

At the Center for Women's History and Leadership

September 28 is Do Everything Day at the Frances Willard House Museum! Read on for our new Do Everything 2023 video, related resources, and past programs.

During the coming weeks, you can...

1) Watch our newly released **Do Everything 2023** <u>video</u>

2) Explore our related **women's education** resources, including a series of <u>blogposts</u> and a <u>timeline</u>

3) Catch up on **Do Everything programs** from <u>2022</u> and <u>2021</u>

4) Sign up for the **final museum tours of the season**

5) Connect with our <u>blog</u>, <u>digital exhibits</u>, <u>YouTube channel</u>, and social media profiles on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> – and share this newsletter with a friend!

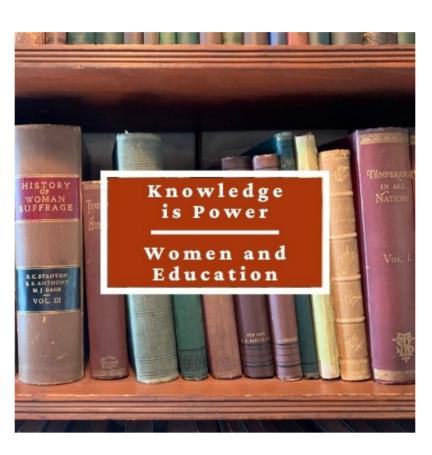
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Every year on September 28, the Frances Willard House Museum marks Frances Willard's birthday with special programs that examine her model of leadership. In honor of the 150th anniversary of Willard's inaugural term as the first Dean of Women at Northwestern University in 1873, **Do Everything 2023** explores her contributions to and struggles in the field of women's higher education.

You can now watch our new <u>video narrative</u> of Willard's first term as Northwestern's Dean of Women. Willard broke new ground as a woman professor teaching women and men students in the same classrooms. But while Northwestern students championed her tenure as "a most substantial triumph in favor of the *woman movement*," Willard faced unprecedented challenges to her leadership from within and without. The recorded program can be accessed and shared via our <u>YouTube channel</u>.

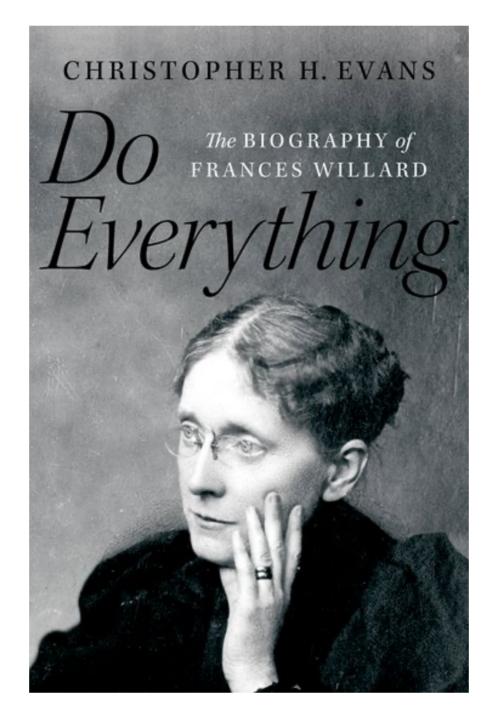
To dive deeper into this year's Do Everything story, you can explore the many education-related resources on our website, including a series of <u>blogposts</u> tracing Willard's educational journey and the history of women's higher education in Evanston, as well as a <u>timeline</u> exploring Willard's educational work in and beyond institutional settings.



Revisit other facets of Frances Willard's leadership by catching up on our past Do Everything programs. <u>Do Everything 2021</u> presented a virtual tour of the Willard House's office spaces and discussed what it means to interpret – and currently work in – a historic women's workplace. Do Everything 2022 celebrated the release of Dr. Christopher Evans's new biography of Willard, appropriately titled *Do Everything*. Watch Evans in conversation with Willard House Archivist Janet Olson on <u>Do</u> <u>Everything Day</u> and at the subsequent Bookends and Beginnings <u>book launch</u>. A recent review of the book for *Choice* magazine by Charles H. Lippy, Distinguished Professor of Religious Studies (retired) at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, states:

"Evans... draws on hitherto unused primary materials to craft a biography of Frances Willard... Evans's Willard is a far more complicated and influential figure than is customarily thought... Of interest to students and scholars of American religion, women's history, and social reform, **this is now the standard biography of Willard**."

You can find *Do Everything: The Biography of Frances Willard* at your local library, at your local independent bookseller, or on Amazon – and we also have copies for sale at the Frances Willard House Museum.



October Tours



Our final museum tours of the 2023 season will be held at 1pm, 2pm, and 3pm on the following dates:

- Thursdays, October 19 and 26
- Sunday, October 22

Tours are available by reservation only. Masks are optional. Visitors should request a tour by emailing <u>info@franceswillardhouse.org</u> 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.

In Case You Missed It: "I Charge You Give Them Power"





Frances Willard in National Statuary Hall.

On February 17, 1905 – exactly seven years after Frances Willard's death in 1898 – Willard became the first woman memorialized in National Statuary Hall. Our latest <u>blogpost</u> explores the meaning of Willard's statue at the time of its dedication and its continued significance. Sculpted by noted artist Helen Farnsworth Mears and presented to the United States Senate by the State of Illinois, the statue depicts Willard standing a lectern, directly meeting the gaze of her audience as she delivers a speech in the United States Capitol. This bold stance carried great symbolic weight at a time when women were discouraged from speaking in public and denied the right to vote. The text carved on the plaque under the statue uses a quote from one of Willard's speeches as a woman's mandate to the statesmen who would view the statue every day – "I charge you give them power" – a message that remains as powerful as ever.



Frances Willard statue with sculptor Helen F. Mears from *Helen Farnsworth Mears* by Susan P. Green ((Castle-Pierce Press, 1972)

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