

Alfred University's Herrick Library hosting exhibit marking women's voting rights in NYS
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Women's voting rights exhibit
at Alfred University's Herrick
Memorial Library

ALFRED, NY Alfred University's Herrick Memorial Library is hosting an exhibit marking the 100th anniversary of voting rights being granted to women in New York State.

The traveling exhibit, titled "Recognizing Women's Right to Vote in New York State" is on display in the library's Leondar Learning Commons through March 2.

Women in New York were granted the right to vote on Nov. 6, 1917; three years later, the 19th amendment was passed, giving voting rights to women nationwide. The South Central Regional Library Council and the Empire State Library Network partnered with the Digital Public Library of America to create the 100th anniversary exhibit. It explores the history of the fight for women's voting rights in New York State, and how it impacted the Women's Suffrage Movement nationwide.

The exhibit consists of five poster-panels, each with a different theme:

Woman Suffrage before 1848 Explores voting in New York State before the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848, including in the colonies and among the Haudenosaunee people.

Women's Rights Activity up to 1848 and the Seneca Falls and Rochester Conventions Women and men organized to restore the right to vote to women, among other rights.

Pop Culture Suffrage Suffragists displayed brilliance when it came to promoting their cause, and packaged their message in consumer goods, created songs and theater performances, formed parades and processions, and traveled through rural areas, knocking on doors.

Anti-Suffrage Movement Most women and men believed that equality for women would lead to the destruction of the state. The Anti-suffrage movement engaged in public debates, created publicity materials to counter those of the

suffragists, and argued that support for Women&s Suffrage was unpatriotic, especially during World War I.

Race and Diversity The early Women&s Suffrage movement embraced women of all races, but overt racism in the later years led some suffragists to argue for the inclusion of all races winning the right to vote—including those effectively denied their voting rights.