



## LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

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### Library of Virginia's 2017 Virginia Women in History Program Honors Eight Outstanding Women

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(Richmond, Virginia) – A cofounder of a circulating library for the blind, an internationally recognized composer, one of the first women to graduate from Virginia Tech with a degree in mechanical engineering, the first woman to head Virginia's AFL-CIO, an artist who worked for woman suffrage, two women who advocate for minority communities, and the chief deputy attorney general for the Commonwealth of Virginia are among eight Virginia women recognized by the Library of Virginia as part of its Virginia Women in History program. The eight are also featured on a handsome poster and in the Library's 2017 Virginia Women in History exhibition, on display on the second floor of the Library of Virginia, during the month of March, **Women's History Month**. The exhibition will then travel to libraries, schools, and cultural institutions across the state. Copies of the 2017 poster and learning activities tied to the Virginia Standards of Learning have been distributed to public and private schools and cultural institutions across Virginia.

**The 2017 Virginia Women in History program culminates on March 30 with an inspiring program recognizing the honorees.** The evening begins with a reception at 5:30 PM, followed at 6:15 PM by an awards ceremony emceed by Virginia Public Radio host May-Lily Lee. Held at the Library of Virginia (800 East Broadside Street, Richmond, VA 23219), the reception and program are free and open to the public. For more information, call 804-692-3999.

The women honored this year are:

**Nora Houston** (1883–1942), Richmond

Artist and Social Reformer

Artist Nora Houston was a tireless advocate for woman suffrage and social reform.

**Louise Harrison McCraw** (1893–1975), Buckingham County

Author and Executive Secretary of the Braille Circulating Library

Author Louise Harrison McCraw cofounded the Braille Circulating Library to meet the needs of an underserved population.

**Undine Anna Smith Moore** (1904–1989), Ettrick

Educator and Composer

Undine Smith Moore described herself as "a teacher who composes," while educating her students about music theory as well as the contributions of African Americans to American music and culture.

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**Mary Virginia Jones** (b. 1940), Prince William County

Mechanical Engineer

An expert in solid propellant rocket motor design, Mary Virginia Jones serves as a role model for women in the engineering profession.

**Martha Dillard Franck Rollins** (b. 1943), Richmond

Community Activist and Philanthropist

*Recipient of the Virginia Business and Professional Women's Foundation Business Leadership Award*

Community activist Martha Rollins fights racism, recidivism, and prejudice by bringing Richmond communities together across racial, social, and economic barriers.

**Corazon Sandoval Foley** (b. 1950), Fairfax County

Community Activist

Corazon Sandoval Foley is an advocate and leader for collecting stories of Asian American immigrants through oral history and research projects within her community.

**Doris Anne Crouse-Mays** (b. 1958), Wythe County

Labor Leader

The first woman to direct the Virginia AFL-CIO, Doris Crouse-Mays is dedicated to improving the lives of workers in the state.

**Cynthia Eppes Hudson** (b. 1959), Nottoway County

Chief Deputy Attorney General of Virginia

The first African American woman appointed chief deputy attorney general of Virginia, Cynthia E. Hudson is dedicated to using the law to help all Virginians.

The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* is the media sponsor for the 2017 Virginia Women in History program. The Virginia Business and Professional Women's Foundation Fund sponsors the Business Leadership Award and programming for Virginia Women in History. To learn more about the program, visit [www.lva.virginia.gov/public/vawomen/2017](http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/vawomen/2017).

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**February 17, 2017**