

Feminist

A-Z

An alphabet of the amazing women who inspire us at Solace.



A is for Audre Lorde

"It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences."

Lorde is an American writer, feminist and civil rights activist, with her poems expressing anger and outrage and civil and social injustices.

B is for Beyonce

"We need to reshape our own perception of how we view ourselves. We have to step up as women and take the lead."

Beyonce is one of the most successful artists of our time, having sold over 100 million records worldwide. And in 2013 her song Flawless made a reference to "We Should All be feminists" penned by letter 'C' on the list.





C is for Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

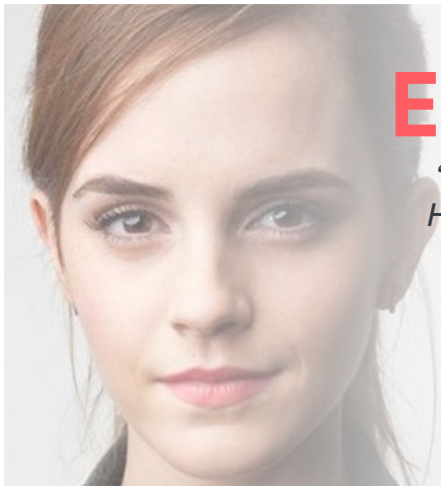
“The problem with gender is that it prescribes how we should be rather than recognizing how we are”

Adichie is a Nigerian writer, and in 2014 wrote the essay “We Should All Be Feminists”, and in 2017 followed it with “Dear Ijeawele, or a Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions”

D is for Diane von Furstenberg

“When a woman becomes her own best friend life is easier.”

Von Fustenberg is a Belgian-American fashion designer known for her signature wrap dress, and is an advocate in creating leadership roles for girls.



E is for Emma Watson

“Young girls are told you have to be a delicate princess. Hermione taught them that you can be the warrior”

Watson found fame as Hermione in the film versions of Harry Potter. Since then has become a UN Women Goodwill ambassador, launching the campaign Hefor- She. She is a supporter of Times Up & Me Too, taking Marai Larasai, Director of Imkaan, to the 75th Golden Globes.

F is for Frida Khalo

“I am my own muse. The subject I know best. The subject I want to know better”

Khalo was a Mexican surrealist artist, who was uncompromising in her depiction of the female experience thus making her an activist for women across the world.





G is for Gloria Steinem

“Don’t think about making women fit the world – think about making the world fit women”

Steinem is an American feminist, and was nationally recognized as a spokeswoman for the movement in 1960’s and 70’s. Recently, she was a key speaker at the Women’s March on Washington protesting Donald Trump’s presidency.

H is for Hillary Clinton

“The more we support women, the more we support democracy”

Clinton was the first woman to run for President of the United States of America, and won the popular vote with the 3rd most votes of anyone in American History (after Barack Obama).



I is for Ida B Wells

“One had better die fighting against injustice than to die like a dog or a rat in a trap”

Wells was an early leader of the civil Rights Movement in America and founder of the NAACP after being born into slavery, and her role in fighting for suffrage was closely linked but often caused conflict with the white leaders of suffrage in the US.



J is for Jane Goodall

“When I was a little girl, I used to dream as a man, because I wanted to do things that women didn’t do back then such as traveling to Africa”

Goodall is an English primatologist and anthropologist, best known for her 55 year study of wild chimpanzees.





K is for Coretta Scott King

“Women, if the soul of the nation is to be saved, I believe that you must become its soul.”

Scott King is known for being the wife of Martin Luther King, but after his assassination she played a key leader in the struggle for racial inequality and in the Women’s Movement.

L is for Laverne Cox

“Your lives matter. Your voices matter. Your stories matter.”

Cox is an American actress and LGBT activist, and is considered a trailblazer for the transgender community. In 2016 she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate for her progressive work in the fight for gender equality.



M is for Maya Angelou

“I love to see a young girl go out and grab the world by the lapels. Life’s a bitch. You’ve got to go out and kick ass.”

Angelou was an American writer and civil rights activist author of ‘I know why the caged bird sings’, one of the first times an African-American woman could publicly discuss their personal lives. Paving the way for many after her.

