

Student Research- Women in Political Life in KY

In 2019, we provided selected Museum student workers a list of twenty women and asked them to do initial research, and to identify items in the Rather-Westerman Collection related to women in Kentucky political life.

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Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Mary Barr Clay

b. October 13, 1839 **d.** October 12, 1924

Birthplace: Lexington, Kentucky (Fayette County)

Positions held/party affiliation

- Vice President of the American Woman Suffrage Association
- Vice President of the National Woman Suffrage Association
- President of the American Woman Suffrage Association; 1883-?



Photo Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Barr_Clay

Biography

Mary Barr Clay was born on October 13th, 1839 to Kentucky abolitionist Cassius Marcellus Clay and Mary Jane Warfield Clay in Lexington, Kentucky.

Mary Barr Clay married John Francis “Frank” Herrick of Cleveland, Ohio in 1839. They lived in Cleveland and had three sons. In 1872, Mary Barr Clay divorced Herrick, moved back to Kentucky, and took back her name – changing the names of her two youngest children to Clay as well.

In 1878, Clay’s mother and father also divorced, after a tenuous marriage that included affairs and an illegitimate son on her father’s part. Due to the lack of women’s rights in such matters, Mary’s mother received nothing in the divorce settlement and was left homeless despite 45 years of managing the estate where they lived (White Hall in Richmond, Kentucky) and playing a role in the growth of their finances.

In the late 1860s, while living in Cleveland, Ohio and still married to her husband, Mary Barr Clay attended a convention held by nationally acclaimed suffragist, Lucy Stone. The inequalities she heard about, saw in her mother’s life, and experienced in her own inspired Mary Barr Clay to become even more active in the women’s rights movement in the late 1870s. She became an important suffragette on the state and national level, and is credited with bringing three younger sisters into the movement, including Laura Clay, who became even more famous for her speeches and leadership.

Mary Barr Clay was the first woman from Kentucky to hold the position of president in a national women’s organization. She was elected to President of the American Woman Suffrage Association in 1883. She also held vice presidential roles in that association and in the National Woman Suffrage Association (these two organizations later combined to be the National

American Woman Suffrage Association). Clay is also credited with starting Kentucky's first permanent women's rights association in Lexington in 1879, and the first state association in Louisville after a convention held by Lucy Stone in 1881.

While living in Michigan for a period to pursue the education of her youngest sons, Mary Barr Clay was invited to address the graduating law class of the University of Michigan on the "Constitutional Right of Women to Vote." She addressed the legislative body while living in Michigan, and upon moving back to Kentucky, regularly addressed the state legislature, demanding equality for women under the law. By the 1890s, Clay was the vice president of the Equal Rights Association of Kentucky.

Due to failing health by the year 1902, Clay became inactive in the movement for the remainder of her life. She died on October 12th, 1924 and is buried at Lexington Cemetery.

Links used for biography information

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Barr_Clay
<https://web.archive.org/web/20060816065719/http://www.filsonhistorical.org/guide2.html>
<https://networks.h-net.org/mary-barr-clay>
https://filsonhistorical.org/herstory_womens-rights/
<https://vimeo.com/252589998>
<https://breakingthebronzeceiling.com/more-information/>
<http://www.kentuckywomensuffrageproject.org/gallery-of-suffragists/>
<https://archive.org/details/cu31924032324752/page/n10>
<https://upclosed.com/people/mary-barr-clay/>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

From an initial search of spreadsheets and KenCat, I couldn't find any items directly related to Mary Barr Clay...

Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Eleanor's thoughts: Mary Barr Clay's father was a character (Cassius Marcellus Clay – I honestly couldn't stop reading about him – so interesting) – one could say of legendary proportions. He was an abolitionist, but also, it seems, a fairly awful husband to Mary Barr Clay's mother. While I think he influenced Clay to fight for just causes in a fairly unreceptive state/region because of his abolitionist work, I think he also inspired Clay's activism because she realized how important it was for women to have legal rights after her mother was hung out to dry so badly after her parents' divorce.

Mary Barr Clay also had a good deal of correspondence with national suffrage figures Lucy Stone and Susan B. Anthony. She is credited with bringing national suffragists to Kentucky to speak on several occasions – seems like she was a real leader and at the forefront of the movement in the state of Kentucky.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Laura Clay

b. February 9, 1849 **d.** June 29, 1941

Birthplace: Richmond, Kentucky (Madison County)

Positions held/party affiliation

- President of the Kentucky Woman Suffrage Association; 1881-?
- Founder and President of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association; 1888-1912
- Chair of Membership Committee of the National American Woman Suffrage Association; 1907?
- Vice President of the Southern States Woman Suffrage Association; 1916-?
- Founder of the Democratic Women's Club of Kentucky; 1920
- First woman to receive a vote for the presidential nomination at the Democratic National Convention; 1920
- Temporary Chairman on the Kentucky Convention to ratify the Twenty-First Amendment which repealed Prohibition; 1933



Photo Source:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laura_Cl

Biography

Laura Clay was born on February 9th, 1849 to Kentucky abolitionist Cassius Marcellus Clay and Mary Jane Warfield Clay at their estate, White Hall, near Richmond, Kentucky.

Clay was the youngest of four daughters. She was educated at Sayre School in Lexington, Kentucky, Ms. Hoffman's Finishing School in New York City, the University of Michigan, and the University of Kentucky. As a young woman, Clay wrote in her diary, "I feel rebellious sometimes...I think I have a mind superior to any boy my age and equal to many others" – a sure sign of the life she would go on to lead.

In 1878, Clay's mother and father divorced after a tenuous marriage that included affairs and an illegitimate son on her father's part. Due to the lack of women's rights in such matters, Laura's mother received nothing in the divorce settlement and was left homeless despite 45 years of managing the estate where they lived and playing a role in the growth of their finances. This inequity in the rights of men and women inspired Laura Clay's three older sisters to become involved in the women's rights movement. Laura Clay followed suit not too long after.

Laura Clay is credited with inspiring Kentucky legislation that changed many things for women in the state. She helped enact laws that gave women protections over their property and wages during divorce, as well as ensured women's rights to joint guardianship of children in case of divorce. She inspired laws that ensured that women could make a will, control their own real estate, make contracts, and sue and be sued as an individual. She also institutionalized a requirement for there to be women doctors in female mental institutions in the state. She was able to increase the age of consent for marriage from 12 to 16. She established juvenile courts and detention homes, as well as the first women's dorm at the University of Kentucky. She encouraged the entrance of women into male-only colleges (Transylvania University and Central University) and equal pay for female educators at the University of Kentucky. Finally, she played a major role in the passage of the Kentucky legislation that guaranteed women the right to vote.

In 1888, Clay and Josephine K. Henry founded the Kentucky Equal Rights Association (KERA), which Clay led as president until 1912. Her cousin, Madeline McDowell Breckinridge, became the next president of the organization. Clay became involved in the National American Woman Suffrage Association, eventually separating herself from that organization due to her staunch support of states' rights. Laura Clay has a reputation for her support of white superiority. She worked closely with Henry Blackwell, who proposed the "Southern Strategy," which suggested that only educated (primarily white) women should earn the right to vote. She also ended up rescinding her support of the 19th amendment on the grounds that it was antithetical to states' rights. These moves on the part of Laura Clay have certainly cast a shadow on the feats she accomplished for women's rights in the state of Kentucky.

In 1920, Clay founded the Democratic Women's Club of Kentucky. That year, she was also a delegate for the state of Kentucky at the Democratic National Convention. She was nominated for president at that convention and she received one vote, making her the first woman nominated for president, and the first woman presidential nominee to receive a vote. Clay was also part of the Kentucky state convention that repealed prohibition.

Later on in her life, she continued her activism within the Episcopal Church. Clay sought to expand church positions so that women could be involved. She was successful in this endeavor, at least in the Lexington diocese.

Clay died on June 29th, 1941 and is interred at the Lexington Cemetery.

Links used for biography information

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laura_Clay

<https://web.archive.org/web/20060925215855/http://www.kdla.ky.gov/resources/kylauraclay.htm>

<https://lexingtonhistory.wordpress.com/2010/03/18/chevy-chaser-history-those-clay-women/>

<https://breakingthebronzeceiling.com/more-information/>

<http://lexhistory.org/wikilex/clay-laura>

<https://explorekyhistory.ky.gov/items/show/332>

<https://www.thoughtco.com/laura-clay-biography-3530525>

<https://www.nkytribune.com/2016/06/old-time-kentucky-laura-clay-daughter-of-lion-of-white-hall-was-first-woman-to-get-presidential-vote/>

https://www.si.edu/object/npg_NPG.95.55

<https://muse.jhu.edu/book/37136>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

I could not find any photos of Laura Clay in the collection resources I had access to...

Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Eleanor: Laura Clay is a hard woman for me to like. She comes off as racist, pro-war, and anti-federal government in the research I have done on her. She would be a good person to use to point out the fact that women's suffrage did not mean equal rights for all – and in fact, some key players in the women's movement were ONLY interested in advocating for the rights of white women.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Lida (Calvert) Obenchain, “Eliza Calvert Hall”

b. February 11, 1856 d. December 20, 1935

Birthplace: Bowling Green, KY

Positions held/party affiliation/political involvement

- Kentucky Equal Rights Association Press Superintendent, 1900-1909
- “Sally Anne’s Experience” short story published in 1898
- *Aunt Jane of Kentucky* short story collection published in 1907



Photo Source:
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/9355A360-A338-4C0B-9C6C-452657730293>

Biography

Lida was born to a wealthy family in Bowling Green, KY. Her childhood was rather normal until her father, a lawyer and bank manager, was caught embezzling money and decided to run away as a fugitive. He wouldn’t return until he was pardoned thirteen years later. After attending the Western Female Seminary in Ohio, Lida started work as a teacher to help support her mother and four siblings during her father’s absence. It was at this time that Lida first began writing, and she had two poems published in 1879 (Niedermeier, 2016). Lida married William Alexander Obenchain in 1885 and a new chapter of her life began.

As Lida’s new life as a wife and mother began to take hold, she did not have much time to write and became frustrated with the constraints that society put on wives and women in general. Laura Clay, daughter of Cassius Clay and prominent figure in the women’s suffrage movement, asked Lida to join her new organization, the Kentucky Equal Rights Association (KERA), and Lida accepted her invitation. Lida’s continued frustration against the unfair laws restricting married women’s rights to property and to custody of their children resulted in Lida’s first short story entitled “Sally Ann’s Experience” in 1898. This story was a great success, being republished in several magazines and newspapers, some of which were outside of the United States. Lida accepted a position with KERA as their Press Superintendent in 1900 and held this position for almost a decade. Lida’s job was to provide articles and information about the women’s suffrage movement to Kentucky newspapers. Lida published articles in almost every Kentucky newspaper, with the exception of the Louisville Courier-Journal. The editor of this newspaper was strongly opposed to the women’s suffrage movement and would not allow KERA to publish articles on that subject (Roe, 2019).

Lida's biggest success, perhaps, came from *Aunt Jane of Kentucky*, a collection of her short stories that included "Sally Ann's Experience." This book was published in 1907 and soon people all across the America were talking about it.

Links used for biography information

- <https://networks.h-net.org/node/2289/discussions/135376/eliza-calvert-obenchain-eliza-calvert-hall-kentucky-suffragist> (Niedermeier, 2016)
- <https://explorekyhistory.ky.gov/items/show/381> (Roe, 2019)
- <http://migration.kentucky.gov/kyhs/hmdb/MarkerSearch.aspx?mode=All>
- <https://books.google.com/books?id=bUNimvNOv7kC&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q=press%20superintendent&f=false>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

- "LIDA CALVERT OBENCHAIN" photographs; 1975.27.99;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/photo/ED8850A1-6716-441E-9FOA-511673374646>



- "LIDA CALVERT OBENCHAIN" photograph; 1975.27.101;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/photo/4A29C84F-E476-48A4-A3AF-825847724837>
- "PAPERS (Obenchain, Lida [Calvert])"; handwritten narrative about the publishing of her short story, "Sally Ann's Experience"; 1989.98.11;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/B9C86BFD-1250-4482-BC92-623482150173>

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Mary Elliott Flanery

b. 04/27/1867 - **d.** 07/19/1933

Birthplace: Carter County, Kentucky

Positions held/party affiliation

Kentucky House of Representatives (1921-



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Elliott_Flanery

Biography

Mary Elliott Flanery was born in Carter County, Kentucky. She received a public school education and attended Barbourville College, today's University of Charleston, and the Agricultural and Mechanical State College, today's University of Kentucky. She married William Harvey Flanery, with whom she had five children with (Wikipedia).

While living in Pikeville, Kentucky, Flanery became a journalist for the "Ashland Daily Independent." At the same, Flanery taught at schools in Elliot and Carter counties. She got involved in the suffrage movement and advocated for education reform (KYGov). After the 19th Amendment was passed, Flannery was elected into the Kentucky House of Representatives. She won by a 250-vote margin (Wikipedia). She used her time in the house to defend an act that created teachers' normal schools at Morehead Murray colleges (KYGov).

"Additionally, Flanery focused her concerns on Kentucky's marriage and divorce laws, educational reform, and sponsored the Shepard-Towner Maternity Act. She introduced the bill that created Morehead State Teachers College" (KYwomenshistory).

She was also a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in New York City in 1924. After her death in 1933, Historical Marker #2136 was placed in Catlettsburg, Kentucky to recognize Flanery's achievements. She was the first woman elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives, and the first woman elected to a legislature in a southern state (KYGov).

Links used for biography information

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Elliott_Flanery

<https://explorekyhistory.ky.gov/items/show/335>

<http://www.kywomenshistoryproject.com/mary-elliott-flanery-2/>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

N/A

Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

The fact that she was the first woman elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives, and the first woman elected to a legislature in a southern state should be emphasized. I think her opponent to the Secretary of State position, Emma Guy Cromwell, should be investigated for this project.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Madeline McDowell Breckinridge

b. 05/20/1872 – **d.** 11/25/1920

Birthplace: Franklin County, Kentucky

Positions held/party affiliation

President of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association (1912-1919)

Vice-president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (1913-1915)



<https://explorekyhistory.ky.gov/items/show/334#&gid=1&pid=2>

Biography

Madeline McDowell Breckinridge was born in Franklin County on May 20, 1872. She was Henry Clay's great-granddaughter and cousin to suffragist Laura Clay. She married Desha Breckinridge, editor of the "Lexington Herald," in 1898.

She got involved with social reform early, focusing on children. She advocated for schools, playgrounds, hospitals, and child labor laws. She later got involved with the suffrage movement to fight for women's rights, while promoting her earlier social reform work.

"Her involvement at the national level involved a grueling travel schedule throughout the country. She became well known for her excellent oratorical skills, which many said came from her descent from the "Great Compromiser," Henry Clay."

The entire time she fought for social reform, she was also fighting tuberculosis. She lost one of her feet to tuberculosis. She still continued her reform work. She died on Thanksgiving Day, 1920. Historical marker #1876, in Lexington, Kentucky, recognizes Breckinridge's contributions to the suffrage movement.

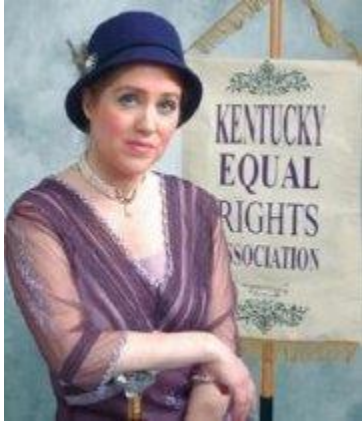
Links used for biography information

<https://explorekyhistory.ky.gov/items/show/334>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

Madeline McDowell Breckinridge Presentation, SC2018.17.20,

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/BFD67CBD-FC91-46AF-9344-401245022827>



Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

“Newspapers reporting her death called her Kentucky's "most distinguished woman citizen," and one of the "greatest women orators in the U.S.””

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Pearl Carter Pace

b. January 25th, 1886 **d.** January 14th, 1970

Birthplace: Tompkinsville, Kentucky (Monroe County)

Positions held/party affiliation

- Sheriff (Cumberland County); 1937-1941
- Republican National Committeewoman for Kentucky; 1948-1957? (or 1953?)
- Member of the War Claims Commission appointed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower; 1953-1959
- Chair of War Claims Commission; 1959-?



Photo Source: 1970.14.1, MSS 114;
https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_mss_fin_ai_d/299/

Biography

Pearl Carter Pace was born on January 25th, 1886 in Tompkinsville, Kentucky to James Clark and Idru Illinois (Tucker) Carter. She grew up in a strongly Republican family – her father was a circuit court judge in southcentral Kentucky for many years. Pace moved to Cumberland County, Kentucky when she was young and grew up there. She attended college at Western Kentucky University, and went on to be a schoolteacher in Monroe and Cumberland Counties for several years. She married Stanley Dan Pace, a Democrat, in 1917, and they had three children. Pace also worked for several family businesses, mainly running the books.

In 1933, Pace’s husband was encouraged by local residents to run for Cumberland County Sheriff. He served in that position for four years, but as those holding public office in Kentucky at the time could not serve consecutive terms, Pearl Carter Pace ran to succeed him for the following term. Her victory in this election made her the first woman in Kentucky to be elected as a sheriff. She served for one term (1937-1941). During her time as sheriff, she worked to dismantle the rum-runners and bootleggers of Cumberland County, and earned herself the nickname “Pistol-Packin’ Pearl,” though she said she had never used a gun.

Pearl Carter Pace’s husband passed away in 1940, at which time she became even more involved in Republican Party politics in the state of Kentucky and at the national level. In 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower appointed Pace (who was a strong supporter of his) to the War Claims Commission. Though the conditions in which she was appointed to the commission (following the unexpected removal of former members) were seen as controversial, she served as a member for a number of years before being appointed to chair in 1959. This appointment made her the second-highest (or third – there seems to be contradictory information here) ranking woman in

Eisenhower's administration. Pace remained involved in state and national level civic engagement for the rest of her life.

Pearl Carter Pace passed away on January 14th, 1970 and is buried at the former Pace-Allen Cemetery (now the Grider Memorial Cemetery) in Cumberland, Kentucky. Pace was inducted into the Kentucky Women's Hall of Fame posthumously in 1983.

