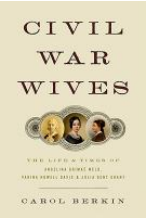
Women's History Month Bibliography March 2010

Writing Women Back into History

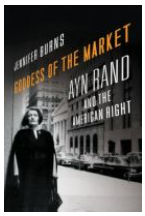
This year is the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the National Women's History Project. Even when women are acknowledged and recognized in their own lifetimes, they are frequently left out of our history books. Please join NPL in celebrating the recognition of women's historic achievements and the significant role of women in history and contemporary society.

The following is a selected list of books, videos, and websites that will help you learn more about women in history. All books and videos are available at the Norfolk Public Library, and the websites may be viewed online at any of the public computer stations located in the library or from home.

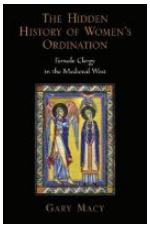
NONFICTION



Civil War Wives: The Lives and Times of Angelina Grimke Weld, Varina Howell Davis, and Julia Dent Grant (Located in the Sargeant Memorial Room) *(Carol Berkin)* In the life stories of three accidental heroes, women whose marriages provided them with position and perspective they would not otherwise have had, one of the nation's premier historians offers a unique understanding of the tumultuous social and political landscape of their time.



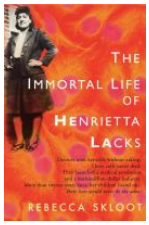
Goddess of the Market: Ayn Rand and the American Right
(Jennifer Burns) Drawing on unprecedented access to Rand's private papers and the original, unedited versions of Rand's journals, Jennifer Burns offers a groundbreaking reassessment of this key cultural figure, examining her life, her ideas, and her impact on conservative political thought.



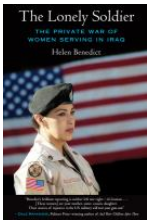
The Hidden History of Women's Ordination: Female Clergy in the Medieval West
(Gary Macy) References to the ordination of women exist in papal, Episcopal and theological documents of the time, and the rites for these ordinations have survived. Yet, many scholars still hold that women, particularly in the western church, were never ordained. A survey of the literature reveals that most scholars use a definition of ordination that would have been unknown in the early middle ages.

Hope for Animals and their World: How Endangered Species are Being Rescued from the Brink
(Jane Goodall) Renowned primatologist Goodall's latest book is an inspiring compilation of wildlife conservation success stories, collected during her extensive global travels.

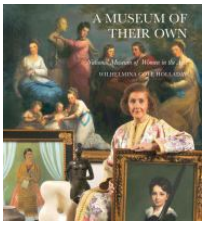
The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks



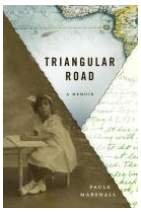
(*Rebecca Skloot*) Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor Southern tobacco farmer who worked the same land as her slave ancestors, yet her cells were taken without her knowledge. HeLa became one of the most important tools in medicine. She yielded the first "immortal" human cells grown in culture and they are still alive today though she has been dead for more than sixty years.



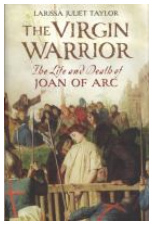
The Lonely Soldier: The Private War of Women Serving in Iraq
(Helen Benedict) Documents the experiences of military women before and during the Iraq war, in a cautionary report that argues that the military culture is a hostile environment for women that subjects them to sexual persecution and denies them the camaraderie that is necessary to a soldier's survival.



A Museum of their Own: National Museum of Women in the Arts
(Wilhelmina Cole Holladay) Works of female artists who were marginalized or disregarded until the 1980s until one woman championed their history with a museum of their own.

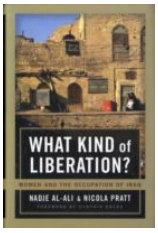


Triangular Road: A Memoir
(Paule Marshall) In this unflinchingly honest memoir, Marshall offers an indelible portrait of a young black woman coming of age as a novelist in a literary world dominated by white men.

