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# VIEW

Vermont Information Exchange for Women

## Newsletter



March 20th, 2017

## News & Resources

**Rescheduled: Women of the Counterculture Movement in 1970s Vermont | Wednesday, March 22**



## Women & 1970's Counterculture

**Wednesday, March 22nd at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Vermont History Center, Barre**



**Our annual event honoring Women's History Month**

Join us for our rescheduled Women's History Month event in partnership with the

Vermont Historical Society on **Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Vermont History Center, 60 Washington St., Barre.** This FREE round table conversation event will be moderated by director of the Vermont Commission on Women (VCW) Cary Brown and will feature Euan Bear, Bridget Downey-Meyer, Louise Andrews, Melinda Moulton and Verandah Porche, reflecting on what brought them into this movement, what their experience was like, and what lasting impact it's had on their own lives and on Vermont society. Enjoy stories of this time, and learn through the lens of these women who took part, and contribute to the discussion. No RSVPs necessary, but let us know you're attending on our [Facebook Event Page](#).

## **Props to Commissioner Cathy Frey for representing VCW at the upcoming 2017 South Burlington High School Career and Job Expo**

– and tell students you know to be sure to stop by and say “hi”! Special thanks to Commissioner Nancy LaVarnway director of this event.

## **In solidarity with women across the nation, join VCW and partners for Equal Pay Day at the Vermont State House, Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**



Throughout the nation, women's organizations observe Equal Pay Day each April, symbolizing how far into the new year the average American woman would have to work to earn what the average American man did in the previous year due to the gender wage gap. Join advocates for equal pay including VCW Commissioners, members of the Vermont Federation of Business and Professional Women, the League of Women Voters of Vermont, and members of the Women's Caucus of the legislature, to recognize Equal Pay Day on Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Vermont State House in Montpelier.

Advocates dressed in red, symbolizing women being “in the red” due to the wage gap, will join together to observe the reading of the Equal Pay Day resolution on

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the House Floor at approximately 10:00 a.m.. Governor Scott will sign an Equal Pay Day proclamation, and the observance ends with a press conference at noon in the Cedar Creek Room.

This press conference will address Equal Pay Day and the gender wage gap, and will also unveil the new report, "Vermont Women in Leadership" from [Change The Story](#) (CTS), an initiative fueled by the Vermont Women's Fund, Vermont Commission on Women, and Vermont Works for Women. CTS is committed to fast-tracking women's economic status in our state, progress toward equity in leadership is mixed in our state. This report presents data on the participation of women in various leadership roles, including municipal government, academia, private and public business.

## **Bills of Interest to Women Voted Out of Committee**

Here's an update on a few bills VCW has provided testimony on, all of which were voted out of committee last week:

[Pregnancy Accommodations \(H.136\)](#) – This bill would require Vermont businesses to provide reasonable workplace accommodations to employees experiencing healthy, uncomplicated pregnancies, such as having access to water, access to a stool or a chair, longer or more frequent restroom breaks, or avoiding heavy lifting. Read our [policy brief](#) to learn more, [read our testimony, here](#).

[Paid Family Leave \(H.196\)](#) – This bill would create a statewide, employee-funded paid family leave insurance program, allowing workers to take 12 weeks of paid leave at 100% wage replacement, up to twice the Vermont livable wage. VCW also conducted a U.S. Department of Labor funded feasibility study in Vermont, [read the highlights of that study here](#).

[Confiscation of Deadly Weapons at the Scene of a Domestic Violence Incident \(H.422\)](#) – This bill would allow law enforcement officers to confiscate deadly weapons temporarily at the time of arrest or citation for domestic violence, and would apply to deadly weapons used in the domestic violence incident, in plain sight of the officers, or those discovered by consensual search. [Read our testimony here](#).

