



Plenary Session

The History of the 19th Amendment and Women's Suffrage

The first of three plenary sessions, this panel addresses how American women overcame legal obstacles and historic bias to pass the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920. It outlawed using sex as a way to bar women voters, but not other exclusionary measures like residency, poll taxes, and literacy tests. The panel will address which women were not automatically covered by the amendment and how women used voting and other political tools to improve their government and their country.

Speakers:

Lisa Helem, Moderator

Executive Editor, Strategic Initiatives
Bloomberg Industry Group

Elisabeth Griffith, PhD, Panelist

American Historian and Author of *In Her Own Right: The Life of Elizabeth Cady Stanton*

Dorothy Patton, Panelist

Author of *From Suffragists to Senators: A Century of Laws by Women Since 1920*

Elaine Weiss, Panelist

Author of *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*