



Women in California Politics Foundation & Museum (WICP100) is a non-partisan, non-profit state and federally registered charitable organization.

#46-3568092

[www.wicp100.org](http://www.wicp100.org)  
1127 11th Street  
Sacramento, California 95822

*Welcome to the*  
*Women In California Politics*  
*Foundation & Museum*  
*Awards Ceremony*

**March 29, 2022**





The years between 1918 and 1920 were a time of great change for the world and the United States. World War I ended on November 11, 1918, and over a million men were returning home. The 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages in the United States was ratified on January 16, 1919, taking effect in January 1920. The Spanish Influenza affected over 500 million people world-wide in four successive waves, killing an estimated 50 million, between February 1918 and April 1920.

Although California women had won the right to vote in 1911, it wasn't until November 4, 1918, that the first four women were elected to the California Legislature. It would be another 2 years before the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment giving women the right to vote nationally was ratified.

Some of the greatest moments in California's history were created by the courageous women that stepped out of traditional roles to become elected public servants and shape the future of California politics. The legacy of these strong women will endure through Women in California Politics (WICP) and will inspire future generations.

Message from Women In California Politics (WICP)  
Founder, **The Honorable Sunny Mojonier #30**

Welcome to the Women in California Politics Foundation & Museum. We are proud to honor the first four women elected to the California legislature and to celebrate the incredible achievements of four outstanding women.

The first woman we honor this evening is Esto B. Broughton #1. In 1918 she was the first female lawyer to be elected to the legislature and she was only 26 years old.

The second woman we honor is Grace S. Doris #2, the first female to introduce a piece of legislation, thus "shattering the glass ceiling."

The third woman we honor this evening is Elizabeth Hughes #3, who was instrumental in legislation that created the CA Department of Agriculture.

And the fourth woman we honor Anna L. Saylor #4 played a key role in obtaining funding for higher education.

These four women represent justice, courage and tenacity, nourishment and knowledge, which are the four basic pillars that support our present foundational life experience. Our four recipients embody these qualities.

Each one on their own path have pursued their passion to open doors for the women that will follow them. My congratulations to each one of our recipients and you must know that I am so proud to be in your presence.

I am very grateful to the WICP Board of Directors, and to our sponsors, historians, writers, researchers, fundraiser, media team, museum docents and volunteers, and to all of those who have contributed to making this dream come true. I could not have done this without my very supportive children, Marc who did the timeline correction, research, graphics and designed our logo, Melissa who has been there since the very beginning and was instrumental with the Centennial Celebration in 2018 and again with the opening of this Museum, and Jenifer with her mojo magic has touched every corner of our museum. My family is my dream team.

To all who shared in my vision to capture past and present history for the sake of our future, I cannot express enough my gratitude for your role in making this a success. I am honored to have been given the privilege of having served with this amazing group of women and I treasure every moment I have worked on the mission and vision of Women In California Politics Foundation & Museum.

# WOMEN IN CALIFORNIA POLITICS

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On behalf of the Board of Directors of Women In California Politics Foundation & Museum we graciously welcome you to join us in honoring four of California's amazing women at our first "Annual WICP Awards." As president & CEO of Women In California Politics Foundation I am so proud of our Museum and the treasures that it makes available for all that visit to learn, enjoy, and appreciate the incredible achievements of the women that have been elected to serve in California's legislature for over 100 years. I am also very grateful to all of our sponsors for your continued commitment to supporting this wonderful and worthy cause.

I'd like to thank the women's organizations that have so thoughtfully provided nominations for tonight's awards. They are: Hispanics Organizing for Political Equity, (HOPE) California Women for Agriculture, (CWA), California Women Lead (CWL), and She Shares.

Tonight's Award recipients are four of California's amazing women. WICP is honored to celebrate their achievements this evening.

It is due to the vision and passion of one very determined woman that our history is collected, protected, preserved, recorded, and displayed. I would like to salute former Assemblywoman, the Honorable Sunny Mojonner #30, for it is because of her that we will continue to celebrate California's amazing women through this museum. We hope you will enjoy this special event tonight and return many times to see what new collections have been received in the WICP Foundation Museum.