Links used for biography information

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pearl_Carter_Pace

<https://library.blog.wku.edu/tag/pearl-carter-pace/>

<https://books.google.com/books?id=CcceBgAAQBAJ&pg=PA705&lpg=PA705&dq=pearl+carter+pace&source=bl&ots=9m4UAKVzuS&sig=ACfU3U06BGb4u986kmrXCFczNOGQV-ZP4g&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwinoLbxkM3gAhUPKa0KHbwLDYs4ChDoATAEegQIBRAB#v=onepage&q=pearl%20carter%20pace&f=false>

<https://nyx.uky.edu/fa/findingaid/?id=xt79kd1qg52s#fa-heading-ref11>

<http://web.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=5cc8b88a-b007-4e5c-9138-bd2181e7416e%40sdc-v-ssesmgr05&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWZWhvc3QtbGI2ZQ%3d%3d#AN=9608050413&db=ulh>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

- “PEARL CARTER PACE PAPERS” manuscripts collection; MSS 114, 1970.14.1; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/B8D7BA1F-1298-4A91-B17C-375252753434>

Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Eleanor's thoughts: It looks like we have a LARGE manuscripts collection on Pearl Carter Pace, which could make this a really strong part of the section.

We could connect her to the pattern of teachers becoming politicians.

Pearl Carter Pace's son, Stanley Carter Pace, was taken as a POW during World War II. We have a lot of correspondence between them, so maybe we could tie this into her political career – maybe it inspired her to be so involved in politics for the rest of her life – maybe it had something to do with her appointment to the War Claims Commission? Seems like there are some good connections to be made here that would allow us to display some of the letters.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Thelma Stovall

b. April 1st, 1919 **d.** February 4, 1994

Birthplace: Munfordville, Kentucky (Hart County)

Positions held/party affiliation

- Kentucky House of Representatives; 1950-1952, 1952-1954, 1954-1956 (?)
- Kentucky State Treasurer; 1960-1964, 1968-1972
- Secretary of State of Kentucky; 1956-1960, 1964-1968, 1972-1976
- Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky; 1975-1979
- Young Democrats of Kentucky National Committee Member; 1952-1956
- Young Democrats of Kentucky President; 1956-1958



Photo Source: 2005.72.81;

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/photo/69F61F42-E5FF-4776-899A->

Biography

Thelma Loyace (Hawkins) Stovall was born in Munfordville, Kentucky on April 1st, 1919 to Samuel Dewey Hawkins and Addie Mae Goodman Hawkins. Her parents divorced when she was eight years old, at which time she moved to Louisville with her mother and her sister.

At the age of 15, Thelma began working at the Brown & Williamson Tobacco Company in Louisville to help support her family through the Great Depression. She attended the Louisville Girls' High School and was married to L. Raymond Stovall at the age of 17. Mrs. Stovall studied law at LaSalle Extension University in Chicago. She also took courses at Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Kentucky during the summers. In her early career, Stovall became active in labor unions and union politics. She was elected as the recording secretary of the Tobacco Workers International Union Local 185, a position which she held for eleven years.

Thelma Stovall holds a number of firsts when it comes to women in politics in the state of Kentucky. She was the first woman to be elected State Representative from Louisville and the first woman, both nominated and elected, to Lieutenant Governor of the State of Kentucky. She was also a member of Young Democrats of Kentucky, acting as a national committeewoman from 1952-1956, and serving as the first female president of the organization from 1956-1958.

Stovall has a reputation for having strong political stances and standing her ground throughout her time in various offices. Particularly, her time as Lieutenant Governor stands out to many.

During her term, she took on the role of acting governor on several occasions when Governor Julian Carroll was out of state. Stovall, a strong advocate for the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), used one of these opportunities to shut down an appeal to the ratification of that amendment. These types of swift, unilateral actions, though constitutional, seem to have made Stovall quite a few enemies.

Stovall ran for governor in 1979, but came in last out of five candidates. Her last political role was as Governor John Y. Brown, Jr.'s appointed Labor Commissioner for the final year of his term (1983). She was later appointed to the Kentucky Commission on Women as a member emeritus by Governor Martha Layne Collins.

Stovall suffered a number of strokes in her later life, which caused her to be fairly politically inactive in her final years. She died in her sleep in 1994 at the age of 74. Stovall is one of the few Kentucky politicians in history to "lie in state" at the capitol following her death. Today, the state capitol in Frankfort houses a plaque and portrait honoring Thelma Stovall for her groundbreaking service to the state of Kentucky.

Links used for biography information

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thelma_Stovall

https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1978/12/23/ky-governor-finds-himself-grounded-by-unusual-rule/f99a7454-b151-4ffc-9cc0-1e0ba4da7820/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.285c8e7425bb

<https://books.google.com/books?id=pXbYITw4ZesC&pg=PA854&lpg=PA854&dq=thelma+stovall+obituary&source=bl&ots=byxauOQkTb&sig=fslZuYdAMdYgOZp3QUeiEcIqI4c&hl=en&sa=X&ei=cEUCT-exA8PATgeLh4iHDw&ved=0CFMQ6AEwBTgK#v=onepage&q=thelma%20stovall%20obituary&f=false>

<https://explorekyhistory.ky.gov/items/show/336>

<https://explorekyhistory.ky.gov/items/show/337?tour=20&index=6>

<http://www.kywomenshistoryproject.com/thelma-stovall/>

<https://www.appalshoparchive.org/2016/04/01/tribute-to-thelma-stovall/>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)



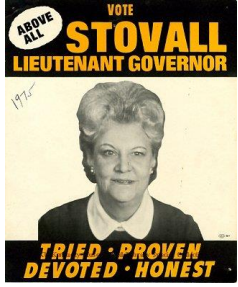
- “THELMA STOVALL FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR PAID FOR BY DEMOCRATS UNITED” political poster; SC2017.100.213;

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/12BBD4F0-7F4A-4611-A63B-131031306241>

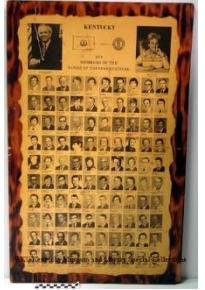
- “THINK THELMA!” political card; SC1987.1.408;

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/25DFCE3B-CCDC-407A-B92C-815124487992>





- “VOTE STOVALL LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR” political poster; 1996.131.3; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/3C73A051-D382-446F-B6DF-615153105142>
- “1976 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES” plaque; 2009.218.431; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/CC34FECA-329B-4B1B-8F7A-782301291476>



Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Eleanor’s thoughts: Stovall is another one of those “musical chairs” career politicians. Unlike some of the other early female politicians of Kentucky, Stovall really did seem to stand her ground and fight adamantly for the things she believed in (i.e. the Equal Rights Amendment). Reading articles about her from those who opposed her has really given me insight into the level of dislike that many people had for her. I would be interested to hear the perspective of people who were fans of her political actions – there seems to be less reporting on that, at least from what I came across.

I love that she was aware of this aspect of the Kentucky State Constitution that allowed her to take over when the governor was out of town. I understand why this made her so many enemies, but I think it allowed her to take action in a position where there probably wasn’t as much power as she would have otherwise wanted. I would be interested to see what others who had similarly aligned politics (i.e. Democratic voters) thought of this move (at that time).

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Amelia Moore Tucker

b. 1902 (? – there are a few different dates for this floating around the internet) **d.** February 9, 1987

Birthplace: Alabama

Positions held/party affiliation

- Kentucky House of Representatives (Republican – Louisville – 42nd district); 1961-1963
- First African American woman in the Kentucky legislature



Photo Source:

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/ED12997E-4A44-4946-9AE2-513972165743>

Biography

Amelia Moore Tucker was born in 1902 in Alabama. She was educated at Alabama State Teachers College, Indiana University, and the University of Louisville. In 1922, Amelia Moore married her husband, Charles Ewbank Tucker, who would go on to be recognized as a Civil Rights activist. They moved to Louisville, Kentucky in the 1920s, where they would live for most of their lives.

Tucker was a minister at the Brown Temple A.M.E. Zion Church and was involved in the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance. She was a charter member of the Interdenominational Ministerial Wives Association and was active in the United Council of Church Women.

From 1961 to 1963, Tucker served as the first African American woman in the Kentucky legislature. She was elected as the Republican representative from the 42nd district. She worked toward the integration of public facilities and was a strong supporter of the Public Accommodations Bill (which did not pass).

Tucker was a member of Jefferson County's Republican Executive Committee in the 1960s and 1970s. She also served on President Richard Nixon's advisory board on ethnic groups in the 1970s.

After her husband's death in 1975, Tucker moved to California, where she lived until her death in 1987.

