



Women on U.S. Stamps 1958-2008



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WOMEN ON U.S. STAMPS 1958–2008

While it might seem as though designing album pages to honor women who have appeared on United States stamps during the last fifty years would be an enormous task, it may surprise many collectors to learn that the pickings are actually rather sparse — especially as regards individuals. There are generic “women in the background” stamps (the 1973 8-cent Posting a Broadside American Bicentennial stamp, Scott 1477); stamps that honor “American women” (the 1964 4-cent Homemakers issue, Scott 1253); and stamps that commemorate a symbolic woman (the numerous Olympic Games issues). These are all important icons for the collector of Women on Stamps, but the fact remains that, without the annual Christmas stamp featuring the Virgin Mary (beginning in 1966), stamps that honor individual women are thin on the ground.

The following album pages include all U.S. stamps from 1958–2008 with images clearly identifiable as women or girls (although some are very small), all stamp topics from that period specifically related to women and/or women’s concerns, the occasional stamp generically related to male and female concerns, and all stamps specifically created to honor individual women.

Some years there was no choice: only a single stamp related to women appeared in 1959, 1963, 1965, 1967, and 1977. Other years only two stamps appeared, neither of which honored a specific woman (other than the Madonna in the Traditional Christmas stamps). Apart from these years, the stamps highlighted on these pages simply reflect one woman’s choices of the most interesting stamp or most admirable individual honored in a given year. Occasionally, with an individual who has been honored with more than one stamp — for example, Eleanor Roosevelt appeared three times — the final choice of which stamp to include has been governed by how many relevant stamps appeared that year, and not necessarily the best and/or favorite stamp image.

Within the broad theme of “Women on U.S. Stamps,” a number of specialty collections could be formed: women in literature, women in sports, women in civil rights and/or women’s rights (these were often one and the same concern in the nineteenth century), women in politics, women in science, women in entertainment, women as religious icons, or even symbolic female figures (such as the “Columbia” or “Spirit of Freedom” images not included in this overview, with the exception of 1958). But overall, for me, the fascination lies in examining the evolving role of women on United States stamps.

Although symbolic or allegorical figures began to appear on postal cards in 1873 and on newspaper stamps in 1875, it was 46 years before an identifiable woman appeared on a U.S. postage stamp: Queen Isabella of Spain, on multiple values of the 1893 Columbian issue. And it was another nine years before the first American woman — Martha Washington — appeared on a U.S. stamp in 1902. The first First Lady was followed in 1907 by Pocahontas, but an individual woman was not again honored until Martha made a repeat appearance in 1923.

It is telling that, even within the last 50 years, the first four years of stamps in this album do not show an identifiable woman. Eleanor Roosevelt appears in 1963, on the only stamp that year to include a representative female.

— *Bonny Farmer*
American Philatelic Society

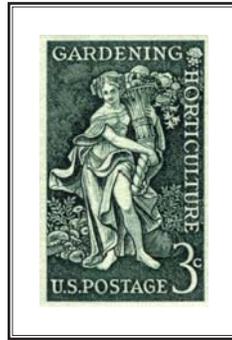
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1958-1967



1958 3¢
Gardening & Horticulture
(Scott 1100)



1959 4¢ Dental Health
(Scott 1135)



1961 4¢
Nursing
(Scott 1190)



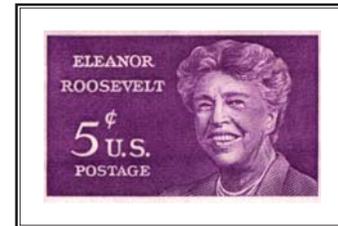
1960 4¢ American Woman
(Scott 1152)



1962 4¢ Girl Scouts U.S.A.
(Scott 1199)



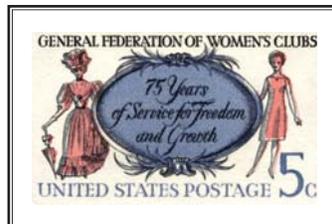
1964 5¢ U.S. Homemakers
(Scott 1253)



