



STARS OF THE BAR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD

5:30 - 7:30 PM



WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION
of the District of Columbia



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PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Welcome

Sadina Montani, WBA President

Remembering Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Kelsi Corkran, Partner, Orrick; former clerk to Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

100 Years of the WBA

Jennifer Mammen, Co-chair, Stars of the Bar

Star of the Bar: Belva Ann Lockwood (posthumously)

Presented by Jennifer Mika, Co-chair, Stars of the Bar

Accepted by Dr. Jill Norgren, Professor Emeritus, John Jay College and the University Graduate Center, The City University of New York; biographer of Belva Ann Lockwood

Star of the Bar: Congressman John Lewis (posthumously)

Presented by Bridget Bailey Lipscomb, WBA President-Elect

Accepted by Grant Lewis

Star of the Bar: Kristen Clarke, President, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Presented by Daria Neal, Co-chair, Stars of the Bar

Mussey-Gillett Shining Star Awardee: Janine Herring

Presented by Jill Dash, WBA past president

Networking & Meet the Committee and Forum Co-Chairs



The Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia Mourns the Passing of a Trailblazer, the Honorable Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

We all stand on her shoulders.

The Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia ("WBA") mourns the passing of the Honorable Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the chief architect of the battle for women's legal rights and the second woman appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States. Justice Ginsburg was a trailblazing lawyer and jurist, and an inspiration for generations of women and girls. We were proud to honor Justice Ginsburg as the WBA's Woman Lawyer of the Year in 1994 and Janet Reno Torchbearer Awardee in 2008. We also were proud that she spoke at the WBA's 1997 Annual Dinner, when she presented the Janet Reno Torchbearer Award to Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.



WBA/WBAF Annual Dinner 2008: Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Lorie Masters

Despite attending and thriving at two of the nation's most prestigious law schools (Harvard and Columbia), Justice Ginsburg struggled early in her career for opportunities. Indeed, as one of nine women who began law school at Harvard in 1956, the Dean of Harvard Law School famously once chastised her for taking the place of a man. And despite her stellar academic record, she was rejected from numerous clerkships and other legal positions because she was a woman and a mother, as well as because of her Jewish faith. After clerking for two years for Judge Edmund Palmieri of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, Justice Ginsburg spent a decade in academia, including as a professor at Rutgers Law School.

In 1972, Justice Ginsburg co-founded the American Civil Liberty Union's Women's Rights Project. As its General Counsel, she won five of the six gender discrimination cases she argued before the Supreme Court. Justice Ginsburg led a brilliant legal strategy in her efforts to dismantle systemic gender bias, often working with male plaintiffs to argue against gender-based state and federal laws.

Justice Ginsburg called on us to fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you. Justice Ginsburg also has said that real change, enduring change, happens one step at a time. She demonstrated the power of strategic litigation to effect real and enduring change. And while her own march towards real and enduring change has ended, the many steps she took during her incomparable life have brought us closer to the equality she envisioned for our laws and for our nation.

The WBA's mission is: Maintaining the honor and integrity of the profession; promoting the administration of justice; advancing and protecting the interests of women lawyers; promoting their mutual improvement; and encouraging a spirit of friendship.

Justice Ginsburg was the embodiment of this mission, and the women of the WBA – past and present – stand on her shoulders as we continue our fight against persistent gender discrimination and in support of anti-racist initiatives to achieve real and enduring change.



WBA/WBAF Annual Dinner 1997: Judith Winston, Judith Lichtman, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Nancy A. Long, Saundra E. Brown, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Deborah J. Israel



WBA/WBAF Annual Dinner 1994: Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Suzanne Lacampagne, Diana M. Savit, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor



WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION of the District of Columbia

THE WBA MISSION

The Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia was founded in 1917 to maintain the honor and integrity of the profession; to promote the administration of justice; to advance and protect the interests of women lawyers; to promote their mutual improvement; and to encourage a spirit of friendship among our members.

