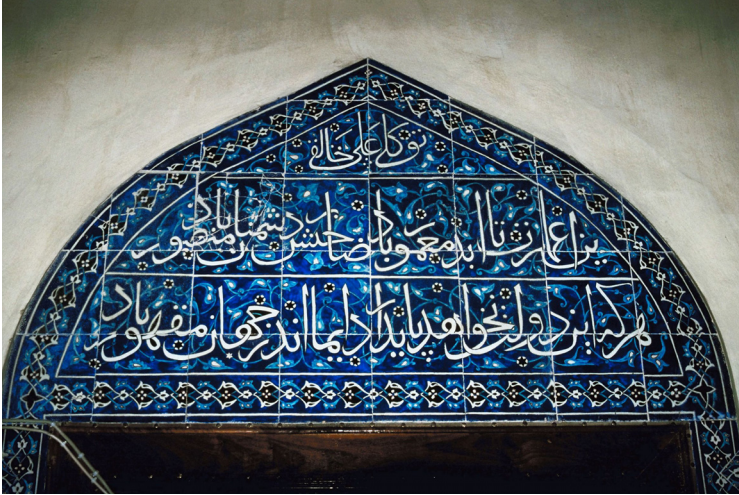


Celebrate

Women's History Month



Parts of the U.S. started public celebrations of women's history in the late 1970s. Celebrations of "Women's History Week" generally were held in the week which included in March 8, International Women's Day. In 1981, the U.S. Congress passed a joint Congressional resolution proclaiming a national Women's History Week. Then in 1987, Congress expanded the celebration to a month, and March was declared Women's History Month.

Sources: www.america.gov, www.nasa.gov, www.answers.com, www.state.gov.

Anousheh Ansari

Ansari immigrated to the U.S. from Iran as a teenager. Though she had many disadvantages in moving to the U.S. including a lack of English skill, she succeeded. Less than 20 years after immigrating, Ansari had become a successful telecommunications entrepreneur. She is the co-founder of Prodea Systems.



Her story becomes more interesting after her success in business. In 2006, she became the first Muslim woman in space. Flying as a "space tourist," with the Russian space agency, she participated in an 8-day mission to the International Space Station. In order to fly as a cosmonaut, Ansari had to learn Russian and complete the cosmonaut training program. On the space station she performed scientific experiments for the European Space Agency on the causes of anemia and back pain that affect astronauts in zero gravity.

Attallah Shabazz

Shabazz is the daughter of Malcolm X (later known as El-Hajj Malik Shabazz). As a child she witnessed her father's assassination. Despite the trauma of her childhood, she would go on to be successful in school and graduate from Briarcliffe

College. Shortly after graduation, she had the unique opportunity to speak to an audience in Panama. From there her career as an actress and motivational speaker took off. She later found much success as an artist and theatrical producer. She acted in productions of *Three Penny Opera*, *Hello Dolly*, and *Peter Pan*. Shabazz is the cofounder and co-director of Nucleus (a performing arts company).

Shirin R. Tahir-Kheli

Tahir-Kheli grew up in Pakistan, the daughter of a prominent statesman. She came to the U.S. to study and to flee the political unrest in Pakistan. She graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University with an undergraduate degree then went on to earn a master's and Ph.D. in international relations from the University of Pennsylvania. She became a citizen and entered public service with the U.S. Department of State. Her career continued through various posts from the National Security Council to the United Nations. In 2003, she became the highest ranking Muslim woman in the U.S. government by becoming the Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State.