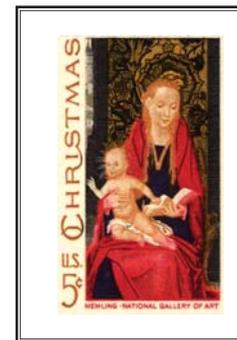
1963 5¢ Eleanor Roosevelt
(Scott 1236)



1965 5¢ John Copley
Elizabeth Clarke Copley
(Scott 1273)



1966 5¢ Federation of Women's Clubs
(Scott 1316)

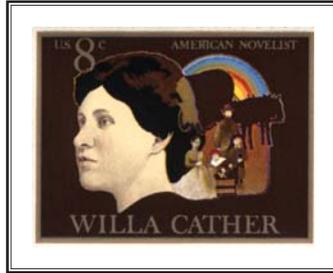


1967 5¢ Traditional Christmas
Madonna and Child with Angels
(Scott 1336)

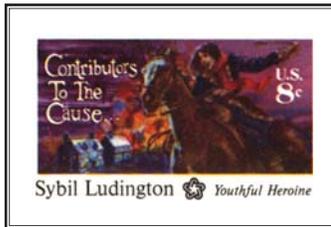




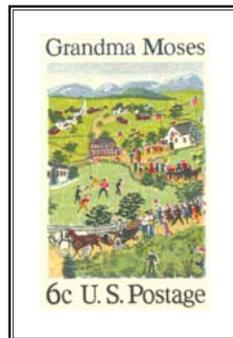
1968-1977



1973 8¢ Willa Cather
(Scott 1487)



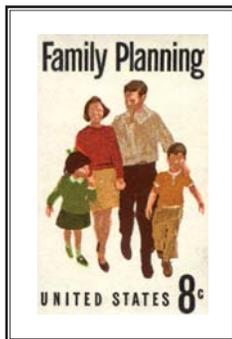
1975 8¢ Sybil Ludington
Youthful Heroine (Scott 1559)



1969 6¢ Grandma Moses
American Folklore - July Fourth
(Scott 1370)



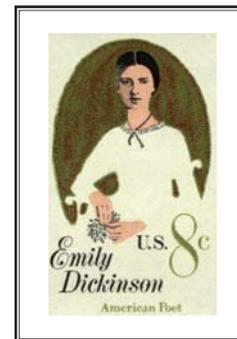
1977 13¢ The Seamstress
(Scott 1717)



1972 8¢
Family Planning
(Scott 1455)



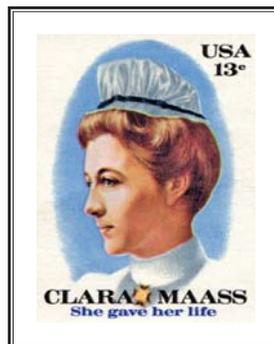
1970 6¢ Woman Suffrage
(Scott 1406)



1971 8¢
Emily Dickinson
(Scott 1436)



1968 50¢
Lucy Stone
(Scott 1293)



1976 13¢ Clara Maass
"She Gave Her Life"
(Scott 1699)

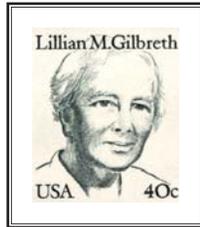


1974 18¢
Elizabeth Blackwell
(Scott 1399)





1978-1987



1984 40¢
Lillian M. Gilbreth
(Scott 1868)



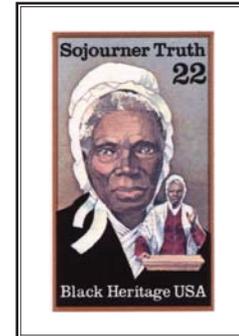
1980 15¢
Dolley Madison
(Scott 1822)



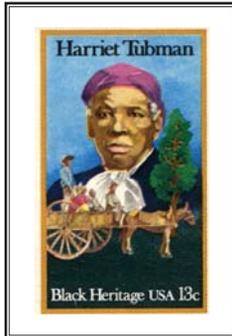
1981 17¢
Rachel Carson
(Scott 1857)