Thank you,

WICP CEO, **The Honorable Fiona Ma #112** CA State Treasurer

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Roxanne Gould  
Paula Treat  
The Honorable Tim Grayson

Partial List

## AGENDA

- 3:45 P.M. Museum Doors Open
- 4:30 P.M. Welcome by CA State Treasurer Fiona Ma
- 4:35 P.M. Introduction of VIPs
- 4:40 P.M. Presentation of Esto B. Broughton #1 Award
- 4:45 P.M. Awardee Acceptance
- 4:50 P.M. Presentation of Grace S. Dorris #2 Award
- 4:55 P.M. Awardee Acceptance
- 5:00 P.M. Presentation of Elizabeth Hughes #3 Award
- 5:05 P.M. Awardee Acceptance
- 5:10 P.M. Presentation of Anna L. Saylor #4 Award
- 5:15 P.M. Awardee Acceptance
- 5:20 P.M. Sponsor Recognition
- 5:25 P.M. Closing Remarks

## AWARDS

ESTO B. BROUGHTON #1  
Jurisprudence Award  
for Achievement in Law  
**California Supreme Court**  
**Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye**

GRACE S. DORRIS #2  
Trailblazer Award  
for Breaking the Glass Ceiling  
**Senate President Pro Tempore**  
**Senator Toni G. Atkins #123**

ELIZABETH HUGHES #3  
Nourish Award  
for Agriculture Excellence  
**Founder**  
**Cherry Ishimatsu**

ANNA L. SAYLOR #4  
Wisdom Award  
for Education Excellence  
Providing a pathway through knowledge  
**President**  
**Michele Siqueiros**

Nominating Organizations:

HOPE (Hispanics Organized for Political Equity)  
CWA (California Women For Agriculture)  
CWL (California Women Lead)  
She Shares



### **Esto B. Broughton**

The first woman we honor is Esto B. Broughton #1.

In 1918 she was the first female lawyer to be elected to the legislature, at only 26 years old.

Born: Esto Bates Broughton on January 9, 1890, in Modesto, California

Died: November 20, 1956, in San Jose, California

Married: Single

Education: University of Berkeley, Bachelor of Arts – 1914, University of Berkeley, Juri Doctor – 1916, Admitted to Bar on

May 17, 1916

Esto B. Broughton ran on the Democratic ticket in 1918 representing the 46th District (Modesto) and was re-elected in 1920, 1922 and 1924.

#### **Legislation:**

Broughton introduced 86 pieces of legislation of which 23 were enacted and 11 were vetoed.

She successfully carried legislation to allow development of electrical power by irrigation districts; grant authority of irrigation districts to issue bonds, provide extension of public works during high periods of unemployment; regulate the quality of dairy products and their sale and advertising to prevent deception and fraud in the production and sale; and a bill to give wives authority as to community property equal to that of their husbands.

### **Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye** California Supreme Court

After almost 12 years in office, Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye has emerged as one of the country's leading advocates for equal access to justice, civic education, and reform of court funding models and procedures that unfairly impact the poor.

When she was sworn into office in January 2011 as the 28th Chief Justice of California, she was the first person of color and the second woman to serve as the state's chief justice.



In recent years, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has raised awareness of the unfair financial impact of fines, fees, and the bail system on the poor. She is a leading national advocate calling for bail system reform by addressing concerns about fairness and public safety.

As leader of California's judicial branch and chair of the Judicial Council, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has led the judicial branch out of the state's worst fiscal crisis since the Great Depression. She has improved the branch's efficiency, accountability, and transparency in how it conducts business, sets policy, and discloses information. When she became Chief Justice, she opened meetings of the Judicial Council and its advisory bodies that were once closed to the public and has made public comment more accessible. Judicial Council meetings are now webcast, as are state Supreme Court oral arguments. She initiated a review and oversaw changes in court rules that will improve how judicial branch entities prevent and address harassment, discrimination, retaliation, and inappropriate workplace conduct.

She has been recognized for her early work on domestic violence issues, support for minority bar associations, and for advancing the role of women and minorities in the legal profession. The Chief Justice is a leader in revitalizing civic learning through her Power of Democracy initiative.



### **Grace S. Dorris**

The second woman we honor is Grace S. Dorris #2.

She was the first female to introduce a piece of legislation thus “shattering the glass ceiling.”

Born: Grace Storey McMillian on March 14, 1887, in Ventura, California (mother died when 11 months old, and was raised by her maternal aunt as Grace S. Green).

Died: December 29, 1968, in Bakersfield, California

Married: Wiley Casey Dorris, lawyer, on August 13, 1913, in Kern, California

Occupation: Worked as a teacher and as a law clerk at Dorrers, Fiehart and Phillips

Grace S. Dorris ran on the Republican ticket in 1918 representing the 56<sup>th</sup> District (Bakersfield) and won re-election in 1922 and 1924

Legislation:

She introduced 56 pieces of legislation – 8 were enacted and 16 were vetoed by the Governor.

