



Statuary Hall Project

The National Statuary Hall Collection in Washington, D.C. features 100 statues of great Americans: 2 from each state. Only 9 of the statues are women.

Women have made enormous contributions to our nation’s history and heritage. Yet for the millions of visitors who tour the Capitol Building every year, including countless schoolchildren, women are virtually invisible. Eighty percent of communication is non-verbal, and the absence of women from our nations most treasured memorials sends a powerfully negative message.

Equal Visibility Everywhere’s (EVE) ‘Statuary Hall Project’ aims to change that. When our daughters walk through Statuary Hall, they should see women who have broken barriers and achieved success despite the odds. That is why EVE is working with supporters in each state to identify outstanding women from American history who deserve the honor to be commemorated in our nation’s capitol.

Our President:

Dr. Lynette Long, Ph.D, is an educator with an extensive background in girls’ empowerment and gender studies. She is the author of 20 books and was the founder of “Color



Math Pink” an award winning website that promoted math achievement for girls. She has also published extensively in trade and professional journals, and has researched sexism in children’s television programing, the impact of toy selection on vocational choice, and the sex-based achievement gap in mathematics. Dr. Long has appeared on hundreds of radio and television programs, including *The Today Show*, *CBS Morning News*, *The Phil Donahue Show*, and *Geraldo*.

About Statuary Hall

Statuary Hall is located in the “Old House Floor” a large semicircular room just south of the Capitol Rotunda. This chamber was the meeting place of the United States House of Representatives from 1809-1857. In 1857, Congress moved to a larger more suitable quarters, and eventually would vote to turn the old House chamber into a National Statuary Hall to commemorate great Americans. Today, the National Statuary Hall Collection is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the Capitol. Each year the statues are viewed by more than 4 million visitors.



CONTACTS:

President

Dr. Lynette Long, Ph.D
equalvisibilityeverywhere@gmail.com
301.325.6976

Project Coordinator

Connor Grill
connorgrill@gmail.com
352.443.2468

Visit EVE online:

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Replacing a Statue

Only 9 states are currently represented by a woman in Statuary Hall: Alabama, Colorado, Illinois, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming. Fortunately, beginning in the year 2000, states have the option of replacing one or both of its existing statues. The official process begins with a resolution in the state legislature:

1. The state legislature enacts a resolution identifying which statue will be replaced, naming the individual to be newly commemorated, and establishing how the funding for the new statue will be obtained. (The typical cost of a new statue is \$500,000).
2. The State sends the resolution along with an official letter to the Architect of the Capitol.
3. If the request is approved, the Architect of the Capitol formalizes an agreement with the state to guide the process.

Florida Facts

- The statues representing Florida are General Edmund Kirby Smith & John Gorrie.
- HB141 & SB310 seek to replace General Edmund Kirby Smith with a Great Floridian.
- Both statues have represented Florida for a combined total of 194 years.

Equal Visibility Everywhere is a not for profit corporation organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. We were incorporated in the District of Columbia in March 2010 and are an official 501(c)(3).