



March 2022

Women's History Month

Ovation: A Tribute to Iowa Women and Girls Who Inspires You?



In keeping with its mission of improving the lives of women and girls, the Iowa Women's Foundation unveils its signature publication **OVATION: A Tribute to Iowa's Women and Girls** each year. This book provides a fun and unique way to pay tribute to a woman or girl in your life, and as a major fundraiser, it provides the support for grantmaking allowing others to follow in their footsteps.

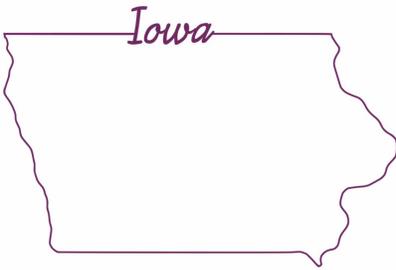
Through the publication's tributes, we gain a glimpse into the deeply important and enormously varied ways these women impact their families, friends, colleagues and community. Their stories are inspiring and heartwarming. This is today's history for tomorrow's women and girls!

Ovation is typically a surprise to those being honored. We will celebrate together at Unveiling receptions to be held in several locations throughout Iowa the week of June 13th. More than 800 women and girls throughout Iowa have been recognized with a tribute since the book's inception in 2014.

Honor someone you know—and, by doing so, help improve the lives of women and girls across Iowa. Complete details and commitment forms are available on the IWF [website](#). The deadline is approaching.

Iowa Women Leading the Way

Iowa's history is filled with women who have impacted our lives and shown us that anything is possible. Here are just a few of those amazing leaders that have paved the way and



deserve a standing ovation from us!

Elizabeth Catlett: An accomplished artist who documented the Black American experience, Catlett became the first African American woman to earn a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Iowa.

Carrie Chapman Catt: A leader in the women's suffrage movement who founded the League of Women Voters, Catt was the only woman to graduate in her class from Iowa State University.

Christine Grant: The first Women's Athletic Director at the University of Iowa, Dr. Christine Grant was a pioneer for gender equality in sports who testified before Congress as a consultant for the Civil Rights Title IX Task Force.

Edna M. Griffin: A lifelong civil rights leader who organized Iowans to join the March on Washington with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Griffin's important work influenced Iowa civil rights legislation.

Janet Guthrie: A pilot, flight instructor, aerospace engineer, and race car driver—Guthrie was the first woman to compete in the Indianapolis 500 and Daytona 500.

Jean Jew: A professor, researcher, and scholar, Dr. Jean Jew set a precedent for women everywhere after filing—and eventually winning—a decade-long suit challenging sexual harassment in the workplace.

Mary Louise Smith: The first woman ever to chair the Republican Party in 1974, Smith was a staunch supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment who co-founded the Iowa Women's Political Caucus.

Kate and Trish Varnum: The Varnums were the lead plaintiffs in *Varnum v. Brien*, a landmark court case recognizing same-sex marriage in Iowa considered to be the tipping point for marriage equality in the US.

Jean Adeline Morgan Wanatee: A Meskwaki language specialist and champion for the rights of Native women, Wanatee became the first woman elected to the Meskwaki Tribal Council.

Grant Opportunities

Core Grants applications are now being accepted for 2023 programs. In celebration of 25 years of grantmaking, IWF will be awarding six \$25,000 grants - one for each of the barriers to women and girls economic self-sufficiency. Full details can be found on the IWF website. What would you do with \$25,000? [Apply today!](#)

Building Community Child Care Solutions Grants will open with Letters of Interest in June. More details will be available June 1st.

Emergency Grants – previously known as Micro Grants, are available throughout the calendar year until funds have been expended. Emergency Grants are just that. They are small one-time grants to be used for **immediate emergency needs** that have not been budgeted and are needed to keep you serving your clients. An application form is available on the IWF [website](#).



THANK YOU to our generous donors and corporate sponsors. It is because of you, the Iowa Women's Foundation is able to grow our grantmaking and improve the lives of Iowa's Women and Girls!!!

Like what you are reading? Want to get further involved? Volunteer and Donate to improve the lives of Iowa's women and girls!

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