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#### **WOMEN'S MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA** PRESERVING THE PAST **INSPIRING THE FUTURE**

#### A vision for a Women's Museum in San Francisco

## MISSION

Our mission is to educate and inspire current and future generations about the experiences and contributions of women by collecting, preserving, and interpreting the evidence of that experience.



### OUR HISTORY

Founded in 1983, the Women's Museum of California (Women's Museum) evolved from an extensive collection cultivated by San Diego's Mary Mashcal in her home. Over the years, the collection grew and morphed into a full-fledged museum with public exhibits, artifacts and educational resources. Today, the Women's Museum is located in Liberty Station's Arts District in Point Loma and serves as a valuable community resource for the State of California.

### HIGHLIGHTS



- One of three women's museums in the country
- Hosts 3,000+ visitors monthly
- Produces 8-10 exhibits annually with 2 permanent exhibits
- Has monthly education programming, lectures, performances, and workshops
- Educates local students with "Project Reach Out"
- Serves the surrounding community with traveling exhibits, a Speakers Bureau, and vintage clothing show
- Produces five annual events including the Women's Hall of Fame, Women's Film Festival, a Benefit Dinner, and a Suffrage Parade
- Fund raises for an annual budget of \$300,000+
- Has 15 Board of Directors across the state, six staff members and over 100 annual volunteers.

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## VISION

The Women's Museum of California is one of only three brick-and-mortar women's history museums in the country. It is based in San Diego, and its exhibits and programming cover history and the arts statewide. While many in Southern California have easy access to the Women's Museum, our goal is to make our invaluable stories also accessible to current and future generations across the entire State of California. Our first choice for a second museum location is San Francisco, with it's rich diversity of women's stories and an unparalleled dedication to the arts and culture community. With your help, we'd like to utilize the success of the Women's Museum of California in San Diego as a model to also create original exhibits and educational programming in San Francisco and continue to grow statewide.









## TIMELINE

**2018** Develop an Expansion Committee and begin fundraising efforts to create a permanent gallery

**2019** Install two pop-up exhibits in San Francisco area and continue fundraising efforts

In conjunction with the Suffrage Centennial, either break ground or open a gallery in San Francisco

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### PROPOSED EXHIBIT PLAN

The Women's Museum of California is hoping to connect with people in San Francisco who are passionate about equal representation in history and art, and provide a look into history that has not been properly represented.









## • SUFFRAGE IN SAN FRANCISCO

The Women's Museum of California has a significant connection to San Francisco's part in the Suffrage Movement through our collection of artifacts from the life of Alice Park. Our aim is to create a permanent exhibit honoring her and other activists of her time in San Francisco that led to women's right to vote.

## • EXPERIENCES OF IMMIGRANT WOMEN

As a premiere port in the US, San Francisco has a rich history of immigrants beginning new journeys. The Women's Museum wishes to honor the stories of women who sacrificed, persevered, and built communities in San Francisco. We envision this to be a bi-annual rotating gallery, which will explore the diverse stories of women in San Francisco's history.

## • WOMAN ARTIST FEATURE

Many studies have now shown the dismal representation of women artists in mainstream museums. This not only does a disservice to the artists being left out, but also denies access to the general public. The Women's Museum aims to have a designated gallery of rotating women artists, with the goal of providing a much needed platform for appreciating the work of women artists.

## ROTATING WOMEN'S HISTORY EXHIBIT

For over two decades, the Women's Museum has been producing original history exhibits that tell stories that have been left out of history curriculum. These stories cover a wide range of topics, from women's service in military, to how women's fashion has reflected historical events, our exhibits provide a platform for women's stories to be told. In San Francisco, we would aim to do the same.

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#### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GOAL

The Women's Museum of California is hoping to build relationships with business, non-profit and community organizations who share our goal for community enrichment and education, as well as creating a one of a kind destination for visitors.









#### BACKGROUND

The Women's Museum of California knows that community partnerships within the non-profit world are vital to meeting the mission. Located in Liberty Station, the museum is familiar with the process and challenges of being a part of a transforming Arts and Culture district.

Additionally, we have over a dozen community groups utilizing our space for programs and meetings monthly and regularly partner with community groups to provide a higher level of programming. We also regularly work with our neighbors in sharing resources to better serve the community.

#### SUPPORTING LOCAL ARTISANS

The Women's Museum has a unique gift shop that specializes in working with artists local and abroad, to provide exposure and opportunities for women to set their own prices. We envision bringing this concept with us to San Francisco, and creating a shop that represents the diverse artistic skills of women from San Francisco community and beyond.

#### LIBRARY AND COLLECTION

The collection and library developed and maintained by the Women's Museum team is one of a kind, and an important resource for the community. With over 5000 titles in our library collection, we feel it would create a unique library space that can serve the community as an educational resource, and a meeting space for organizations, students, interns, etc.

We hope to share this resource with the San Francisco community, and with proper space, build on the collection to further represent the unique stories of San Francisco women.