

Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories



Women's History Month Resource Guide

March 2023

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ABOUT



Commonfund Corporate

Commonfund is a leading asset management firm that empowers educational institutions, foundations, pension funds, family offices, RIAs, and other sophisticated investors to achieve their most important goals. Through our Outsourced CIO business, we provide nonprofits access to world-class investment management solutions. Our CF Private Equity business provides access to private equity investments for both nonprofit and for-profit organizations seeking to diversify their portfolios with private investments. Our Commonfund Institute is among the nation's most trusted sources for relevant, useful, and proprietary data, analytics, and best practices in financial management. All our businesses are united by a relentless commitment to investment performance matched by an equally relentless commitment to the values of trust, transparency, and ethical behavior that have inspired us since our founding more than fifty years ago. www.commonfund.org.

About Women's History Month

Women's History Month is an annual declared month that highlights the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society. It is celebrated during March in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia, corresponding with International Women's Day on March 8, and during October in Canada, corresponding with the celebration of Persons Day on October 18.

The commemoration began in 1978 as "Women's History Day" in Sonoma County, California, and was championed by Gerda Lerner and the National Women's History Alliance to be recognized as a national week (1981) and then month (1987) in the United States, spreading internationally after that.

To continue learning more, click [here](#).

About This Guide

Commonfund, in conjunction with our Women's History Month subcommittee, created a resource guide to help all of us celebrate the contributions of Women in all aspects of life. The [National Women's History Alliance](#) designates a yearly theme for Women's History Month. The 2023 theme is "Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories." This theme recognizes "women, past and present, who have been active in all forms of media and storytelling including print, radio, TV, stage, screen, blogs, podcasts, news, and social media." In this guide we list a variety of different sources, some historical, some humorous, some entertaining, some inspirational and some infuriating, but with the hope of bringing light to some of the stories, accomplishments and contributions made by women to our society and the world at large.



UNDERSTAND AND CONNECT

Historical Women's Colleges & Universities

- [The History and Impact of Women's Colleges](#)
- [Texas Women's College - Famous Alumnae](#)
- [Sweet Briar College](#)
- [The Power of Historically Women's Colleges](#)
- [The Education of Girls and Women in the U.S.](#)
- [Her Education, Our Future](#)



LISTEN AND ENGAGE

Podcasts

amplifyHER

amplifyHER is a 10-part podcast, filled with music and passion, from the United Nations, supported by SoundCloud. Around the world, women musicians are producing art in the face of, and sometimes inspired by, the challenges they face in society, whether related to conflict, human rights, climate change, inequality, or simply because of their gender. In this series, 10 inspiring women musicians from diverse cultural backgrounds, talk to us from their homes and studios, about their challenges as women in a male-dominated industry, overcoming barriers, and what drives them to continue creating music.

How Women Inspire: Invest, Lead, Give

How Women Inspire: Invest, Lead, Give sets out to bring the voices of empowered and inspiring women forward to share their stories of stepping into leadership positions. We aspire to share what is possible and encourage more women to leap, striving for these board and c-suite positions themselves to change the path towards a more inclusive future. This podcast will share stories on how women lead and how their leadership opens the doors for the greater value of opportunities for others. By listening to this podcast, listeners will feel empowered to level up themselves or invest in women-led and women-founded companies to change the world of business.

The Players' Pod

World Cup champion Kelley O'Hara welcomes us into real, deep conversations with the greatest women in sports, in this thrilling podcast. O'Hara asks guests to share "the untold stories behind their success," and she scores again and again - [Allyson Felix](#), [Nastia Lukin](#), [Chloe Kim](#), [Candace Parker](#), and more athletic giants share how they did it all, in endlessly fascinating episodes.

Making Space with Hoda Kotb

Where do you draw your strength? Join TODAY's Hoda Kotb as she continues a journey of self-discovery and exploration of the resilience of the human spirit. Hoda hears from some of the people she admires most, and whose testimonies of compassion provide lessons on how to make space for whatever it is you may be seeking in life right now. Like Hoda, you'll leave these talks stronger than when you started and inspired to make space for growth and change in your own life.

