



WSC2020 Celebration announces public art installation in 2020

Publicity Chair, Christine Haeggquist
chaeggquis@aol.com
779-208-2192

October 23, 2019
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ROCKFORD -- The “Women’s Suffrage Centennial 2020 Northern Illinois Celebration” or “WSC2020” has announced plans to unveil a public art installation in Rockford, IL to commemorate the 100th anniversary of women receiving the vote. Susan Burton, a mosaic artist from Marseilles, IL, has been chosen to complete the work because of her past experience with large community-art projects in other cities. A location for the permanent installation is being explored. Fundraising efforts, both public and private, have already begun in 2019.

WSC2020 plans to dedicate the installation on August 18, 2020, marking 100 years from the actual day of ratification. That same evening, a celebratory community party called “Sippin’ with Suffragists” will be held at Prairie Street Brewing Co. in Rockford, IL. WNIJ is taking a lead sponsorship for the event which will incorporate living presenters of historic figures of the suffrage movement as well as raffles and an original miniature art auction to complete fundraising for the public art installation.

Additionally, WSC2020 has compiled a year-long calendar of educational and artistic events, displays and exhibits which will be presented by women’s groups and civic organizations in northern Illinois. Activities will include movie showings; costumed suffragists in parades; voter registration events; panel discussions about the Suffrage movement; book discussions; podcasts; school, library and museum displays; local media programs; plays; and art contests. A quarterly calendar will be widely distributed in print and on social media from January 2020, each month through the end of December 2020.

The WSC2020 Steering Committee is represented by AAUW Rockford, Booker Washington Center, Ethnic Heritage Center, LWVGR, Midway Village and Museum Center, NAACP, Rockford NSDAR, Rockford Public Library, SPoRT Makeup, Womanspace, WNIJ, Women’s March Rockford, and the YWCA.