

VOTES FOR WOMEN: 100 Years, 1920-2020 & Going Strong!

ENJOY A TOUR OF SITES SIGNIFICANT TO THE STRUGGLE

FOR THE WOMEN'S VOTE IN VIRGINIA

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters - Richmond Metro Area

Due to Covid-19 Hours of Operation May be Adjusted for Some Sites

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. We never support or oppose any political party or candidate. The League of Women Voters has two separate and distinct roles.

Voters Service/Citizen Education: we present unbiased nonpartisan information about elections, the voting process, and issues.

Action/Advocacy: we are also nonpartisan, but, after study, we use our positions to advocate for or against particular policies in the public interest.

1. Virginia Museum of History and Culture

428 N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard (804) 340-1800 www.virginiahistory.org

Daily 10am-5pm Advance Registration Required — Admission \$3-6

Agents of Change: Female Activism in Virginia from Women's Suffrage to Today exhibit features artifacts from the museum's vast collections that celebrate a century of women's social and political activism in the Commonwealth. Through Nov. 1, 2020.

2. The Crenshaw House

919 W. Franklin Street — By Appointment Only

In 1909, a group of socially influential Richmond women met at the home of Anna Clay Crenshaw to form the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia, dedicating itself to obtaining the vote for women and encouraging them to expand their traditional roles into politics and progressive reform movements. Lila Meade Valentine was elected President; members included writers Ellen Glasgow and Mary Johnston, artists Adele Clark and Nora Houston, and physician Kate Waller Barrett. After the 19th Amendment became law the ESL became the League of Women Voters.

3. Bolling Haxall House

211 E. Franklin St. — By Appointment Only (804) 643-2847 www.twcrichmond.org

The striking Italianate house is headquarters for The Woman's Club, formed in 1894 for the literary and cultural benefit of women.

4. Library of Virginia

800 E. Broad Street (804) 692-3500 www.lva.virginia.gov Tues.-Fri. 10am-4pm

Free Admission — Free Underground Parking; enter from 8th and Marshall Streets

We Demand: Women's Suffrage in Virginia exhibit highlights Virginia suffragists, a remarkable group of dedicated women who marched in parades, rallied at the state capitol, spoke to crowds on street corners, staffed booths at state and county fairs, lobbied legislators and congressmen, picketed the White House, and even went to jail. Through March 31, 2021.

5. Virginia State Capitol Grounds

Entrance on 9th St. between Broad and Grace Streets (804) 698-1788 www.virginiacapitol.gov

Grounds Open Daily 6am-11pm — Free

A. ***Virginia Women's Monument***

The brave, creative and wise contributions of Virginia women are honored by the Voices from the Garden statues, created in 2018. Among the women is artist and activist, Adele Goodman Clark (1882-1983), a founding member of the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia and president of the League of Women Voters for 20 years. Throughout her long life her influence was felt in the arts community, in politics and education. The name of Lila Meade Valentine (1865-1921) is inscribed on the Wall of Honor of the Virginia Women's Monument. Mrs. Valentine was a reformer, activist, founding member and president of the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia. In 1936, Viscountess Nancy Astor, a Virginia native and the first woman to serve in the British House of Commons, presented a marble bas-relief of Mrs. Valentine which is displayed in the chamber of the House of Delegates.

B. ***South Entrance***

Members of the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia staged rallies on the steps around 1916 to garner public support for passage of the 19th Amendment.

C. ***George Washington Statue***

Members of the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia were photographed in front of the statue around 1915 as they lobbied the General Assembly to support the 19th Amendment.

D. ***Old City Hall***

1001 East Broad Street, Not currently open to the public

After passage of the 19th Amendment, women registered to vote in this Victorian Gothic building. Registration for white women was upstairs in well-appointed offices while registration for black citizens was in the basement with long wait times and fewer workers.

6. The Valentine Museum

1015 E. Clay Street (804) 649-0711 www.thevalentine.org

Tues.-Sun., 10am-5pm, Advance Registration Required — Free this summer

#BallotBattle: Richmond's Social Struggle for Suffrage uses modern social media platforms to profile five Richmond viewpoints and the racial and generational tensions that each exposed.

Ain't Misbehavin': 1920s Fashion presents a playful commentary on Richmond's mixed reaction to the Roaring Twenties amid a sparkling display of some of the 1920s fashions worn in the city.

7. Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site

Enter at 600 N. 2nd Street (804) 771-2017 www.nps.gov/maewa

Tues.-Sat., 9am-5pm (subject to phased re-opening) — Free

Maggie Lena Walker (1864-1934) devoted her life to civil rights advancement, economic empowerment and educational opportunities for Jim Crow-era African Americans and women. Mrs. Walker registered to vote in September 1920.

8. Maggie L. Walker Statue

Broad and Adams Street

9. Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia

122 W. Leigh Street (804) 780-9093 www.blackhistorymuseum.org

Tues.-Sat, 10am-5pm — \$6-10

Celebrate the rich culture and moving histories of African American people in Virginia and their magnificent contributions to our country.

10. Maymont

1700 Hampton Street (804) 358-7166 www.maymont.org Grounds open, 10am-7pm — Free

Maymont was home to prominent and philanthropic citizens, James and Sallie Dooley, during the years of the Woman's Suffrage Movement, and both sides of this social change were passionately present within the family. While Sallie Dooley (1846-1925) did not endorse the vote and served on the Executive Committee of the Virginia Association Opposed to Woman's Suffrage, James Dooley's niece, Nora Houston (1883-1942), was a founding member of the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia.