

Some Notable Wisconsin Women

You are welcome to select someone from this list as your subject or any other woman of your choosing with ties to Wisconsin.

Name	Born	Died	Known For
Sharon Adams			Founder of Walnut Way Conservation Corp.
Mathilde Franziska Anneke	1817	1884	German-American feminist and revolutionary socialist
Tammy Baldwin	1962		U.S. Senator from Wisconsin
Lynda Barry	1956		Cartoonist, author, and teacher
Miriam Ben Shalom	1948		Staff Sergeant in US Army, discharged for homosexuality in 1976, she challenged the discharge and is the first openly gay person reinstated to service (in 1987)
Meta Berger	1873	1944	Socialist organizer
Kimberly Blaeser	1955		Wisconsin Poet Laureate 2015-2016
Bonnie Blair	1964		One of the most decorated athletes in Olympic History, speed skater
Belle Boyd	1844	1900	Confederate spy
Ellen Bravo	1944		Author and activist
Esther Bublely	1921	1998	Photographer
Connie Carpenter-Phinney	1957		Racing cyclist and Speed Skater
Kathryn Casey			Crime writer, novelist, journalist
Dickey Chapelle	1918	1965	Photojournalist, war correspondent
Carrie Chapman Catt	1859	1947	American suffrage leader
Kathryn F. Clarenbach	1920	1994	First chairperson of NOW
Laurel Clark	1961	2003	Astronaut, died in Columbia disaster
Ellen Corby	1911	1999	Actress, <i>The Waltons</i>
Tyne Daly	1946		Actress, stage and screen
Danae Davis	1955		Executive Director of <i>Milwaukee Succeeds</i>
Ada Deer	1935		Native American advocate and organizer
Alyson Dudek	1990		Speed skater
Lois Ehlert	1934		Children's book author and illustrator
Edna Ferber	1885	1968	Pulitzer Prize-winning author and playwright
Mildred Fish-Harnack	1902	1943	German resistance fighter in Nazi Germany
Zona Gale	1974	1938	Novelist, short story writer, playwright
Ella E. Gibson Hobart	1821	1901	First woman chaplain in US armed forces
Lavinia Goodell	1839	1880	First woman licensed to practice law in Wisconsin
Patricia Gorence			First female Federal Magistrate in Milwaukee
Brandi Grayson			African American activist and disruptor in Madison
Sandra Gregory			Brigadier General in US Air Force
Cordelia Harvey	1824	1895	American Civil War nurse
Ho-poe-kaw, aka Glory of the Morning	??	1832	Only known female Ho-Chunk chief
Laura Ingalls Wilder	1867	1957	Writer, teacher, journalist
Gwen Jorgensen	1986		Distance runner and triathlete
Jane Kaczmarek	1955		Television actress

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Anne Alinder Korbel	1906	1988	Among the first women from Wisconsin accepted into the Women's Army Corps (WAC) Officer Candidate School
Belle Case LaFollette	1859	1931	Women's suffrage, peace and Civil Rights activist
Rose Lavelle	1995		Soccer player who overcame a lot and went to Madison
Gerda Lerner	1920	2013	Historian and feminist author, founder in the field of women's history
Marissa Mayer	1975		Former CEO of Yahoo (2012-2017)
Hattie McDaniel	1895	1952	First African American to win an Oscar, actress
Chellsie Memmel	1988		Olympic gymnast
Mary Ann Labuche Menard	~ 1767	~1833	First non-indigenous medical doctor to practice in Wisconsin
Gwen Moore	1951		US Representative for Wisconsin's 4th congressional district
Jessica Nelson North	1891	1988	American author, poet and editor
Georgia O'Keeffe	1887	1986	Artist, "Mother of American Modernism"
Nancy Olson	1928		Movie actress
Danica Patrick	1982		Professional racing driver
Vel Phillips	1923	2018	Attorney and former Secretary of State of Wisconsin
Odessa Piper	1953		Founder of L'Etoile in Madison
Dr. Joan Prince	1954		UWM Vice Chancellor of Global Inclusion & Engagement, Ambassador Emeritus and Alternate Representative to the 67th General Assembly of the United Nations, nominated by Barack Obama
Electa Quinney	1798	1885	First public school teacher in Wisconsin
Margarethe Schurz	1833	1876	Opened first kindergarten in the United States
Mona Simpson	1957		Novelist
Juliet Stillman Severance	1833	1919	Physician and 19th century feminist
Sheri Swokowski	1950		US Army Colonel, teacher at Force Management School, was discharged when she came out as transgender, went on to work at the Pentagon
Emma Toft	1891	1982	Known as "Wisconsin's First Lady of Conservation"
Greta Van Susteren	1954		Television presenter, news anchor, commentator
Chia Youyee Vang	1971		Established Hmong studies at UWM
Julia Grace Wales.	1881	1957	Pacifist and Professor
Mabel Watson Raimey	1895	1986	First African American woman to graduate from UW Madison, attended Marquette law school, first African American woman to practice law in Wisconsin
Ella E. Wheeler-Wilcox	1850	1919	Author and poet
Jane Wiedlin	1958		Punk rock pioneer, musician and songwriter
Oprah Winfrey	1954		Media executive, actress, talk show host, television producer and philanthropist
Theodora Winton Youmans	1863	1932	Women's rights activist