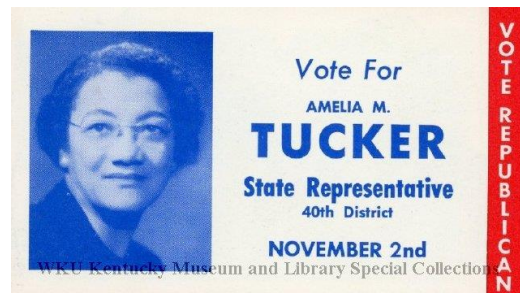
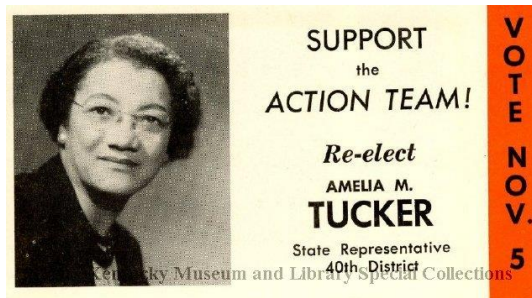
Links used for biography information

<https://nkaa.uky.edu/nkaa/items/show/1170>

<https://books.google.com/books?id=-0AoCgAAQBAJ&pg=PA500&lpg=PA500&dq=amelia+moore+tucker&source=bl&ots=ALQShZ72tX&sig=ACfU3U0-uZwcl1uPbxbYABCfu63eBG0oSQ&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewifg4KK-PrhAhWNd98KHaPvBO8Q6AEwA3oECAkQAQ#v=onepage&q=amelia%20moore%20tucker&f=false>
https://www.jstor.org/stable/23388061?seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents
<https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/110641186/>
https://books.google.com/books?id=W7EeBgAAQBAJ&pg=PA893&lpg=PA893&dq=amelia+moore+tucker+louisville+ky&source=bl&ots=J2a904G2HW&sig=ACfU3U0mzxZOnLiOurI8tkZF82UJb-mrWQ&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewim69aM_PrhAhUWJzQIHdvmCpYQ6AEwBnoECACQAQ#v=onepage&q=amelia%20moore%20tucker%20louisville%20ky&f=false
<https://wfpl.org/there-hasn-t-been-black-woman-kentucky-s-legislature-2000/>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

- “AMELIA M. TUCKER FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE” political card; SC1987.1.460; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/9B605ECE-7389-45E0-9826-462519641244>



- “RE-ELECT AMELIA M. TUCKER FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE” political card;

SC1987.1.461; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/ED12997E-4A44-4946-9AE2-513972165743>

Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Eleanor: I was appalled (well, I guess, not really, which is the sad part) by the lack of information on Amelia Moore Tucker. There was very little information online and I honestly couldn't find any photos of her other than the ones on the political cards in KenCat. The fact that she was the first African American woman in the Kentucky legislature and there is hardly even a paper trail for her life was disturbing to me. I think this would be a good opportunity to explore the lack of attention given to African American women (and men) in politics throughout our history, as well as the low number of African American representatives we have had in Kentucky legislature.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Georgia Davis Powers

b. 10/19/1923 – **d.** 01/30/2016

Birthplace: Springfield, Kentucky

Positions held/party affiliation

Kentucky State Senate (1968-1989)

Secretary of the Democratic caucus (1968-1988)

Democratic Party



<https://aaregistry.org/story/georgia-powers-first-black-and-first-woman-elected-to-kentucky-senate/>

Biography

Georgia Davis Powers (born Georgia Montgomery) was born in Springfield, Kentucky. She lived in a two-room shack with her mother, father, and eight brothers (Wiki). Growing up, she attended all-black schools in Louisville. From 1940 to 1942, she attended Louisville Municipal College. Georgia became a young mother to an adopted son with her first husband Norman Davis. She married her second husband, James Powers,

Georgia first got involved with the Democratic Party by joining Wilson Wyatt's U.S. Senatorial campaign staff. In the early 1960s, she got involved with the Allied Organization for Civil Rights, which promoted fair employment laws (Wiki). Georgia was elected to the Kentucky Senate in January of 1968 and continued to serve in the senate until January of 1989.

“She fought for the Equal Rights Amendment resolution, the Displaced Homemakers Law, and a law to increase the minimum wage in Kentucky.” (AAREG)

“Throughout her life, Senator Powers was committed to equal rights and fought for causes to prohibit discrimination in schools, workplaces, and housing on the basis of race, sex, and age. She supported legislation to improve education for the physically and mentally disabled.” (KY Gov.)

Georgia was also a prominent civil rights activist. She was still subjected to segregation at Frankfort hotels, even though she was a state senator. She created a partnership, in both a business and relationship sense, with Martin Luther King Jr.

“Powers was one of the main organizers of the March on Frankfort, which brought King, baseball great Jackie Robinson and folksingers Peter, Paul and Mary to the Capitol steps with 10,000 others to demand passage of a bill banning discrimination against blacks in hotels, restaurants and other public accommodations.” (Lexington Herald)

Georgia Davis Powers was the first African-American elected to the senate. She was also the first woman to be elected to the senate who did not follow a deceased husband.

Links used for biography information

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgia_Davis_Powers

<https://aaregistry.org/story/georgia-powers-first-black-and-first-woman-elected-to-kentucky-senate/>

<https://www.sos.ky.gov/elections/Pages/GeorgiaPowersAward.aspx>

<https://www.kentucky.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/tom-eblen/article44470470.html>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

Re-elect Senator Georgia Davis Powers [political card], SC2014.138.14,

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/D1C2A00F-F865-442A-A63B-094415441972>



Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Including Georgia Davis Powers would offer insight to female, African America politicians. I think it's important to emphasize that she fought for young voters, civil rights, and the work force. She got involved in a variety of topics, which targeted many people across the state. It's also interesting to note that she created connections to other well-known activists and politicians. Most people know who Martin Luther King Jr and Jackie Robinson are, yet a female who sat their shoes is virtually unknown.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Frances Jones Mills

b. July 4th, 1920 **d.** May 24th, 1996

Birthplace: Gray, Kentucky (Knox County)

Positions held/party affiliation

- Kentucky House of Representatives; 1962-1964 (?)
- Assistant to the Speaker of the Ky. House of Representatives; 1963-1965
- Clerk for the Kentucky Court of Appeals; 1972-1976
- Kentucky State Treasurer; 1976-1980, 1984-1988, 1992-1996
- Secretary of State of Kentucky, a ; 1980-1984



Photo Source: 1990.89.30,
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/photo/A19BFB82-23E2-4734-8EE6-150760225760>

Biography

Frances Jones Mills was born in Gray, Kentucky (in Knox County) on July 4th, 1920 to Dr. William H. Jones and Bertie (Steely) Jones. Mills held many political offices throughout her political career. She served on the House of Representatives, as Clerk for the Kentucky Court of Appeals, as Kentucky State Treasurer, and as Secretary of State. For 100 years, the Kentucky Constitution did not allow those elected to statewide office to serve consecutive terms, which meant that many politicians, including Frances Jones Mills, opted to move around from office to office. Some have called politicians who practiced this “musical chair officeholders.”

Frances Jones Mills attended Eastern Kentucky State Teachers College, and graduated from Cumberland College, in Williamsburg, Kentucky. Before entering politics, Mills worked as a teacher in her hometown in Knox County.

In 1961, Mills ran for the Kentucky House of Representatives. Her win in that election gave her the distinction of being the first woman to hold that seat for Knox County (as well as the first Democrat to hold that seat in the twentieth century). She only served one term in the House of Representatives, losing reelection for the following term, but she went on to work as the assistant to the Speaker of the House from 1963 to 1965. In a short break from holding public office, she worked for Kentucky Civil Defense from 1965-1972. In 1971, Mills was nominated for Clerk of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, a position which she won (1972-1976). Following that, she served three non-consecutive terms as State Treasurer (1976-1980, 1984-1988, 1992-1996) and one term as Secretary of State (1980-1984).

Despite her success in gaining political office in the state of Kentucky, Mills was involved in some political-related legal battles later in her career and life. She was indicted on charges

relating to the campaign that she ran for State Treasurer while acting as Secretary of State. She and her six staff members were acquitted on those charges. Later, Mills was charged with violating ethics laws by using state employees' time to work for her on personal and campaign related activities. She was fined \$11,000, a decision which she later appealed.

Mills died of cancer on May 24th, 1996. Her appeal was still pending. Following her death, there was further controversy surrounding two opposing wills that she had created.

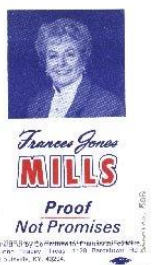
Links used for biography information

- <http://apps.sos.ky.gov/secdesk/sosinfo/default.aspx?id=70>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frances_Jones_Mills
- <https://search.proquest.com/hnpnewyorktimes/results/6AA9A700F36142ADPQ/1?accountid=15150>
- <https://www.revolvy.com/page/Frances-Jones-Mills>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)



- “RE-ELECT FRANCES JONES MILLS” political card; 2009.87.92;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/59C11811-1B02-4820-B71E-933321134300>
- “FRANCES JONES MILLS FOR STATE TREASURER” matchbook; SC1987.1.188;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/EDA3D704-58A7-4BB8-8A89-704817550711>
- “FRANCES JONES MILLS: PROOF NOT PROMISES” card; 2006.168.522;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/16F24EAA-E131-43B5-8145-153870824910>
- “FRANCES JONES MILLS FOR SECRETARY OF STATE” bumper sticker; 2009.87.36;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/EDA3D704-58A7-4BB8-8A89-704817550711>



Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Eleanor’s thoughts: Is it more common for career politicians to commit campaign violations? When the Kentucky Constitution stated that you could not hold office for two consecutive terms, did it distract people from being as productive in their current office because they were pretty quickly thinking about the office they would be running for next and their campaign?