She pioneered many social reforms in her legislation – many that would later become law. She authored the first bill to be introduced by a woman (AB 25) to shorten the hours of domestic workers to 10 hours per day. She believed public defenders as well as public prosecutors should be provided in California courts. She fought for water rights for the farmers in her district. Several bills to provide stricter controls on the employment of children were pocket vetoed or held in committee. She introduced legislation to exempt from attachment motor trucks where they are being used in a man’s business; and a civil service reform prohibiting discrimination because of a physical affliction. She supported laws to enable the purchase or condemnation of idle tracts of land owned by large corporations to be sold to soldiers returning from WWI.

### **Senate Pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins** California Senate

Toni G. Atkins was born and raised in southwestern Virginia, the daughter of a miner and a seamstress, and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in political science from Emory & Henry College in Emory, Va.

In 1985, she moved across the country to San Diego, California, to help care for her sister’s young son while her sister served in the U.S. Navy. In San Diego, before becoming involved in public service, she worked as director of clinic services at Womancare Health Center.



Elected by voters to the state Assembly in 2010, Atkins served there for six years. In 2014, her colleagues selected her to be the Speaker of the Assembly – she became the first San Diegan and the first lesbian to hold the position. Atkins counts a major \$7.5-billion water bond and creation of the state’s first Earned Income Tax Credit among her proudest accomplishments.

In January 2018, after just one year in the Senate, she was elected by her colleagues to be the next Senate President pro Tempore. In March 2018, she was sworn in, becoming the first woman and the first openly LGBTQ person to lead the Legislature’s upper house.

Throughout her career, Atkins has been a champion for affordable housing, the natural environment, healthcare, veterans, women, and the LGBTQ community. She lives in the South Park community of San Diego with her spouse, Jennifer, and their dog, Joey.



### **Elizabeth Hughes**

The third woman we honor is Elizabeth Hughes #3.

She played a key role in legislation that created the California Department of Agriculture.

Born: Elizabeth Irene Lorentzen on March 19, 1876 in San Francisco, California

Died: March 15, 1941 in San Francisco, California

Married: James Boaz Hughes, teacher, on August 1, 1905 in Alameda, California

Children: James Shepard Hughes

Education: State Normal School, San Joe, California 1893; Graduate of USC with Masters in Speech 1930

Worked as a teacher until election to State Assembly in 1918.

Elizabeth Hughes ran on the Republican ticket in 1918 representing the 7<sup>th</sup> District (Oroville) and was re-elected in 1920.

Campaign slogan: The Right Kind of Politics is patriotism on the Job.

Elizabeth Hughes introduced 37 pieces of legislation – 15 were enacted and 2 were vetoed by the Governor.

Hughes' main focus was on education. She carried legislation to raise the compulsory school attendance law to sixteen years; proposed part-time school of 4 hours a week for children 14-16 who of necessity could not complete their education. This resulted in more vocational courses and night school classes. She also carried bills important to the agricultural interests in her district. A bill to create a California Department of Agriculture and definition of its duties was pocket vetoed by the Governor.

She served as Chairman of the Education Committee during her two terms, becoming the first woman appointed to chair a major committee.

### **Founder Cherry Ishimatsu**

California Women for Agriculture

Cherry Y. Ishimatsu moved to the Coachella Valley in 1949 as a new bride with her husband Raymond Shigeo Ishimatsu. They met in their teenage years when Cherry lived in Mayfield, California and reunited in Chicago where Cherry moved after she was released from an internment camp in Jerome, Arkansas. Cherry had only been a few months into her senior year in high school when she and her family were incarcerated by the federal government during WWII and placed into the Arkansas camp for 3 years. Cherry's mother was blind and depended on her daughter to get through the difficult time in the camp. In her adult life, Cherry has lectured at many schools to educate students about the camp experience. She never allowed the internment experience to deter her from loving the United States. She was a passionate leader in her community and worked tirelessly to help many philanthropic organizations.



Cherry started a career outside of her home and family business working for the Coachella Elementary School District in the 60s. Cherry became an active volunteer in Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, the Parent Teacher Association, and was responsible for starting the Candy Stripper volunteer program at the local hospital. Her three children were born in Indio, California in the 1950's.

In November of 1975, Cherry was invited by a friend to a meeting of women who wanted to organize and speak out on behalf of the farming industry. That day, California Women for Agriculture was born. Before Cherry knew what hit her, she was organizing a state convention and was then elected state president. Her first words were "Ray is going to kill me" Cherry traveled throughout California helping women like herself organize CWA chapters. Four decades later, CWA continues to be a viable voice for California farmers.





### **Anna L. Saylor**

The fourth Woman we honor is Anna L. Saylor #4.

She played a key role in legislation that created the California Department of Education.

