

# 2026 Women's History Month Celebration



**CERRITOS  
COLLEGE**

*“Where Women Transform the Future”*



**Schedule of Events**



Dear Colleagues,

Each March, Cerritos College joins the nation to celebrate Women's History Month and reflect on the innovators and creators who shaped our world today. Across history, women transformed how we understand science, culture, and possibility. With important scientific discoveries like Marie Curie's work with radium and polonium, Rosalind Franklin's X-ray revealing the structure of DNA, and Katherine Johnson's calculations that guided spacecrafts safely back to Earth, these women did more than advance modern medicine and aeronautics. They expanded knowledge, improved lives, and redefined what is possible in our society.

Today, that same spirit of discovery and creativity lives across our campus. Under this year's theme, *Where Women Transform the Future*, we recognize the women within our campus and community who continue to shape careers, industries, and culture. Throughout the month, our campus will offer opportunities to engage through culinary collaboration, art exhibits, and conversations highlighting athletics, business, law, accounting, and storytelling, each creating opportunities for learning, connection, and inspiration.

Women's History Month reminds us that progress is never done. The achievements we celebrate this month challenge us to keep removing barriers, expanding opportunity, and ensuring every student can pursue their own path to success and leadership. Our responsibility is not only to recognize advancement, but to build upon it so our future moves toward greater equity.

I invite you to participate this month in celebrating and supporting the women whose voices and accomplishments continue to shape our future.

Jose

Jose L. Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.  
President/Superintendent



## FULL SCHEDULE

### Making Herstory

Wednesday, March 4, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Library Shade Structure

### Indigenous – Native American Women Cocineras: Custodians of Ancestral Knowledge: With a Tasting of Chef Pyet's Recipes

with food historian Maite Gomez-Rejon and Chef Pyet DeSpain

Wednesday, March 4, 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Conference Center

### Alquimia: Curanderas, Healers, Culture-Bearers

with Dr. Cristina Rose Smith

Thursday, March 5, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., LC155

### Women in Law: Transforming the Future Together

Tuesday, March 10, 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m., LA 103

### Tribute to Women Writers

with Michelle Kim, Chad Greene, and Ana-Lia Marinelli

Tuesday, March 10, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., LC 155

### No Pain, No Gain

Wednesday, March 11, 11:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Library Shade Structure

### Pizza and Chat: Welding and Earth Sciences Departments

with Melissa Figueroa and Nicole Iwaz

Wednesday, March 11, 1-2 p.m., Location TBD

### Before the Ballot: How Women Built Civic Power

with Patty Robinson, Faculty Director, Civic and Community Engagement, College of the Canyons

Thursday, March 12, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m., FA 133

### Special Guest Speaker: Paralympic Athlete Eva Moral Thursday,

March 12, 11:00 a.m., SS 310 and ZOOM

Meeting ID: 896 2277 0763

### Co-creating the Future Together: Women, Empowerment and Possibilities

with Liliana Urrutia, Elleen Le, Kelly Velasquez, and Katya De Los Rios

Thursday, March 12, 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., ZOOM

### Student Art Exhibit Opening

Thursday, March 12, 4: 00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

FA207/FA153/Ceramics

### 17th Annual Community Resource Fair

Tuesday, March 24, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Student Center

### Women & Philanthropy Classroom Presentation

Tuesday, March 24, 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., FA 133

### An Introduction to Feminist Epistemologies

with Will Mittendorf

Wednesday, March 25, 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., SS 307

### Women's History Month Luncheon

Sponsored by Human Resources

Wednesday, March 25, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Conference Center

### WHM Film Screening: She's Beautiful When She's Angry

Thursday, March 26, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., FA 133

### Future Built By Her

with Atalie Oliva

Thursday, March 26, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., LC 155

### Feminist Praxis as Liberation Pedagogy: Women of Color Educators with Diverse Identities Navigating Higher Education (Panel Discussion)

with Sarra BenGhorbal

Monday, March 30, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., LC 155



Yamilet Martinez  
"Mother and Daughter"

