

Notable Women of Salem, Mass

Anne Bradstreet 1612 - 1972



"Authority without heavy axe without an edge, filter to bruise than polish."

Anne Bradstreet (1612-1672) was the first female published poet in the United States (then the British American colonies). A Puritan, her collection The Tenth Muse Lately Sprung Up in America was published in London in 1650. She was also the first person in the colonies to publish a book of poetry. Emigrating from England in 1630, she settled first in Salem, then in the Boston area.

Mary Spencer 1759 - 1835



Mary Spencer (1759-1835) is the famous woman from Salem, MA, who created the "Gibraltar" candy in 1806. After being shipwrecked and losing her belongings, she was gifted a barrel of sugar by neighbors, which she used to make the lemon and peppermint-flavored stick candy, selling it at Ye Olde Pepper Candy Company. She was also an abolitionist and sold her candy across New England.

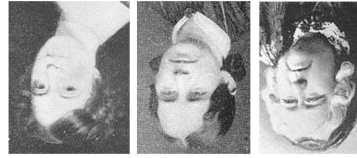
Current Women of Salem

Salem is the proud home of many women known for their community support and advocacy for different causes. After serving on the City Councilor, **Kim Driscoll**, became Salem's mayor, serving for 17 years. She is now the Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts.

Currently, four women serve on the City Councilor. Community advocates **Erin Turkowski** and **Lydia King**, began their terms this January, along with **Katelyn Holeppa**, the city's first transgender councilor. Alice Merkl, who has served on the council for many years, has been elected as it's president. Thanks to Destination Salem, whose article, Celebrate the Incredible Women that have shaped Salem, MA for info for this zine. Visit the article by scanning the QR code.



The Peabody Sisters 1804 - 1894



Elizabeth Peabody (1804-1894) opened the first kindergarten in the United States. She was a writer, prominent figure in the Transcendentalist movement, and considered to be the first female book publisher in America. One of her two sisters, **Sophia** (1809-1871), was a prolific painter who donated works to be sold to benefit charities and was the wife of Nathaniel Hawthorne, her younger sister. **Mary** (1806-1887) was active in various reform movements including women's suffrage, world peace, and Native American rights. She was also the wife of Horace Mann.

Barbara Ann Wilcox 1912 - 1962



Barbara Ann Wilcox, born Edward Price Richards and known for a time as Barbara Ann Richards, was an American transgender woman who is known for her successful 1941 petition to change her legal name to her chosen name, which attracted widespread media attention as one of the earliest cases on the legal status of transgender people.

Sarah Parker Remond 1826 - 1894



"For the slave, there is no home, no love, no hope, no help - and what is life without hope?"

Sarah Parker Remond (1826-1894) was a free-born African American lecturer, abolitionist and physician who was born in Salem. From 1856 to 1861, she toured the east coast as well as England, Ireland, and Scotland giving anti-slavery and women's rights lectures. In 1866, Remond was among the 1500 women, and possibly the only black woman, who signed the first women's suffrage petition in Great Britain.

Charlotte Forten Grimké 1837 - 1914



"I feel that no other injury could be so hard to bear, so very very hard to forgive, as that inflicted by cruel oppression and prejudice.."

Charlotte Forten Grimké was Salem State University's first African American graduate as a part of the class of 1856. For 65 years Charlotte was a tireless advocate for the end of slavery; equality for women and people of color; and education for all. During her life, she was an abolitionist, educator, writer, poet, translator, and women's rights activist.