THE WBA

- Organizes programs that provide significant opportunities for networking, educational advancement, and personal enrichment, particularly for women lawyers
- Promotes its members as leaders of the legal community and, through executive and judicial endorsements, opens the door to appointments to the federal and local bench and high-level executive positions
- Publishes a newsletter, Raising the Bar, which covers current issues and trends of interests to women lawyers, and provides a vehicle for spotlighting the accomplishments of WBA members
- Provides a powerful network that will yield lasting friendships and valuable professional contacts
- Engages in and promotes community service activities
- Supports the WBA Foundation, which leverages the generosity of lawyers and friends to support nonprofits that serve the legal and related needs of women and girls in the DC metropolitan community



STARS OF THE BAR

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, the WBA will honor champions in the fight for women's voting rights throughout history. We recognize that women's suffrage was not fully realized when the 19th Amendment was passed. The voting rights of Black women were not protected until the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, but even the promise of the Voting Rights Act has not been fully realized. And today returning and reintegrating citizens and District residents, among others, still face challenges exercising the right to vote. For their tireless efforts in advancing suffrage and voting rights for all, this year's Stars of the Bar are:



BELVA ANN LOCKWOOD

Belva Ann Lockwood was an attorney in the District of Columbia at the turn of the twentieth century who was active in the fight for women's rights, including women's suffrage. She was the first woman admitted to the Supreme Court bar, a feat that required an act of Congress, and the first woman to argue before the Supreme Court. Ms. Lockwood also ran for President of the United States – twice – before women had the right to vote. She also sponsored Samuel Lowrey, the first Black man to argue before the Supreme Court, for admission to the Supreme Court bar. For being a pioneer for women lawyers and politicians and her contribution to the fight for women's voting rights, we honor Belva Ann Lockwood as a Star of the Bar.



CONGRESSMAN JOHN LEWIS

Congressman John Lewis was a civil rights leader who represented Georgia's 5th congressional district for more than 30 years. For his unwavering commitment to securing voting rights for all Americans, for leaving us a legacy of strength, endurance and faith in our democracy, and for his willingness to sacrifice his life, safety, and liberty for "GOOD TROUBLE" to secure and protect voting rights, we honor John Lewis as a Star of the Bar.



KRISTEN CLARKE

President and Executive Director, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Kristen Clarke is an attorney who has spent much of her career championing and defending the rights of all citizens to vote. While serving as the President & Executive Director of the National Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, she has aggressively worked to remove barriers to absentee and mail-in voting and pushed to expand access to absentee and mail-in voting in multiple states. Ms. Clarke previously served in both U.S. Department of Justice in the Civil Rights Division and as the head of the Civil Rights Bureau for the New York State Attorney General's Office. She also spent several years at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. where she helped lead the organization's work in the areas of voting rights and election law across the country. For her ongoing efforts to protect voting rights for all, we honor Kristen Clarke as a Star of the Bar.

MUSSEY-GILLETT SHINING STAR AWARD

The Women's Bar Association established the Mussey-Gillett Shining Star Award in 2007 to recognize WBA members who, through their vision and sustained and unflagging dedication to the WBA or to WBA committees and forums, have made extraordinary contributions that have advanced the mission of the association in the best tradition of leadership exemplified by the WBA's Founders, Ellen Spencer Mussey and Emma Gillett. Each year, our immediate Past President selects a member who has epitomized the principles set forth by our founders. This year's awardee is Janine Herring.