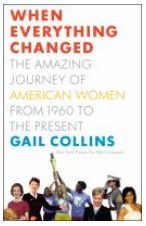


The Virgin Warrior: The Life and Death of Joan of Arc
(Larissa Juliet Taylor) A highly regarded biography that debunks many myths of Joan of Arc and describes how she courageously defended herself at trial.

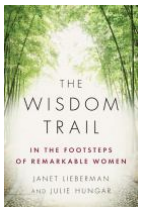
Well-Behaved Women Seldom make History
(Laurel Thatcher Ulrich) Examines three key works by women; the fifteenth-century *Book of the City of Ladies* by Christine de Pizan, Elizabeth Cady Stanton's memoirs, and Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own* to explore the making of history from a woman's perspective.



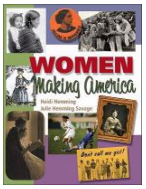
What Kind of Liberation: Women and the Occupation of Iraq
(Nadje Al-Ali) In the precursor to the war in Iraq, the Bush administration assured the world that America's interest was in liberation, especially for women. The first book to examine how Iraqi women have fared since the invasion reports from the heart of the war zone with dire news of scarce resources, growing unemployment, violence, and seclusion. Moreover, the book exposes the gap between rhetoric that placed women center stage and the present reality of their diminishing roles in the new Iraq.



When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present
(Gail Collins) Chronicles the revolution of women's civil rights throughout the past half century, drawing on oral history and research in a variety of disciplines while celebrating Hillary Clinton's recent presidential campaign.

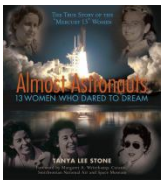


The Wisdom Trail: In the Footsteps of Remarkable Women
(Janet Lieberman) Follows the life trajectories of extraordinary women now in their 70s and 80s, who share to a remarkable extent a set of qualities that have produced their successful lives.



Women Making America
(Heidi Hemming) Covers the history of women in the US from the 1700s to present including health issues, work, education, the arts, home-life and beauty.

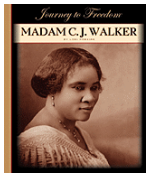
JUVENILE AND YA NONFICTION



Almost Astronauts: 13 Women who Dared to Dream
(Tanya Lee Stone) When NASA was launched in 1958, 13 women proved they had as much of the right stuff as men to be astronauts, but their way to space was blocked by prejudice, insecurity, and a scrawled note written by one of Washington's most powerful men. This is the true story of the Mercury 13 women.

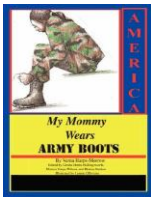
Coretta Scott
(Ntozake Shange) Together with Martin Luther King, Jr., Coretta Scott gave birth to a vision and a journey with dreams of freedom for all. This extraordinary union of poetic text by Ntozake Shange and monumental artwork by Kadir Nelson captures the movement for civil rights in the United States and honors its most elegant inspiration.

Hillary Clinton (YA)
(Epstein, Dwayne) Through quotations from the individuals profiled as well as from friends, supporters, and critics, readers learn how Clinton views herself as well as how others regard them.



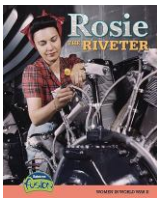
Madam C. J. Walker (YA)
(*Lori Hobkirk)* Profiles Sarah Breedlove Walker who though born in poverty, pioneered hair and beauty care products for black women and became a financial success.

Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker: The Unlikely Friendship of Elizabeth Keckley & Mary Todd Lincoln
(Lynda Jones) Covers the relationship of the first lady and her dressmaker, a former slave.

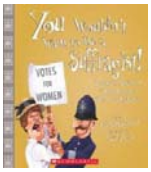


My Mommy Wears Army Boots
(Verna Harps-Morrow) This book is about children of military parents, who learn and understand the meaning and sacrifices of a mother in the military.

