Celebrating Women’s Voices: 200 books to read and talk about

These two lists of books were published in 2017 to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Women’s National Book Association. The lists honor books held by the WNBA community to be the most influential penned by American women.

Fiction, Poetry, Memoir


Piercy, Marge. *The Longings of Women.* (Fawcett Columbine, 1994).


Shange, Nitozake. *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf.* (Scribner, 1975, 2010 reprint).


Smith, Patti. *Just Kids.* (Ecco, 2010).


Stowe, Harriet Beecher. *Uncle Tom’s Cabin; or, Life Among the Lowly.* (Dover, 1852, 2005 reprint).


Non-Fiction List


Fuller, Margaret. *Woman in the Nineteenth Century*. (W. W. Norton, 1845, 1997).


Sanger, Margaret. *Family Limitation*. (1914).

Schiff, Stacy. *Vera (Mrs. Vladimir Nabokov)*. (Modern Library, 2000).


**Criteria for Fiction, Poetry, Memoir:**

- Works that have garnered critical acclaim, including literary awards and honors; that have maintained a readership across generations, or, for newer works, are engaging and appealing to a wide swatch of the reading public; and/or have provided an impetus for significant change
- Writers who are American (by birth or by virtue of where the author has chosen to live); living or dead; writing in English
- Works that would appeal to YA readers but were not written specifically for that market

**Criteria for Nonfiction:**

- Works that have garnered critical acclaim, including literary awards and honors; that have maintained a readership across generations, or, for newer works, are engaging and appealing to a wide swatch of the reading public; and/or have provided an impetus for significant change
- Writers who are American (by birth or by virtue of where the author has chosen to live); living or dead; writing in English

**Selection committee:** Anne Boyd Rioux and Marie Breaux, co-chairs; Constance Adler, Miki Pfeffer, and Teresa Tumminello Brader, with input from the New Orleans Chapter meeting as a committee of the whole, November 2016.

www.wnba-books.org

The Women’s National Book Association is a national organization of women and men who work with and value books. A non-profit 501(c)3 organization, WNBA exists to promote reading and to support the role of women in the community of the book.