

Oakland Centennial Suffrage Parade

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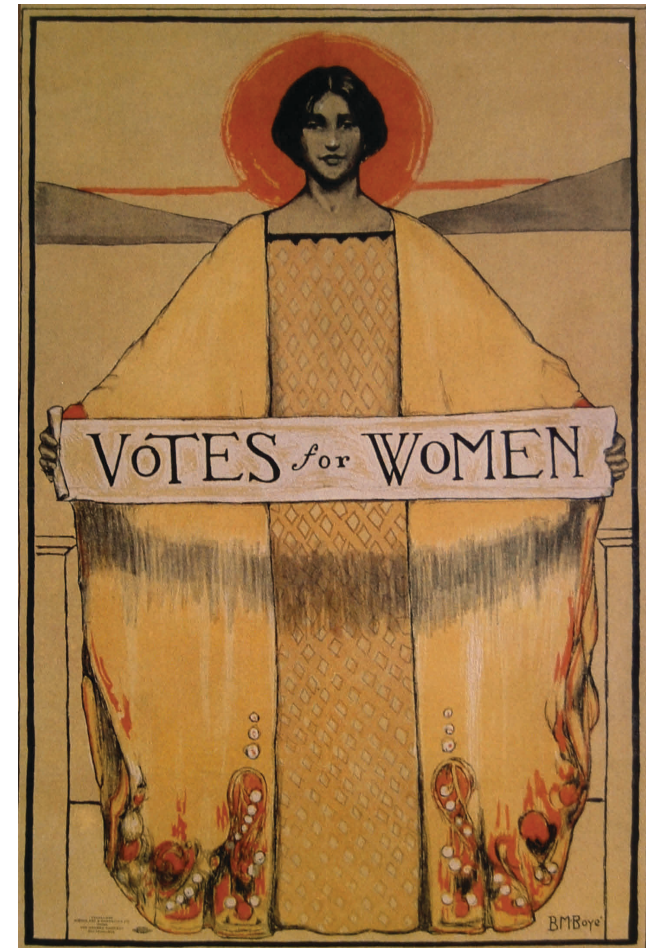
Contributors

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In-Kind Donations

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Mary Bergan, Coalition of Labor Union Women
Lenore Gallin, Professor of Women's Studies, DVC
Alameda County Historical Society, Fiscal Agent

Oakland Centennial Suffrage Parade



Sunday, October 2, 2011
Lake Merritt Bandstand

Oakland Centennial Suffrage Parade

Why Are We Marching in Oakland?

Oakland was the site of the first Women's Suffrage parade in California! On August 23, 1908, three hundred women marched down Harrison Street to the Republican Convention at Ebell Hall to petition the convention to include a plank in their platform for women's suffrage. After considering the request for three days, the Convention denied the Suffragist's petition. But the groundwork was laid, and three years later, California voted to give women the right to vote. The vote was close, with only a margin equivalent to one voter in every precinct supporting women's suffrage.

Ironically, both Oakland and San Francisco voted against the vote for women – it was the rural counties that carried the day! Major cities were concerned women would use their power to enforce prohibition and equal pay for women.

The fight continues to pass the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), which simply states: *Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.*

We are proud that California is leading the way:

- We are the first state with two female U.S. Senators, both of whom have been reelected for three terms.
- Alameda County has an African-American Congress-woman who has been reelected for six terms.
- Oakland is the first city in California to elect a Chinese woman as Mayor.
- Six out of eight Oakland City Council members are women.

So, as you can see, we have many reasons to march today and pay tribute to those three hundred women in whose footsteps we follow.

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Program

11:30 Introduction:

Sandra Threlfall, Chair, Oakland Suffrage Committee

Brief Comments from Bay Area elected officials:

Barbara Lee, US Congress

Jean Quan, Mayor of Oakland

Jane Brunner, Oakland Councilmember

Libby Schaaf, Oakland Councilmember

Nate Miley, President, Alameda County Supervisors

Loni Hancock, California Senator

Nancy Skinner, California Assemblymember

11:45 The March begins.

A replica of the 1908 Historic Banner will lead the way.

A 1907 cable car is available for those for need it.

12:45 Music by the Ellen Seeling Quintet

1:15 Closing Speakers:

Dr. Aliza Chinn, Girl Scouts of USA, will introduce the oldest girl scout in California: Mabel Fryer.

Daphne Muse, Founder & Chief Visionary Officer of *Grandmothers Going Global* - Harnessing our social capital, leadership and creative vision worldwide.

1:30 Ice Cream Social.

Move to the Veterans Memorial Building for a free ice cream social. This event is generously underwritten by Assemblymember Skinner and Fentons Creamery.