

# UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 2017

## Insights on Equality for Women

### 3 HOPEFUL STATS FOR AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S DAY



Working for women's equality is challenging and rewarding, but I have to admit that it's not easy to remain positive *all* the time.

We are constantly reminded of the glacial pace of women's progress, especially in achieving top leadership positions in business and government, and the inequities women face every day.

Despite making up more than half of the American population, women currently hold fewer than 20 percent of the seats in the U.S. Congress. And in business, our share of senior leadership is even more discouraging, with women occupying only 6.4 percent of CEO jobs at Fortune 500 companies.

[But there is another way we can choose to look at the numbers.](#)

## Vision 2020 News

### A Toast, Scavenger Hunt and Remarks From a Woman Born in 1920: How Vision 2020 Commemorated Women's Equality Day



*Clockwise from top left: Youth participants of the HERstory Hunt, a women's history scavenger hunt, earn their Junior Ranger badges from Independence National Historical Park; Laura Wooten, a New Jersey poll worker who was born the same year that women won voting rights, raises her glass of grape juice just as Alice Paul, shown behind her, did in 1920; speakers and special guests at the Toast to Tenacity raise their glasses in a unified salute to the suffragists.*

On August 26, Vision 2020, along with Delegates and Allied Organizations across the country, celebrated 97 years of women's voting rights in America. The date marks the anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which became law in 1920 after a 72-year struggle led by the suffragists.

In keeping with Vision 2020's commitment to honor the past, it has become a Vision 2020 tradition to pay tribute to the action and courage of the suffragists on August 26, a day celebrated nationwide as Women's Equality Day. This year, Vision 2020 spent the day hosting its annual Toast to Tenacity™ and added a new event: the Vision HERstory Hunt.

[Learn more about our Women's Equality Day celebrations.](#)

## Vision 2020 Partners With Ally That Leads National Voter Registration Day

Did you know that National Voter Registration Day is Tuesday, September 26?

[Nonprofit VOTE](#), a Vision 2020 Allied Organization, is the managing organization of National Voter Registration Day, a nonpartisan national day that aims to register all eligible voters across the U.S. in one unified day of action.

We encourage you to use the [toolkit to register people to vote and raise awareness of Voter Registration Day](#).



## State Representatives Co-Sponsor Resolution Supporting Vision 2020 Programs

Representatives Carolyn Comitta and Leanne Krueger-Branecky of Pennsylvania, the home state of Vision 2020's national headquarters, announced on Women's Equality Day that they were co-sponsoring a resolution recognizing Vision 2020's [Shared Leadership Campaign](#) and [Women 100](#) programs.

In an op-ed for *The Philadelphia Tribune*, Rep. Comitta reflected on how far women have come in the 97 years since the 19th Amendment passed, as well as the inequalities that remain today, such as gender pay gaps in the workplace and unbalanced representation in top-level positions.

Reflecting on the significance of Women's Equality Day, Rep. Comitta said:

"I am grateful for those who have fought for the rights that women enjoy today. It's important for men and women to pause and reflect on these efforts and to comprehend that the opportunities women have now would not be possible without the women who devoted their time and passion to this cause. **And yet again, women are not entirely equal. This must change.**"

Read more: [There's still work to be done for women's equality.](#)

## Mark Your Calendars: 2018 National Congress in Miami



The sixth Vision 2020 National Congress, convening women leaders, Delegates and Allied Organizations from across the country, will take place from September 27-29, 2018 in Miami.

More details will be shared in the coming months. [Email us](#) if you have any questions about the National Congress.

### People News

## Three New Delegates Join Vision 2020

Vision 2020's national reach continues to grow with the addition of the following three Delegates:

- **Cheryl Borland in Ohio**, of counsel at Griesing Law in Cincinnati
- **Tara Giunta in Washington, D.C.**, a litigation partner at Paul Hastings
- **Neylan McBaine in Utah**, who heads the statewide [Better Days 2020](#), Vision 2020's newest Allied Organization

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Cheryl, Tara and Neylan!

## Vision 2020 National Advisor Dawn Staley, Acclaimed Women's Basketball Star and Coach, Receives Top Sports Award

Dawn Staley, who recently led the University of South Carolina's women's basketball team to an NCAA championship as head coach, is the [only person to have received a top Philadelphia sports award three times](#).

Dawn has won five Olympic gold medals and is the head coach of the U.S. women's Olympic basketball team in 2020.

She is a national advisor to Vision 2020.



*Vision 2020's Lynn Yeakel and Maureen McVail with Dawn Staley (center) at the 2017 John Wanamaker Athletic Awards Ceremony on September 6.*

## Ally News

### Women Still Face Obstacles to Voting

The [Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc.](#), a Vision 2020 Allied Organization, interviewed Vision 2020 President Lynn Yeakel about the importance of women exercising their right to vote.

Lynn explained why women's participation in the political process is crucial for a healthy democracy, and she offered solutions to barriers that can hinder some voters' ability to access the polls and cast their ballots. In her own words, "Democracy is not complete without the perspectives of women fully included."

[Read more in Lynn's Junior League Spotlight.](#)

## Empowering Photo of the Month

*Have an empowering photo to share? Send it to [vision2020@drexel.edu](mailto:vision2020@drexel.edu)*

**WOMEN WHO ARE CHANGING THE WORLD**



*TIME* recently launched [Firsts](#), a multimedia collection on 46 trailblazing women who are changing the world across a range of endeavors: business, politics, science, sports, entertainment and more.

From General Lori Robinson, the first woman to lead troops into combat, to Aretha Franklin, the first woman inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, this collection of iconic women leaders offers their own personal reflections, thematic quotes and perspectives on balance, perseverance and strength.

Follow the conversation about female firsts on Twitter by searching [#ShelsTheFirst](#).

Founding Sponsor:



DREXEL UNIVERSITY  
College of  
**Medicine**  
*Institute for Women's Health and Leadership*

**Donate to Vision 2020**