## Women's History Month Week of MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>

### Making Herstory

Wednesday, March 4, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Library Shade Structure

### Indigenous – Native American Women Cocineras:

Custodians of Ancestral Knowledge: With a Tasting of  
Chef Pyet's Recipes

with food historian Maite Gomez-Rejon and Chef Pyet  
DeSpain

Wednesday, March 4, 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Conference Center

### Alquimia: Curanderas, Healers, Culture-Bearers

with Dr. Cristina Rose Smith

Thursday, March 5, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., LC155



2026 Women's History Month Presents

# Making HERstory

Wednesday, March 4 | 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Library Shade Structure



This event will feature a photo booth inspired by the viral song and music video “Look at That Woman,” using photo strips and a visual backdrop to invite students across campus to participate. We will also have a bloom bar where students can create bouquets for someone in their life, especially a woman who has made a difference to them. In addition, we will be passing out snow cones and hosting a bracelet making activity to create a fun, interactive, and celebratory space for Women’s History Month.

If disability accommodations (e.g., communications access, alternate formats) are needed to participate fully in these events, please contact <https://www.cerritos.edu/whm/contact.htm> within seven school days in advance.

2026 Women's History Month Presents

# Indigenous – Native American Women Cocineras: Custodians of Ancestral Knowledge

*With a Tasting of  
Chef Pyet's Recipes*

Wednesday, March 4  
4-5:30 p.m.  
Cerritos College  
Conference Center



Food Historian, Maite Gomez-Rejon and Chef Pyet DeSpain, will be joining us to share with us the knowledge of Indigenous – Native American Women Cocineras. Historian Maite will lead a talk on “The role of Women in the Native Mexican Kitchens - How Modern Cocineras Tradicionales are Custodians of Ancestral knowledge”. Chef Pyet will share her story to becoming an award winning and global private chef. She will give a talk about her life’s work dedicated to Indigenous Fusion Cuisine, where she combines the food of her heritage - both Native American and Mexican. Pyet’s passion is to uplift indigenous culture and traditions via storytelling and cooking. **The Cerritos Culinary Arts Program students, led by Chef Jessie, will provide a tasting of Chef Pyet’s recipes from her book, *Rooted in fire: A Celebration of Native American and Mexican Cuisine*.**

Facilitated by Cynthia Villanueva and the Cerritos College Culinary Arts Program

For questions [contact Cynthia Villanueva](#)

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<https://www.cerritos.edu/whm/contact.htm> within seven school days in advance.



**CERRITOS  
COLLEGE**

# 2026 Women's History Month Presents Alquimia: Curanderas, Healers, Culture - Bearers

Thursday, March 5  
11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.  
SS 310

Presented by,  
Dr. Cristina Rose Smith



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Pulling from the works of Elena Avila, Ana Castillo, and Atava Garcia, this brief lecture will discuss the recent history, present, and future of curanderismo in the southwest and beyond. The goal of our time together is conversation and questions as well as reclamation of family medicine and stories. The hope is to create an alchemy of ideas and actions that helps students step into their own roles as curanderas, healers, and culture bearers.

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## Women's History Month Week of MARCH 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>

Women in Law: Transforming the Future Together  
Tuesday, March 10, 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m., LA 103

Tribute to Women Writers  
with Michelle Kim, Chad Greene, and Ana-Lia Marinelli  
Tuesday, March 10, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., LC 155

No Pain, No Gain  
Wednesday, March 11, 11:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Library Shade Structure

Pizza and Chat: Welding and Earth Sciences  
Departments  
with Melissa Figueroa and Nicole Iwaz  
Wednesday, March 11, 1-2 p.m., Location TBD

Before the Ballot: How Women Built Civic Power  
with Patty Robinson, Faculty Director, Civic and  
Community Engagement, College of the Canyons  
Thursday, March 12, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m., FA 133

Special Guest Speaker: Paralympic Athlete Eva Moral  
Thursday, March 12, 11:00 a.m., SS 310 and ZOOM  
Meeting ID: 896 2277 0763

Co-creating the Future Together: Women,  
Empowerment and Possibilities  
with Liliana Urrutia, Elleen Le, Kelly Velasquez, and  
Katya De Los Rios  
Thursday, March 12, 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., ZOOM

Student Art Exhibit Opening  
Thursday, March 12, 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
FA207/FA153/Ceramics

2026 Women's History Month Presents

# Women in Law: Transforming the Future Together

Tuesday, March 10  
12:30-1:45 p.m. | LA 103

Facilitated by Laura Tchulluian, J.D.,  
Paralegal Department

This panel will bring together women professionals in the legal community who are shaping the future of the profession. Panelists will share their career paths, challenges, and insights on how women are transforming law and justice.



Business, Accounting  
& Law LCP



Education & Human  
Services LCP



Social & Behavioral  
Sciences LCP



### The panel will include:

Honorable Judge Maria Puente-Porras  
Superior Court of Los Angeles County

Gabriela Guzman, *Senior Associate Attorney*  
Misa Stefen Koller Ward, LLP  
*Certified Workers' Compensation Specialist*

Ana Ramirez Saenz, *Paralegal*  
Law Office of Lawrence J. Hutchens

*Light refreshments will be served.*

If disability accommodations (e.g., communications access, alternate formats) are needed to participate fully in these events, please contact <https://www.cerritos.edu/whm/contact.htm> within seven school days in advance.

**2026 Women's History Month Presents**  
**TRIBUTE TO WOMEN WRITERS**



**Tuesday, March 10**  
**2-3:30 p.m.**  
**LC 155**

You are invited to share a short piece of writing by a woman author, or simply sit back and listen. You can even share something written by you!

If disability accommodations (e.g., communications access, alternate formats) are needed to participate fully in these events, please contact <https://www.cerritos.edu/whm/contact.htm> within seven school days in advance.



2026 Women's History Month Presents

# No Pain, No Gain



Wednesday, March 11  
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Library Shade Structure

This event will feature a period pain simulator where students can participate by donating a period product. We will also be collaborating with the Future Healthcare Professionals of America (HOSA) club, who will provide an informational session on periods, menopause, and overall reproductive health. In addition, popcorn and pink lemonade will be provided for students.



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2026 Women's History Month Presents

# Pizza and Chat - with Welding and Earth Sciences (are not just for men)

Wednesday, March 11  
1-2 p.m.  
Library Shade Structure



Have a chat with faculty members, Melissa Figueroa and Nicole Iwaz, who work in non-traditional roles. Celebrating women's achievements, and inspiring our students.



**CERRITOS**  
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2026 Women's History Month Presents

# Before the Ballot: How Women Built Civic Power

Thursday, March 12  
10:30-11:30 a.m. | FA 133

Presented by: Dr. Patty Robinson,  
Faculty Director, Civic and Community Engagement  
College of the Canyons (emeritus)

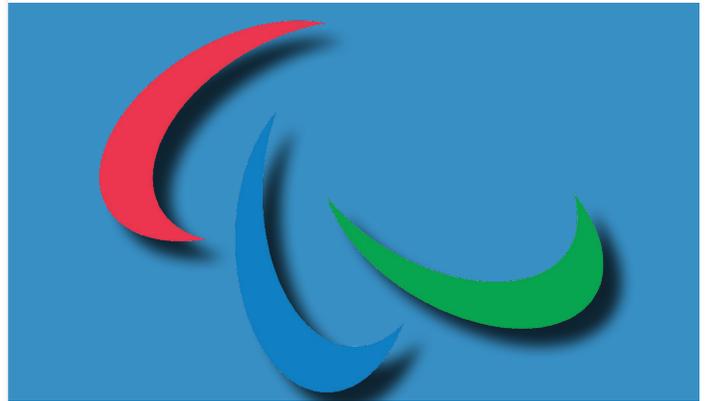


Before they could vote, women organized communities, practiced democracy, and built civic power through nationwide club networks. This talk reveals how their collective action, rooted in care, education, and voluntarism, quietly reshaped American democracy and helped pave the way for the 19th Amendment.