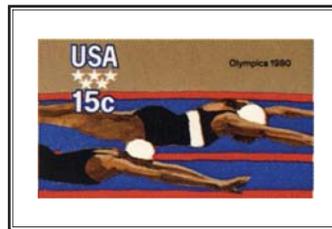
1983 5¢
Pearl Buck
(Scott 1848)



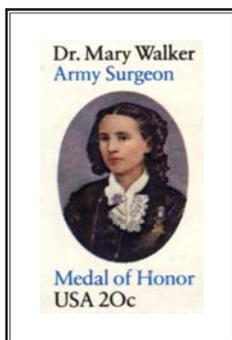
1986 22¢
Sojourner Truth
(Scott 2203)



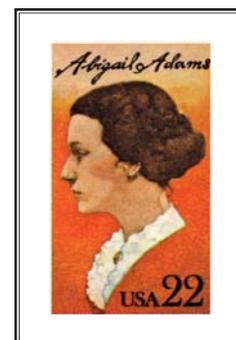
1978 13¢
Harriet Tubman
(Scott 1744)



1979 15¢ Olympic Swimming
(Scott 1792)



1982 20¢
Dr. Mary Walker
(Scott 2013)



1985 22¢
Abigail Adams
(Scott 2146)



1987 22¢ Love You, Mother!
(Scott 2273)





1988-1997



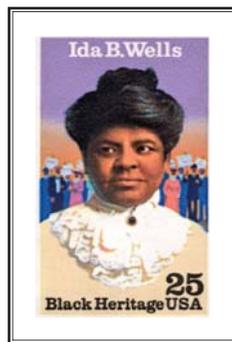
1988 23¢
Mary Cassatt
(Scott 2181)



1995 55¢
Alice Hamilton, M.D.
(Scott 2940)



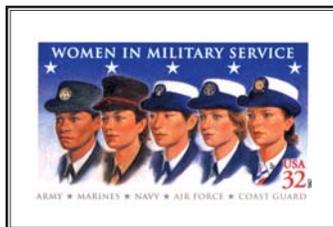
1989 25¢
South Dakota Centenary
(Scott 2416)



1990 25¢
Ida B. Wells
(Scott 2442)



1991 29¢
Fanny Brice, Comedians
(Scott 2565)



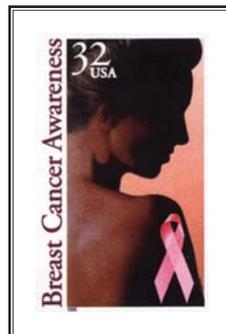
1997 32¢
Women in Military Service
(Scott 3174)



1992 29¢ Millions of
Women Join War Effort, 1942
(Scott 2697h)



1993 29¢ Recognizing
Deafness - "I Love You"
(Scott 2783)



1996 32¢
Breast Cancer Awareness
(Scott 3081)



1994 29¢ Elisabetta Sirani
Virgin and Child
(Scott 2871)





1998-2008



1999 33¢ Celebrate the Century – Barbie Doll (Scott 3188i)



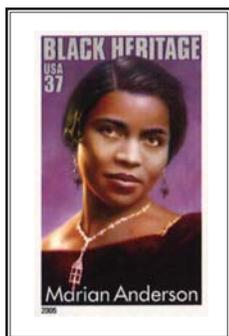
1998 32¢ Celebrate the Century – 19th Amendment (Scott 3184e)



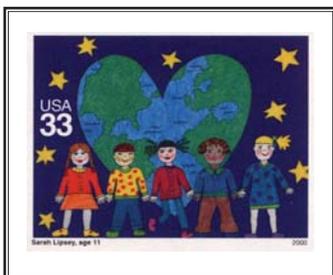
2002 37¢ Marguerite Higgins Women in Journalism (Scott 3668)



2001 34¢ Lucille Ball (Scott 3523)



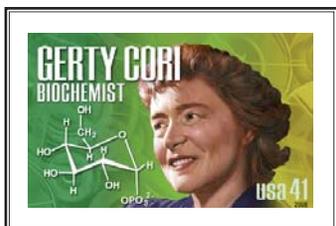
2005 37¢ Marian Anderson (Scott 3896)



