

**Public Affairs
Information Resource Center**

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The U.S. Embassy's Information Resource Center is pleased to offer you an "Issue-in-Focus" on U.S. Society and Culture.

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2011 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AND WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

ISSUE-IN-FOCUS: MARCH 8, 2011

"During Women's History Month, we reflect on the extraordinary accomplishments of women and honor their role in shaping the course of our Nation's history. Today, women have reached heights their mothers and grandmothers might only have imagined."
-- [Presidential Proclamation on Women's History Month 2011](#)
(March 1, 2011)



This year marks the 100th anniversary of the first International Women's Day, celebrated on March 8, which recognizes women's past struggles and accomplishments and focuses on what needs to be done to provide greater opportunities for women today. This year's theme for International Women's Day is [Equal Access to Education, Training and Science and Technology: Pathway to Decent Work for Women](#) and [Our History is Our Strength](#) is the theme for Women's History Month 2011.

The U.S. Department of State and U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton are celebrating the 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day with [a series of events during the week of March 7-11](#).

SPECIAL MESSAGES FROM U.S. GOVERNMENT

[Presidential Proclamation on Women's History Month 2011](#) (March 1, 2011)

[Remarks by Secretary Clinton at the Launch of the 100 Women Initiative: Empowering Women and Girls through International Exchanges](#) | [View Video](#) (March 7, 2011)

[Statement by Secretary Clinton on the 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day on March 8, 2011](#) (March 7, 2011)

[Remarks by Secretary Clinton on 2011 International Women of Courage Awards](#) (March 8, 2011)

[Statement by U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues Melanne Verveer on the Status of Women](#) (February 28, 2011)

EMPOWERING WOMEN



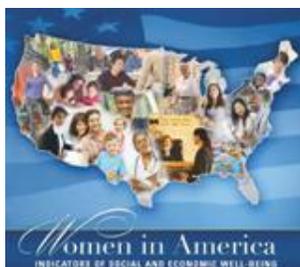
[Celebrating International Women's Day!](#) (March 8, 2011) - In honor of International Women's Day on March 8, U.S. Ambassador to Thailand Kristie A. Kenney and Embassy staff joined the Thai International Young Scouts in a fun afternoon at Rajvithi Home for Girls to play educational games, sing songs, and make greeting cards for sick children. Read more [[English](#) | [Thai](#)]

[The 100 Women Initiative: Empowering Women Through Exchanges](#) (March 7, 2011) - To mark the 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs launched "Empowering Women & Girls through International Exchanges," a year-long series of events bringing "100 Women" leaders from 92 countries to the United States. This effort features International Visitor Leadership Program exchanges that highlight key foreign policy issues directly affecting women and girls worldwide.

[How Women Can Help Women Succeed](#) (March 1, 2011) - The accomplishments of women owe much to the "giants" who preceded them — women who bravely endured painful ridicule and overcame huge obstacles to obtain the same opportunities afforded to men.



WOMEN'S HISTORY: A SOURCE OF STRENGTH



[Women in America: Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being](#) (March 2011; PDF format; 2.03MB; 97 pages.) - This report provides a statistical picture of women in America in five critical areas: demographic and family changes, education, employment, health, and crime and violence. By presenting a quantitative snapshot of the well-being of American women based on Federal data, the report greatly enhances the understanding both of how far American women have come and the areas where there is still work to be done.

[Dreams for My Mother, Dreams for My Daughter](#) - View videos and read stories about mothers and daughters and their dreams in the multimedia feature.

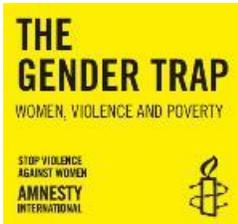
[Women of Courage 2010](#) - Women leaders around the world work tirelessly to champion human rights and defend freedom. Here are the stories of a few such women — the 2010 International Women of Courage award winners.

PHOTO GALLERY

[Great Women of the Twentieth Century](#) - A new photography exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution's National Portrait Gallery celebrates American women who made important contributions to arts, science, sports, entertainment, business and politics in the 20th century.



WEB ALERT



[The Challenges to Women's Equality](#) (February 2011) - The Information Resource Center (IRC) of U.S. Embassy in Bangkok is pleased to offer a select list of current online reports, documents, and websites on *The Challenges to Women's Equality* from top think-tanks and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE GENERATIONS OF WOMEN WHO HAVE SHAPED OUR HISTORY AT <http://www.womenshistorymonth.gov/>.

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