

Annie Dodge Wauneka



Anita Scott Coleman



Lea County Cowgirls



Nina Otero-Warren



Georgia O'Keeffe

New Mexico's history is a fascinating, multicultural tale of trailblazers, notorious characters, and courageous changemakers—many of whom were women.

With roots as a 2005 initiative, the New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program was established to recognize the remarkable role of women in our state's history and celebrate the unique and immeasurable contributions women have made as early settlers and in the ongoing evolution of our arts, education, business, government, science, military, and healthcare.

Through collaboration with the New Mexico Department of Transportation and New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, nearly 100 roadside markers have been added across New Mexico showcasing notable women nominated by our pueblos, tribes, the Navajo Nation, and every county in New Mexico. We invite you to join us in celebrating and spreading the word about the profound impact women have had on New Mexico history, from world-renowned artist Georgia O'Keeffe to unsung heroes of everyday life.

Learn more on our website: www.nmhistoricwomen.org.

The New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program is made possible through generous support from the International Women's Forum–New Mexico, the New Mexico State Legislature, and private donations. Our sponsors enable us to inspire the next generation of young people through awareness, curriculum, and opportunities to continue the legacy of women artists, activists, entrepreneurs, healers, judges, lawyers, physicians, pioneers, politicians, scientists, and community leaders who have helped make New Mexico the Land of Enchantment.

The New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program has been brought to life through the skilled, persistent leadership of Steering Committee volunteers Karen Abraham, Celia Foy Castillo, Betty Downes, Rhonda Fought, Veronica Gonzales, Nicole Rassmussen, and Paula Tackett.



Alfred Stieglitz. Georgia O'Keeffe, 1920-1922. Gelatin silver print, 4 1/2 x 3 9/16 inches. Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. Gift of The Georgia O'Keeffe Foundation. [2003.1.6]



Ladies Auxiliary of Local 890

Not all mavericks hold megaphones



Emma Estrada



Not all revolutionaries make headlines

Women have been changing the course of New Mexico history for centuries—some quietly, some more loudly. Through roadside markers across the state, the New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program celebrates some of these women and their remarkable stories.

Women like Emma Estrada, the first licensed partera (midwife) in New Mexico, whose commitment to medical training for parteras helped inspire a formal program for earning a midwife license at the University of New Mexico's School of Nursing. Women like Soledad Chávez Chacón, New Mexico's first female Secretary of State and the first Hispanic woman elected to statewide office in the United States. And countless other women who contributed to the communities, culture, and character of our state.

An idea that flourished into an initiative with state funding in 2006, the New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program received additional state funding in 2022 to continue a unique collaboration between the International Women's Forum of New Mexico, New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, New Mexico Department of Tourism, and New Mexico Department of Transportation to showcase more than 100 notable women in history from every county in New Mexico. Through curriculum development, public outreach, and traveling exhibitions, the focus of the program has now turned to inspiring future generations to be changemakers and trailblazers, each in their own unique way. Learn more: nmhistoricwomen.org.

The New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program is made possible through generous support from the International Women's Forum of New Mexico, the state of New Mexico, and private donations. Our sponsors enable us to inspire the next generation of young people through awareness, curriculum, and opportunities to continue the legacy of women trailblazers in New Mexico.

The New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program has been brought to life through the skilled, persistent leadership of Steering Committee Volunteers Karen Abraham, Celia Foy Castillo, Betty A. Downes, Rhonda Faught, Veronica N. Gonzales, Nicole Rassmuson, and Paula Tackett.



Laura Gilpin



Susie Rayos Marmón (Ga-wa goo maa)



Ida O. Jackson



Soledad Chávez Chacón



SCAN ME

Myra Ellen Jenkins

Celebrating New Mexico's Trailblazing Women.

If they only knew.

Since 2011, more than 100 women's stories have been added to New Mexico's nearly 700 roadside markers, celebrating the remarkable, often unrecognized legacy of women in our state. Many of these women likely knew they were paying it forward: Suffragette Nina Otero Warren, linguist and preservationist Esther Martinez P'oe Tsawa, women's activist Marjorie Bell Chambers, and countless teachers who helped modernize, universalize, and bring bilingual curriculum to our education system. But many women in New Mexico's history—whether celebrated on one of our markers or not—were simply living the life of a woman, unsung and often unnoticed as they shaped and supported their communities and helped define the character of the land of enchantment.

The New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program celebrates the stories of individual women as a way to honor and recognize all the women who shape our unique culture—past, present, and future. Through our website, K-12 curriculum, presentations and exhibits throughout the state, and special events, we hope to educate, inspire, and empower people of all ages to make their own mark and bring positive and lasting change to their communities and the world. We hope you'll join us.

Learn more: nmhistoricwomen.org.

The New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program is made possible through generous support from the International Women's Forum of New Mexico, the state of New Mexico, and private donations. Our sponsors enable us to inspire the next generation of young people through awareness, curriculum, and opportunities to continue the legacy of women trailblazers in New Mexico.

The New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program has been brought to life through the skilled, persistent leadership of Steering Committee Volunteers Karen Abraham, Celia Foy Castillo, Betty A. Downes, Rhonda Faught, Veronica N. Gonzales, Nicole Rassmussen, and Paula Tackett.