Sweethearts of Rhythm: The Story of the Greatest All-Girl Swing Band in the World *(Marilyn Nelson)* A look at a 1940's all-female jazz band, that originated from a boarding school in Mississippi and found its way to the most famous ballrooms in the country while offering solace during the hard years of the war.



Rosie the Riveter: Women in World War II
(Sean Price) Find out the important role women played, both on the home front and overseas. From building war planes to sending home news from overseas, nursing the injured to training men the skills they'd need as soldiers, the war could not have been won without the help of women.



You Wouldn't Want to be a Suffragist: A Protest Movement That's Rougher than you Expected
(Fiona Macdonald) A look at the dark side of history offers up the surprising difficulties endured by women suffragists who stood up for women's rights, including the right to vote.

DVD

The Brontë Sisters
Their names are synonymous with some of English literature's most timeless and celebrated novels. The real life story of the famous Brontë sisters, however, is steeped in even greater controversy and heartbreak than the lives of their tragic characters.

Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks
A look at the life and times of two remarkable women, and how their childhood experiences helped shape their strong feelings to fight inequality and discrimination. Go back to 1830 and the cotton fields of a southern plantation. Experience what life was like for an enslaved person. Then go to 1955 and a bus stop in Montgomery, Alabama where the unfairness of segregation led to the beginning of reform.

Over the River: Life of Lydia Maria Child, Abolitionist for Freedom
A look at the life of Lydia Maria Child, who in the 19th century was a popular writer of children's literature and domestic advice whose books were burned when she entered the battle to abolish slavery and published an appeal in favor of that class of Americans called Africans. Despite increasing hardships in her personal life, she would become on of the country's most eloquent voices for human dignity.

A Woman Called Golda
Golda Meir grew up on the streets of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She harbored an incredible dream: she wanted to help the Jewish people build a new home. Her arduous journey led to a dusty kibbutz in Palestine and the struggle to establish the nation of Israel. Through hardship, war, and countless sacrifices, Golda survived it all and became Israel's first female prime minister.

ONLINE DATABASES

Use your Norfolk Public Library card number for access to these resources found on our database page <**www.npl.lib.va.us/reference/reference.html**>

Access Science
Includes over 2,000 biographies of famous scientists. Search by name for biographies of women in Agriculture, Anthropology, Archaeology, Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Computers, Earth Science, Engineering, Environment, Food Science, Mathematics, Medicine, Military Science, Navigation, Paleontology, Physics, Psychiatry, and Veterinary Medicine.

Artists
An alphabetical list of links to biographies and works of major artists. Access is free and open to the public.

Biography Resource Center
Includes full-text articles from hundreds of periodicals. A gender-searchable resource based on one or more personal facts such as birth and death year, nationality, ethnicity, occupation or combine criteria to create a highly-targeted custom search.

Encyclopedia of World Biography
Approximately 7,000 biographies on notables from every part of the world and from all time periods. Includes thousands of photos, a consolidated index, and more.

Encyclopedia Virginia
A chronicle of the state's history, politics, and geography through the perspectives of all the ethnically, culturally, and linguistically diverse peoples who have lived there.

World Book Online Reference Center
Containing every article from the 22-volume print set plus thousands more. This database has state-of-the-art multimedia, maps, editor-reviewed Web sites, and more.

WEBSITES

Biography.com
www.biography.com/womens-history/index.jsp Timelines, videos, history and educational information about the contributions of women in history.

History.com
www.history.com/content/womenhist Achievements, history, videos, timelines and trivia in regard to women's history month.

Virginia Women in History 2010
www.lva.virginia.gov/public/vawomen/2010/ Features Virginia women who have been overlooked by history books.

National Women's Museum
www.nwhp.org/ A multimedia resource of photographs, essays, recordings, documents and a virtual museum collection about women's contributions to history.

Smithsonian Education
www.smithsonianeducation.org/heritage_month/whm/index.html A multimedia resource of photographs, essays, recordings, documents and a virtual museum collection about women's contributions to history for educators and students. This year features *Women Breaking Musical Barriers*.