

1st Place: 5th-8th Grade

**19th Amendment's Call
by Aurora Parks, Pryor OK**

If it wasn't for women where would we be,
The world would be quite plain can't you see.
Wilma Mankiller activist and female Cherokee chief,
Brought water to the people; headstrong in her belief.
Harriet Tubman helped set the colored free,
Even though some disagreed.
Rosa Parks stood for what was right,
She didn't give up without a fight.
Susan B. Anthony wanted women to vote,
She never ended on a wrong note.
Marie Curie was one of the best in the biz,
Some would even call her a whiz.
Florence Nightingale a nurse of her time,
Helping soldiers return from the front line.
Sally Ride believed she could fly,
Soaring like an Eagle across the endless sky.
Elizabeth Stanton was a social activist,
One of our leading Suffragists.
No matter big or small we women can strive for all.
Hear the 19th amendment call.

2nd Place: 5th-8th Grade

**We Are Not All the Same but This is Who I Am
By Sydney Hensley, Locust Grove OK**

I am a woman
I have a brain and can use it
I can be just as strong as you or more
I do not need to depend on anyone
My education is just as important as yours
I am not an object
Us, we, and I are all beautiful
I am a woman
I am a proud woman
I am whoever I would like to be

3rd Place: 5th-8th Grade

Women's Rights

By Katie Mayes, Locust Grove OK

We live in a world ruled by men,
Asked to play a role of perfection,
Makeup and hair stuff are a part of the routine,
And we are still expected to clean.
I want to be something great when I grow up,
Although women aren't seen as good enough.
Now I am allowed to vote, maybe just not yet.
When I am I'll be the first in line I bet.
I hope as I grow and get a job out of college
I will get paid the same as a man
For my talent and knowledge.
I'm thankful for the women who answered the call.
I'll keep fighting til there's equal rights for all.

1st Place: 9th-12th Grade

**Powerful Not Powerless
By Bailey Vaught, Stilwell OK**

Beautiful, demanded, and frail

This is a rose.

Beautiful, mighty, a constant even in the distance

This is a mountain.

Reach out sister to an outstretched hand

Feel the power coursing through the land

100 years worth of women's determination

100 years of constant inclusive innovation

Stand tall as Denali and look over the country

Compare us to a mountain instead of a rose

Unmoving, majestic, and treacherous when crossed

This is us

2nd Place, 9th-12th Grade

Bravery is Dirty

By Ella Bluejacket, Bluejacket OK

Womanhood is courage
It is bravery and strength
With great pride I carry it
although it barely sees light
Strength from women before me
Strength to ask for more
Strength to scrub our skin clean when we are made to feel dirty

Are we just a warm place for babies?
But we carry our babies on our backs
As we work fifteen hour shifts as doctors
Or fifteen hour shifts doing hard labor
The same ones who hide us away
Are the same ones who once drank from us
The same ones who should have given us,
Equality in the first place

3rd Place, 9th-12th Grade

Smart People
By Kelsey Wall, Bluejacket OK

smart women
become strong
by falling down
getting up
learning from suffering
becoming better people
Susan B. Anthony
Simply a badass
did just that
using her knowledge
fighting for what she believed in
accomplishing her goals
leaving an impact
long past her time
100 years and counting
just like Susan B. Anthony
I will fight
for equality
by learning from suffering
overcoming adversity
leaving my legacy

1st Place, Professional

Declaring Their Sentiments
By Karen Kay Bailey, Blanchard OK

The journey —
Not so terrible that Margaret could not endure
The terrors of the sea,
Continuous servitude and discrimination.

The wilderness —
Not so harsh that Sarah could not survive
Hardships and uncertainty,
Perceived inferiority and exclusion.

The loss of identity —
Not so inconsequential that Anna dare not challenge
Common laws,
Couverture and legal subordination.

The inequality —
Not so daunting that Lillian would not demand
Her voice be heard,
Her rightful vote finally cast.

The roses —
Not so lovely that they could appease
These mothers of mine —
Aggrieved, oppressed, and deprived
Of their most sacred rights,

Nor could any bouquet relieve injustice
Toward women subsumed.

