



## March 2021

### San Francisco Commission & Department on the Status of Women Newsletter

#### Dear Community,

Today – the need for women, girls and non-binary people to stand in solidarity has never been greater. We may not walk in the same shoes or face the same challenges, and yet, we stitch together the quilt of our collective struggle for equity, fairness and respect.

We assemble the patchwork story of our united fight for freedom and the unshackling of the systems designed to hold us back. The same misogynistic forces that have worked to keep women subjugated to the white male patriarchy continue unabated. The plan is simple – to keep us down by tearing us apart.

Whether playing off today's latest transphobia in women's sports or trying to find daylight between BIPOC women and our white sisters – these sinister motives are seen and will not be successful if we are united in lifting each other up when they try to push us down.

During this global pandemic when the struggle for women's equality has never been greater, we know that we have the strength to rise to meet the challenges in front of us, the grit to lift ourselves over the hurdles ahead and the grace to reach back and leave no woman, girl or trans-person behind.

This Women's History Month – let us take a deep look into ourselves and summon the courage to forge the path set by our foremothers and to continue the work of equality and justice for all.

All my best,

Kimberly Ellis

#### Mayor Breed's Women's History Month Ceremony

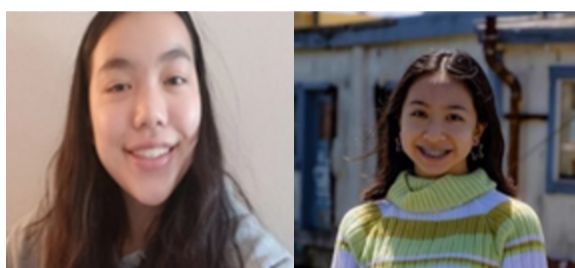
Mayor London N. Breed launched Women's History Month on Monday, March 15, with Director Kimberly Ellis and Commission Vice President Shokooh Miry. [Watch the event here.](#)

This year's honorees included Brittney Doyle, Susanna Lau, Lana Nguyen, and Dr. Carina Marquez. Learn more about these incredible women below.



**Brittney Doyle** is the founder of WISE Health, a public health consulting company that specializes in developing community engagement strategies designed to address barriers associated with the health inequities found in under-served communities.

Ms. Doyle collaborates with community organizations, government agencies, health clinics and academic institutions to ensure that these populations are reached where they work, live, play, and pray. She is passionate about developing innovative, interactive, and effective healthy experiences that will appeal to diverse communities of all ages.



**Susanna Lau** and **Lana Nguyen** are co-founders of SupplyHopelInfo, a charity they launched last May to dispense free basic school supplies that academic success. The two 17-year-old Seniors at San Francisco's Washington High School founded the organization with the goal of solving a new problem wrought by the pandemic: that low-income students cannot rely on school resources for distance-learning.

**Dr. Carina Marquez** is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and an infectious diseases physician and researcher. She has dedicated her medical career to serving Latinx and underserved communities. She provides HIV primary care at 'Ward 86', the HIV clinic at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG), and inpatient and outpatient consultation in infectious diseases at ZSFG. She leads the Ward 86 SALUD clinic that provides multidisciplinary care to monolingual Spanish speaking patients living with HIV.



#### Women's History Month

The theme of this year's Women's History Month is "Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to be Silenced," a continuation of last year's theme "Valiant Women of the Vote." The theme captures the spirit of these challenging times and continues to focus on the important roles of women of color voting rights activists, who refuse to allow their voices to be silenced.

Follow the Department on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) to get up-to-date information on Women's History Month events.

**Stay home. Save lives.**  
Help slow the spread of the coronavirus during the holiday season.

Please continue to support our community and reduce the spread of COVID-19 by staying home as much as possible, avoiding gatherings, wearing face coverings, and staying up-to-date on [City and County of San Francisco COVID-19 recommendations](#).

Domestic violence, child abuse, and elder abuse are continuing to happen, and we want survivors to know that help is available. Find online resources at: [sf.gov/information/domestic-and-family-violence-resources](http://sf.gov/information/domestic-and-family-violence-resources).

Do not hesitate to reach out if you need help. To talk to someone, contact:

W.O.M.A.N., Inc.  
TEL: 415-864-4777  
24-Hour Crisis Line: 415-864-4722  
Toll Free: 877-384-3578  
[www.womaninc.org](http://www.womaninc.org)

La Casa de las Madres  
TEL: 415-503-0500  
24-Hour Adult Crisis Line:  
877-503-1850  
24-Hour Teen Crisis Line:  
877-923-0700  
24-Hour Text Crisis Line:  
415-200-3575  
[www.lacasa.org](http://www.lacasa.org)

San Francisco Women Against Rape  
TEL: 415-861-2024  
24-Hour Crisis Line: 415-647-7273  
[www.sfwar.org](http://www.sfwar.org)

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

##### Call to Challenge: The Urgency of the Needs of Girls and Gender Expansive Youth in SF

March 18, 2021 4 - 5:30 pm

Join us, along with the Alliance for Girls, and the Young Women's Freedom Center, to call out the urgent needs of girls and gender-expansive youth in San Francisco. Hear from girls and gender-expansive youth speakers on their experiences and challenges. Learn from youth-serving organizations in the city and youth researchers about their research and data on COVID-19's impact on girls and gender-expansive youth. [Register here.](#)

##### One City One Book: Homelessness and Sexual Violence Panel

April 2, 2021 12 - 1:15 pm

San Francisco Public Library in partnership with the Department on the Status of Women and Office of Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) hosts a panel of sexual assault survivors and advocates on the experiences, survival stories and needs of homeless and housing insecure survivors. [Register here.](#)

#### Commission Meetings

Wednesday, March 24, 5 - 7 pm [Online](#)

Commission meetings are online public events, please check our website for instructions on how to join.

##### [Commission Meeting Information](#)

**Leadership Opportunities on Boards and Commissions.** You can find Commission and Board openings at the following links:  
1. [311 List of Boards and Commissions](#)  
2. Board of Supervisors List: [Vacancies on Boards and Commissions](#)

The Commission and Department on the Status of Women remain dedicated to serving the City and County of San Francisco, and we are here to support you and the community.

Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) @statusofwomensf or connect directly through [dosw@sfgov.org](mailto:dosw@sfgov.org).

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