Oprah's Super Soul

Awaken, discover and connect to the deeper meaning of the world around you with Oprah's Super Soul. Hear Oprah's personal selection of her interviews with thought-leaders, best-selling authors, spiritual luminaries, as well as health and wellness experts. All designed to light you up, guide you through life's big questions and help bring you one step closer to your best self.

Queens Podcast

If you want to learn about all the powerful women of history, Queens Podcast is the route you need to go down. The show focuses on "female rulers throughout history who handled their business and slayed." You'll learn about women like Nefertiti, Marie Laveau, and Empress Wu.

The Exploress Podcast

Join us as we time travel back through history, exploring the lives and stories of ladies of the past, from the everyday to the extraordinary, imagining what it might have been like to be them.

The Green Dream

The Green Dream with Dana Thomas is a weekly magazine about how to "green-up" your life. A *New York Times* bestselling author, British Vogue's European Sustainability Editor, and leading voice in the climate movement, Thomas welcomes experts, creators, and changemakers from politics to fashion for dynamic conversations on all things sustainable. Episodes will close with reviews by respected critics of the latest books, films, music, and more that in some way explore humanity and the planet. The Green Dream is the Podcast of Hope.

Where Should We Begin?

Listen to the incomparable therapist Esther Perel counsel real couples as they reveal the most intimate, personal, and complicated details of their conflicts that have brought them to her door. This season, Esther speaks to a constellation of new relationships: A couple wrestling with the guilt they feel over the happiness their infidelity created. Another trying to make space for their queerness in an outwardly appearing hetero relationship. A set of friends trying to sort out if their childhood friendship needs to continue into adulthood. And Esther checks back in with couples from seasons past to see where they are now as she creates a space for us to hear our own lives and struggles articulated in the stories of others. So....where should we begin?

Wining About Herstory

Have you ever wondered where all the women were in your history books? You're not alone! Join long time gal pals, Kelley & Emily, as they swap stories about incredible women from history over a cheap bottle of wine. They take wining to a whole new level. Women's history has never been this tipsy!



READ AND EXPLORE

We have compiled a list of articles, websites, and resources about Women (especially women investors).

Articles and Websites

- [7 Trailblazing American Women Entrepreneurs](#)
- [7 Women Who Broke Down Barriers in Sports](#)
- [9 Groundbreaking Inventions by Women](#)
- [How Billie Jean King Led the Equal Pay for Play Battle](#)
- [Inspiring the Next Generation of STEM Pioneers](#)
- [International Women's Day: Women In Travel Who Are Changing The World](#)
- [Rea Ann Silva: The woman behind Beautyblender](#)
- [Refrigerators and women's empowerment: The "peaceful revolution" of rural electrification](#)
- [The Female Navigator Who Trained WWII Pilots and Guided Astronauts](#)
- [The Fascinating History of Boston's League of Women for Community Service](#)
- [The History of Female Spies in the CIA](#)
- [The Majority Of America's Top-Ranked Colleges Will Be Led By A Woman Or Person Of Color This Fall](#)
- [The Surprising History of International Women's Day](#)
- [When Computer Coding Was a 'Woman's' Job](#)
- [Who are the Dewdrop Fairies?](#)
- [Women entrepreneurs who will shake up the sports business](#)
- [Women's History Milestones: A Timeline](#)

Relating to Women in Finance

- [Accounting student-turned-CFO: 'Our industry needs more women leaders'](#)
- [After the impact Covid-19, most women see money as a tool to effect change, survey shows](#)
- [All female-led fintech AngeLink's CEO talks women in finance](#)
- [Future Returns: Angel Investing in Women-Led Companies](#)
- [Gender Pay Gap Statistics In 2023](#)
- [Men And Women As Investors: Potential Key Differences To Appreciate And Understand](#)
- [Mind the gender gap: Here's how govt initiatives are focusing on empowering women in India](#)
- [Samantha McDonald found a niche in commercial real estate and encourages other women to do the same](#)
- [This advisor started a financial non-profit to empower women. Here's her top investing and entrepreneurship advice](#)
- [UK executive target for women met three years ahead of schedule](#)
- [Why investing in women's health is impact investing](#)

