

March 15, 2019

Dear Friend of the WNBA,

I have to confess that I've been having a hard time finding the mental headspace to sit down and read. As someone who's always been an avid reader, it's difficult to acknowledge that my reading habits have changed. I used to blame it on grad school—after years of being forced to read, maybe I was still burnt out?



But if I'm going to be honest with myself now, I have to acknowledge that social media, technology, and, more specifically, my phone have really changed how I spend my time and how I use my brain.

These past few weeks, I've had to take a look at my habits and actively make the decision to pick up a book instead of my phone. I'm proud to say that I've started making time to read, and I'm enjoying getting lost in books again.

Maybe it's because spring is right around the corner, but I'm feeling a renewed sense of energy and determination to get back to the things that make me happy, one book at a time.

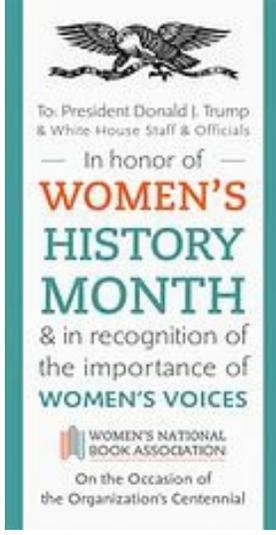
Sincerely,  
**Rachelle Yousuf (Los Angeles)**  
President, Women's National Book Association (WNBA)  
[president@wnba-books.org](mailto:president@wnba-books.org)

## Celebrate Women's Voices

By Tina Ollenburg (Charlotte)

March is Women's History Month — a great time to celebrate the long tradition of women in literature. As part of our centennial, the WNBA put together the [Celebrating Women's Voices](#) collection, two lists — [one fiction/memoir/poetry](#) and [one nonfiction](#) — that highlight some of the most influential works by women in our history.





The lists feature a total of 200 titles, representing a diverse array of women, topics, and literary styles, including authors like Toni Morrison, Barbara Kingsolver, Margaret Mead, and many more.

In March 2017, the WNBA drew from this list for their [Book-a-Day Women's History Month Program](#), where we sent a book for each day of the month to the president and other members of Congress.

The program was first initiated in 1955 when the WNBA sent a book a day to President Eisenhower while he recovered from a heart attack.

These lists and our Book-a-Day program are examples of the WNBA's history of celebrating women and of promoting social awareness, as well as the broader, influential history of women writers.

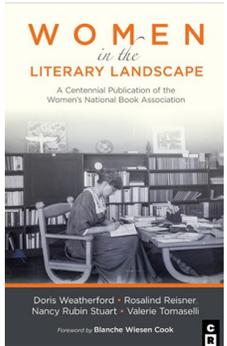
How many books on the lists have you read? Perhaps you could read one or two of the titles as part of your own celebration of Women's History Month!

## Women's Contributions to Literature

On March 6, Wisconsin Public Radio welcomed Rosalind "Roz" Reisner (WNBA-NYC), co-editor of [Women in the Literary Landscape](#), to *The Morning Show*.



Host Kate Archer Kent interviewed Roz about "[Women's Contributions to Literature Throughout History](#)."



They discussed *"the women at the forefront of literature, publishing, bookselling, and librarianship"* as well as the role the Women's National Book Association has played in documenting women's contributions to literature through our centennial publication, *Women in the Literary Landscape*.

[Buy Women in the Literary Landscape](#). Remember to leave a review after reading so other readers can find this gem.

## Early Childhood Author Contest

**By Sally Kim (San Francisco)**



Open call to all aspiring authors to use their expertise, creativity, and perspectives to craft a new children's book. Join [OpenIDEO's Early Childhood Book Challenge](#), funded by the [William Penn Foundation](#), for a chance to win \$20,000 and a potential publishing opportunity.

They seek manuscripts for a children's book that engages children (ages 0–3) and provides adults with ways to support early language development.

[Manuscripts can be submitted](#) from now through April 12, and the winner will be announced on June 21, 2019.

## The Bookwoman Blog Roundup

By Nicole Ayers (Charlotte)



Here's a roundup of recent blog posts.

### Check Out These Recent Posts

In a two-part blog series, WNBA-DC member Carla D. Bass shares her best writing tips, gleaned over years of experience, from her award-winning book *Write to Influence!*. Read about her [10 strategies](#) and about her [word-sculpting tools](#).

WNBA members from Nashville, New Orleans, and San Francisco [share their accomplishments](#).

Learn more about members [Kate Farrell](#) (San Francisco) and [Carolyn T. Wilson](#) (Nashville) in their "Power Behind the WNBA" interviews.

Be inspired by these [quotes from women writers](#).

[South Florida](#) is a thriving chapter that has grown so much since they were founded in 2015. Enjoy this look at their past and upcoming events as well as the partnerships they're fostering in their community.

### Find the Blog

Here's a reminder about how to find the *Bookwoman* blog.

You can access the blog by:

- clicking [here](#)
- copying and pasting <https://wnba-books.org/blog/> into your browser
- visiting the [Women's National Book Association website](#) and clicking on "The Bookwoman" in the navigation bar.

Don't forget to bookmark the page!

New content is posted every Tuesday and Friday.

## Share Your News

By Nicole Ayers (Charlotte)

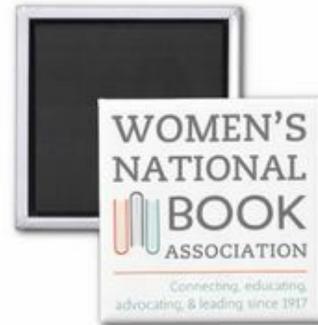
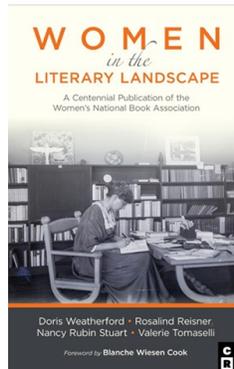


Do you have great news to share? We'd love to hear it! Send it to your chapter's *Bookwoman* correspondent for inclusion in next month's [Member News](#) blog post.

Correspondents send news in by the 15th of each month, and the member news post will drop the first Tuesday of the following month.

If you have an idea for a guest blog post, send me your pitch:  
[newsletter@wnba-books.org](mailto:newsletter@wnba-books.org).

## Easy Ways to Support the WNBA



Buy a copy of [\*Women in the Literary Landscape!\*](#)

“Brilliantly written and researched . . . every page is filled with surprises, enchantments, and exciting new information of significance.”

—From the foreword by Blanche Wiesen Cook, *Eleanor Roosevelt Vol. 1-3*.

Commemorate Women's History Month with a [\*WNBA Magnet!\*](#)

Perfect for the fridge or office, the WNBA magnet is a great accessory to celebrate your membership.

Donate to the WNBA

Become a WNBA Member

## The Bookwoman Staff

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[Submission Guidelines 2018-19](#)

Newsletter background: Books highlighted from the WNBA's [Celebrating Women's Voices](#) centennial program

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