



Tompkins County Legislature

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building | 121 E. Court Street, 2nd Floor | Ithaca, N.Y. 14850
Phone: (607) 274-5434 | Fax: (607) 274-5430 | tompkinscountyny.gov

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways, and

WHEREAS, American women have played and continue to play critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of the life of the Nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home, and

WHEREAS, American women have played a unique role throughout the history of the Nation by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our Nation, and

WHEREAS, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement, and

WHEREAS, American women have served our country courageously in the military, and

WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, the peace movement, and other movements which create a more fair and just society for all, and

WHEREAS, despite these contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of American history, and

WHEREAS, a small list of notable women in Tompkins County history might include:

- Juanita Breckenridge Bates: 19th & early 20th century Suffragist,
- Constance E. Cook: New York Assemblywoman & promoter of equality and educational reform,
- Rochelle Siegel: feminist and author, mid 20th century,
- Corinne Brown Galvin: educator and historian of the local Black experience
- Joycelyn Hart: ombudsman at Cornell University
- Kathy Valentino: late 20th century labor organizer and legislator
- Alison Mason Kingsbury Bishop: 20th century artist
- Clara Loring Bogart: late 19th century author of first novel (1893) set in Tompkins County
- Grace Miller White: early 20th century author of nine books set in what she called "the storm country.", and
- Sarah Graham Palmer: one of four local women who nursed during the Civil War and have memorial statues at TC3 entrance to Tompkins Cortland Community College

, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Tompkins County Legislature does hereby proclaim the month of March 2025, as

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

in Tompkins County,

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Dan Klein, on behalf of the Tompkins County Legislature, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of Tompkins County, State of New York, on this the 18th day of March 2025.

Dan Klein, Chair
Tompkins County Legislature