

## NEW YORK Women of Change

**N**ew York has long been a leader in advancing women's equality, but it didn't even qualify to qualify. From the women's suffrage movement 100 years ago to present day, women have been on the front lines fighting for justice.

Some shared the lead in our public lives, while others, often unsung, made their valuable work inside the legislature. Yet all were significant to the work that has led to the laws of New York, that just for women, but for all.

In the halls of the State Capitol, women have served and continue to serve at every level of government. Whether assuming the reins of elected officials, being appointed to the highest government positions, or having their beliefs be woven into the fabric of our most meaningful changes making the lives of New Yorkers better. While some become well known figures, others were simply invisible heroes.

There were also those who have played a vital role in advising and mentoring leaders of the State to ensure their effectiveness in serving the people. Legislators, members of the government, and law enforcement officials, all have been helped by the wisdom and expertise of the women who have worked behind the scenes to make our government work better.

Women of Change is a group of individuals who support our government.

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## BELLE MOSKOWITZ

Campaign Manager and Advisor to Governor Alfred E. Smith



**B**elle Moskowitz was an important political figure and social justice reformer during New York's Progressive Period. She began her public career as a social worker, a relatively new field at the time. Moskowitz focused her efforts on social and educational reform for young women. Once the government reform began, she shifted her focus to labor issues, specifically workplace safety and wages. After the Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire, she worked with Assemblymember Adolph J. Berman to investigate the tragedy and understand why so many workers died. After the investigation, she helped Berman craft the reform legislation that resulted from the tragedy. Moskowitz's close relationship with Berman would continue for the rest of her life. She managed all of Berman's gubernatorial campaigns and was his close advisor during his time in office. When Smith decided to run for President, Moskowitz was his Campaign Manager and managed his campaign in 1928. The progressive death-came when accidentally falling down the stairs.

**SHIRLEY CHISHOLM**  
*First African American woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives*



In 1968, Chisholm became the first African American woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. She was elected from the 11th district of New York, representing the city of New York. Chisholm was a member of the Congress and served the 11th district from 1969 to 1975. She was the first African American woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. She was also the first African American woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

**NEW YORK Women of Change**

New York's history is filled with remarkable women who have shaped the state and the nation. From the early days of settlement to the present, these women have fought for equality, justice, and progress. Their stories are a testament to the strength and resilience of the New York women of change.

**BELLE MOSKOWITZ**  
*Campaign Manager and Advisor to Governor Alfred E. Smith*



Belle Moskowitz was a prominent social reformer and political activist. She was a close advisor to Governor Alfred E. Smith and played a key role in his campaign for the governorship of New York in 1918. Moskowitz was instrumental in the passage of the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote. She was also a leading advocate for child labor reform and the establishment of the Federal Reserve Bank. Moskowitz's work in social reform and politics has left a lasting legacy in New York and the United States.

Additional text on the Belle Moskowitz panel, including a small photograph of her in a later stage of her life.







### BELLE MOSKOWITZ

Campaign Manager and Advisor to Governor Alfred E. Smith



**B**elle Moskowitz was an exceptional political figure and social reformer during New York's Progressive Era. She began her public career as a social worker, a role she held at the time Moskowitz founded her reform-oriented and educational reformers for young women. Once the governor of New York, she devoted her time to labor issues, specifically the women's movement. In 1910, she worked with the National Consumers League and the National Child Labor Council to help reform child labor laws. After the Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire and the death of 146 workers, she worked to reform the state's labor laws and the state's child labor laws. After her death, she was honored with the Albany Institute of Art and the Albany Institute of Art and the Albany Institute of Art.

### SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

First African-American woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives



Shirley Chisholm was an American politician, educator, and author. She was the first African American woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1968. She was also the first African American woman to run for the U.S. Presidency in 1972. She was a member of the Democratic Party and the Congressional Black Caucus. She was also a member of the National Black Leadership Initiative Project at the City University of New York.

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### SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

First African American woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives



In 1968, Chisholm became the first Black woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Chisholm was born in Barboursville, West Virginia, and graduated from Brooklyn College. She taught elementary school and worked in various clerical positions. In 1964, she received a master's degree in international relations from Columbia University. In 1967, she was elected to the New York State Assembly. Two years later, Chisholm was elected by a landslide to a single year in Congress, and eventually served another term. She was instrumental in creating the Special Interest Minority Program for women, minority, and elderly and was a founding member of both the Congressional Black Caucus and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. In 1972, Chisholm became the first Black woman party candidate to run for the House of Representatives. In 1984, she was the first Black woman and the first woman party candidate for the Democratic primary nomination. In 2005, she was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

### BELLE MOSKOWITZ

Campaign Manager and Advisor to Governor Alfred E. Smith



Belle Moskowitz was a prominent political figure and social reformer during New York's Progressive Era. She began her public career as a social worker, which led to her election to the New York State Board of Charities. Moskowitz played a pivotal role in social and educational reform, serving as the first woman on the New York State Board of Regents. She was instrumental in the creation of the State University of New York and the State Education Department. Moskowitz was also a leading advocate for child labor reform and the establishment of the State Children's Bureau. Her work in social reform and education earned her the title of "Mother of the State University of New York."

