

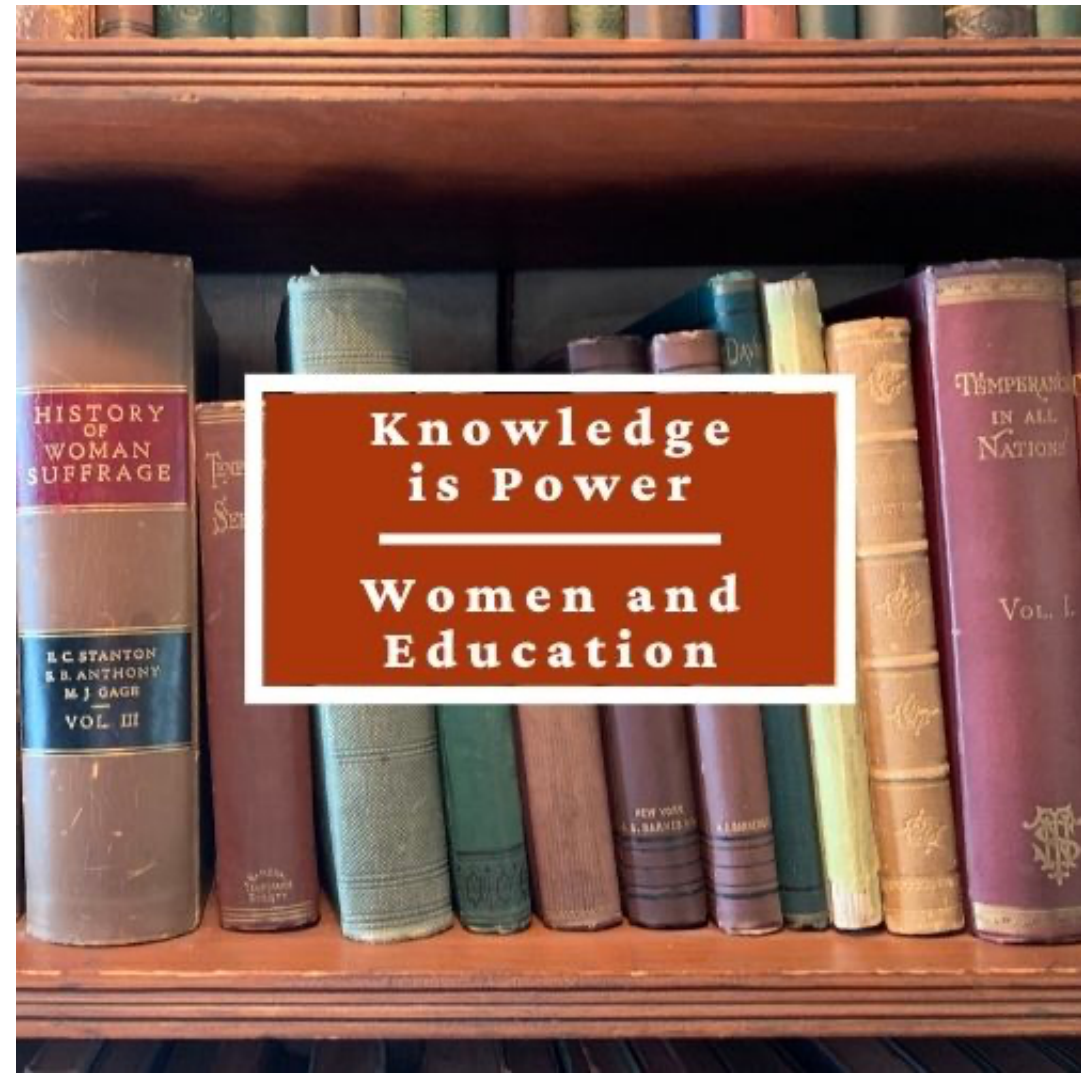


Celebrate the "Woman's Fourth of July" with the Frances Willard House Museum! Read on for an update on our 2022-23 *Knowledge is Power: Women and Education* initiative, as well as our upcoming July tour dates.

During the coming weeks, you can...

