



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, this year marks the 41st annual nationwide observance of Women's History celebrated throughout the month of March, highlighting the significant accomplishments and contributions of women to humankind over the course of time; New York State joins to honor women of all backgrounds who have had a profound impact on the lives of people in this state and nation – and many who have left an indelible imprint on the whole world – in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

Whereas, the 2022 theme, "Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope" is a tribute to the endless work required of women medical professionals, healthcare workers, caregivers, childcare workers, and frontline workers during the COVID-19 pandemic and also recognizes the ways that women have provided both healing and hope throughout history; and

Whereas, the coronavirus has been especially difficult for those who carry out essential services, including many women who are doctors, nurses, EMTs, home care workers, and other healthcare professionals facing unprecedented challenges while treating millions and working to implement infection control measures to protect people and contain the spread of the virus; and

Whereas, the pandemic has taught us that nowhere is human compassion and generosity more visible than among New York State's healthcare community, and we are proud to be home to tens of thousands of women who work in hospitals, medical clinics, community health facilities, schools, our military forces, and in countless other venues as physicians, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, nurse practitioners, and other roles; and

Whereas, we take this opportunity to also honor legendary women who were pioneers in the field of medicine and healthcare: Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman in America to receive a medical degree, who championed the participation of women in the medical profession, ultimately opening her own medical college for women; Mary Edwards Walker, the first female U.S. Army surgeon during the Civil War and only woman to receive the Presidential Medal of Honor in U.S. history; Florence Nightingale, founder of modern nursing who pioneered treatments for the ill and developed a school for the training and education of nurses; Rebecca Lee Crumper, the first Black American woman to become a medical doctor; Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, one of our nation's oldest humanitarian and disaster relief organizations; and

Whereas, we honor all women who contribute to our society through their work and achievements in many areas, giving selflessly of themselves as teachers, scientists, artists, lawyers, public servants, and athletes – excelling in their professions and providing a role model of hope and heroism for younger generations of women; as the first woman to proudly serve as Governor of the State of New York, I respect the historically significant role of many admirable women trailblazers – they remain heroes and examples of strength and courage, and we are all inspired by their lives and legacies as our nation seeks to heal from the pain and loss we have endured over the past several years;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim March 2022 as

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

in the Empire State and pay tribute to all of the extraordinary women of the past and present who are pillars of strength, healing, and hope.



G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this fifteenth day of February in the year two thousand twenty-two.

Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh

Governor