

Mercy Otis Warren

was born in the village of West Barnstable in 1728. Mercy was the third of seven surviving children of James and Mary Allyne Otis. Her older brother, James, was known as “The Patriot”.

Mercy was a playwright, poet, historian, and pioneer in Women’s Rights. She was also an advocate of the Bill of Rights and a champion of liberty.

In an era when it was unusual for women to obtain any sort of schooling beyond reading and writing, her father, James Otis Sr., saw to it that his daughter joined her brother in the tutorial sessions headed by the Reverend Jonathan Russell, pastor and teacher of West Parish of Barnstable.

It was not until her marriage to James Warren in 1754 that Mercy began the literary and political crusade that led her to become a premier woman of the American Revolution. Her husband was Mercy’s greatest supporter. Recognizing that his wife had extraordinary talents, he refused to suppress her endeavors.

Mercy wrote pamphlets and published plays containing political satire that opposed British officials in New England.

Mercy was not only an articulate champion for her country, but for the cause of women as well. Both in her satirical plays and poems, she consistently led the cause for the importance of women in society.

Mercy was more than a woman ahead of her time. She was a beacon of light that illuminated her era and that light continues to shine.

The Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Woman of the Year Award is supported by:



Barnstable County
Tales of Cape Cod
Cape Cod Writers’ Center
Barnstable Village Association
West Barnstable Civic Association
Cape Cod Times/Barnstable Patriot

***For more information, please contact:
Judy Walden Scarafille
508-362-4467***

Donations gratefully accepted.
Make checks payable to:
Barnstable County Treasurer / Mercy Otis Warren Committee
PO Box 427
Barnstable, MA 02630

Mercy Otis Warren



2020
*Cape Cod
Woman of the Year
Award*

*Presented by The
Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod
Woman of the Year
Committee*



Criteria for the Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Woman of the Year Award



This award will be presented to a woman who is a resident of Cape Cod, has demonstrated leadership in the Cape Cod Community and has made significant contributions to

one, or more, of the following while embracing the ideals of Patriotism:

- The Arts
- Education
- Business
- Community Involvement
- Volunteerism on a local level

*Cover photo courtesy of
Bronwen Howells Walsh of the
Barnstable Patriot.*

Guidelines for Nomination:

1. The nomination is to be received by Patriot's Day, Monday, April 20, 2020.
2. Nominations should be presented on **one typewritten page** describing in narrative form what qualifies your candidate, and what makes her unique and deserving of such an honor.
3. The award will be presented on Wednesday, June 3rd at 7:00 PM at the Olde Colonial Courthouse, Route 6A, Barnstable Village.
4. The recipient will be asked to participate in the 4th of July parades in Barnstable Village and Hyannis

Please mail the completed information form and the typed description page to:

Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Woman of the Year Committee
c/o Barnstable County Complex
PO Box 427
Barnstable, MA 02630

Or email to mercyotiswarrencapecod@gmail.com.

The nomination form may be downloaded online at www.barnstablecounty.org.

Nominee Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town and Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Name of Person submitting nomination: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town and Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____