## **Vermont Tech Announces Summer Camps**

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[Rosie's Girls STEM Leadership Camps](#): June 19-23 or July 10-14 – (overnight camps for girls entering 9th -10th grades in science, technology engineering and math, featuring follow-on mentorships - Randolph Campus)

[Coder Camp for Girls](#): July 17-21 (new day camp - for girls entering 8th-10th grades – focused on software development and follow-on mentorships -Williston Campus)

## Young Writers Project: Chase for Equality

Sylvan Williams, age 14, is a freshman at U-32 High School. She writes about how the fight for equality is more important than ever now. [Read her piece.](#)

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## Special thanks to February [Vermont Equal Pay Compact](#) Signers:

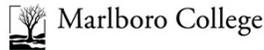
- [Chroma Technology](#)
- [KSV](#)
- [Marlboro College](#)
- [New Ground Creative](#)
- [Peace & Justice Center](#)
- [Permanent Fund for Vermont's Children](#)
- [School for International Training \(SIT\)](#)
- [Solinglass](#)
- [The Porch Too](#)
- [Vermont Center For Crime Victim Services](#)
- [Watershed Coaching, LLC](#)

**Has your business signed on to the [Vermont Equal Pay Compact](#)?**

The Compact is a **voluntary online pledge** that enables Vermont employers to learn about and indicate their commitment to closing the wage gap.

We offer a [list of strategies](#) to consider and resources to inform employers.

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## Funding Opportunities

### Department of Justice Research and Evaluation in Safety, Health and Wellness in the Criminal Justice System Grant

Each applicant should focus on one of the three categories of the NIJ Safety, Health, and Wellness Strategic Research Plan 2016-2021; Categories: 1) Causes and effects of stress and trauma on (a) law enforcement and corrections officers or (b) individuals in violent communities; 2) Impact of parental jail incarceration on children; and 3) The efficacy of services, strategies, policies and processes within the criminal or juvenile justice system that serve as responses to children exposed to violence. Deadline: March 23. [Learn more.](#)

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## Upcoming Events

**Female Founders Speaker Series: Food and Beverage**

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[TONIGHT: Monday, March 20 at 5:30 p.m., Hotel Vermont](#)

This is the third of a six-part series from the Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies and Hotel Vermont. The Female Founders Speaker Series spotlights female entrepreneurs from around the state. Every month, from January to June, two speakers representing a featured industry share the story of their business, how to get started, lessons learned, and where they hope to go in the future. February's "Food and Beverage" event will feature Allison Hooper of Vermont Creamery, and Jen Kimmich of The Alchemist. The cost of the event is \$15 per person, proceeds to benefit the Good Food Truck.

## **GBWF Lunch | Change The Story VT: Advancing Women, Fueling the Economy**

[Tuesday, March 21 from 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m., Controis Auditorium, Burlington](#)

The Greater Burlington Women's Forum Tuesday March 21 will feature Change The Story VT: Advancing Women, Fueling the Economy. Panelists will present hot-off-the-press findings about Vermont women in leadership in the public, private and nonprofit sectors. The report is the fourth in a series on the economic status of women, and examines women's presence as leaders in higher education, public safety, on corporate boards, in senior management, and on state and municipal boards and commissions. By donation, bring your lunch.

## **Women Veterans Comic Anthology**

[Tuesday, March 21 at 6:00 p.m., VA Medical Center, White River Junction](#)

[Monday, April 3 at 6:00 p.m., Center for Cartoon Studies, White River Junction](#)

Cartoonists seeking stories! The Women Veterans Program in White River Junction, and the Center for Cartoon Studies in WRJ have been working to create a Women Veterans Comic Anthology. They received a grant together from the VA Innovators Network. Join them for two get-togethers between cartoonists and women who serve and have served in the military to talk and sketch.

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## **Rescheduled: "Bias, Barriers and Breakthroughs": A Panel Discussion Exploring Challenges and Opportunities for Women and Girls in STEM**

[Wednesday, March 22 from 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., online](#)

In celebration of Women's History Month, the U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau presents this moderated discussion on the critical contributions of women and girls to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) innovation in the United States. Panelists will address recruitment, retention and advancement challenges for women and girls pursuing STEM careers and courses of study. The discussion will also highlight key strategies and promising practices being deployed to ensure success in leveraging the full spectrum of talent available to employers and institutions engaged in advancing STEM technologies and innovations.

Panelists include: Dr. Aprille Ericsson, NASA; Lisa Ransom, National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity; Dr. Jessie DeAro, National Science Foundation ADVANCE; and Dr. Bernadette Hence, Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program, U.S. Department of Education.

## **Luncheon: Refugees & The Process of Resettlement**

[Saturday, March 25 at 11:30 a.m., Best Western, Waterbury](#)

At the League of Women Voters of Vermont's annual Civic Engagement Luncheon, Amila Merdzanovic, Director of Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program will deliver the keynote address, Refugees & The Process of Resettlement. The event, open to the public, registration begins at 11:30 a.m. and lunch is complimentary.