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Martha Layne Collins

b. 12/7/1936

Birthplace: Bagdad, KY (Shelby County)

Positions held/party affiliation

- Delegate to Democratic National Convention from KY; 1972, 1980
- Clerk of Kentucky Court of Appeals (renamed to Kentucky Supreme Court during her term); 1975
- Kentucky Lt. Governor; 1979-1983
- Kentucky Governor; 1983-1987
- Permanent Chair of Democratic National Convention; 1984

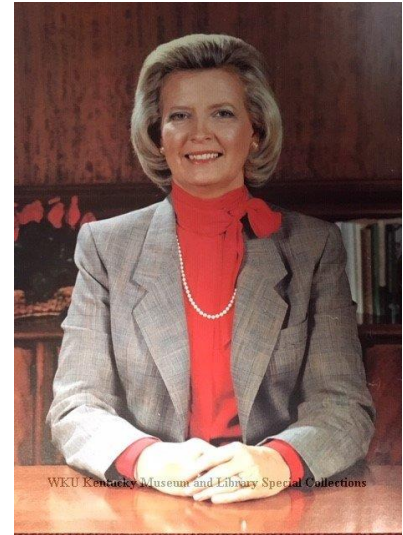


Photo Source: SC1987.1.390,
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/98525C48-8F09-487E-9B28-161629045900>

Biography

Martha Layne (Hall) Collins was born in Shelby County, Kentucky on December 7th, 1936 to Everett Larkin Hall and Mary Taylor Hall. Collins is best known for being the first (and only, to this date) female governor of Kentucky. In addition, Collins was the third woman in the United States to be elected to the position of governor (Fraas and Collins 2015). Collins' time spent holding various political offices in Kentucky was jump-started by her involvement in her own community. While working as a middle and high school teacher, she became active in school and community organizations. After volunteering on the winning campaigns of Governor Wendell Ford and Senator Walter D. "Dee" Huddleston, the Kentucky Democratic Party reached out to Collins in an effort to involve more women as representatives of the organization at the Democratic National Conference.

By 1975, urged by her husband and inspired by Kentucky women such as Thelma Stovall, Frances Jones Mills, and Mary Louise Foust, Collins entered her first political race with a bid for clerk of the Kentucky Court of Appeals (renamed the Kentucky Supreme Court). She won that election and went on to win elections for lieutenant governor (1979) and governor (1983). In 1984, she was selected as permanent chair by the Democratic National Committee for that year's Democratic National Convention.

Collins was recognized by many she worked with as efficient, organized, and reasonable. Representative Harry Moberly Jr. said that "Martha Layne Collins is the kind of person you want to work with ... Even if she doesn't agree with you, she'll keep searching and searching until you find some reasonable compromise" (Fraas and Collins 2001).

Though Collins has said that she did not consider herself to be a feminist candidate, she has spoken on the importance of women taking an active role in politics. While Collins admits that

not every woman needs to run for political office, she says, “It's just a matter of being informed, of taking a stand, of coming up with new ideas. You don't always have to be the candidate. We need women candidates, but there are so many ways that women can play a very crucial and important role by being involved” (Fraas and Collins 2001).

Links used for biography information

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/23384604.pdf?refreqid=excelsior%3A486cbc4a2dbd76ae193a8175194477e9> (Fraas and Collins 2001)

<http://muse.jhu.edu/chapter/1432214> (Fraas and Collins 2015)

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/byperson?keyword=Collins%2C+Martha+Layne+%28Hall%29%2C+b.+1936>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martha_Layne_Collins

<http://martin.uky.edu/martha-layne-collins-former-governor-kentucky>

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/23380338.pdf?refreqid=excelsior%3Ad742e7324ff810cb621e9566315edc62> (PHOTO SOURCE)

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

- Eleanor and Maggie envision these five buttons being displayed together:



- “OUR FIRST LADY GOVERNOR” button; 1983.43.268; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/32441AB5-6135-4E87-B3F2-988095697320>



- “KENTUCY MAKES HISTORY” button; 1984.12.5; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/B9FBAAE4-F859-4B46-90FD-317620101555>



- “IT’S OUR TURN NOW” button; 1984.12.6; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/3989735F-8B09-47E7-A5A6-739400789490>

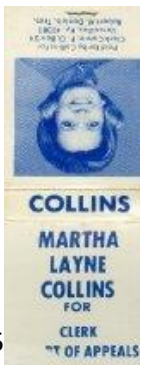
- “COLLINS A FIRST FOR KENTUCKY” button; 1991.67.31; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/A19FE940-1AE9-42F9-97B2-882750600617>

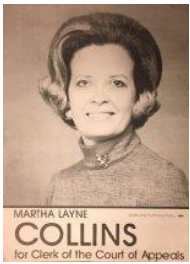
- “INAUGURATION: MARTHA LAYNE COLLINS, KENTUCKY’S FIRST LADY GOVERNOR” button; 1984.12.4; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/F587A741-57B9-4494-93DD-874249614000>

- Election to Clerk, Court of Appeals

- “Martha Layne Collins for Clerk Court of Appeals” matchbook; 1990.22.64; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/2A6850F8-F2DA-4F4A-AEF0-569341197727>

- “Martha Layne Collins for Clerk Court of Appeals” political card; 1988.68.38; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/013B2DA0-6C96-4D8F-8C86-181527952822>





- “MARTHA LAYNE COLLINS for Clerk of the Court of Appeals” poster; SC1987.1.391; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/2DED99BD-70C4-41AD-BCED-289663544728>

- Election to Lt. Governor



- “Martha Layne COLLINS LT GOVERNOR” poster; SC2016.132.23; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/69C3287B-9409-4DBB-843D-618605459594>
- “Brown/Collins” bumper sticker; 2009.218.86; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/6D7B2AAD-014C-44BD-845E-839087125181>



Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Eleanor’s thoughts: I’m interested in this idea that Collins did not consider herself a feminist candidate. From reading about her, it seems that she was often times successful in gaining the favor of both men and women who might have been against voting for a woman by staying pretty neutral on certain positions and by sometimes steering conversations away from her identity as a woman. Not sure if this exhibit is the time or place to go into it, but it was just an interesting aspect of learning about her story. It was compelling to me because I can see how that tactic might lead someone to be successful, but it’s also fairly maddening when I think about the public faces women have had to put on in order to succeed in political races.

Also, I’m not sure if this was used throughout her campaign, but her identity as a teacher and a mother was touched on in several things I read. I wonder if these roles were riffed on in order to make her a palatable candidate.

Maggie’s Thoughts: Her role as a teacher before being elected could play into a section on women in traditional roles (teachers, housewives, secretaries) branching out into politics.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Name Patsy Sloan

Born – Died b. November 13, 1939 – present

Birthplace raised in San Angelo, Texas

Positions held/party affiliation

Mayor of Bowling Green, KY from 1988-1991

Member of the City Commission for ten years, elected in 1977 and stayed for five two-year terms

Democrat

Biography

Patsy Sloan was born on November 13, 1939 and grew up in San Angelo, Texas. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Austin and her master's degree in political science from the University of Houston. Sloan and her husband Jay arrived in Bowling Green in 1969 and intended to stay for about five years, but they fell in love with the town and decided to stay permanently.

Sloan did minor work in politics in the year preceding her city government position to build up her rapport. In 1976, she became Jimmy Carter's second district chairperson. Eventually, Sloan wanted to take the next step in her own political pathway. She says that she spent so much time campaigning for other people that she ought to start campaigning for herself. Sloan decided to run for city commissioner so she could keep her day job and wouldn't have to go to Frankfort all the time like she would in state government. She started doing door-to-door campaigns and often received remarks such as "What is your husband doing for dinner?" Aside from small comments such as these, however, Sloan says she never encountered problems surrounding her gender. Rather, she feels like it was beneficial to her campaign because it made her stand out as a candidate. Bowling Green citizens voted for four out of twelve possible candidates for city commissioner, and being the only woman put her in a spotlight even though she'd never run for office before. Sloan asked her constituents to "vote for three good men and one really terrific woman," and that they did. In 1977, Sloan became the first female city commissioner in Bowling Green, Kentucky. In fact, she was actually the first woman to ever be elected to any government office in all of Warren County.

Sloan held her position as city commissioner for two five-year terms, but she didn't want to be a career city commissioner. She decided to push higher into the political sphere and become mayor of Bowling Green, believing that if she didn't try to do so, she'd spend the rest of her life wondering "what if?" She says that it was more difficult to run for mayor than city commissioner

because she was competing for a single position rather than one of four, but she overcame this challenge and was elected Bowling Green's first female mayor in 1988.

For 31 years, Sloan taught political science and U.S. history at Bowling Green High School and headed their social studies department. She kept up her teaching career while she held office as city commissioner then mayor, she and had to divide her time between City Hall and school. She would often work at City Hall before school began and then go back to her government office after it ended.

During her term as mayor, Sloan played a key role in planning the Hartland Development, which includes a hotel, convention center, and golf course. She also helped establish the Hartland tax increment district, which helped fund the construction of the convention center and golf course. The convention center opened in mid-1995 as the Bowling Green-Warren County Convention Center, and it was renamed the Sloan Convention Center after her in January 2002.

