

GENERAL FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS

www.GFWC.org



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For Immediate Release

GFWC CELEBRATES WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Annual Women's History Month Reception Features Mathew Brady Photograph

March 15, 2017 (Washington, D.C.) – Just one day after International Women's Day, GFWC clubwomen and community members gathered at GFWC's historic headquarters in Washington, D.C. on March 9 to continue to celebrate the contributions of women throughout history at the 2017 GFWC Annual Women's History Month Reception. As a 127-year-old women's organization whose members have been at the forefront of events advocating for women's equality, GFWC is proud to mark Women's History Month every year with an event that shines a light on women's accomplishments.

"It is more important than ever before to remember the sacrifices made by our foresisters while fighting for the right to vote," said GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea. "As we approach the centennial of the 19th Amendment, GFWC will continue to honor these remarkable women and work for women's equality in every corner of the globe."

This year was particularly special as GFWC was presented with an 1894 photograph by Mathew Brady featuring twenty-two suffragists, among them Susan B. Anthony and two GFWC clubwomen. This photograph was donated by an individual who wishes to remain anonymous and was presented by GFWC Clubwoman Justine Davis of Dover, Delaware, who is a member of the GFWC Avon Club of Felton.

The presentation of this historic photo set the tone for the rest of the event, which featured an engaging presentation by Page Harrington, executive director of the National Woman's Party. Page spoke about the suffrage movement and the history of the Equal Rights Amendment

The National Women's Party headquarters was designated by President Obama as the Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument last March. At the GFWC Women's History Month Event, Ms. Harrington reflected on the importance of continuing to educate the public about women's suffrage. GFWC looks forward to working with the National Women's Party as we approach the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment in 2020.

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About the General Federation of Women's Clubs

The General Federation of Women's Clubs is a unifying force, bringing together local women's clubs, with members dedicated to strengthening their communities and enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. With over 80,000 members in affiliated clubs in every state and more than a dozen countries, GFWC members are community leaders who work locally to create global change by supporting the arts, preserving natural resources, advancing education, promoting healthy lifestyles, encouraging civic involvement, and working toward world peace and understanding.