JANINE HERRING

It is my great honor to present this year's Mussey-Gillett Shining Star Award to Janine. I have served the WBA for almost 20 years, and for 14 of those years I have been fortunate to serve as part of the WBA leadership. In that capacity, I am always scouting for new leaders to help grow and advance this great organization. The thing about a great leader, though, is that she might make it look easy, but it's hard work, and that's why great leaders can be hard to come by. I remember very vividly having lunch with Janine just after she graduated law school and began her career. She was energetic and earnest, clearly willing to roll up her sleeves and pitch in where needed. But I have a lot of those lunches and coffees. We all do. Every once in a while, you stumble on a special leader like Janine who rises above the rest. She has served the WBA in numerous capacities, leading excellent programs like next week's Presidential Appointments Panel and our companion preview program back in February, Demystifying Political Appointments, both programs aimed at setting women up to lead where they have been missing in the past. Before building these programs, she served, enthusiastically and reliably, on the Executive and Judicial Endorsements Committee. It is clear when you meet Janine that she works on these programs because she truly cares about lifting up other women, and that's the best we can say about any of our sisters. In the spirit of the wonderful women who helped build this organization, certainly women who rolled up their sleeves to lift up other women, I am thrilled to present to Janine Herring the Mussey-Gillett Shining Star Award. May your star keep shining brightly to lead the way for others.

--Jill Dash, WBA President, 2019-2020

ACTION LIST: RECOMMENDED RESOURCES FOR FURTHER EXPLORATION

ART

[Our Story: 100 Years of the Women's Right to Vote](#) available at [ourstory100.com](#)

Our Story: Portraits of Change is an interactive photo mosaic and art installation depicting a portrait of suffragist and civil rights activist Ida B. Wells. The work was created by artist Helen Marshall of the People's Picture, commissioned by the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, and produced by Christina Korp, Purpose Entertainment. *Our Story* commemorates the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and women's right to vote in the United States.

5 Women of Color Suffragists You Should Know About available via Lean In on Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/p/CEC_SF0gDT/

The 19th Amendment 100 Years Later available via Emily's List on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/p/CEW876EjAbV/>

Votes for Women available via Emily's List on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/p/CEX2YJBDa7v/>

ARTICLES

[Why Women's Right to Vote Matters 100 Years Later](#) by Elizabeth Williamson and Haruka Sakaguchi (August 7, 2020) available at <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/08/07/us/suffragists-descendants.html?referringSource=articleShare&login=email&auth=login-email>

Experts see suffrage as a struggle that continues to this day. "For historians and voting rights advocates, the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment is an opportunity to reflect on the triumphs — and shortcomings — of the suffrage movement as a whole, as well as the challenges to voting rights that persist to this day."

[100 Years Later, these Activists Continue Their Ancestors' Work](#) by Sarah Elizabeth Adler (August 14, 2020) available at <https://www.aarp.org/politics-society/history/info-2020/women-right-to-vote.html>.

BOOKS

[Finish the Fight!: The Brave and Revolutionary Women Who Fought for the Right to Vote](#) by Veronica Chambers
Who was at the forefront of women's right to vote? We know a few famous names, like Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, but what about so many others from diverse backgrounds—Black, Asian, Latinx, Native American, and more—who helped lead the fight for suffrage? On the hundredth anniversary of the historic win for women's rights, it's time to celebrate the names and stories of the women whose stories have yet to be told.

[Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence](#) by Kate Clarke Lemay
A richly illustrated history of women's suffrage in the United States that highlights underrecognized activists.

[Belva Lockwood: The Woman Who Would be President](#) by Jill Norgren
A rich biography of Lockwood's life and times. As Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg stated in the book's forward, "Belva Lockwood deserves to be far better known. As Norgren notes, it is likely that Lockwood would be widely recognized today as a feminist pioneer if most of her personal papers had not been destroyed after her death. Fortunately for readers, Norgren shares much of her subject's tenacity and she has ensured Lockwood's rightful place in history with this meticulously researched and beautifully written book."



[Blackballed: The Black Vote and U.S. Democracy](#) by Darryl Pinckney

As young Americans take to the streets to say black lives matter, they're often told to vote. While voting is important, it's also important to remember how black political representation has been chipped away by voter ID laws, gerrymandering and felon disenfranchisement. *Blackballed* addresses the struggle for voting rights and for racial equality more broadly, drawing on Pinckney's own experiences and writings of civil rights leaders to create a complicated picture of black political identity.