If disability accommodations (e.g., communications access, alternate formats) are needed to participate fully in these events, please contact <https://www.cerritos.edu/whm/contact.htm> within seven school days in advance.



# 2026 Women's History Month Presents Paralympic Athlete Eva Moral



**Thursday, March 12**

**11 a.m.**

**SS 310 | Zoom**



**Meeting ID: 896 2277 0763**

The Gender and Women Studies Department at Cerritos College is honored to host paralympic athlete, Eva Moral, for Women's History Month. Eva is a Spanish paratriathlete that claimed a bronze medal in the 2020 Tokyo|PTWC at the 2020 Summer Paralympics. The event will show a short documentary on Eva Moral's story and journey into Paralympics competitions. The documentary will be followed by a live talk on Zoom by Eva Moral titled, "Pies para que os quiero si tengo alas para volar" (*What do I need my feet for, if I have wings to fly*). Eva will also speak on the intersectionality on gender, disability, and motherhood in professional athletics.



If disability accommodations (e.g., communications access, alternate formats) are needed to participate fully in these events, please contact <https://www.cerritos.edu/whm/contact.htm>



When Women  
Support Women,  
Incredible  
Things Happen

2026 Women's History Month Presents

# Co-creating the Future Together: Women, Empowerment and Possibilities

Thursday, March 12, 2026  
12:15 - 1:30 p.m. | Zoom



Presenters: Liliana Urrutia, Eileen Ie,  
Kelly Velasquez, Katya De los Rios

Learn how collective action can transform women's lives. We'll explore how women's lives can change when we do it together viewed through the Sociology, Poli Sci, History and Economics Lens.



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## 2026 Women's History Month Presents



# Student Art Exhibit

**Thursday, March 12**  
**4-5:30 p.m.**  
**FA207/FA153/  
Ceramics**

This event will be to showcase and celebrate the artwork of student artists for Women's History Month. The students' artwork will be on display in the Fine Arts Building as well as visible in an online exhibition that will be on the college website for the month of March. The event will be an in person reception to allow the student artists to come together, along with friends, family and other college community members, to see their work on display and share it with the campus community.

Women's History Month  
Week of MARCH 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>  
SPRING BREAK



*You turn me inside out.*

Julia Vartan  
"Lucky Girl"



Sydney Rose Ordonez  
"Your Truth Is Seeping Through"

## Women's History Month Week of MARCH 23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>

17th Annual Community Resource Fair  
Tuesday, March 24, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Student Center

Women & Philanthropy Classroom Presentation  
Tuesday, March 24, 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., FA 133

An Introduction to Feminist Epistemologies  
with Will Mittendorf  
Wednesday, March 25, 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., SS 307

Women's History Month Luncheon  
Sponsored by Human Resources  
Wednesday, March 25, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Conference Center

WHM Film Screening: She's Beautiful When She's Angry  
Thursday, March 26, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., FA 133

Future Built By Her  
with Atalie Oliva  
Thursday, March 26, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., LC 155

Feminist Praxis as Liberation Pedagogy: Women of Color  
Educators with Diverse Identities Navigating Higher  
Education (Panel Discussion)  
with Sarra BenGhorbal  
Monday, March 30, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., LC 155



17th Annual

# Community Resource Fair

at Cerritos College



**Tuesday, March 24, 2026 | 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**  
**Student Center**  
11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk CA 90650

## Students and community members can:

- Find out about resources available on campus and in the community
- Get their questions answered by representatives from local community and social service agency's
- Learn about possible volunteer opportunities



There will be an opportunity drawing for prizes



Closest parking to event is Lot 1 (white stalls only)

For questions, contact Shannon Estrada at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2362



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This fair is a collaboration between the Re-Entry Program, CalWORKs, SHS, SAS, and the Falcon's Nest

Sponsored in part by the 2026 Women's History Month Planning Committee

Cerritos College is committed to providing an educational environment that is free from discrimination and harassment. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or any other characteristic protected by law in any of our programs or activities. For more information regarding our policies, please contact our Director, Compliance, Diversity, & Title IX Coordinator/Section 504 & Title II Coordinator at [www.cerritos.edu/hr](http://www.cerritos.edu/hr).