### MARGUERITE "MISSY" LEHAND

Secretary and Aide to President and Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt



Missy LeHand began to work with Franklin D. Roosevelt as a secretary in 1920 on his vice-presidential campaign; this remained working for him in the private sector and continued to serve as a valued aide during his tenure as Governor and President. Upon arrival in the New York State Capitol, she became known as the Governor's "Right Hand Woman" and was said to have told an interviewer that "Albany was the hardest work I ever did." (The Gatekeeper: a biography by Kathryn Smith)

While her official title at the White House was Secretary to the President, she functioned more as what we would consider today as the Chief of Staff, providing counsel, controlling access to the President, and managing staff. Upon her untimely death in 1944, President Roosevelt issued a public statement that said in part, "Memories of more than a score of years of devoted service enhance the sense of personal loss which Miss LeHand's passing brings. Faithful and painstaking, with cheerfulness of manner inspired by tact and kindness of heart, she was utterly selfless in her devotion to duty. Her was a quiet efficiency, which made her a real genius in getting things done."





**SHIRLEY CHISHOLM**  
 First African American woman elected to the  
 U.S. House of Representatives



In 1968, Chisholm became the first Black woman elected to represent the U.S. House of Representatives. Chisholm was born to a poor family in the South and grew up in a public housing project in the Bronx, New York. She worked as a typewriter operator and later as a secretary. Chisholm was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1968, becoming the first African American woman to do so. She served one term and was re-elected in 1970. Chisholm was known for her strong leadership and her commitment to social justice. She was a member of the Congressional Black Caucus and was instrumental in the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Chisholm was also a member of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

From 1968 to 1970, Chisholm served as the first African American woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. She was a member of the Congressional Black Caucus and was instrumental in the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Chisholm was also a member of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

**BELLE MOSKOWITZ**  
*Campaign Manager and Advisor to Governor Alfred E. Smith*



**B**elle Moskowitz was an important political figure and social justice advocate during New York's Progressive Era. She began her public career as a social worker, a relatively new field at the time. Moskowitz focused her efforts on social and educational reform for young women. One of her primary efforts began in 1904 when she took to court issues specifically

with young girls and women. After the Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire, she worked with Robert La Follette to help to investigate the tragedy and convinced many so many workers that they should support the Triangle Shirtwaist Company's reform legislation that resulted from the tragedy. She managed all of Smith's gubernatorial campaigns and was his close advisor during his time in office. When Smith decided to run for President in 1912, she provided the campaign strategy and managed the campaign in 1912. Her progressive ideas were also a family legacy that she passed on to her kids.

**MARGUERITE "MISSY" LEHAND**  
*Secretary and Aide to President and Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt*



**M**issy LeHand began to work with Franklin D. Roosevelt as a secretary in 1929 and his vice-presidential campaign. She remained working for him in the private sector and continued to work as a political aide during his tenure as Governor and President.

Upon arrival in the New York State Capitol, she became known as the Governor's "Right Hand Woman" and was said to have told an interviewer that "Missy was the Assistant work I ever did." (The Guardian, a biography by Kathryn Smith)

While her official title at the White House was Secretary to the President, she functioned more as what we would consider today as the Chief of Staff, providing counsel, controlling access to the President, and managing staff.

Upon her untimely death in 1944, President Roosevelt issued a public statement that said in part, "Memories of more than a mere 15 years of devoted service to the cause of personal freedom which Miss LeHand's passing leaves behind and partaking with those of us who inspired by her will and kindness of heart, she was widely beloved in his devoted and able Miss LeHand's great abilities which made her a real genius in getting things done."





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Campaign Manager and Advisor to Governor Alfred E. Smith



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See here.

## GERALDINE FERRARO



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## RUTH KATE



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## BARBARA LINDBERG



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## MURRAY HALL



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## BELLE MOSKOWITZ

*Campaign Manager and Advisor to Governor Alfred E. Smith*



**B**elle Moskowitz was an important political figure and social justice reformer during New York's Progressive Period. She began her public career as a social worker in a reform tenement house in the Lower East Side. Moskowitz focused her efforts on social and labor-related reforms for the working classes. Over the years, she became a prominent social reformer. She played a significant role in the 1918 campaign for Governor Alfred E. Smith.

