

**VCW VIEW March 25, 2015**

**Vermont Public Radio's Women's History Month Commentary Series**

**Airs Weekdays 8:50 a.m. and 5:50 p.m.**

In recognition of Women's History Month, Vermont Commission on Women is very fortunate to collaborate with Vermont Public Radio and the Vermont Historical Society's Vermont Women's History Project to present a week-long commentary series for many years. This year the theme is the value of women's history. The line-up of commentators features many of the panelists from our lunch time panel on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Listen to the first of this series, **Still Teaching Women's History by Cyndy Bittinger** and today's, **Researching Women's History** by Dr. Marilyn Blackwell. And stay tuned to VPR this week to hear commentaries from Dr. Felicia Kornbluh, Director of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies at the University of Vermont; Cary Brown, executive director of the Vermont Commission on Women; Holly Allen, Assistant Professor of American Studies at Middlebury College; and Kathryn Stearns, journalist and former member of the Washington Post's editorial board. Very special thanks to VPR producer Betty Smith-Mastaler and to Cyndy Bittinger for making this series possible. Listen to past commentary series (back to 2007) by linking to VCW's Leadership and Public Life page **here**.

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**Vermont History Day / Deborah Pickman Clifford Vermont Women's History Prize**

VCW Commissioner Ruth Finn will again take part in judging at Vermont's History Day this Saturday, March 28, 2015 at U-32 High School in East Montpelier. Students in grades 5-12 and home study students ages 10-18 are eligible for Vermont History Day. Vermont History Day provides students with an opportunity to do primary source research and express what they have learned through creative and original dramatic performances, documentaries, research papers, websites, or three-dimensional exhibits. Students meet with judges at the state contest and receive feedback about their projects. Ruth will also award the Deborah Pickman Clifford Vermont Women's History Prize. This prize goes to an outstanding entry focusing on a Vermont woman who made an important contribution to the state, or the role that women played during a time in Vermont's history, and is in special recognition of the scholarship, dedication and enthusiasm of the late Deborah Pickman Clifford, prominent Vermont historian and author specializing in women's history. More on History Day **here**.

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**Were You There? Join the Vermont Historical Society for Forums About the State in the 1970's**

Did you live in Vermont in the 1970s? Join the Vermont Historical Society at a community forum near you! Share your memories and stories and learn more about this influential decade as the Society collects, documents, and shares the history of Vermont in the 1970s. More **here** or contact Call Jackie Calder at **(802) 479-8514**.

April 7: Community Forum in Hardwick at the Hardwick Town House (6:00 – 8:00 pm)

April 8: Community Forum in Burlington at ArtsRiot (6:00 – 8:00 pm)

April 15: Community Forum in St. Johnsbury at the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum (7:00 – 9:00 pm)

April 22: Community Forum in Brattleboro at St. Michael's Episcopal Church Undercroft room(6:00 – 8:00 pm)

April 23: Community Forum in Norwich at the Montshire Museum Community Room (6:00 – 8:00 pm)

April 29: Community Forum in Rutland at the Rec Room of the Godnick Adult Center (6:00 – 8:00 pm)

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### **Free Community Legal Clinic**

First Congregational Church of Burlington

Sunday, April 26, 1:00 to 3pm

Several Vermont attorneys with significant years of experience are donating their time to this new endeavor to assist people with legal needs – without cost – and at a time that may be of great convenience to them – Sunday afternoons from 1 to 3pm. People interested in receiving free legal advice are asked to arrive at 1:00 pm at First Congregational Church, 38 S. Winooski Avenue in Burlington - to reserve an appointment time. Confidentiality is – of course – completely guaranteed. Coffee and refreshments will be available.

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### **Please join VCW for Women's Day at the State House, on Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, Equal Pay Day**

Our morning will begin with refreshments in the State House cafeteria sponsored by Vermont Federation of Business and Professional Women with the League of Women Voters of Vermont. The Governor will be joined by equal pay advocates at a proclamation signing ceremony and press conference in his ceremonial office at 10 am. An Equal Pay Day resolution will be read on the House floor at the start of the day's session. Advocates including members of VCW's Advisory Council Organizations will gather in the card room, hand out equal pay buttons, and spend some time mingling and networking with policy makers. Please let us know if you can join us and plan to **wear red** as a symbol of women being "in the red" due to the gender wage gap.

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### **Vermont Works for Women's Step Up to Law Enforcement program**

South Burlington

Running April 23 through June 20 - Tuesday and Thursday evenings and on Saturdays

Step Up to Law Enforcement is an intensive, nine-week job-training program for women interested in pursuing careers in law enforcement. This program prepares qualified female candidates for the State of

Vermont's police academy, the State Corrections Academy, and other jobs in law enforcement. Key components:

- preparation for the physical test required for entry into the Police Academy
- an introduction to policing and corrections issues
- preparation for the oral board interview
- employment skills development and support
- presentations and panel discussions with law enforcement & correctional officers

For more information, please contact [Jenny Beaudin](#) at (802) 622-0400 x150 .

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### **The Untold History of Women in Science and Technology**

Celebrate the end of Women's History month by listening to women tell the stories of their personal heroes across the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) [here](#).

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### **Laci Green, Sex Education Activist, The F Word: The Power of Feminism**

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 7:30 PM

UVM Davis Center, Grand Maple room

UVM Women's Center, Student Life and Living Well present feminist, sex education activist Laci Green in celebration of Women's HerStory Month. Laci Green is a 25-year-old web personality, public speaker, and activist from San Francisco. She is best known as the host and creator of the internet's most popular sex education show called "Sex Plus". The show currently reaches 5 million young adults every month in over 125 countries. In 2011, Green graduated with highest honors from UC Berkeley and she currently holds a certificate in rape and dating violence crisis counseling. Throughout college, she taught for-credit sex education classes to at-risk high school students and students at UC Berkeley. In addition to her work on Sex+, she is an educator and consultant for Planned Parenthood, Discovery, and MTV Act. Her work has been featured on CBC, ABC, Dr. Phil, The Science Channel, The Atlantic Magazine, Ms. Magazine, The Huffington Post, Upworthy, and more. More info [here](#).

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### **Early Childhood Day at the Legislature**

Vermont Early Childhood Alliance with co-hosts - Let's Grow Kids and Building Bright Futures welcomed over 300 early childhood and health professionals, parents, children, employers and policymakers at the Vermont State House and the Capitol Plaza Hotel for the 21st annual Early Childhood Day at the Legislature earlier this month. Discussions included issues on the [Alliance's Legislative Agenda](#). Read more about the day, [here](#).

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### **An Evening with Julia Alvarez**

Middlebury United Methodist Church

April 1 at 7:00 pm

Vermont author and National Medal of Arts recipient Julia Alvarez will read from her early and recent

work at Middlebury United Methodist Church as part of National Poetry Month on April 1 at 7:00 pm. The event, "An Evening with Julia Alvarez," is part of the Vermont Humanities Council's First Wednesdays lecture series and is free and open to the public.

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Vermont Commission on Women (VCW)

VIEW Message – Vermont Information Exchange for Women

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