2026 Women's History Month Presents

# An Introduction to Feminist Epistemologies

Wednesday, March 25

11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

SS 307

Presented by Will Mittendorf



Epistemology is the study of knowledge and traditionally philosophers have focused on abstract concepts such as belief, knowing, justification, and truth. Recently there has been a social turn in epistemology, mainly driven by feminist philosophers who focus more on the reality that power and identity often shape knowledge and knowers.

If disability accommodations (e.g., communications access, alternate formats) are needed to participate fully in these events, please contact <https://www.cerritos.edu/whm/contact.htm> within seven school days in advance.



**CERRITOS**  
COLLEGE

2026 Women's History Month

# Campus Luncheon

Wednesday, March 25

12-1:30 p.m.

Conference Center



Where Women Transform the Future

2026 Women's History Month Presents

# WHM Film Screening: She's Beautiful When She's Angry

Thursday, March 26  
10 a.m. -12 p.m. | FA 133

Hosted by, Shannon Estrada and Allie Baker



Join us for a documentary film screening  
that explores second-wave feminism  
and the push for women's rights!



If disability accommodations (e.g., communications access, alternate formats) are needed to participate fully in these events, please contact <https://www.cerritos.edu/whm/contact.htm> within seven school days in advance.

# **FUTURE BUILT BY HER**



Community  
Education  
Apprenticeship Programs

*A hands-on community event celebrating women builders*

**Thursday, March 26, 2026**  
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Learning Resource Center - LC 155  
11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650

Join us for a hands-on, community-centered event designed for students and community members.

- Interactive activities & skills lab
- Mentorship and career pathways
- Celebrating women who built our communities



**Facilitated By: Atalie Oliva**



Scan to Register Here:



For More Information: [www.cerritos.edu/aed](http://www.cerritos.edu/aed)  
or call (562)467-5098

# **FUTURO CONSTRUIDO POR** **ELLA**



Community  
Education  
Apprenticeship Programs

*Un evento comunitario práctico que celebra a las mujeres con constructoras*

**Jueves, 26 de marzo de 2026**  
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Learning Resource Center - LC 155  
11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650

Únase a un evento práctico y comunitario para estudiantes y miembros de la comunidad que incluirá:

- Actividades interactivas y laboratorio de habilidades
- Mentoría y trayectorias profesionales

Celebración de las mujeres que construyeron nuestras comunidades.



**Facilitado By: Atalie Oliva**



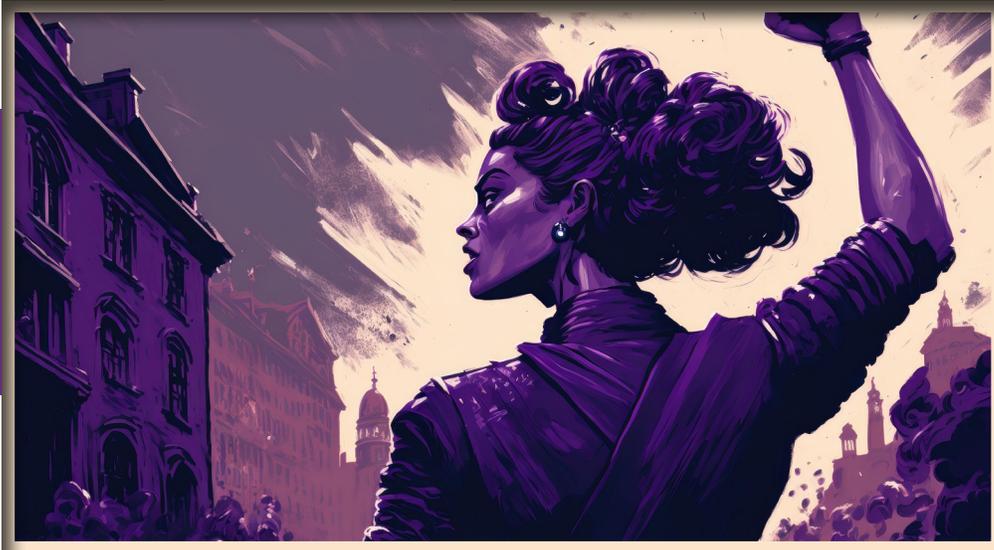
Regístrese aquí:



Para más información: [www.cerritos.edu/aed](http://www.cerritos.edu/aed)  
o llame al (562)467-5098

2026 Women's History Month Presents

## Feminist Praxis as Liberation Pedagogy: Women of Color Educators with Diverse Identities Navigating Higher Education



Monday, March 30 | 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.  
LC 155

Presented by Sarra BenGhorbal, Cerritos College  
Prof. Caroline Romero, Cerritos College

In this historical moment we all live in, what does it mean to teach toward liberation? This panel gathers early-career professors of color working across Ethnic Studies, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and critical interdisciplinary spaces to explore teaching as a radical and relational praxis, one that holds love, joy, and resistance at its core.

This panel offers a space for vulnerability, reflection, and collective truth-telling. Together, we will examine the emotional and political labor of teaching in the margins, while sharing practices rooted in abolition, healing, resistance, and hope. Through this dialogue, we reclaim teaching as a radical act: not just of survival, but of dreaming and building otherwise.

**Panel Speakers Include:**

Prof. Caroline Romero, Cerritos College.  
Prof. Ariana Flores, Pasadena City College),  
Prof. Yadia Ceballos-Tellechea, LACCD. and  
Sarra BenGhorbal, Cerritos College



# 2026 Women's History Month Celebration



*“Where Women  
Transform the Future”*



## Acknowledgements

### Women's History Month Planning

#### Committee:

Esthela Chavez  
Shannon Estrada  
Irfan Hamid  
William Mittendorf  
Narges Rakin  
Kimberly Rosenfeld  
Macleana Samuels  
Cristina R. Smith  
Laura Tchulluian  
Barbara Van Dine  
Cynthia Villanueva  
Lisa Boutin-Vitela

#### Event Contributors:

The Associated Students of Cerritos College  
Allison Baker  
Sarra BenGhorbal  
Lisa Boutin-Vitela  
Sara Cristin  
Katya De Los Rios  
Shannon Estrada

Melissa Figueroa  
Anthony Gonzalez  
Audra Graziano  
Chad Greene  
Nicole Iwaz  
Etelvina Jurado  
Michelle Kim  
Ana-Lia Marinelli  
Misheel Munkhsaikhan  
William Mittendorf  
Amanda Monroy  
Paola Moreno  
Hagop Najarian  
Atalie Oliva  
Philosophy Club  
Narges Rakin  
Amanda Reyes  
Donna Robinson  
Caroline Romero  
Kimberly Rosenfeld  
Cristina R. Smith  
Sergio Teran  
Cynthia Villanueva

#### Other Contributors:

Human Resources  
Smart and Final Foundation  
The Cerritos College Foundation  
Sarah Pirtle (Flip Books, website)  
Margo Winners (Graphic Designer)

If you have any questions about Women's History Month, please contact the co-chairs.

[Kimberly Rosenfeld](#)  
[Lisa Boutin-Vitela](#)



*Cerritos College is committed to providing an educational environment that is free from discrimination and harassment. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or any other characteristic protected by law in any of our programs or activities. For more information regarding our policies, please contact our Director, Compliance, Diversity, & Title IX Coordinator/Section 504 & Title II Coordinator at [www.cerritos.edu/hr/hr-staff.htm](http://www.cerritos.edu/hr/hr-staff.htm)*