Born: Anna Louise McBride on March 1, 1871, in Otter Creek, Indiana

Died: September 20, 1956, in Berkeley, California

Married: Franklin Ladd Saylor, small business owner, on June 12, 1895, in Elwood, Indiana

Children: Helen Louis Saylor and Robert McBride Saylor Anna and her family moved to Berkeley, California, in 1912

Mrs. Saylor was very active in the Twentieth Century Club, the Civic League and the Navy League of Berkeley, and was president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs while living in Indiana. Participation in these women's clubs provided women with the mean to influence legislation prior to passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. It was Berkeley's Twentieth Century Club, one of the more influential women's clubs in California, that urged Saylor to run for office.

"The success she declares is due entirely to the undivided support of the women of her district... What has been done by the women of Berkeley she declares can be done anywhere, provided there is unity in purpose and strength." Oakland Tribune, September 1, 1918

Anna Saylor ran on the Republican ticket in 1918 representing the 41<sup>st</sup> District (Berkeley) and was re-elected in 1920, 1922 and 1924.

Campaign slogan: In union there is strength

### **President Michele Siqueiros** Campaign for College Opportunity

Michele Siqueiros is president of the Campaign for College Opportunity. She is an advocate who works to expand college access and success for California students by raising public attention to the critical challenges facing students in our community colleges and universities, mobilizing a broad coalition of supporters, and influencing policymakers.



The campaign's mission to increase college-going and completion rates is driven by a strong belief that California's future economic success depends on our ability to produce the best-educated workforce in the nation and that our diverse population of young adults deserve the same opportunity provided to previous generations—regardless of race or socioeconomic status.

Under her leadership in 2010, the campaign led the effort for historic transfer reform that makes it easier for students to transfer from any California community college to the California State University system. She has advocated for millions of additional state dollars to expand student enrollment and student success funding at our community colleges, CSUs, and UCs.

She also advanced legislative efforts to increase access to Pell Grants, protect Cal Grant funding, support undocumented students, promote college readiness, prioritize community college student success efforts, and reform remedial education.

## **HONORABLE CENTENNIAL FOUNDERS**

**The Honorable Rebecca Q. Morgan**

**The Honorable Fiona Ma**

**The Honorable Sunny Mojonnier**

**The Honorable Bev Hansen**

**The Honorable Delaine Eastin**

**The Honorable Valerie Brown**

**The Honorable Gwen Moore**

**The Honorable Willie L. Brown, Jr.**

**The Honorable Connie Conway**

**The Honorable Ken Cooley**

**The Honorable Marian Bergeson**

**The Honorable Toni Atkins**

**The Honorable Carol Bentley Ellis**

**The Honorable Sheila J. Kuehl**

**The Honorable Elaine K. Alquist**

Partial List

## **WICP TEAM MEMBERS**

**Sunny Mojonnier, Curator, Museum Design**

**Ian Williams, Fundraising**

**Nancy Sullivan, Research Project Manager**

**Roberta Mendonca, Attorney  
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**Marc Mojonnier, Videographer**

**Bill Maile, Media Relations**

**Ashley Von Pohle, Media Relations**

**Alex Vassar, Historian**

## **MUSEUM DOCENTS**

**Nancy Sullivan**

**Linda Center**

**Roleeda Statham**

**Jenifer Mojonnier**

## Women In California Politics Foundation & Museum Story

Women In California Politics Foundation & Museum is proud to have been recognized as having the largest collection of historical information and video recorded oral histories of the women that have served in the California Legislature.

**Our Mission:** Educate, empower and inspire future generations to foster the spirit of public service and encourage community involvement.

**Our Vision:** Accomplish our mission by preserving the political history of the women elected to serve in California's Legislature by: 1) producing and collecting video recorded oral histories to provide education and historic preservation, 2) producing a Centennial Celebration in 2018 to celebrate 100 years and honor the legacy of women elected to the California Legislature, and 3) open a museum to display exhibits and artifacts showing the impact that women legislators have made in California, by displaying the multiple collections and thousands of historical items such as photos, plaques, letters with original signature, books, awards and specific clothing items that are noteworthy.

**Acknowledgements:** Women In California Politics Foundation & Museum wishes to thank the Legislative Women's Caucus and Women in California Leadership for their unwavering support over the years, including for the Centennial Celebration and the launch of the Women In California Politics Museum.



1918, four women with ties to UC Berkeley broke through the glass ceiling that had blocked women from being elected to the California Assembly. From left: Grace S. Dorris, Elizabeth Hughes, Anna L. Saylor and Esto B. Broughton.

Each woman legislator has a number in order of their election (just like the US presidents). In a little over 100 years **4400+ members of the legislature** have been elected, and **only 172** of those have been **women**.