

Artist posts a drawing a day of important women on Instagram

By Wicked Local Metro, Needham, Massachusetts, adapted by Newsela staff on 03.29.19

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Tiffany Wong has painted a watercolor every day to honor incredible women in history. From left to right are her paintings of astronaut Mae Jemison, artist Georgia O'Keeffe and writer Toni Morrison. Images by: Tiffany Wong/Instagram

Every day since last summer, Tiffany Wong has done a painting. Then she shares the painting on Instagram.

Her paintings show women who have done important things. Artists, astronauts and writers are among the 250 women in her project. Some are from the past. Some are from today.

A Way To Learn About Women

Wong also writes about each woman. She started the project to give more people a way to learn about women.

"We don't really get to learn about them" in school as much, Wong said. She wanted to make women's history something more people could see.

This month, people will have another way to see Wong's project. March is Women's History Month. From March 17 through March 31, Wong's paintings will be shown at Gather Here. It is an art studio in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Wong lives in Cambridge.

Virginia Johnson is the owner of the studio. She said she is excited to share the paintings.

Wong's interest in women's history started early. As a child, she read books about women.

Online College Course

The idea for her project came partly from a college course. It is offered through HarvardX. HarvardX makes online courses for Harvard University in Cambridge. Wong has worked at HarvardX for five years.

The online course explores women's history. Wong helped make the course.

Wong started her project last July. The first post was about Alice Paul. She pushed for women's rights. She was part of a movement. Its goal was for women to get the right to vote.

For each painting, Wong draws in a notebook. Then she paints with watercolors. She finishes the last parts with a pen.

The paintings do not show the woman's face. That makes the paintings easier to do, Wong said. It also gives people a chance to see themselves in the painting.

"I wanted people to feel like they could also be these people," she said.

The project has women from around the world. Women in science, arts, government and sports are included.

Sometimes Wong uses news events. One of her posts showed Aalayah Eastmond, Tyra Hemans and Emma Gonzalez. They survived the school shooting in Parkland, Florida. Now they push for changes in gun laws.

Wong said she would like people to think about women in history. She also hopes her project gets people to value others who might be different.

Wong hopes they will "learn about and understand each other," she said.

Quiz

- 1 One main idea of the article is that Wong's paintings show important women in history.
Which key detail from the article supports this main idea?
- (A) From March 17 through March 31, Wong's paintings will be shown at Gather Here. It is an art studio in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
 - (B) The first post was about Alice Paul. She pushed for women's rights. She was part of a movement. Its goal was for women to get the right to vote.
 - (C) For each painting, Wong draws in a notebook. Then she paints with watercolors. She finishes the last parts with a pen.
 - (D) Wong said she would like people to think about women in history. She also hopes her project gets people to value others who might be different.
- 2 What is the main idea of the section "A Way To Learn About Women"?
- (A) Tiffany Wong wants more people to learn about women's history.
 - (B) Tiffany Wong is worried that kids do not learn about history in school.
 - (C) Tiffany Wong started learning that March is Women's History Month.
 - (D) Tiffany Wong started reading books about women at a young age.
- 3 Why did Wong want to make her paintings without faces?
- (A) so people have to guess the person in the painting
 - (B) because she does not know what the people look like
 - (C) so people can imagine themselves in the paintings
 - (D) because she has not learned how to draw faces
- 4 What did Wong do FIRST in the section "Online College Course"?
- (A) She started her project by painting with watercolors.
 - (B) She helped make a women's history course for Harvard X.
 - (C) She created paintings about women astronauts.
 - (D) She used news events to create her posts.