

@NYWUSA News

National Youth Week 2021: June 13-19

Ida B. Wells: Racism in the Ranks of Suffrage

Fareeha Mohammad

One can argue that Ida B. Wells, investigative journalist, anti-lynching crusader, civil rights activist, and suffragette, was at one time possibly the most famous Black woman in America. Her awareness of racial injustice began on a train in Tennessee when the conductor ordered Wells to move from a first-class ladies' car. Wells refused and when the conductor tried to drag her out, she bit his hand. Unfortunately, that was only the beginning. Wells was a vocal advocate for women's rights but many organizations rarely wanted to be seen as affiliated with her. In Illinois she created an all-black suffrage group known as the Alpha Suffrage Club, and in 1913, during a famous suffrage march, Wells was told to march in the back with her coalition to avoid upsetting Southern whites. She refused to do so and even brought her group to march in the front with the rest of the Illinois delegation. For many, Ida B. Wells was an inspiration. While at times she doubted herself, she persevered, and is remembered for having memorably said "one had better die fighting against injustice than die like a dog or a rat in a trap."



Gabby's Glow with Dr. Jackie!

Gabby Chong

"We just keep going and going and going, like the Energizer Bunny, so it's really important to make an effort to take care of ourselves and learn when we need to take breaks."

Last month we got the opportunity to host a Mental Health webinar, [click here to see the full interview!](#) If asked, enter Password: 2021@NYWUSA. The interview, in which our two panelists Dr. Jackie Hernandez and Nurse Tamilikia spoke about their mental health advice. As a recap of the discussion, I got to interview Dr. Hernandez about the key points that were mentioned.

To learn about her recommendations for coping with anxiety and stress, and more advice, be sure to check out the [interview here!](#)

Mission Statement:

"The purpose of OMI is to instill resiliency skills through education and developing life skills to "at-risk" youth in hopes that they will become productive members of society. To provide opportunities that will focus on the entire mind, body, soul and spirit."

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Ruth Bader Ginsburg: Notorious Supreme Court Justice

Takoda Wells

Ruth Bader Ginsburg was born on March 15, 1933 in New York City. She recently passed on September 18, 2020, however her achievements and efforts for justice on the Supreme Court will not be forgotten. She graduated with a bachelor's degree from Cornell University and became a mother before starting law school at Harvard. She then transferred to Columbia Law School where she graduated first in her class, as one of the few women in her field. RBG later became a professor of law at Rutgers Law School and Columbia Law School. Before sitting on the bench, she won 5 of 6 cases of institutionalized discrimination against women argued in front of the Supreme Court. She became the Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit from June 30, 1980 to August 9, 1993 and later the Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from August 10, 1993 until September 18, 2020. RBG was the first Jewish woman and the second woman to ever serve on the Court. Originally viewed as a moderate consensus builder, she eventually joined the liberal wing as the Court shifted to the right over time. She was an activist for gender equality and women's rights. However, she also fought for the rights of the LGBTQ+ community, undocumented people, disabled citizens, and expanding voting rights. Although she had the

option to retire in 2013 when Democrats could appoint her a successor, she continued to serve and was succeeded by Amy Coney Barrett by Donald Trump on October 27, 2020 after her death. Despite differences in political parties, the 115th US Supreme Court Justice has big shoes to fill following the "Notorious RBG".

RBG is an incredible role model of mine as I also like to advocate for women's rights and gender equality. She stood for everything I believe in and continuously fought for those who weren't able to speak up. Her legacy inspires



other young women like me to follow in their dreams of working in STEM. RBG was a pioneer woman in a man's world and persisted through the many challenges that came her way. It's because of her aspiring work ethic and passion for the legal system that she became one of the greatest Justices to ever serve on the Supreme Court.

NOTE FROM PRESIDENT:



This month we decided to celebrate amazing women, not just from the past but present as well! 'What qualifies an amazing woman?', I was asked. 'Someone that makes your life better', I replied! Someone that sees your potential, challenges you to be great and helps you overcome any obstacle so you can be the best version of yourself and fulfill your destiny. I was asked to share how I made history with National Youth Week (NYW). It is a funny story, I was recovering from a near death experience and while lying in my bed, I thought it would be cool to add something to NYW. I did my research and realized that the only country that had NYW was Australia. I reached out to a friend of mine, Danielle Pettiford who said when you have a vision make sure you pick trustworthy people to share this with and this dynamic duo came up with pillars, content, and a logo. And a year later NYW was launched and the rest as they say is history. So this month we celebrate past, present, and future women making history!

Activity of the Month:

Think about all of the amazing women in your life! Your mom, your grandmother, your aunt, your best friend, your wife, your daughter, etc. and think of all of their amazing characteristics that make them the unique, amazing woman that they are today! Take a look at the image below. Look closely and see just how many words you can find! Post a picture and tag on on Instagram with your answer! #InternationalWomen'sDay2021

