

Jane Austen

Historically important British author of novels - eg. Pride and Prejudice, Emma, Sense and Sensibility - that feature strong female characters and questioned second-class treatment of women in society

Grace Hopper

Famous American computer scientist and US Navy rear admiral; invented the word "debugging"

Ada Lovelace

Known as the world's first programmer, Charles Babbage's protégé, Lord Byron's daughter

Marissa Mayer

CEO of Yahoo!, former Google executive & Google employee #20, Stanford graduate / teacher

Sheryl Sandberg

COO of Facebook, Author of Lean In, founder of the 'Ban Bossy' campaign, former Google VP

Oprah Winfrey

Famous talk show host from 1986 to 2011, media mogul, philanthropist, "the world's most powerful woman" according to CNN and TIME.com

Marie Curie

Nobel prize winning scientist in the field of radiation, first woman to win a Nobel Prize, won the Nobel Prize twice, first woman to earn a doctorate in Europe

Hillary Clinton

Former First Lady of the United States, First Lady of Arkansas, NY Senator, and Secretary of State; also popular on Twitter

Sally Ride

Schoolteacher & Astronaut on the Challenger space shuttle crew; the first American woman to go to space

Eleanor Roosevelt

Former First Lady of the United States, UN diplomat, advocate for human rights, civil rights, women, and WWII refugees

Michelle Obama

Current First Lady of the United States, lawyer, advocate for military families, children, and healthy eating

Megan Smith

Current CTO of the United States, former Google VP, LGBT advocate

Angelina Jolie

Academy Award-winning actress (Tomb Raider, Girl Interrupted, Maleficent,) U.N. Goodwill Ambassador, human rights advocate, breast cancer prevention advocate

Melinda Gates

Former Microsoft manager, cofounder/cochair of the largest philanthropic organization in history: the Bill & Melinda Gates foundation

Meg Whitman

CEO of EBay, former CEO of HP, Republican candidate for governor of CA in 2010, philanthropist (environment & schools)

Lady Gaga

Flamboyant pop musician/performer (2005+), one of the best-selling musicians of all time, LGBT advocate, philanthropist

Clara Barton

Founder and first president of the American Red Cross, Civil War nurse, devoted her life to helping others

St. Joan of Arc

A national hero in France, led the resistance to the English invasion of France in the Hundred Years War, cut her hair and dressed in mens' clothes to lead soldiers

Susan B. Anthony

The 19th century womens' movement's most powerful organizer in the US, fought for women's suffrage in the United States, appeared on 1979 US dollar coins

Anne Frank

German Jewish WWII Holocaust victim, wrote diary chronicling her experiences in hiding

Rosa Parks

Refused to give her bus seat to a white person and was arrested in Montgomery AL and started the social revolution for black freedom; civil rights leader

Gloria Steinem

American journalist, social activist, and feminist; co-founded Ms. Magazine; recognized as a leader of the American feminist movement in the 1960's-1970's

Harriet Tubman

Leader of the Underground Railroad, which brought slaves to freedom; womens' suffrage activist

Jane Goodall

British Scientist & anthropologist famous for work with wild chimpanzees, conservationist and human & animal rights activist

Rachel Carson

Marine biologist and activist for environmental issues, wrote Silent Spring

Malala Yousafzai

Pakistani human rights advocate for women and young children, youngest Nobel Peace Prize winner, Author of I am Malala

Amelia Earhart

First woman to fly solo across the atlantic, boundary breaker for women in aeronautics

Hellen Keller

Activist for those with disabilities, author and lecturer, first deaf and blind person to earn a bachelor of arts degree, helped found American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

Margaret Thatcher

First woman to be elected to Prime Minister of the UK, the first British prime minister to win three consecutive terms in the 20th century

Indira Gandhi

Third prime minister of India (1960s-1980s,) a social reformer who promoted equal pay for equal work

Maya Angelou

American poet, author, and performer; author of I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, women's and black rights advocate

Beatrix Potter

Author of children's books including Peter Rabbit, conservationist

Florence Nightingale

A celebrated English social reformer and statistician, recognized as the founder of modern nursing; managed and trained nurses during the Crimean War in the 1850's

Georgia O'Keeffe

Famous painter, well-known for close up paintings of flowers, recognized as Mother of Modernism

Louisa May Alcott

American author of Little Women; Civil War nurse, women's suffragette, abolitionist, social reformer from Concord MA

Margaret Mead

American cultural anthropologist (1940s-1970s,) famous for her work with culture and sexuality in primitive human societies which influenced the 1960s sexual revolution

Nancy Reagan

Former First Lady of the US (1980's,) and First Lady of California; anti-drug champion- "Just Say No," advocate for stem-cell research, 1940's-50's actress

Shirley Temple

Famous American child actress (1930s-1940's; Heidi, Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm, sang "Good Ship Lollipop,") US Diplomat (1960's-1990's)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

longest and currently serving female United States Supreme Court justice, a strong advocate for civil rights and women's rights

Sacagawea

Native American who was an interpreter and guide for Lewis & Clark on their expedition in the western United States

Edith Wharton

First woman to win a Pulitzer prize, author of the 1920 novel *The Age of Innocence* about the ills of upperclass NY society

Condoleezza Rice

First African American woman to be Secretary of State of the US, 2nd woman to be Secretary of State (under George W. Bush), first female National Security Advisor, Stanford professor

Sonia Sotomayor

First Hispanic US Supreme Court justice, currently serving

Annie Oakley

Famous American sharpshooter, star of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show in the 1880's, equal pay activist

Audrey Hepburn

Academy-award winning actress in American films, star of *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, aided the Dutch resistance against the Nazis in her teens, devoted most of her later life to humanitarian causes and worked with UNICEF

Eunice Kennedy Shriver

Founded the Special Olympics, founded the US National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, long-time advocate for children's health and disability

Princess Diana of Wales

British Royal known for her humanitarian and charity work, including advocating for the removal of land mines, AIDS awareness, and the homelessness in the 1980s-1990s

Cleopatra

Last active pharaoh of Egypt, aligned with Caesar and Mark Antony

Emily Dickinson

Reclusive 19th century American poet from Massachusetts known as one of the most important American poets in history; her poems often dealt with death and immortality

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

First lady of the United States (1960-63,) known for advancement of the arts, historical architectural preservation, and as a fashion icon

Katharine Hepburn

Received the most Academy Awards for Best Actress on record, starred in 9 movies with Spencer Tracey, known for her assertiveness, feminism, and portrayal of strong female roles.

Angela Merkel

Current Chancellor of Germany, Ph.D. in quantum physics, key figure in euro-bailout