[Why They Marched: Untold Stories of the Women Who Fought for the Right to Vote](#) by Susan Ware

Looking beyond the national leadership of the suffrage movement, an acclaimed historian gives voice to the thousands of women from different backgrounds, races, and religions whose local passion and protest resounded throughout the land.

DOCUMENTARIES

[American Experience: The Vote](#)

The Vote tells the dramatic culmination story of the hard-fought campaign waged by American women for the right to vote — a transformative cultural and political movement that resulted in the largest expansion of voting rights in U.S. history.

[Chisholm '72: Unbought & Unbossed](#)

This documentary directed by Shola Lynch chronicles Shirley Chisholm's 1972 campaign as the first Black woman to run for president on a major political party ticket. Winner of the 2006 Peabody Award for Excellence in Broadcasting.

LECTURES

[The Suffrage Movement and its Parallels Today](#)

Part of the Woodrow Wilson House series "Why Wait? From Start to (Un)Finished: A Look Back at Women's Suffrage History." This lecture by Tina Cassidy details parallels between the historic suffrage movement and the ongoing fight for civil rights.

[Black Women, Suffrage & Citizenship](#)

Part of the Woodrow Wilson House series "Why Wait? From Start to (Un)Finished: A Look Back at Women's Suffrage History." This lecture by Dr. Erin D. Chapman explores the race politics of women's suffrage and the ways in which the history of the women's suffrage movement can provide perspective on racial and sexual politics today.

[My Start Story Celebrates: Suffragist Ruth Hanna McCormick](#)

Part of the My Start Series, this documentary narrated by Holly Hotchner, President and CEO of the National Women's History Museum, follows the life of Ruth Hanna McCormick, a suffragist and politician. Said Hotchner of McCormick: "Her work as a political figure and as the first woman in politics was extremely important, and her being a figurehead for other women to feel that they could go into political work and have an equal impact to men was huge. She began a huge legacy for other women to fight for the right to vote, and it was her work that created the platform for everything that came after her."

Yale Open Courses: From Voting Rights to Watts [Part One](#) and [Part Two](#)

<https://oyc.yale.edu/african-american-studies/afam-162/lecture-16>

<https://oyc.yale.edu/african-american-studies/afam-162/lecture-17>

Professor Holloway revisits Malcolm X's life in order to offer a more nuanced interpretation of the leader than is traditionally taught. Professor Holloway also explores some of the other historical events that frame the civil rights movement, including Freedom Summer, the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, and the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

MUSEUM EXHIBITS

[Standing up for Change](#)

Exhibit on African American Women and the Civil Rights Movement available at the National Women's History Museum.

[National Archives: Rightfully Hers Exhibit](#)

A curator-led gallery tour of "Rightfully Hers" at the National Archives Museum in Washington, DC.

[National Portrait Gallery: Votes for Women Exhibit](#)

Historian Kate Clarke Lemay gives American History TV a guided tour of a National Portrait Gallery exhibit marking the centennial of the 19th Amendment.

PODCASTS

[Amended](#)

A new podcast from @humanitiesny [Connecting New York through the humanities], Amended travels from the 1800's through to the present day to show us a quest for women's full equality that has always been as diverse, complex and unfinished as the nation itself.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

[We the Action: Connecting Lawyers with Causes - Election Protection](#)

The national, nonpartisan Election Protection coalition works year-round to ensure that all voters have an equal opportunity to vote and have that vote count. Made up of more than 100 local, state and national partners, Election Protection uses a wide range of tools and activities to protect, advance and defend the right to vote.

[Power the Polls](#)

Power the Polls is a first-of-its-kind initiative to recruit poll workers to ensure a safe, fair election for all voters.

WEBSITE

Women's Vote Centennial

<https://www.womensvote100.org/>

The official website commemorating 100 years of women's right to vote organized by the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission.

Womens Bar Association

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