

10 Books about Women Role Models to Inspire Young Minds

Presented by YWCA Montreal for International Women's Day

Montreal, March 1, 2016 – To celebrate International Women's Day, the YWCA Montreal presents *Ten Books about Women Role Models to Inspire Young Minds*. This list of illustrated books has been compiled by the organization's Youth Services team for 3 to 16 year olds. Parents, friends and educators are invited to instill the idea in both girls and boys that women have control of their destinies and have accomplished great things throughout history.

In keeping with the organization's feminist and egalitarian approach, the recommended books highlight women role models who have changed the course of history like Marie Curie, the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize in 1903 and 1911, and Wangari Maathai, a Kenyan woman who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004. For the most part, these women have had to make their mark in male dominated fields like Elinor Smith, who became a pilot at the age of 16, and Elizabeth Blackwell, who became a doctor in the 1930s. These magnificently illustrated books provide an entertaining look at the talents and contributions of exceptional women such as **Jane Goodall, Frida Kahlo, Malala Yousafzai, Anne Frank** and **Ella Fitzgerald**, among others.

Established in 1911, International Women's Day has been an opportunity for a collective, world-wide reflection on the status of women. This year, the YWCA Montreal will use the occasion to highlight the talent, social engagement and leadership demonstrated by women of yesterday and today in various socioeconomic and historical contexts. Parents are encouraged to promote women role models to inspire young minds, and take concrete action to build a more egalitarian society.

Since 1875, the YWCA Montreal has worked to prevent violence in the lives of women and girls, develop their skills, self-esteem and autonomy and encourage their personal growth. It has contributed to building a better future for women and girls in an egalitarian society where they have the power and opportunity to realize their full potential.

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