2000 33¢ Stampin' the Future Sarah Lipsey, age 11 (Scott 3415)



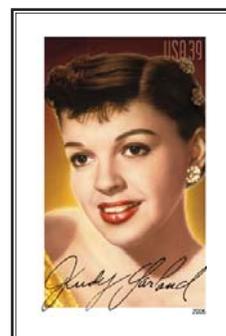
2004 37¢ Agnes de Mille (Scott 3842)



2008 41¢ Gerty Cori Biochemist (Scott 4224)



2003 37¢ Zora Neale Hurston (Scott 3748)



2006 39¢ Judy Garland (Scott 4077)



2007 39¢ Ella Fitzgerald (Scott 4120)





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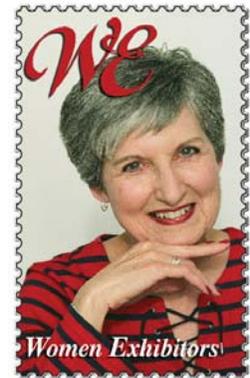
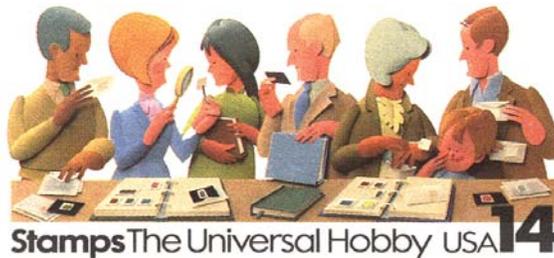




THE FESTIVAL FOR PHILATELIC WOMEN

MAY 28-31, 2009 — BELLEFONTE, PENNSYLVANIA

Make new friends and learn new skills at the Festival for Philatelic Women May 28-31 at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte. The four-day event will offer 22 seminars, “how-to” demonstrations, workshops, and practical programs to help women get the most from the stamp hobby. Both men and women are cordially welcome, but the emphasis will be on exploring philately from a woman’s point of view. It’s your chance to expand your horizons — to take the first steps to mastering important new skills that will bring the world of stamps and historic mail to vivid life for you. The Festival for Philatelic Women is a Women Exhibitors (WE) event, co-sponsored by the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors and hosted by the APS and APRL at the American Philatelic Center. Get on the mailing list for the Festival of Philatelic Women today by sending an e-mail with “Festival Information” in the subject line to WEfestival@comcast.net Or use this form to pre-register: <http://www.aape.org/docs/WERegistration.pdf>



WOMEN EXHIBITORS (WE)

Women Exhibitors (WE) — Affiliate No. 260 of the APS — was organized in 2007 to provide a vehicle through which women exhibitors can encourage each other, sharing information, ideas, experience, advice, problems, and solutions. The group does so through seminars, its quarterly online newsletter *WE think*, its monthly newsletter *WE Expressions*, and through one-on-one mentoring of exhibitors. WE meets twice yearly at APS StampShow and AmeriStamp Expo, and satellite meetings are held at national, regional, and local shows. Annual dues are just \$5. Both the WE website and its online newsletters are hosted on the Internet at <http://www.aape.org/Weweb.asp>

APS STAMPSHOW 2009

AUGUST 6-9 — PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA



Admission is free to APS STAMPSHOW 2009 — the largest philatelic event in the U.S. this year — August 6-9 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, 1000 Fort Duquesne Boulevard, in the heart of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The show is co-sponsored by the United States Postal Service and the American Stamp Dealers Association, and supported by the National Stamp Dealers Association. The four-day show will feature 150 dealers, two major auctions, thousands of pages of exhibits, and fun for the whole family. On Thursday, August 6, the U.S. Postal Service will release 10 new 44¢ stamps in its Flags of Our Nation series. Show hours are Friday and Saturday 10 to 6, and Sunday from 10 to 4.

To learn more, visit <http://www.stamps.org/Stampshow>