- [Why Women Are The Ultimate Behavioral Investors](#)
- [Women comprise 40% of boards at top UK companies for first time in a decade](#)
- [Women are narrowing the confidence gap with men when it comes to managing money, study shows](#)
- [Women May Be Better Investors Than Men. Let Me Mansplain Why](#)
- [Women and Investing: 20 Years of Research and Statistics Summarized](#)
- [Women in VC: Taking stock of where we are](#)

Books

- [A Room of One's Own](#) by Virginia Woolf
- [Finding Me: A Memoir](#) by Viola Davis
- [Go Set a Watchman](#) by Harper Lee
- [Haben: The Deafblind Woman Who Conquered Harvard Law](#) by Haben Girma
- [Madame Alexander: The Creator of the Iconic American Doll](#) by Susan Goldman Rubin
- [Serena Williams: The Inspiring Story of One of Tennis' Greatest Legends](#) by Clayton Geoffreys
- [Strength in Numbers](#) by Louis Orazio II
- [The Immortal Life of Henriette Lacks](#) by Rebecca Skloot
- [The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women](#), by Kate Moore
- [The Testaments](#) by Margaret Atwood
- [Queen of our Times: The Life of Elizabeth II](#) by Robert Hardman



WATCH AND LEARN

Documentaries

Documentaries allow us to re-live historic moments and provide insight into our culture and society.

Becoming (2020)

An intimate look into the life of former First Lady Michelle Obama during a moment of profound change, not only for her personally, but for the country she and her husband served over eight impactful years in the White House. The film offers a rare and up-close look at her life, taking viewers behind the scenes as she embarks on a 34-city tour that highlights the power of community to bridge our divides, and the spirit of connection that comes when we openly and honestly share our stories.

Where to Watch: Netflix

Diana, Our Mother: Her Life and Legacy (2017)

Features interviews with Prince William and Prince Harry, both of whom talk openly about their mother, and pay tribute to the many ways her influence has shaped their lives. It's a fresh and revealing insight into Princess Diana through the personal and intimate reflections of her two sons and her friends and family (many of whom have never spoken publicly before). Prince William and Prince Harry share some of their earliest memories of their mother, recall the final conversation they had with her before her tragic death in August 1997, and discuss their feelings in the aftermath of losing her.

Where to Watch: HBO Max, Hulu, Amazon Prime

Dorothea Lange: Grab a Hunk of Lightning (2014)

"The camera is an instrument that teaches people how to see without a camera."

Her photograph Migrant Mother is one of the most recognized and arresting images in the world, a portrait that came to represent America's Great Depression. Yet few know the story, struggles and profound body of work of the woman who created the portrait: Dorothea Lange. Directed and narrated by Lange's granddaughter Dyanna Taylor.

Where to watch: PBS.org

Everything Is Copy — Nora Ephron: Scripted and Unscripted (2016)

A beloved essayist, novelist, and filmmaker, the late Nora Ephron was an editorial polymath whose scathingly witty, confessional, and poison-fueled pen embodied the most vivacious elements of New York culture. Taking its title from the mantra she inherited from her mother, son Jacob Bernstein's biographical tribute paints an effervescent portrait of Ephron through interviews with her family, ex-husbands, and high-profile collaborators like Meryl Streep, Tom Hanks, and Meg Ryan.

Where to Watch: HBO Max, Hulu, Amazon Prime

Gaga: Five Foot Two (2017)

Lady Gaga is more than just a powerhouse singer decked in a meat-dress—she's a human with wants, anxiety, imposter syndrome, fibromyalgia, and talent. In this up-close-and-personal Netflix documentary, the A Star Is Born actress and real-life pop star gets raw about the way society's view on femininity, sexuality, success, access, and ability have caused her pain. It also explores how she's redefined for herself what it means to be successful, to emerge from that pain more self-assured.