N is for Nellie McClung

“Women are going to form a chain, a greater sisterhood than the world has ever known.”

A Canadian suffragette who was one of the “Famous Five”. A group of five Alberta Women who asked the Supreme Court of Canada “Does the word ‘Persons’ in Section 24 of the British North America Act, 1867, include female persons?” so that women could be appointed to Senate. The Supreme Court ruled women were not.





O is for Oprah Winfrey

“With every experience, you alone are painting your own canvas, thought by thought, choice by choice.”

Winfrey is a media mogul, often cited as being one the most influential women in the world and in 2013 was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Obama.

P is for Eva Peron

“I demanded more rights for women because I know what women had to put up with.”

Peron was key to women’s suffrage in Argentina in 1946, then founded the Female Peronist Party.

In 1951 she announced her candidacy for vice president, however due to her health she never got to live out her ambitions.



Q is for Qiu Yufang

The first female journalist in China, in 1889 was named leading editor for a major newspaper. 3 month later she founded Nu Xue Bao, the first women’s paper in Shanghai.

R is for Ruth Bader Ginsburg

“Women will have achieved true equality when men share with them the responsibility of bringing up the next generation.”

Ginsburg is Associate Justice for the Supreme Court of the United States and has spent much of her career campaign for the advancement of gender equality and women’s rights.





S is for Simone de Beauvoir

“Man is defined as a human being and a woman as a female - whenever she behaves as a human being she is said to imitate the male.”

De Beauvoir was a French writer, feminist and social theorist. Best known for her work “The second sex”, an analysis of women’s oppression and foundation for contemporary feminism.

T is for Tarana Burke

“Me too was just two words; it’s two magic words that galvanized the world.”

Burke is an African American civil rights activist and founder of the Me Too movement, and currently Senior Director at Girls for Gender Equity.



U is for Unity Dow

“A law reform committee was set up; it was all make. They went around the people asking – When a man marries a woman isn’t it true that she belongs to his family?”

Dow is a judge and activist in Botswana, and has earned acclaim through her position on women’s rights in Botswanan law and fought the Citizenship act which claimed that children could only claim the citizenship of their father.

V is for Vandana Shiva

“You are not an Atlas carrying the world on your shoulder. It is good to remember the planet is carrying you”

Shiva is an eco-feminist, saying that more sustainable agriculture will be achieved by engaging women and that the “Patriarchal Logic of Exclusion” negatively impacts societal systems.





W is for Mary Wollstonecraft

“I do not wish them [women] to have power over men; but over themselves.”

Wollstonecraft is an 18th Century activist best known for “A Vindication of the Rights of Woman”, with the key argument that women are only inferior to men due to lack of education.

X is for He Xiangning

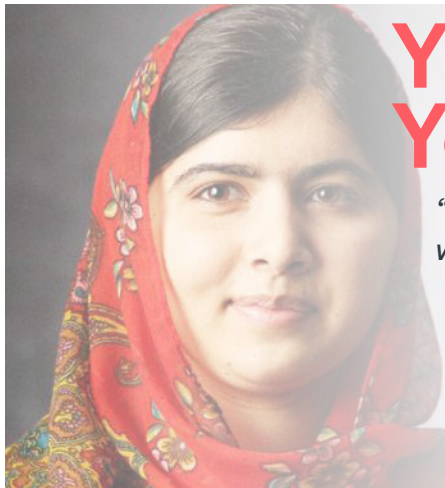
Xiangning is a Chinese revolutionary who organized China’s first International Women’s Day in 1924, and actively campaigned for Women’s Rights as the Minister for Women’s Affairs in Sun’s Nationalist government. She is also a renowned painter.



Y is for Malala Yousafzai

“We realize the importance of our voices only when we are silenced.”

Yousafzai is a Pakistani activist for female education and the youngest winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. IN 2009 she was shot in the head by a Taliban gunman as retaliation for her voice. She is currently studying Philosophy, Politics & Economics at Oxford University



Z is for Natalie Zahle

Zahle is a pioneer for women’s education in Denmark, and is considered a pioneer for the movement by setting up her own school in 1852.