2nd Place, Professional

Not to Be Denied

By Billie Holladay Skelley, Joplin MO

The struggle for women's right to vote
became nearly a century-long fight—
But the women of yesteryear were not to be denied
changing their social and political plight.

Starting with the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention
tactics, strategies, and passions grew—
Suffragettes developed an earnest persistence
hoping each skirmish would yield a breakthrough.

Holding meetings, lectures, protests,
marches, and a national petition drive—
Picketing in front of the White House
doing everything to keep the dream alive.

Some attempted to vote at polling places
filing lawsuits when rejected—
Working with determined resolve
refusing to relent or be dejected.

Suffragettes finally achieved victory
convincing others of the merit of their endeavor—
The 19th Amendment granted women the right to vote
changing the American electorate forever.

As a significant turning point in women's rights
the 19th Amendment's centennial is celebrated with pride—
Commemorating the hard-fought battle and the resolute warriors'
unwavering cry: "We shall not be denied."

3rd Place, Professional

Voting Booth

By Octavia McKenzie, Bixby OK

When you vote, remember me
The price I paid for you to stand
In that booth, Democracy
I made sure of it, fought for it
Mocked, jailed, bled for it
Get back in the kitchen
Mother your children
Serve your husband
Scrub your house
That's all I'm good for
I know my place
It's not in that booth
When you vote, remember me
It is our desperate right, freedom
Your vote is a single raindrop
In thunder and storm
My name is Susan B. Anthony
Elizabeth Cady Stanton
Lucy Stone, Alice Paul, Ida B Wells
When you vote, remember me
I'm right there with you, powerful girl
To the son I gave birth to
To every man I gave life
Now, we're finally equal

1st Place, Adult

Awaken

By Jennifer Cunningham, Grove OK

Indifference is unforgivable, she'd be rolling in her grave, indeed
While you wait on some rescue
a man riding a magical steed

Wake up or you'll lose what was fought for so hard
By those women in white,
insisting on a ballot card

Their spirits do not whisper, they are shouting in your ear
Women still persisting,
whirling up forgotten voices so you can hear

Do not wait for deliverance, like some foolish girl-
checked out with your phone,
when you should be ruling the world

Do not shrug and walk willingly into the dark
Your vote matters
You must reignite the spark

Like a cyclone of fire, let your voice roar
Act now, you splendid woman!
Revive like the phoenix - let your power soar

2nd Place, Adult

Vote of Confidence

By Kathryn Sadakierski, Westfield MA

The legacy of women's liberty
Blazes like the stars into eternity.
Waves of feminism leave an imprint
As the sea does on the sand,
Calling not only for footsteps to be followed in
By generations of young women,
But for new trails to be blazed.

Sisters and mothers, daughters of America,
United the states in rallying for the vote,
Opening doors to new opportunities,
Books and art, women's studies
Ensuring that women would be remembered in history,
And now, in the years after civil rights, and The Feminine Mystique,
Still, we are crusading
For the voices of all mothers, sisters, and daughters to be heard,
Respected, celebrated, for every word
That strives for equality, recognition of the gifts of women
To teach, lead, and be the change,
Bringing all people together, triumphing
Through nurturing the growth of advancement, innovation,
Sprouting like a flower.

A vote for women is a vote of confidence,
Faith in making the world a better place, with equality,
As we become the women we're meant to be, sharing a vision we all
can see.

3rd Place, Adult

Petticoat Justice
By Mary Brannon

Tell me I can't, watch me prove you wrong
You think I am weak; I'll show you I'm strong
I cook and I clean, but I am also smart
This government needs, to give me a part

State by state, you men resist
State by State, women persist
Meeting in secret, making a plan
Showing everyone, we females can

A seat at the table, is all we ask
Changing minds, is our only task
We feel like property, not equal at all
Justice is ours, no longer your call

You put us in jail, hoping defeat
Defied you still, refusing to eat
Daughters must see, it is for them we fight
Born boy or girl, all have the same rights

The Nineteenth Amendment, let's you vote
Treasure it always, it will give you hope
Many suffered to give you a choice
Always vote, don't waste your voice