Sloan didn't run for reelection after her four-year term as mayor ended, and she continued to teach after retiring from government work.

When discussing her role as the first female mayor, Sloan says, "I certainly didn't run for office to be the first woman anything. I just happened to be a woman who wanted to run for office." She also expressed that it was difficult to be the first woman in Warren Co. government office because she didn't want to mess anything up for other women. If she did a poor job, then that would give her constituents an opportunity to say, "I guess we should never vote for a woman again."

Links used for biography information

https://www.bgdailynews.com/special_sections/bicentennial/women-minorities-make-strides-in-politics/article_3bcbd34c-feb0-11e1-98cf-0019bb2963f4.html

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DhojJljYmyI> (Interview with Patsy Sloan)

<https://www.bgky.org/convention-center/about-us>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)



"Patsy Sloan for Mayor" bumper sticker; 2006.168.400;

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/DB066F15-5E32-4163-B230-504162313548>



“Re-Elect Patsy Sloan” bumper sticker; 2006.168.397;

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/C56DB1CD-3679-4A92-A548-664840996875>



“Patsy Sloan for Mayor of Bowling Green” political handbill; 2008.277.10;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/36E4B646-9A0B-4D74-9AC5-092725768635>



“Sloan for Commissioner” bumper sticker; 2006.168.395;

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/C1F1879E-8C17-4818-A541-128632004101>

Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Could place emphasis on the fact that Sloan was not only the first woman to hold a government office in Warren Co. but also held a powerful position.

Stress the weight of what it meant to be the first woman in office – note what Sloan said about how her mistakes could impact the political careers of future women.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Crit Luallen

b. July 21, 1952

Birthplace: Frankfort, Kentucky (Franklin County)

Positions held/party affiliation

- Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of the Arts; 1987-1988
- Secretary of Kentucky Tourism Cabinet; 1992-1994
- Secretary of Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet; 1994-1995
- Secretary of Executive Cabinet; 1995-2002
- Auditor of Kentucky; 2004-2012
- Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky; 2014-2015



Photo Source:

<http://martin.uky.edu/crit-luallen-former-lieutenant-governor-kentucky>

Biography

Eugenia Crittenden Blackburn “Crit” Luallen was born July 21st, 1952 in Frankfort, Kentucky. She was named after her descendants John J. Crittenden and Luke Pryor Blackburn, both 19th century governors of Kentucky. Luallen graduated from Frankfort High School and Centre College before becoming involved in Kentucky politics.

Luallen worked on campaigns for Wendell Ford, Julian Carroll, and Martha Layne Collins, as well as worked in the administration of John Y. Brown. She served as a special assistant in the administration of Collins, and went on to be appointed as the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Arts, playing a founding role in the establishment of the Governor’s School for the Arts program. After working for the Greater Louisville Economic Development Partnership in the late 80s and early 90s, Luallen returned to government as the Secretary of the Kentucky Tourism Cabinet. She went on to be appointed as the Secretary of the Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet, and then the Secretary of the Executive Cabinet under Paul E. Patton from 1995-2002.

In 2003, Luallen won her first election to a position, becoming the Auditor of Kentucky. She served in this position for the maximum term limit of two terms (eight years). She has been lauded for her work in this position, as she proved to be a no-nonsense auditor, sending 120 cases of government fraud to law enforcement, which ended in 34 public officials from both sides of the political aisle being prosecuted. She was seen as diligent and thorough in her time as auditor, and while she entertained ideas of running for Senator and Governor, she ultimately retained her position as Auditor until her second term limit was up in 2012.

In 2014, Luallen was appointed by Governor Steve Beshear to the position of Lieutenant Governor when Jerry Abramson resigned from the position in order to take a position within the Obama administration. Though her time in that position ended in late 2015 with the election of a new governor, she was able to spearhead the kyhealthnow initiative, which sought to develop new strategies and track progress towards a healthier Kentucky.

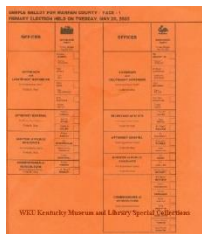
While it is clear that Luallen has played an important role in Kentucky Politics over the last 40 years, many of those who have worked with her claim that she has not been recognized nearly as often as she deserves. Jack Conway credited her with forging the reciprocal relationship between UPS, the state government, and academic institutions. Others have credited her behind the scenes negotiating skills with resolving legislative standstills.

Today, Luallen lives with her husband, Lynn Luallen, in a historic home in Frankfort, Kentucky. She is still active in the Democratic Party, endorsing and supporting candidates in multiple ways. She is also an active member of five boards, including those of Centre College and the James Graham Brown Foundation.

Links used for biography information

<http://martin.uky.edu/crit-luallen-former-lieutenant-governor-kentucky>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crit_Luallen
https://ballotpedia.org/Crit_Luallen
<http://www.kyphilanthropy.com/crit-luallen/>
<http://www.kywomenshistoryproject.com/crit-luallen/>
<https://www.governing.com/poy/Crit-Luallen.html>
<https://auditor.ky.gov/Documents/BicentennialPDF/CritLuallenBio.pdf>
<https://www.pbs.org/video/connections-kentucky-lieutenant-governor-crit-luallen/>
<https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-Stream.aspx?viewMode=ViewDetailInNewPage&eventID=%7B79001D8A-28BA-4178-A641-9A6649C83A9A%7D&activityType=PressRelease>
<https://www.state-journal.com/2018/12/05/former-lt-gov-luallen-backs-beshear-for-governor/>
<https://kydemocrats.org/blog/honoring-kentucky-women-crit-luallen/>

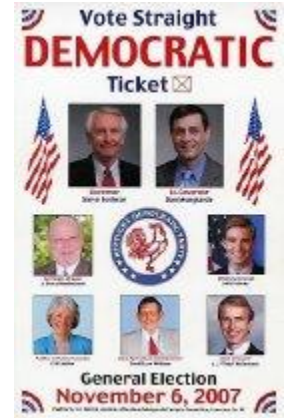
Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)



- “PRIMARY ELECTION OF WARREN COUNTY, KY” sample ballot; SC1987.1.149;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/A6617C98-0802-4EEA-B38E-434673287607>
- “CRIT LUALLEN FOR AUDITOR” political poster; 2007.226.221;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/1882C385-D0D1-44A2-8B89-871739884049>



- “VOTE STRAIGHT DEMOCRATIC TICKET” political poster; 2007.224.57;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/FF76B2E0-DD0D-4F4E-8287-216852783267>
- “CRIT LUAllen FOR AUDITOR” political handbill; 2004.96.23;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/514664DA-7424-42A3-BBA6-311314533470>



Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Eleanor: First, I wish we could convince Crit Luallen to run for something again! Multiple sources mentioned the fact that she is a politician who exhibits extreme “competence and integrity.” The lack of credit she has received for accomplishments she achieved in government positions makes me think about the way that women’s successes in politics have historically been overlooked or intentionally ignored.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Anne (Meagher) Northup

b. 1/22/48

Birthplace: Louisville, KY

Positions held/party affiliation

- Served 4 consecutive terms as representative of Kentucky's 32nd House district in the Kentucky General Assembly (Republican); 1987-1996
 - Member of the Appropriations and Revenue, Education and Economic Development committees
- Served 5 consecutive terms in the US House of Representatives for Kentucky's Louisville district (Republican); 1997-2007
 - Held a seat on the House Appropriations Committee
 - Held assignments on these subcommittees: Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education; Transportation and Treasury; VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies
- Commissioner for the US Consumer Product Safety Commission; 2009-2012



<https://www.cpsc.gov/About-CPSC/Commissioners/Anne-Northup>

Biography

Anne (Meagher) Northup was born in Louisville, KY in 1948. She grew up in a large Catholic family with nine sisters and one brother. She attended high school at Sacred Heart Academy in Louisville. Anne's interest in politics sparked while she was in high school at Sacred Heart Academy in Louisville as she became involved as a volunteer with Barry Goldwater's 1964 presidential campaign. Anne obtained her BA in Business and Economics from Saint Mary's College in 1970, starting work as a Math and Economics teacher at Louisville's Atherton high school in 1969 just before graduating with her degree. She married her college sweetheart, Robert "Woody" Northup in 1969, as well. She left teaching in 1971 to begin working at the Kentucky Truck Plant of Ford Motor Company in 1972. Anne decided to leave her position with Ford in 1974 to stay at home with her children while her husband started his own business in electronics.

Anne's interest in politics returned in the 1980s when she began volunteering for campaigns and as a policy analyst for the Kentucky General Assembly. Former state representative Bob Heleringer had this to say of Anne's involvement with the Assembly, "She did that, and began appearing in our caucus meetings and started telling us what was wrong with the budget. And we started thinking, 'Who is this woman?' Well, we found out who she was when she ran for office

a couple years later” (Alessi, 2007). Anne secured the 32nd district seat in the Kentucky General Assembly in 1987, a seat previously held by a democratic candidate. During her time in state office, she was a member of the Appropriations and Revenue committee and Education and Economic Development committee. She was immediately seen as bold and tenacious by her fellow Assembly members, winning the “Brass Balls” award from the GOP caucus. She had no hesitations about openly voicing her stances, no matter the pushback she would receive. Even in the tobacco-heavy state of Kentucky, she was a staunch critic of the tobacco industry and pushed for the legal cigarette purchasing age to be raised from 16 to 18. Anne was elected to 3 more terms in her Assembly seat before running for Congress.

