

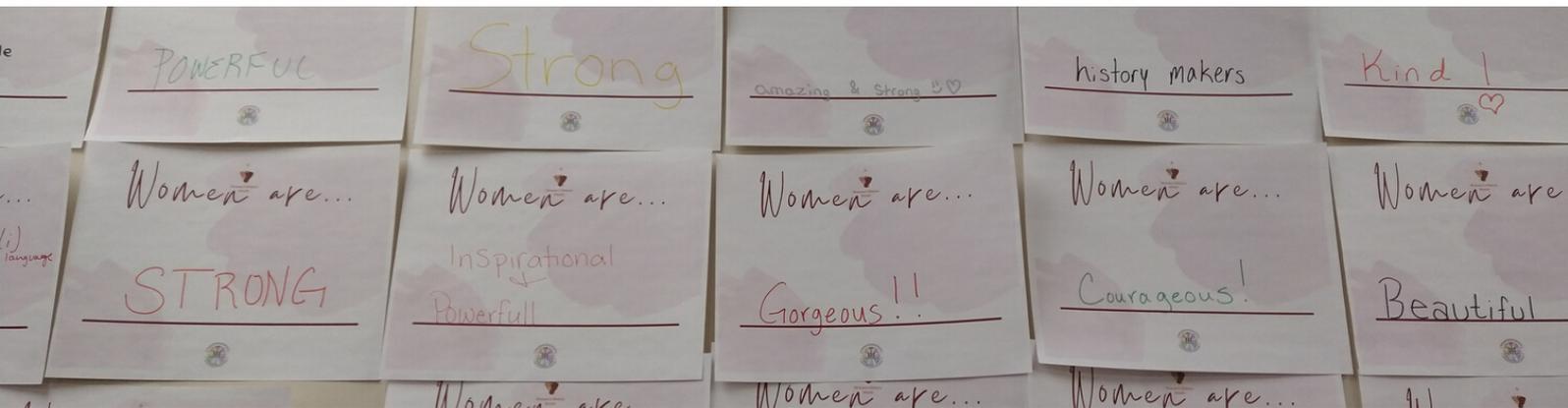


OFFICE OF EQUITY AND INCLUSION

THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

UNIVERSITY OF LYNCHBURG

March 2022



Celebrating Women's History Month

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5 WOMEN WHO SHAPED THE US



1 *Claudette Colvin*

Nine months before Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus, teenager Claudette Colvin did the same. The 15-year-old was arrested due to Montgomery's segregation laws, and plead not guilty with probation. Colvin was not chosen by the NAACP to challenge segregation laws because of how young she was, but she went on to be one of the four plaintiffs in the *Browder vs Gayle* court case that ruled the Montgomery segregated bus system unconstitutional.



2 *Hedy Lamarr*

Hedy Lamarr was a talented actress most known for her 1933 film *Ecstasy*. However, she was also a brilliant inventor. Along with George Anthiel, a composer, they invented what they called "frequency hopping". It was a technique that disguised radio transmissions by making them jump to different channels in certain patterns. As it turns out, that technology is actually the precursor to modern wireless technology like Bluetooth and Wi-Fi that we use today.



3 *Jeanette Rankin*

In 1916, Jeanette Rankin was the first woman elected to congress. Over the course of her career, she spoke and lobbied for women's suffrage. She was the only member of congress to vote no against U.S participation in both World Wars. She helped form the "Jeanette Rankin Brigade", a group of feminists, pacifists and students against the Vietnam War.

4 Chein-Shiung Wu



Chein-Shiung Wu was a senior scientist on the Manhattan Project. In the 1950s, she was approached by two theoretical physicists that wanted help disproving the law of conservation of parity. Using a chemical isotope, Wu showed that the laws of nature were not always symmetrical. Despite her contribution to the project, the other scientists were credited instead for disproving the law.

5 Marsha P. Johnson



Marsha P. Johnson was a prominent LGBTQ activist in New York City's Greenwich Village in the 1960s. Johnson is rumored to be the first person to throw an object at the police during the 1969 Stonewall Riots. In the early 1970s, she helped found the Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries (STAR), which helped runaway or homeless transgender and drag queen women of color.

