies for the orphanage, but she also supervised the care and education of the children. By the time she left the organization and moved from New York in 1848, she had been responsible for an estimated 765 children. Her impact on child welfare and the Orphan Asylum Society, now known as Graham Windham serves thousands of children annually. Her determination to preserve Alexander's legacy and record the country's Revolutionary history through a series of questionnaires sent to her husband's colleagues is why we know so much about Alexander Hamilton. She also helped Dolly Madison raise funds after a monument was proposed for the first President, and on July 4, 1848, she attended the cornerstone laying ceremony of the Washington Monument. While she spent much of the 50 years after Hamilton's death marking his place in history, she remained humble about her own legacy. "My Maker has pointed out this duty to me and has given me the skill and inclination to perform it."

"I am inspired by Eliza Hamilton's resilience through losing her son and husband. Instead of shutting down with her grieving and focusing on how much more Alexander and Philip could have done had they lived longer, she decided to use the time she was given to do good by founding and directing the first private orphanage in New York City." Portrayed by Moira C.

CORRIE TEN BOOM (1892 - 1983) Corrie came from a long line of watchmakers, and she herself became the first Dutch woman licensed to repair watches in the Netherlands. Her family, strict Calvinist Christians, had deep faith that inspired them to serve society by offering food, shelter and money to those in need. The family also had

a deep respect for Jewish people and considered them as God's ancient people. During World War II, the ten Boom house became a safe refuge for many Jewish people, and as part of the Dutch Resistance, they saved approximately 800 people by having a secret room installed right behind Corrie's bedroom. Their house came under surveillance in early 1944, and all 10 members of their family were arrested by the Germans. Corrie and her sister, Betsie, were sent to the Ravensbrück concentration camp. Betsie died in December 1944, but Corrie was released 12 days after her sister's death due to a clerical error. After the war, Corrie returned to the Netherlands and set up a rehabilitation center for concentration camp survivors and also took in people who cooperated with the Germans, setting in motion a legacy of love, sacrifice and forgiveness that followed her for the rest of her life. In 1946, Corrie started on a worldwide evangelical ministry that took her to over 60 countries and became a spokesperson and writer. "The Hiding Place," a book she wrote in 1971 detailing her wartime experiences was made into a movie starring Jeanette Clift and Julie Harris. She retired from active ministry in 1977 and moved to California. One year later, she suffered a series of strokes that left her paralyzed and unable to speak, and on her 91st birthday in 1983, she died, evoking the Jewish traditional belief that states only specially blessed people are granted the privilege of dying on the date in which they were born.

VIVIAN MAIER (2/1/1926 - 4/21/2009) was an American street photographer born in NYC who grew up in France and returned to the US in 1951 where she worked as a nanny and caregiver for the rest of her life. Most of her photographs are taken around Chicago and NYC on the trips she took with the children she nannied. They depict scenes on city streets of people and pigeons captured from an angle that gives her signature 'theatre of life' look to all of her pictures. Beyond her perspective of others, Vivian took self-portraits in store front windows and incorporated mirrors and reflections in the photographs she took over the years of the rapidly expanding and evolving urban USA. She collected over 100 thousand negatives in this way; although, much of her work remained unpublished until around 2007 when Chicago historians went looking to collect photographs of various neighborhoods during the time she lived there. It is a tragedy for the ages that Vivian Maier was not widely recognized for her groundbreaking work for very long while she was alive, which is why I chose to honor her for this Women's History Month. It is good to listen to, see, and appreciate your fellow's perspective. You can view Vivian's photos at vivanmaier.com.