VALIANT MARYLAND WOMEN: THE FIGHT FOR SUFFRAGE

Annie Heloise Abel 1873-1947
Baltimore City, Goucher College

Abel emigrated with her family from England to Kansas at age 12. She pursued higher education, eventually earning a PhD at Yale. She became known for her expertise in Native American culture. In 1903 Abel came to Goucher College as an instructor and soon joined the women's suffrage movement. By the age of 40 she was the president of the Maryland branch of the College Suffrage League. She organized the Goucher contingent of 150 students who marched in the 1913 National Women's Parade.

Lucy Gwynne Branhem 1892-1966
Baltimore City

Born in Virginia and raised in Baltimore, Branhem was a leader of the National Woman's Party (NWP). She was arrested while picketing the White House in 1917 and served two months in the Occoquan Workhouse and district jail. She played a prominent role in the 1916 Lafayette Park demonstration and was part of the "Fifteen Special" tour of 1919, traveling the country telling of her imprisonment, when in prison garb. She looked for equal rights in Switzerland and for the Equal Rights Amendment in the U.S., as part of the NWCP Congressional Committee.

Augusta T. Chissell 1880-1973
Baltimore City

Chissell was an important leader of the African American women's suffrage movement in Baltimore City in the early 1900s. She had deep roots in the community and served as an officer in the Progressive Women's Suffrage Club among others. In 1908 she and others founded the 1910 Amendment, she wrote "A Primer for Women Voters," a recruiting tool in the African American's suffrage campaign for women. She also organized training sessions, weekly "Citizenship Meetings" and lectures on voting and civil responsibility.

Estelle Hall Young 1884-1938
Baltimore City

In 1915 Young founded the Progressive Women's Suffrage Club in the African American community of West Baltimore. In 1916, Young was arrested along with 15 other African American women for picketing the White House in support of the 19th Amendment. After her release, she held weekly training sessions to prepare women who were ready to take the political education of women.

Elizabeth King Ellicot 1858-1914
Baltimore City

King was among the founders of the Bryn Mawr School for Girls in Baltimore and instrumental in opening the Johns Hopkins Medical School to women. She became the first woman to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Johns Hopkins Medical School and the Johns Hopkins University. She also served as the first woman to be appointed to the Baltimore Board of Education. She is remembered for her leadership in the suffrage movement and her commitment to education.

Mary Gertrude Fendall 1889-1971
Baltimore City

Fendall was born in 1889 in Baltimore City and graduated from Johns Hopkins University. She is remembered for her leadership in the Maryland State Suffrage Association, her work with the National American Woman Suffrage Association, and her commitment to education. She was a leader in the movement for women's rights and was instrumental in the passage of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution.

Emma Maddox Funk 1853-1940
Baltimore City

Funk graduated from Peabody Conservatory of Music, women's suffrage became her life's passion. Under her leadership, the Maryland State Suffrage Association, activists met on Sunday afternoons with radicately known suffragists leaders, discussed women's issues in public meetings and organized congressional petitions. The 1900 National American Woman Suffrage Association's annual convention in Baltimore was one of the most memorable suffrage gatherings in history. The occasion was the last time that Susan B. Anthony spoke in public before her death.