Source: <https://www.history.com/news/bold-women-who-changed-the-world>



WOMEN LEADERS ON CAMPUS



Any student that goes to the dining hall between 2-4 p.m. will see Mrs. Winnegale as their cashier. Ms. Winnegale has worked for the University of Lynchburg for 36 years, and first started out as an accountant at the bookstore. Her background is in accounting, which she contributes to her mother. She says the story of how she got into accounting is too long to tell, but that while she was at community college "I was on chapter 10 when other people were at chapter 4". When talking about her job as a cashier, she says she loves it, it's just like accounting, and it's a lot more involved than people think. Her advice to students is something she learned from her parents and lives by: "never go to bed angry".

Ro Soto is a senior and is involved in a lot of things around campus. She is the president of the Student Activities Board and Alpha Phi Omega, and is also part of the Hispanic Student Society. She has been involved in student government as well as student activities. Going into college she didn't know that she wanted to be a leader, but that once she joined an organization she did. She said that she has faced challenges, but that she has an amazing support group on campus of friends and mentors that have helped her be her best. Her advice to aspiring leaders is, "don't be afraid to put yourself out there. I spent a big part of my first year here doubting myself and standing in my own way of great opportunities. Once I started to put myself out there, I had so many doors open that have made my college experience".



Georgia Brown is a senior and spends a lot of time on the stage. She is a part of the concert and chamber choirs, as well as the musical theater ensemble and curtain call. Off the stage, she directs and is an employee of the costume shop. She is a member of the theater honors society Alpha Psi Omega, and a member of Alpha Chi. Brown says that her background plays a big role in her life because her parents encouraged her to join and become involved in activities she cared about. Although, she acknowledges that sometimes it's not always an easy path. "I have been lucky to have great support from mentors and peers. I am extremely thankful for this, as I know that many times, this is not the case, and women have to fight harder to have our voices heard".





Dr. Henry-Stone is the Director of Sustainability and an Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies at the University of Lynchburg. One of her favorite projects on campus is the Peace Garden next to the spiritual life house. Recently, she helped plant radishes and peas to demonstrate sustainable gardening. On a larger scale, she helps with initiatives like carbon neutrality on campus. She feels like students don't know a lot about how energy works on campus and what it means to be carbon neutral, and so her interest is teaching about it. She feels that as a woman it's been harder to advocate for the things she wants to do, but at the same time it's a process. Her advice to women is, "if you have half the things [qualifications], apply for a job, because you got to get your foot in the door and show your worth. It's a mindset."



Dr. Lewis is actively involved on campus. She is an associate professor of Communication Studies and the co-chair of the Africana Studies department. She oversees the university's newspaper, The Critograph, and the African Caribbean Union. Dr. Lewis's background has taken her all over the world, and she says that she's fortunate to have mentors and family she can rely on. She has faced challenges, though. "There are always challenges as you navigate leadership roles, there will always be those who consider me less than because of the color of my skin or because of my gender or even because I tend to be assertive...I think it is important that as a woman I lead by example, that I am intentional with my words and that I always trust my voice." Her advice to students is to find a mentor and embrace life-long learning, as well as finding a hobby for work life balance.

THE BLURB A spotlight of events during the month

3/3 - LGBTQ Inclusion and Allyship in Sport

3/8 - Hispanic Student Society Salute to Latinas

3/24 - Nikole Hannah-Jones Turner Lecture

3/31 - Brown Bag Lunch with President Morrison-Shetlar

THE 1619 PROJECT

On March 24, Turner Gymnasium was packed with people for the Rose Schewel Lecture Series. This year, Nikole Hannah-Jones, award winning reporter and author of "The 1619 Project", presented "Truth, History, and the 1619 Project". The lecture focused on key ideas presented in her book and pointed out the contributions of Black Americans throughout history.