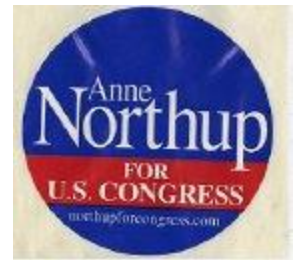
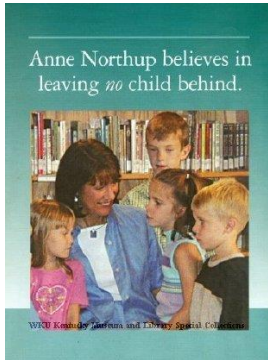
Anne again beat the odds in 1996 when she secured a seat in the US House of Representatives by winning over the Democratic incumbent, Mike Ward. Anne remained in the House of Representatives for four more terms until she was beat out in the 2006 election by the Democratic candidate, John Yarmuth, in conjunction with the public’s general disapproval of the Republican Congress and Bush administration.

Links used for biography information

- <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/19010>
- <https://www.crisismagazine.com/2000/representative-anne-northup-washingtons-working-catholic-mom>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anne_Northup
- <https://votesmart.org/candidate/biography/112/anne-northup#.XHfyp4hKiM8>
- <https://www.kentucky.com/news/politics-government/article43966881.html> (Alessi, 2007)

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

- “Anne Northup believes in leaving no child behind” (political flier); 2009.218.158; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/909CB61F-1DD0-4781-BA7D-191136485572>
- “northupforcongress.com” (political poster); 2009.218.279; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/25EEF3B7-7B93-4304-927E-682474855750>
- “Northup/Hoover: Governor 2007” (bumper sticker); 2007.226.69; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/F1601C9A-F0D9-4CEE-895E-640471917241>
- “Anne Northup for US Congress” (sticker); 2008.226.204; <https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/98A40D67-D66B-43CE-9C6C-307276956800>



Suggestions for exhibit section themes

Maggie's thoughts: Anne was a teacher before going into politics, just like many of our other women. We could easily create a section about this commonality of women being in education/service-oriented positions. Anne is similar to Martha Layne Collins in the respect that neither of them played to their identity as a woman during their campaigns; however, Anne's outspokenness of her beliefs and political stances remains in contrast to Martha Layne's willingness to compromise and work out a solution with her counterparts.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Sandy Jones (Boussard)

Born – Died No date found.

Birthplace No birthplace found. Went to Franklin-Simpson High School, so probably Franklin, KY.

Positions held/party affiliation

Mayor of Bowling Green from 2001-2004

City Commissioner (late 1990s? No date found)



Image Source: <https://www.bgky.org/history/mayors>

Biography

“Sandy Jones Boussard is proud to live, work and serve in the Bowling Green community since graduating from Franklin-Simpson High School in 1969. From raising her son, to starting a temporary help service business in 1977, to serving local government as a city commissioner and then as mayor from 2000-2004, she has watched her community and Western Kentucky University rise to what is fast becoming a major economic and statistical force within Kentucky and beyond.

As CEO of Quality Personnel, Sandy took her company from infancy to 6 offices across south central Kentucky. After 38 years, she successfully transitioned it to new ownership in 2014. Not one to sit around for too long, Sandy conceived and opened “Live Active 50 Plus Fitness Center” in 2015. “Live Active” specializes in serving the fitness needs of citizens over 50 years of age. “Rock Steady Boxing to Fight Parkinson’s” has become “Live Active’s” newest addition in 2016.

Over the years she received several business awards including 1997 Athena Award and 1999 Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year. Her proudest service centers around leadership for her church and public service for Bowling Green including downtown master planning and the early days of the Kentucky Transpark.

Mrs. Boussard is not only a career woman, but also a friend and donor to Western Kentucky University. She is a member of the Cherry Society, the Cupola Society and the Society of 1906 and serves on the Student Life Foundation Board of Directors. The Sandy Jones Boussard Reach Higher Scholarship Fund, established in 1999 provides assistance to deserving students of the Bowling Green Housing Authority Programs, who are pursuing a degree at WKU. A later version also serves students at KCTCS. Sandy’s husband, Tom Boussard is an avid WKU fan and probably BG’s biggest cheerleader for WKU and Bowling Green!”

Links used for biography information

<https://wku.academicworks.com/donors/sandy-jones-boussard> -- biography directly pulled from this webpage because it is the only source of information I could find on Sandy Jones.

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

** Only two artifacts found for Sandy Jones, and neither seem relevant to her political career.**



“Kentucky Transpark Groundbreaking Ceremony Invitation”; SC2014.68.569;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/102EDB65-660D-407C-B37D-125599222912>



“Football Proclamation” signed by Sandy Jones; UA1C9.442;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/photo/3F2B31B0-B198-4CC7-BB91-730551135230>

Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Focus on Jones being with BG for decades and watching the city grow; dedication to community through professional and volunteer services; great example of a passionate citizen.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Elaine Walker

b. August 6, 1951

Birthplace: Ogden, Utah

Positions held/party affiliation

- Kentucky Department of Parks Commissioner; 2012-present
- Secretary of State of Kentucky; 2011-2012
- Mayor of Bowling Green; 2005-2011

Biography

Elaine Walker was born in Ogden, Utah to parents William and Mary Nogay. Walker's father was a decorated U.S. Air Force pilot, and from a young age, the family moved around quite a bit. They eventually settled in Washington D.C.

Walker attended the University of Maryland, and her first job after earning her undergraduate degree was working as a receptionist and press aide in the office of Republican congressman John Saylor. She met her husband, filmmaker Dorian Walker, while working in Washington D.C. They moved to Los Angeles in 1979, where Elaine Walker worked in the office of a local politician and then as the public affairs director for a local television station.

In 1993, the couple moved to Bowling Green, Kentucky so that they could start their film production company and raise their children in a smaller, "family friendly" city. After moving to Bowling Green, Walker hosted a local public-access television show for almost a decade before running and winning the seat for the Mayor of Bowling Green.

In January of 2011, Governor Steve Beshear announced that he was appointing Elaine Walker as the new Secretary of State of Kentucky following the resignation of the previous Secretary of State, Trey Grayson. Walker served in that position for nearly a year before being defeated in the following election by Alison Lundergan Grimes. Following her defeat, it was announced that Walker had been named the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Parks, a position she began immediately following the end of her appointment as Secretary of State.

Walker continues working for the Kentucky Department of Parks to this day, despite a battle with early-stage breast cancer announced in late 2011.



Photo Source:

https://www.kentucky.com/latest-news/x9mwnn/picture42297984/alternates/FR_EE_1140/Elaine%20Walker.1.1.source.prod_affiliate.79.jpg

Links used for biography information

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elaine_Walker

https://ballotpedia.org/Elaine_Walker

<https://www.kentucky.com/living/health-and-medicine/article44130612.html>

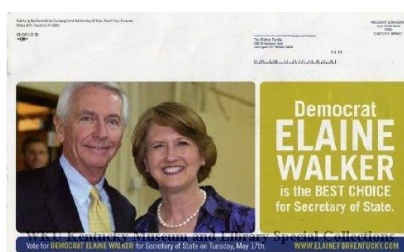
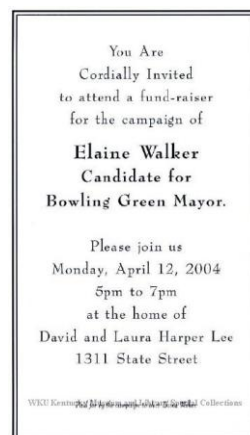
https://www.bgdailynews.com/news/elaine-walker-sworn-in-as-secretary-of-state/article_9463a25d-f2c6-5e1a-8600-48cca822998d.html

http://www.freedomkentucky.org/Elaine_Walker

<http://apps.sos.ky.gov/secdesk/sosinfo/default.aspx?id=75>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)

- “ELAINE WALKER, CANDIDATE FOR BOWLING GREEN MAYOR FUND-RAISER” invitation; SC2014.68.2275;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/7B6C1250-5F1E-415E-8B38-313410726791>
- “JODY RICHARDS AND ELAINE WALKER” photograph; SC2019.41.26;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/photo/919522B8-E6B0-4A46-B674-325392297590>
- “WALKER: SECRETARY OF STATE” political card; 2011.231.100;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/C2C88D4C-69AD-4B26-9E91-799880197698>



Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Eleanor: It's interesting to me to look at Elaine Walker's other ventures (founder and partner of Peridot Pictures, a video production company, and host of a local public-access TV show) and relate those to her experiences in politics and as a politician.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Jenean Hampton

b. May 12, 1958

Birthplace Detroit, Michigan

Positions held/party affiliation

Republican

57th Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky – assumed office
December 8, 2015



Image Source: <https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/politics/2019/06/17/timeline-of-fired-lt-gov-jenean-hampton-aide-controversy/1471134001/>

Biography

Jenean Hampton was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. She was one of four daughters, and her mother raised her on her own after divorcing Hampton's father when Hampton was seven. Hampton worked in the automotive industry for five years to pay for her college education, and she earned an Industrial Engineering degree from Wayne State University in 1985. Later, she got a master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Rochester.