Where to Watch: Netflix

Gloria: In Her Own Words (2011)

Learn about the face of the 1970s Women's Liberation Movement from Gloria Steinem herself in this HBO documentary, which blends interviews, first-hand accounts and never-before-seen archival footage. Produced by Emmy-winning Peter Kunhardt and Sheila Nevins, this one is a must-watch for any women's history buff.

Where to Watch: HBO Max, Amazon Prime

I Am Greta (2020)

Follow teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg's whirlwind journey from shy student to global voice for change at the UN Climate Action Summit in New York City in this extraordinary documentary from Swedish director Nathan Grossman. -- Teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg gets the documentary treatment in I Am Greta, which shows how she went from a 15-year-old skipping school to strike for climate action outside the Swedish Parliament to gaining global recognition

Where to Watch: Hulu

Lorraine Hansberry: Sighted Eyes/Feeling Heart (2018)

Explore the inner life and works of the activist, playwright and author of "A Raisin in the Sun," Lorraine Hansberry. Narrated by actress LaTanya Richardson Jackson and featuring the voice of Tony Award-winning actress Anika Noni Rose as Hansberry.

Where to watch: PBS.org

Miss Americana (2020)

As if a documentary by this name could be about anyone other than the world's (minus Kanye West's) favorite girl next door: Taylor Swift. In this Netflix documentary, the singer-songwriter takes off the "good girl muzzle" and gets real about the role politics play in her music. T-Swift wants to convince her fans that she's not just an artist; she's an activist, too.

Where to Watch: Netflix

Rita Moreno: Just a Girl Who Decided to Go for It (2021)

A look at the life and 70-plus-year career of Rita Moreno, from her humble beginnings in Puerto Rico to her success on Broadway and in Hollywood, where she broke down barriers, fought for representation, and forged a path for new generations of artists.

Where to watch: Netflix

Movies

Movies, unlike documentaries, allow for more creative interpretation and allow filmmakers to bring different elements to life through storytelling.

9 to 5 (1980)

Legends Jane Fonda, Dolly Parton and Lily Tomlin play secretaries who turn the tables on their "sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot" of a boss. The comedy served as Parton's big screen debut and earned her a Best Original Song nod for the catchy title song.

Frida (2002)

The life of iconic Mexican artist Frida Kahlo — as portrayed in director Julie Taymor's eponymous biopic — boldly resists simple classifications, depicting Kahlo's pride in bucking gender norms through her art, her fashion and even her grooming. Salma Hayek earned her first Oscar nomination for Best Actress for her portrayal of the artist.

Little Women (2019)

A piece of literary history, this movie is based on the Little Women novel from 1868. The story focuses on four sisters, who each have unique talents and want different things out of life. As the girls grow and pursue their goals, we're treated to the beautiful and difficult complexities of sisterhood. The four protagonists in Little Women are fantastically portrayed by some of the best young actresses of our time. -- Greta Gerwig's adaptation of author Louisa May Alcott's beloved classic earned six Oscar nominations, including a nod for the writer-director's Adapted Screenplay and Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress nominations for Saoirse Ronan and Florence Pugh, respectively. (Little Women ended up winning the Oscar for Costume Design.)

Joy (2015)

In Joy, Jennifer Lawrence shines as the titular Joy Mangano, an ambitious businesswoman who became a self-made millionaire. While juggling different aspects of her complex personal life, Joy innovates a self-wringing mop and eventually meets a wealthy investor. Despite numerous people's attempts to shut her blossoming business down, Joy fights back with tenacity and finds independence as one of the most successful business entrepreneurs of all time. Fun fact: the real-life Joy Mangano is the founder and CEO of Clean Boss, which is still selling products today.