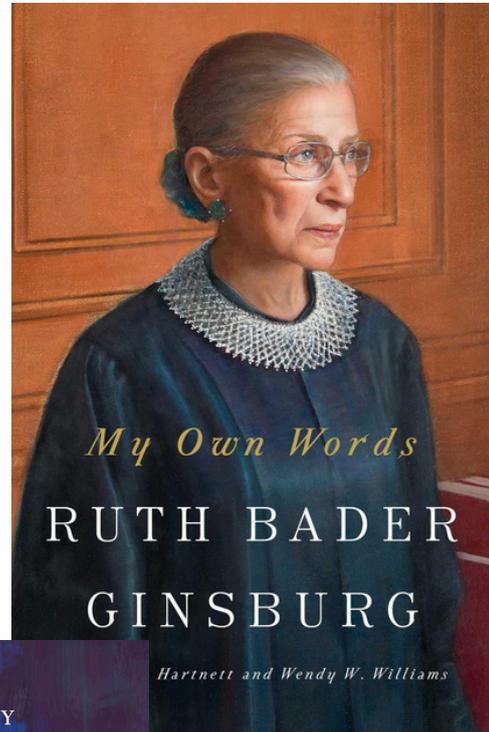
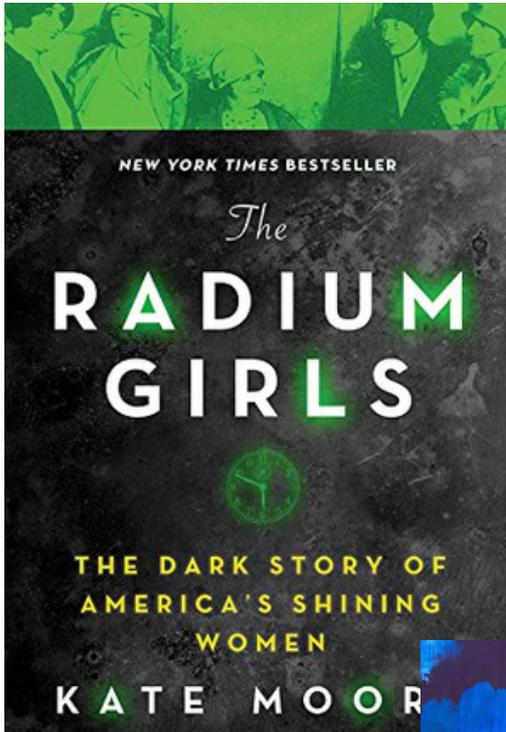
"The 1619 Project" starts off with Hannah-Jones looking at how much of an impact her book has made. She talks about the White Lion, the first slave ship, and how it is often overlooked. In fact, in the lecture she states that she wants to get rid of the idea that "slavery is an asterisk to the American story".

Ultimately, she posed the question of what would it really mean to think about our nations founding at a different date. The talk led to her explaining that there has been push back on her project. There has been legislation, both successful and unsuccessful, that have tried to ban her work. Hannah-Jones points out: "It is impossible for a work of journalism to 'threaten the integrity' of the United States of America". She goes on to add, "That we could be so fragile that a work of journalism that simply seeks to tell the truth of our founding could destroy our country. I don't believe that."

Hannah-Jones thinks that the rise of her project is due in part to the Black Lives Matter movement, and also the rise of Critical Race Theory as a political talking point. She says that the efforts of people trying to ban her book are only a test to see if other moves could be made against marginalized groups of people. Overall Hannah-Jones states that she's just the messenger, and that it's up to us to create change.



RECOMMENDED READINGS



MEET OUR TEAM



Amanda McGovern, JD.
Title IX Coordinator/Compliance Officer



Dr. Robert L. Canida II, PhD.
Vice President for Inclusive Excellence



Claudio Otero III '20
Graduate Assistant for Inclusive Excellence.
Graduate Student Advisor for Man2Man



Annette B. Stadtherr '86
Director of Multicultural Services



Adrieanna Vest-Turner MPH '22
Graduate Assistant for the Office of Multicultural Services
Graduate Student Advisor for Dimensions of Diversity
Graduate Student Advisor for Affinity Organizations



Nyccol Benitez Contreras '23
Student Diversity Liaison



Isaiah Hudson '24
Student Diversity Liaison



Shadaya Cooper '22
Student Diversity Liaison



Emmanuel Hernandez Mellado '23
Student Diversity Liaison



Jessica Novotny '22
Editor/Writer with Inclusive Excellence for the
Office of Equity and Inclusion

Connect With Us Phone : 434.544.8330

Email : OEI@Lynchburg.edu

IG: [inclusiveatoei_](#)

Twitter: [ul_oei](#)

FB: University of Lynchburg Office of Equity and Inclusion