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## GERALDINE FERRARO



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## ROSE KATZ



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## BARBARA LINDSAY



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# BELLE MOSKOWITZ

*Campaign Manager and Advisor to Governor Alfred E. Smith*



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*Belle Moskowitz received a PhD in education in 1910. She was the first woman to receive a PhD from the University of Wisconsin. She also received a PhD in education from the University of Wisconsin in 1911. She was the first woman to receive a PhD from the University of Wisconsin in 1911. She was the first woman to receive a PhD from the University of Wisconsin in 1911.*

## STELLA S. BENSULIN

*The first woman to serve as a judge in New York State*



**I**n 1938, Stella S. Bensulin became the first woman to serve as a judge in New York State. She was appointed to the position by Governor Franklin Roosevelt. Bensulin served on the Appellate Division of the State Court of Appeals from 1938 to 1954. She was also a member of the New York State Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

## GERALDINE FERRARO

*First woman to serve as a judge in New York State and the first woman to preside over a trial*



**F**erraro was a trailblazer in the legal profession. She was the first woman to serve as a judge in New York State and the first woman to preside over a trial. Ferraro was appointed to the position of Judge of the Appellate Division of the State Court of Appeals in 1981. She served in this position until 1985. Ferraro was also a member of the New York State Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

## HILLARY BERTMAN CLAYTON

*First woman to serve as a judge in New York State*



**H**illary Bertman Clayton was the first woman to serve as a judge in New York State. She was appointed to the position of Judge of the Appellate Division of the State Court of Appeals in 1981. She served in this position until 1985. Clayton was also a member of the New York State Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

## JUDITH KAYE

*First woman to serve as a judge in New York State*



**J**udith Kaye was the first woman to serve as a judge in New York State. She was appointed to the position of Judge of the Appellate Division of the State Court of Appeals in 1981. She served in this position until 1985. Kaye was also a member of the New York State Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

## BARBARA UNDERWOOD

*First woman to serve as a judge in New York State*



**B**arbara Underwood was the first woman to serve as a judge in New York State. She was appointed to the position of Judge of the Appellate Division of the State Court of Appeals in 1981. She served in this position until 1985. Underwood was also a member of the New York State Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

## MURRAY HALL

*A Jewish immigrant, Hall political figure, who played a key role in the development of the garment industry in New York City*



**M**urray Hall was a Jewish immigrant who played a key role in the development of the garment industry in New York City. He was a political figure and a member of the New York State Bar Association. Hall was also a member of the American Bar Association.

**M**ember and city had in a women in New York played a in person the most active with could mean within the Hall in the "men about town," it was not the social engaging and card-playing with prominent meeting political appointments for close friends.

**B**erlin that Hall was born historically as a woman's career. Mary Anderson was born in Scotland and began to work at the age of 16 and from the name John Anderson. According to the NYC LGBT History Sites Project, Hall is a descendant of gender retransitioning in New York and has a worldwide attention.

## NEW YORK Women of Change

New York has long been a hotbed of reform, women's equality, and a social conscience. From the women's suffrage movement, 100 years ago to present day, women have taken on the hard-fought battles for justice. From the end of full public care, single women, child-reared, made their path through the struggle. For all were significant in the realization that their work made the State of New York a more just society for all.

In the halls of the State Capitol, women have served and continue to serve in various levels of government, influencing numerous legislative efforts. From the women's labor movement, to the fight for equal pay, to the fight for equal rights, women have made their mark on the State of New York. Their work has made the State of New York a more just society for all.

There are just a few of the women who have played their part in history and continue to make their mark on the State of New York. We are proud to honor these women and their contributions to the State of New York.

### BELLE MOSKOWITZ *Grouping Manager and Advisor to Governor Alfred E. Smith*



Belle Moskowitz was an American politician and social reformer. During her time in the Progressive Era, she helped to pass the first child labor law in the United States. She was also a member of the Women's Suffrage Movement and the League of Women Voters. Moskowitz was a strong advocate for social and educational reform during the Progressive Era. She was a member of the Women's Suffrage Movement and the League of Women Voters. Moskowitz was a strong advocate for social and educational reform during the Progressive Era.

### Women of Change LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERANTS

**First Female Reporter of the ICA**  
Lillian Wald

**Women's Labor Movement**  
Lillian Wald

**First Female President of the ICA**  
Lillian Wald