

The Gazette



Photo Courtesy: the New York Times

Celebrating Black History Month - Special Edition 2019

In this special edition of The Gazette, we honor Black Women activists. Some are well known (or should be). Others have received little in fame, but their contributions are note-worthy. Some are from the past; some are modern day sheroes. It is impossible to acknowledge all Black Women who have made their mark, or to cover every avenue of activism. We hope to encourage you to seek out more of them and become inspired!

1



SHE PERSISTED!!

2

**“AIN’T I A
WOMAN?”**

~ Sojourner Truth

3

WOMEN LEAD!

The 116th Congress
boasts a record 25
Black Women – Times
are a Changing!



**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!**



February 24
**Women’s Rights
Action Group Meeting**
Sunday, 11:45am,
2nd Floor Youth Rm

If you are unable to
attend but want to
share ideas/thoughts,
email Karen at
kbbingo@hotmail.com



February 28
**O.C. Planned
Parenthood Advocacy
Nights, Santa Ana
Meeting**

Contact Co-Champions
rona.s.henry@gmail.com
or
debbiesalahi@gmail.com
for carpool/other info.

Trailblazers: Making a Difference Then & Now



Vilissa Thompson: a Black woman with a rare condition commonly known as brittle bone disease and founder of Ramp Your Voice. She created #DisabilityTooWhite to address how lack of racial diversity and lack of disabled representation impacts disabled people of color and their ability to feel fully included and accepted within the community. knows first hand about being black and disabled.



Leslie Mac: a Unitarian Universalist, says “I work every day to lift up the voices & experiences of those most effected by racial injustice and white supremacy.” Her current project is #PayBlackWomen which addresses being underpaid and how asking for pay is tricky because a Black Woman’s confidence is misconstrued as arrogance and her enthusiasm is positioned as anger.



Georgia Gilmore (1920 - 1990): a cook and activist, who used her kitchen and food sales (and organized other black women to do the same) to secretly raise funds to pay for alternative transportation during the 381-day bus boycott in Montgomery, AL. Her home is now a historical site.



Fannie Lou Hamer (1917 - 1977): a champion of voting rights. She was a cotton sharecropper since age 6 and dropped out of school at age 12. After she registered to vote, she lost her job, her home of 20 years, and was jailed and beaten (suffering permanent kidney damage). This made her more committed. She ran for Congress and helped found the National Women’s Political Caucus in 1971.



Mary Church Terrell (1863 - 1954): A women's right's activist. Graduating from Oberlin College in 1884, she became the first Black woman to earn a college degree. She found the American suffragist movement reluctant to include (if not totally exclude) Black women, so she co-founded the National Association of Colored Women in 1896. Later she became a charter member of the NAACP; the first Black woman ever appointed to a school board; and served on a committee to investigate alleged police mistreatment of Black people. In 1950 she sued a whites-only restaurant for refusing service, which eventually led to a court ruling that segregated restaurants in Washington, DC were unconstitutional.



Marsha P. Johnson (1945 - 1992): LGBTQ activist and transgender woman who helped instigate the Stonewall riots in 1969 and is the subject of a Netflix documentary investigating her death.



Daisy Bates (1914 - 1999): Battled to end segregation in Arkansas by advocating and supporting the "Little Rock 9" integrate the all-white Central High School.



Beverly Bond (1970 -): Created the non-profit, Black Girls Rock! in 2006. The goal is to build the self-esteem of young women of color by offering mentorship and enrichment through arts. She partnered with BET (Black Entertainment Television) in 2010 to air the annual Black Girls Rock! Awards show celebrating the accomplishments of exceptional women of color and showcasing positive role models. The show's debut drew nearly 3 million viewers.



Tarana Burke (1973 -): Founder of the “Me Too” movement in 2006, that has become a world-wide effort to raise awareness about sexual harassment, abuse, and assault.



Dorothy Height (1912 - 2010): Women’s rights activist who focused primarily on improving the circumstances of and opportunities for Black Women. She directed the integration of all YWCA branches and was president of the National Council of Negro Women. In the 1990s she influenced young people in the war against drugs, illiteracy, and unemployment.



Zyahna Bryant (2001 -): Activist, writer, high school senior. She organized her first protest at age 12 when she staged a rally for Justice for Trayvon Martin and other unarmed black lives lost to police violence. In 2016, at age 15 she wrote the petition to remove the Robert E. Lee statue in Charlottesville, VA. The City Council voted to remove it in 2017 which angered the Ku Klux Klan. On 2/17/2019 she’s releasing a collection of writings titled “Reclaim” where she honors the legacy of Black women in her hometown. She’s giving a percentage of her book sales to raise funds to help free black mothers from local jails.