

Women's History Month comes to a close.....How did it begin in the United States?

Written by Kathy
Sunday, 27 March 2022 16:18



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CLEVELAND, Ohio-Women's History Month, which comes to a close on March 31, is an [annual declared month](#) that highlights the [contributions of women to events in history](#) and contemporary society. It is celebrated during March in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia, corresponding with [International Women's Day](#) on March 8, and during October in Canada, corresponding with the celebration of [Persons Day](#) on October 18.

The commemoration began in 1978 as "Women's History day" in [Sonoma County, California](#), and was championed by [Gerda Lerner](#) and the [National Women's History Alliance](#) to be recognized as a national week (1980) and then month (1987) in the United States, spreading internationally after that.

In the United States, Women's History Month traces its beginnings back to the first [International Women's Day](#) in 1911. In 1978, the [school district](#) of

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[Sonoma, California](#)

participated in

[Women's History Week](#)

, an event designed around the week of March 8 (International Women's Day). In 1979, a fifteen-day conference about women's history was held at

[Sarah Lawrence College](#)

from July 13 until July 29, chaired by historian

[Gerda Lerner](#)

. It was co-sponsored by Sarah Lawrence College, the

[Women's Action Alliance](#)

, and the Smithsonian Institution.

When its participants learned about the success of the Sonoma County's Women's History Week celebration, they decided to initiate similar celebrations within their own organizations, communities, and school districts. They also agreed to support an effort to secure a National Women's History Week.

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(216) 659-0473. Email: editor@clevelandurbannews.com. We interviewed former president Barack Obama one-on-one when he was campaigning for president. As to the Obama interview

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