

Women's History Month Spotlight

EDUCATORS, MENTORS, & LEADERS

Mary McLeod Bethune (1875 - 1955)

Mary McLeod Bethune was a life-long activist who held leadership positions for many organizations that advocated for education for Black women. Through her activism, Bethune became friends with Eleanor Roosevelt. This relationship helped further her efforts, and in 1936, Franklin Roosevelt named her the Director of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration, making her the highest-ranking black woman in government.



Patsy Mink (1927 - 2002)

Patsy Mink was the first woman of color to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, and the first Asian-American to serve in Congress. She campaigned for women's rights and equal pay and focused on issues affecting Asian and Pacific Americans. Mink served on the Committee on Education and Labor and made it her mission to reduce gender bias in education and the workforce. She also wrote bills for children in need and found success in getting them passed.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg (1933 - 2020)

Former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, **Ruth Bader Ginsburg** advocated for more equality in terms of gender and race in the educational sector. For example, in *United States v. Virginia*, Ginsburg wrote the majority opinion that the Virginia Military Institute's male-only admissions policy was unconstitutional. She also played a part in various cases regarding the broader scope of Title IX, which prohibits sex-based discrimination in federal schools and education programs.

