



Women's History Month

Women have played crucial roles throughout history, some of which have been overlooked. Women's history month celebrates these successes and emphasizes the focus for diversity in our workforce. Just a few great successes being the invention of frequency hopping, revealing the DNA structure, the creation of hydyne, and the involvement in the Revolutionary war to our current wars. This years theme for Women's History Month is "Women Who have Made Great Achievements".

In addition to the women highlighted in this newsletter by ODEI and DEOMI, the SC Military Museum will be highlighting local Army and Air-force women on their Facebook page daily.

BE SURE TO CHECK THIS OUT!

<https://www.facebook.com/MilitaryMuseumSC>

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*"You must never be fearful
about what you are doing
when it is right"-Rosa Parks*



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ODEI NUGGET: Risk factors for Harassment and Prevention strategies

Lack of diversity in workforce– Pay attention to relations among work groups and when applicable, increase diversity at all levels.

Single-gender dominated environment- Proactively create an environment of dignity and respect starting at the top.

"High Value" Employees- All employees should be held accountable for their actions and to the same standard.

Isolated workplaces- Consider restructuring work environments/schedules to create opportunities for isolated workers to connect with each other to "check in".

Reference

[Chart of Risk Factors for Harassment and Responsive Strategies | U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission \(eeoc.gov\)](#)



Lt. Willa Brown

First African American woman to earn a pilots, and commercial license (US), and is responsible for training over 200 Tuskegee Airmen and instructors.



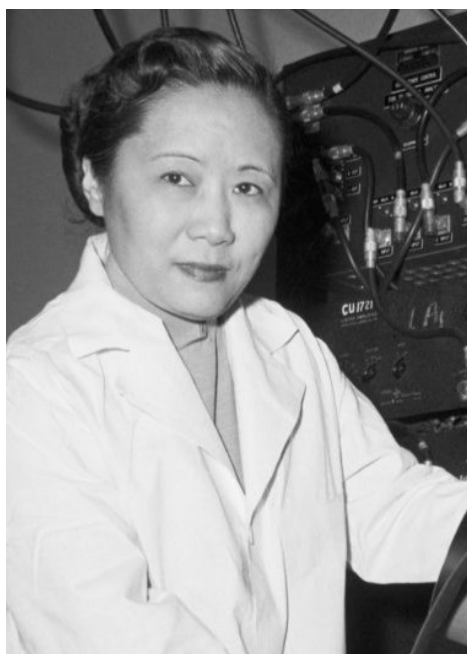
Col. Mary Hallaren

The first official female soldier to join the U.S. Army as the Director of the WAC. She also played a key role in the integration of females into the permanent military force.



Dr. Mary Walker

She was a Civil War surgeon, Prisoner of War, women's advocate and the only female Medal of Honor recipient.



Dr. Chien-Shiung Wu

Chinese-American physicist whose contributions were critical in the creation of the atomic bomb. She also proved the theory of parity conservation, and beta decay.



Cpt. Linda Bray

The first woman to command American soldiers in combat. This led to the removal of the gender ban in certain MOS's.



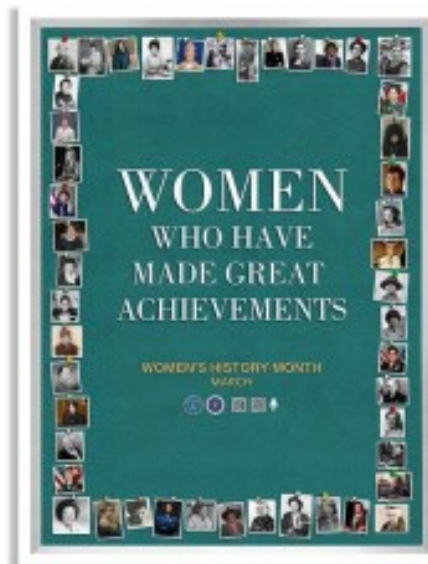
Lt. Susan Ahn Cuddy

The first female Asian American naval officer, WW2 Codebreaker, the first female gunnery officer, and she worked in Naval Intelligence and the NSA.

CULTURAL
AWARENESS



OBSE ERVANCE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Each year, the Department of Defense honors the women who have shaped U.S. history and made contributions to pave the way forward.

Women's History Month has taken place each March since 1987 when Congress passed Public Law 100-9, which authorizes the President to proclaim the observation every year. Before this, the event began as "Women's History Week" in 1981.

This year's theme, *"Women Who Have Made Great Achievements,"* celebrates the women who left an impact on the United States through their sacrifices, public service, and inspirational work.

One of those women was Claudette Colvin. Nine months before Rosa Parks made her famous stand for civil rights, there was Claudette Colvin, a 15-year-old Black girl who challenged segregationist bus policies.

In 1955, Colvin refused to give up her seat for a White woman after the "Whites only" section was full. When asked why she would not give her seat up for the woman, she replied, *"because it is my constitutional right."*

The bus driver alerted the police, who forced her off and jailed her. She was the first person arrested for challenging Montgomery's bus segregation laws. After being mistreated by the officers, she was charged with disobeying segregation laws, resisting arrest, and assaulting an officer, which stayed on her record into adulthood.

In 2021, Colvin, then 82 years old, finally had her record expunged of the criminal charges.

Women have played a crucial role in moving progress forward throughout American history.

The innumerable accomplishments of women have shattered obstacles, warranting commemoration during Women's History Month and year-round recognition.

"I just couldn't move. History had me glued to the seat."

- Claudette Colvin

Resources

- [Early African American Aviator Willa Brown | National Air and Space Museum \(si.edu\)](#)
- [8 female soldiers who changed the course of US military history \(armytimes.com\)](#)
- [Meet Dr. Mary Walker: The only female Medal of Honor recipient | Article | The United States Army](#)
- [Navy Lt. Susan Ahn Cuddy Carved the Path for Asian American Women > U.S. Department of Defense > Story](#)
- [Women's History Month 2024 - Dates, Facts, Quotes | HISTORY](#)
 - [11 Bold Women Who Changed the World | HISTORY](#)
- [Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services \(DACOWITS\)](#)