She served as a computer systems operator in the United States Air Force for seven years and became a captain. Hampton was responsible for writing code and testing computer software. She was deployed to Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm, where she was responsible for radar software used to track the enemy and to conduct search and rescue missions.

In 2014, Hampton unsuccessfully challenged State Representative Jody Richards in her first attempt to enter political office. She is an active Republican and supported the Tea Party Movement.

In 2015, Hampton was selected as Matt Bevin's running mate for Governor of Kentucky, and they were successful in this gubernatorial election. This was Hampton's first time to hold government office. Hampton and Bevin were sworn in December 8, 2015, making Hampton the first African-American to hold statewide office in Kentucky and the third black woman to be lieutenant governor in the United States. Hampton was not selected as Bevin's running mate for the 2019 election because of some disagreements about her priorities, and her term expires in December 2019.

Links used for biography information

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jenean_Hampton

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2015/11/04/meet-the-new-lieutenant-governor-of-kentucky-here-are-15-facts-about-jenean-hampton/>

<https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/politics/ky-governor/2019/10/04/matt-bevin-dropped-jenean-hampton-due-priority-disagreements/3857766002/>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)



“Jenean Hampton, Kentucky State Representative” brochure;
SC2014.4.78;

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/37591AB0-36EE-4756-9F97-105051760993>

“Bevin/Hampton political card”;
SC2016.132.63;

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/730ED1B0-CFB0-46FA-9E65-012008255582>



“Jenean Hampton, a fresh voice, a fresh approach for Kentucky”; SC2014.4.82;

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/490EE204-EC43-4394-A6D5-823647619296>



“Jenean Hampton, Constitutional Conservative Republican”;
SC2014.4.81;

<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/A41A5CC8-EB43-4980-830A-071190388240>

Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Could place emphasis on Hampton as a self-made woman: she grew up in a single-parent household under economic strain and had to work hard to put herself through college.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Alison Lundergan Grimes

b. November 23, 1978

Birthplace Maysville, Kentucky

Positions held/party affiliation

76th Secretary of State of Kentucky – January 2, 2012

Democrat



Image Source: <https://www.sos.ky.gov/secdesk/Pages/Biography.aspx>

Biography

Alison Lundergan Grimes was born in Maysville, Kentucky on November 23, 1978 to Charlotte and Jerry Lundergan. She is the middle child of five girls. Her father is a former Kentucky Democratic chairman and state representative, and Grimes was active in her father's political campaigns as a child. She developed a passion for public service by driving people to the polls on election day and by distributing Thanksgiving dinners to the homeless. Grimes graduated from Rhodes College in 2001 with a major in political science and a minor in history, and she got her law degree from American University in Washington, D.C.

From 2004-2011, Grimes was a practicing attorney at Stoll Keenon Ogden in Lexington, Kentucky who specialized in intellectual property and complex business litigation. She served as president of the Fayette County Women Lawyer's Association, and she provided free legal help to victims of domestic violence.

Grimes has served as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention on three separate occasions, supporting Hillary Clinton in 2008, Barack Obama in 2012, and Hillary Clinton again in 2016.

In 2010, Secretary of State Trey Grayson resigned to accept a position at Harvard, and Grimes announced her candidacy for the office of Secretary of State. Governor Steve Beshear appointed Bowling Green Mayor Elaine Walker to complete Grayson's term instead of Grimes, but Grimes stayed in the race and defeated Walker in the May primary. She ran against Bill Johnson in the general election with the goals of "updating business and election laws, increasing voting access for veterans, and protecting the identity of domestic-violence victims in registration records." Grimes defeated Johnson with more than 60% of the vote, and she began her term as Secretary of State on January 2, 2012. Grimes is the youngest Secretary of State in the country.

Some of Grimes' most important goals and accomplishments during her time as Secretary of State are:

- Pushing for in-person early voting in Kentucky elections

- Creation of GoVoteKy.com, an online voter registration site
- Statewide voter registration drive in 2016 that led to 100,000+ new voters
- Passage of the Kentucky Military Heroes Voting Initiative Law in 2013 that allows members of the military to register and update their voting registration online, provides sufficient time for military voters to participate in special elections, and extends preexisting voter protections to state and local elections and the National Guard.
- Advocating for restoration of voting rights to non-violent felons who have completed their sentences.
- Assisting in the education of disabled voters about their voting rights.
- Advocating for a law that improves communication between deaf/hard-of-hearing individuals and law enforcement officers.
- “Helped modernize and streamline government services to make sure Kentucky’s doors are truly open for small businesses.”
- 150,000 new small businesses started under her administration.

Grimes ran for the United States Senate seat held by Mitch McConnell in the 2014 U.S. Senate campaign. She won the Democratic primary with 77% of the vote, but she lost the election to McConnell.

Grimes was reelected as Secretary of State in 2015 with 51% of the vote.

Links used for biography information

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alison_Lundergan_Grimes

<https://www.kentucky.com/news/politics-government/article44135634.html>

<https://www.sos.ky.gov/secdesk/Pages/Biography.aspx>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)



“Alison Lundergan Grimes” [sticker]; SC2014.138.118;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/ACB12777-164F-4E98-AEF5-412186104790>

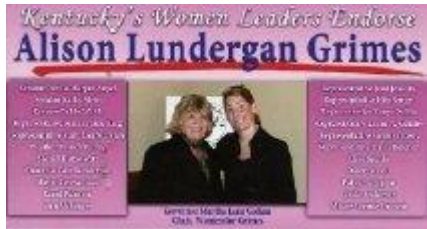


“U.S. Senatorial Candidate Alison Lundergan Grimes campaign headquarters” [invitation]; SC2014.137.26;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/7B2838A3-09B8-48B5-AA15-994037568152>



“Grimes: Secretary of State” [campaign door hanger]; 2011.231.122;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/92ECD15D-6C59-42C9-8138-385059632542>

“It’s time to put partisan politics aside and do what’s right for Kentucky’s families” [brochure]; SC2014.137.29;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/E3FCA42E-5180-4556-8142-770459654110>



“Grimes: Secretary of State” [campaign mailing]; 2011.231.112;
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/6A839E4E-1C8F-4C5B-8435-020946538034>

Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes

Emma: Grimes is the *only* politician I have researched that has extensive information available about what she actually accomplished during her time in office.

Political Bandwagon: Biographies of Kentucky Women

Allison Ball

b. 8/27/1981

Birthplace: Eastern KY

Positions held/party affiliation

Assistant Floyd County Attorney;

38th State Treasurer of the Commonwealth; 2015

National Chair of the State Financial Officers Foundation; 2018

Republican Party

Biography

Allison Ball was raised in Eastern Kentucky, as her family has resided there since the 1790s (KY Gov). Ball became an entrepreneur early on in life. At the age of nine, she began selling pencils with positive messages on them. Within her first week, Ball had made \$200. She attributes her strong mindset to that initial business venture, “You don’t have to wait until you’re older to start doing what you are passionate about.” (Ball for Kentucky)

Allison has a degree from the University of Kentucky College of Law. While she attended college, Ball served as the President of the University of Kentucky Chapter of the Federalist Society.

Prior to her role as State Treasurer, Allison Ball practiced bankruptcy law, focused on commercial litigation, and advocated for consumer rights (KY Gov). She also served as an Assistant Floyd County Attorney, where she prosecuted juvenile delinquent and child abuse cases (Ball for Kentucky).

“Since taking office in 2015, Treasurer Ball has established herself as a fierce watchdog for our taxpayer dollars.” (Ball for Kentucky). She has established programs to make it easier for the public to analyze state spending and personal investments. Ball’s website, transparency.ky.gov, details how the state government is spending taxpayer dollars. She established STABLE Kentucky, a savings and investment program, for Kentuckians with disabilities. Ball also established the Financial Empowerment Coalition and Database with the goal of improving Kentuckians’ financial literacy. The database and related resources are targeted towards economic minorities.

Allison Ball’s election to the position 38th State Treasurer of the Commonwealth in 2015, distinguishes her as being the nation’s youngest woman to serve in a statewide position. She also balanced her job in office and her personal life. Ball married Asa James Swan in 2016, and the

couples' son was born in 2018. This also distinguishes Ball as the first Kentucky Constitutional Officer to give birth while in office. Ball was reelected in 2019.

Links used for biography information

<https://www.ballforkentucky.com/meet-don>

<https://treasury.ky.gov/about/Pages/biography.aspx>

Top 3-5 artifacts (include photos, KenCat links and catalog numbers)



Allison Ball, Treasurer” [political magnet], SC2016.132.73,
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/D257539B-5D62-465B-B4E3-329906426474>



“Allison Ball, Treasurer” [sticker], SC2016.132.114,
<https://westernkentuckyuniversity.pastperfectonline.com/archive/B26A8596-2941-4A18-9516-772546497530>

Extra thoughts/suggestions for exhibit section themes:

I think that it would be important to emphasize that she is the youngest female elected to hold a statewide position. This could show girls today that the incorporation of women in politics is an on-going process and is also available to young women. There's the perception that politicians must be old, but I feel like Allison Ball is an example of that fallacy.