

Historical Nonfiction



Women of the Bay State: 25 Massachusetts Women You Should Know

By Kathleen Walsh Deady and
The Write Sisters

Illustrated by Lisa Greenleaf

RL 5.5 – ages 9 and up
Interest level: grades 5 and above
(136 pages)

Massachusetts history holds many jewels: America's first African-American nurse; a paralympic skiing champion; sculptors and scientists. Their stories stimulate reading and further research.

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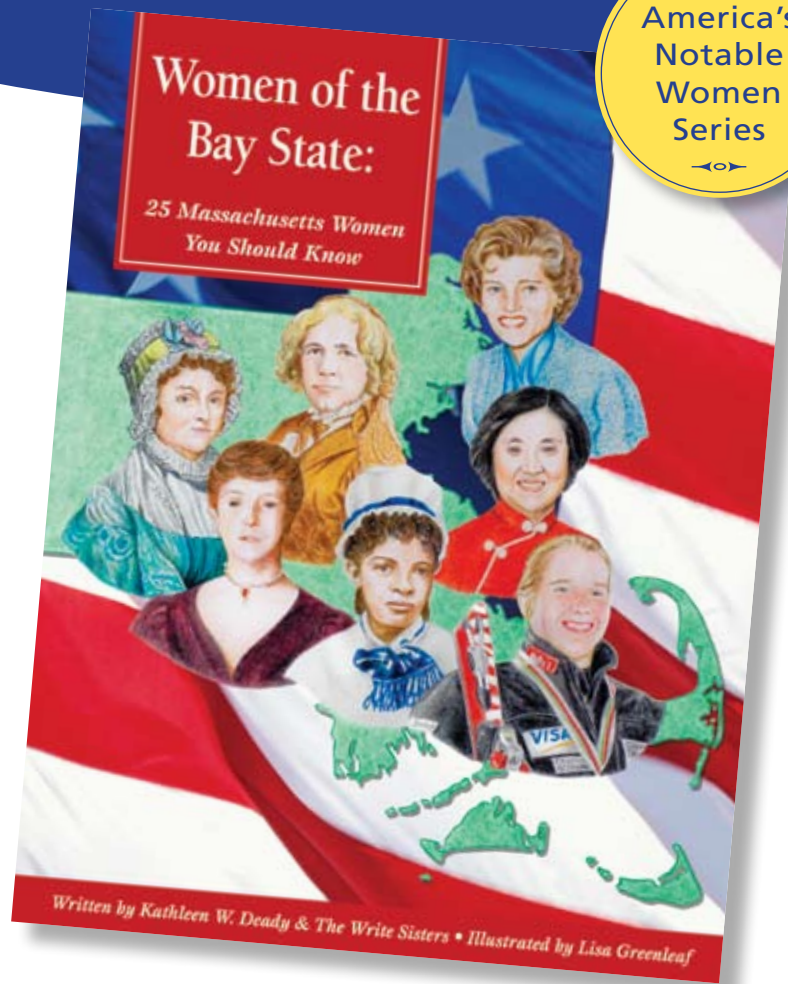
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Featuring 25 Massachusetts Women

Abigail Adams: *First Lady of the United States*

Tenley Albright: *Olympic Gold Medalist and Surgeon*

Louisa May Alcott: *Writer, Reformer, Celebrity*

Florence Bascom: *Geologist*

Marita Bonner: *Harlem Renaissance Writer*

Anne Dudley Bradstreet: *America's First Poet*

Mary Bunting: *Scientist and Reformer*

Joyce Chen: *Chef*

Bette Davis: *Actress.*

Dorothea Lynde Dix: *Friend of the Friendless*

Mary Dyer: *Quaker Martyr*

Isabella Stewart Gardner: *Patron of the Arts*

Lucy Larcom: *Millgirl, Teacher, Poet*

Nancy Harkness Love: *First Woman to Fly for the Military*

Mary Mahoney: *First Black Professional Nurse*

Maria Mitchell: *Astronomer and Educator*

Lucretia Mott: *Suffragette and Abolitionist*

Rebecca Towne Nurse: *The Salem Witch Trials*

Elizabeth Porter Phelps: *Diary Keeper*

Ellen Swallow Richards: *America's First Woman Chemist*

Edith Nourse Rogers: *First Massachusetts U.S. Representative*

Eunice Kennedy Shriver: *Founder of the Special Olympics*

Laurie Stephens: *Paralympic Alpine Skier*

Katharine Lane Weems: *Sculptor*

Edith Wharton: *Writer*

Tidbits from the Women of the Bay State: Massachusetts



Anne Dudley Bradstreet's first book of poems was called *The Tenth Muse Lately Sprung Up in America*. It was the only work of Anne's published in her lifetime.



Abigail Adams was the first woman to become both the wife and the mother of a United States President. She did not live to see her son, John Quincy Adams, become the sixth President of the United States in 1825.



Lucretia Coffin Mott became one of the founders of the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society. Lucretia also helped organize the first Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women.



Dorothea Lynde Dix organized the nurse volunteers for the Union Army. She accepted only plain-looking older spinsters because she didn't want the nurses flirting with the wounded.

Maria Mitchell was the first woman astronomer in the United States.



Lucy Larcom met the poet John Greenleaf Whittier while at the mills. He noticed her poems in the *Lowell Offering*. In the beginning, he often guided her writing. They remained life-long friends.



Louisa May Alcott was the first woman to register to vote in Concord, Massachusetts in 1879 (41 years before the 19th Amendment gave women the vote across the United States).



Isabella Stewart Gardner loved watching sports. Red Sox baseball and Harvard football were her favorites. She loved horse races, especially when her horse won. Isabella used to say, "Win as though you were used to it, and lose as if you like it."

Katharine Lane Weems made small sculptures of her dog, Yvonne. The sculptures were made into hood ornaments for cars.



Bette Davis believed in being prepared for opportunities. She said, "Even the opportunity to fail is worth something, especially if you get another opportunity to succeed . . ."



Nancy Harkness Love demanded that her pilots always behave properly. One mistake could turn public feelings against the women fliers.



After college, **Eunice Kennedy Shriver** wanted to help people in need. She became a social worker. She worked with women prisoners in West Virginia. She worked with juvenile delinquents in Chicago.