On the Basis of Sex (2018)

If you haven't heard about the historical pioneer that is Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who was the second woman justice ever on the U.S. Supreme Court, On the Basis of Sex is a movie you need to see. Ginsburg was a nationally renowned lawyer and served as the Associate Justice of the United States of Supreme Court for nearly 20 years, and this movie portrays one of her earliest cases. She successfully represented a man who was wrongfully denied a tax deduction after hiring a nurse to care for his elderly mother, and the case (Moritz vs. Commissioner) changed history forever.

Queen of Katwe (2016)

Queen of Katwe tells the little-known tale of Phiona Mutesi, a young girl from Uganda. When a traveling missionary teaches her to play chess, she blows the world away with her innate intelligence and talent for the game. While her life is filled with adversity, Phiona takes her chess career farther than anyone ever dreamed and is ultimately able to provide a better life for her family because of it.

Steel Magnolias (1989)

Steel Magnolias is a tragic comedy that takes you on a rollercoaster of emotions. In the end, it's a great movie with a wonderful message on female unity and the importance of supportive friendships.

Suffragette (2015)

It's no secret that history has tried to stifle women in politics, and *Suffragette* gives us a look at the courageous women who fought for their right to vote. Set in 1912, Maud and Violet are laundry workers in England; after joining a suffragette protest, the two are met with intense stigma and abuse at the hands of the men in their lives. Despite the backlash and obstacles that come their way, Maud and Violet remain steadfast members of the suffragette movement until the very end.

The Joy Luck Club (1993)

A paragon of representation for Asian women in America. The story is told in sections, and each focuses on a Chinese immigrant that traveled to America. The women overcome many obstacles in their life, but their greatest challenges come from raising their own daughters in a completely different world. The movie has been critically praised for its gorgeous portrayal of Chinese culture; it's considered such an important film that the Library of Congress chose to officially preserve it in 2020. Wayne Wang's seminal drama, adapted from Amy Tan's novel of the same name, centers on a group of Chinese women in the 1980s in San Francisco who meet regularly to play Mahjong and trade stories about their lives. *The Joy Luck Club* explores complicated relationships and cultural conflict through the depiction of Chinese immigrant mothers and their first-generation Chinese American daughters.



SUPPORT AND EXPERIENCE

100 Women in Finance

Our mission is to strengthen the global finance industry by empowering women to achieve their professional potential at each career stage. They have a guiding principle called Vision 30/40 in which they aim to have women occupy 30% of senior investment roles and executive committee positions by 2040. They aim to advance careers through education, visibility and talent sourcing. They offer programs that elevate the profiles of female professionals, as well as education and professional programming to broaden perspectives, gain insights and sharpen skills. They also sponsor conferences such as Global FundWomen Week, have a jobs board offer industry leadership awards.

General Federation of Women's Clubs

GFWC clubs and clubwomen are the heart of not only the Federation, but the communities in which they live and work. By Living the Volunteer Spirit, GFWC clubwomen transform lives each day, not simply with monetary donations, but with hands-on tangible projects that provide immediate impact. With a grassroots approach that often thinks locally but impacts globally, GFWC, its clubs and members remain committed to serving as a force for global good, as it has done since its formation.

One Girl Can

One Girl Can gives some of the world's most vulnerable, high-potential girls a chance to rise above extreme poverty and gender inequality. Through education, training, and mentoring, girls are empowered to achieve their goals, earn a meaningful living, and build better lives — for themselves, their families, and their communities.

She Runs It

She Runs It is a Century + old organization with roots and origins in membership and service to a community united in its intention to see more women as leaders. Established in 1912 – eight years before the 19th amendment was ratified – as “League of Advertising Women”, She Runs It has evolved to be a global organization with a mission to pave the way for more women to lead at every career level. For us, “She” stands for every individual who experiences the challenges that women face in marketing, media and tech ... and all of their allies. We exist to help our community stay strong, current, connected, and included.

For additional resources, please visit the Commonfund website to download our [Diversity and Inclusion: Ways to Make a Change](#) resource guide.

In 2018, we created a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Office to intentionally promote and foster inclusion and equity across the firm and our investment process, thought leadership and professional and organizational development. To learn more and download our DEI report, visit - <https://www.commonfund.org/diversity>.