## **Ladies In Jazz Series: Nasty Women Take The Stage**

[Saturday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m., The Arts Block, Greenfield, MA](#)

The "Ladies in Jazz" concert series begins its 2017 run at The Arts Block with a special benefit performance in honor of Women's History Month. Dubbed, "Nasty Women Take the Stage," the sextet of Samirah Evans (vocals), Lena Bloch (saxophone), Jane Miller (guitar), Roberta Picket (piano), Mary Ann McSweeney (bass) and Claire Arenius (drums), will perform songs written by some of the most famous female composers in the jazz, blues and rock genres. 100% of the

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proceeds will benefit Planned Parenthood of Northern New England's Brattleboro health center.

## **Dream, Girl Film Screening**

[Wednesday, March 29 at 5:30 p.m., Film House at Main Street Landing](#)

A special screening of Dream, Girl – a film about inspiring about women entrepreneurs – proceeds to benefit the Vermont Women's Fund. Tickets cost \$10.

## **An Evening With Tamika Mallory and Bob Bland**

[Wednesday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m., Ira Allen Chapel, UVM](#)

In celebration of Women's History Month, the UVM Program Board and UVM Women's Center present an evening with Tamika Mallory and Bob Bland, National Co-Chairs of the of the Women's March on Washington. This is a free ticketed event open to the public.

## **Good Beginnings Baby and Child Expo**

[Saturday, April 1 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Berlin Elementary School](#)

Parents-to-be can connect with local midwives and doulas and talk to representatives from the Birthing Centers at area hospitals. New parents can also learn about community resources such as La Leche League, and Family Centers, and connect with local parents' groups, early education providers, holistic and alternative health providers, and statewide advocacy efforts such as Let's Grow Kids. These community resources are interspersed with handmade toys and crafts, children's clothing, and books, making the event a crowd-pleaser with something for everyone.

## **Women's Self Defense Class**

[April 3 – 5, from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Windsor High School](#)

Windsor Police Department's Detective Frank hosts this self-defense class for women 13 years of age and older. Self Defense for Women is a program of realistic, self-defense tactics and techniques; that begins with awareness,

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prevention, risk reduction, and avoidance, while progressing on to the basics of hands-on defense training. While it is not a martial arts course, students will be practicing evasive maneuvers, takedowns, and various hand and foot strikes. Cost: \$30.00.

## **Business Planning Intensive**

[Mondays & Wednesdays, April 3 - May 3 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Revitalizing Waterbury](#)

Do you have an idea for a business that you want to launch or explore more deeply? Have you always dreamed of becoming an entrepreneur, but were never sure just where to start? This course will help you to take the necessary steps to becoming an independent business owner, while gaining confidence in yourself and your knowledge of small business management. At the end of this program, you will leave with a completed business plan to guide you in the launch and growth of your new company. Cost is \$450.

## **Women's Leadership in Public Office**

[April 5 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Film House at Main Street Landing](#)

Women United, an affinity group of the United Way of Northwest Vermont invites you this educational and networking event to explore how women's empowerment and financial stability are improved through the work and careers of women public officials. Opening remarks by Gov. Madeleine Kunin will be followed by a panel discussion and an opportunity to hear the latest Change the Story VT research on women in office in VT by Tiffany Bluemle. Tickets cost \$25.

## **Divas Do Good Comedy Show – Safeline Fundraiser**

[Saturday, April 8 at 8:00 p.m., Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee](#)

This Divas Do Good performance consists of three Vermont female comics who perform stand-up adult comedy. This show is a benefit for [Safeline](#), which serves domestic and sexual violence victims in Orange County and the northern Windsor County. Get together a group of friends and enjoy a night of laughs. Light refreshments and an open bar will be available. Tickets cost \$20.

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We choose events for VIEW from our [statewide events calendar](#) for women and girls. If you'd like your event featured in the VIEW, make sure you [add it](#).

*Looking for more? You'll find many more events for women & girls in Vermont on the calendar.*



The Vermont Commission on Women (VCW) is a non-partisan state agency advancing rights and opportunities for women and girls. Sixteen volunteer commissioners, along with representatives from organizations concerned with women's issues, guide VCW's public education, coalition building, and advocacy efforts. For more information, please visit us at <http://women.vermont.gov>.

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