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2020

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Reflecting on the Suffrage Centennial



Yesterday, the [Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission](#) (WSCC) held its final public meeting—virtually through video conference—and reflected on the nationwide commemoration of 100 years of the 19th Amendment and women's constitutional right to vote in 2020.

Led by a bipartisan group of 14 women leaders, the WSCC spearheaded a multitude of projects and partnerships to ensure that the untold stories of women's decades-long battle for the ballot were recognized and celebrated across the U.S. during this historic milestone. Throughout the centennial, the WSCC has been committed to telling an inclusive, diverse, and complete history of the fight for the vote, focusing not only on celebrating in 2020, but also on laying the groundwork for this important history to live on for the next 100 years and beyond.

Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), who led the effort in the Senate in 2017 to create the WSCC, kicked off the public meeting on Thursday, October 8 with opening remarks. Later in the meeting, the WSCC premiered its "[Legacy Video](#)," highlighting its many educational initiatives as well as its major campaigns—from working with Congress to designate August 2020 as [National Women's Suffrage Month](#); to sponsoring a 1,000-square-foot [mosaic](#) of suffragist Ida B. Wells in Washington, D.C.'s Union Station; to working with the U.S. Air Force to coordinate a [women-led flyover](#) across Nationals Park; and recruiting more than 500 institutions across the country to [illuminate buildings and landmarks](#) in the suffrage colors of purple and gold on the night of August 26.

The WSCC, which was formed as a temporary agency to plan for the 2020 centennial, will officially close its doors on December 18. In the meantime, its work continues. Currently, artist Sunny Mullarkey is holding a week-long [live painting](#) through October 13 in Nashville's Centennial Park. Mullarkey is creating a 20x6 foot suffrage mural, commissioned by the WSCC, that will ultimately travel to the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, VA for permanent display. In November, the WSCC will launch its third podcast titled *The Agitators*, based on the play written by Mat Smart, which tells the story of the 45-year friendship of Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass. The WSCC is also working with the Town of Seneca Falls in New York to create a one-of-a-kind commemorative centennial statue depicting suffragists Laura Cornelius Kellogg, Harriet Tubman, Martha Coffin Wright, and Sojourner Truth, to be unveiled in 2021.

Through its major campaigns and initiatives, the WSCC will leave a legacy of statues, memorials, murals, historic markers, exhibits, memorabilia, and educational resources that will continue to reach millions of Americans nationwide and keep the story of the trailblazing suffragists alive for generations to come.

[Watch the Legacy Video](#)

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