- 1) Explore the **Woman's Fourth of July** and other education-related content and programs
- 2) Celebrate the graduation of **Emerging Professionals Program** alum Dr. Cate LiaBraaten by [investing in the next generation of women history leaders](#)
- 3) Experience the history of women's mobility and travel on a **Summer Tour** of the Museum
- 4) Connect with our [blog](#), [digital exhibits](#), [YouTube channel](#), and social media profiles on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)
- 5) Share this newsletter with a friend!

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Independence Day in Evanston in 1871 was marked by parades, bands, fireworks, plays, and speeches – not an unusual way to celebrate the Fourth, except that these activities were organized as a fundraising event for the nascent Evanston College for Ladies. The [Woman's Fourth of July](#), organized by the college's president Frances Willard, was deemed a great success. The cornerstone for a new building was laid, and a total of \$25,000 was pledged in support of women's educational advancement.



The Evanston College for Ladies/Northwestern University Woman's College.

In recognition of the 150th anniversary of Frances Willard's role as President of the Evanston College for Ladies (1871-1873) and Dean of Women at Northwestern University (1873-1874), the Frances Willard House Museum and WCTU Archives has spent the past year exploring the history – and the prehistory – of women's higher education in Evanston.

Our "Educated Women" blogposts situate Evanston's unusual educational experiments in historical context. [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#) trace the development of the Northwestern Female College and the Evanston College for Ladies, and [Part Three](#) concludes with Willard's appointment as Northwestern University's first Dean of Women. [Knowledge is Power](#) and [Opening the Door to Knowledge](#) focus on Willard's educational trajectory from early childhood through college. Our new timeline, [Women and Education: The Lifelong Learning of Frances Willard](#), explores Willard's work in all spheres of education, as after she left teaching in institutional settings she disseminated knowledge through writings and speeches as president of the WCTU.

We have also highlighted the history of women's education in recorded public programs. Our [Collection Close-Up](#) series has addressed [Frances Willard's childhood writing](#) and the [self-report forms](#) Willard devised for her students at Northwestern. For Women's History Month 2023, we held a virtual conversation with Dr. Andrea Turpin on [Faith in Women's Higher Education: The Religious Background of the First Female and Coeducational Colleges](#).

Finally, we are pleased to announce the graduation of Dr. Cate LiaBraaten, Center for Women's History and Leadership (CWHL) Emerging Professionals alum. Just as Frances Willard built a new curriculum for women college students, Cate is breaking new ground as the first-ever Assistant Professor of Public History at Austin Peay State University. Cate asserts that her work at the Willard House has prepared her to fulfill her new responsibilities. She describes the CWHL Emerging Professionals Program as **"an investment in the future of women's history, and an investment in the future of women who are doing history."**

Our digital resources, events, and Emerging Professionals Program happen only with your support. We hope you will consider making a donation [here](#). Thank you!

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Pack your bags! This summer, tours of the Frances Willard House Museum are highlighting **stories of women's mobility and travel**. The Willard House, which Frances Willard nicknamed "Rest Cottage," offered temporary rest and relaxation for a woman whose organizing and lecturing career required touring the country and the globe. From carrying cases and travel diaries to portable tea sets and international petitions, many items on display at the Willard House provide insight into the ways in which women crossed borders, transcended boundaries, and formed wide-ranging coalitions.

Whether you're visiting from afar or live down the street in Evanston, we'd love to see you! July tours will be held at 1pm, 2pm, and 3pm on the following dates:

- Sundays, July 9 and 16
- Thursdays, July 6, 13, and 27

Tours are available by [reservation only](#). Masks are required. Visitors should request a tour by emailing info@franceswillardhouse.org or calling (847) 328-7500. Tour fees are \$15 per person. Admission is free for students at all levels. Payment must be made online or over the phone once the tour day and time has been confirmed. We ask that reservations for Sunday tours be made by the preceding Friday at 5pm.

Can't visit us in person? Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) as we profile travel artifacts all summer long! The most recent item we shared was "Old Faithful," Frances Willard's carrying case from when she was president of the WCTU. It did double duty as a pillow and a footrest during her extensive work-related travels by train and by boat.



Discovered during conservation efforts in 2017, the satchel contains what Willard was carrying when she died in 1898, in New York en route to England: invitations to events, a letter, a temperance pledge card, leaflets, periodicals, and a manuscript of a speech on germs she planned to give before a London audience.



Today, Old Faithful is on display in Willard's office, serving as a reminder of her relentless career as a traveling lecturer and organizer.



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