Maria Gutierrez Spencer



Ida O. Jackson



Maria Dolores Gonzales



Dulcelina Salce Curtis

Patricia Velarde, TSE TSAN, Golden Dawn



Cleofas Martinez Jaramillo



Harriet B. Sammons



Katherine Stinson Otero



New Mexico Women Have A Reputation

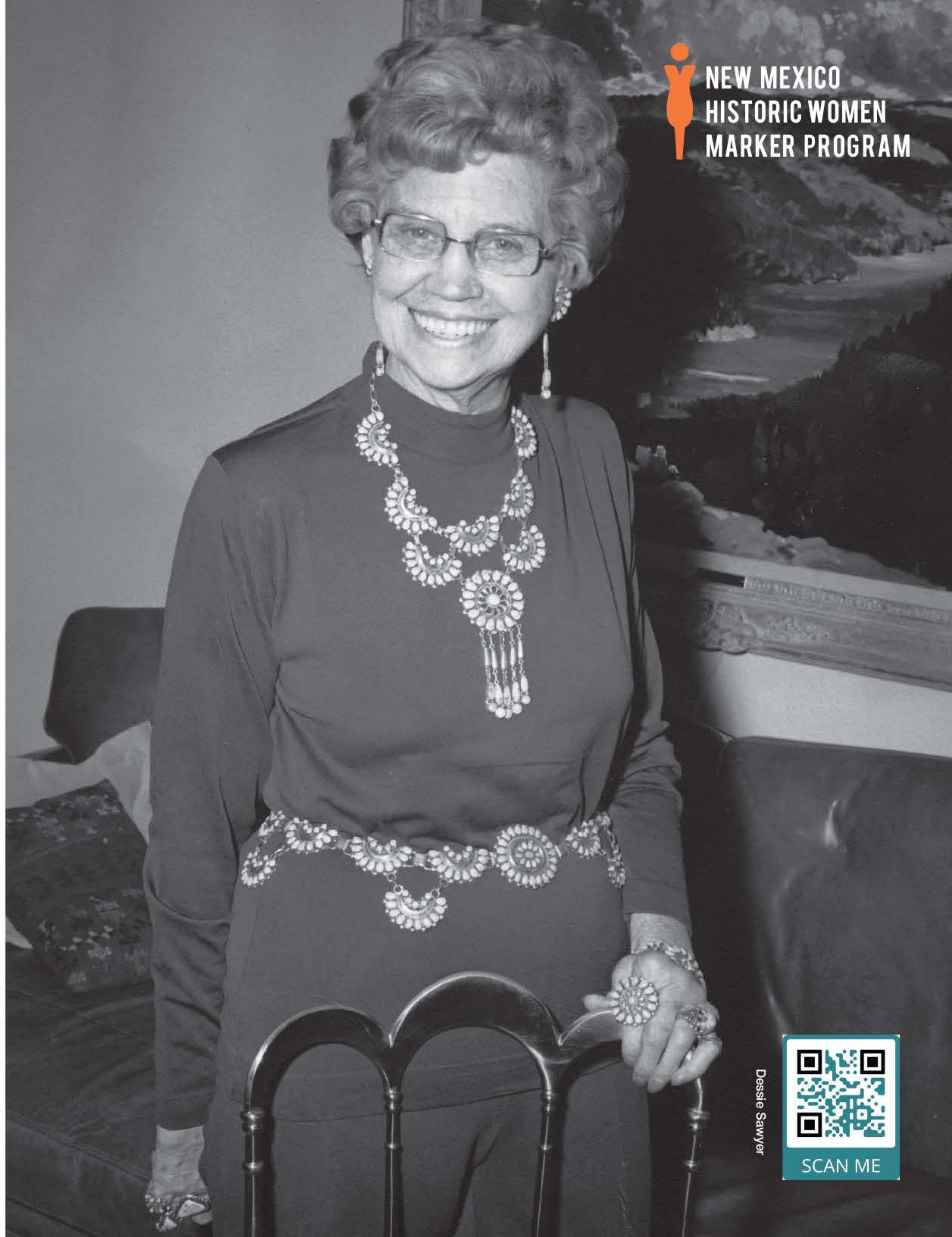
For standing tall in adversity. Overcoming obstacles. Fighting for what's right. Shattering stereotypes. Sometimes just being outrageous.

Whether the land shaped the women or the women shaped the land, New Mexico has been built and defined in large part by the grit and determination of the women who have lived here, creating communities, improving healthcare, establishing education, revolutionizing art, influencing politics, furthering scientific research, preserving history and culture, and shaking up the status quo.

The New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program celebrates more than 100 of these courageous women through roadside markers across the state. An idea that flourished into an initiative with state funding in 2006, the program received additional state funding in 2022 to continue a unique collaboration between the International Women's Forum of New Mexico, New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, New Mexico Department of Tourism, and New Mexico Department of Transportation to showcase notable women in history in every county in New Mexico. Through curriculum development, public outreach, and traveling exhibitions, the focus of the program has now turned to inspiring future generations to stand tall on the shoulders of the women who fought for their families, communities, rights, and passions in the land of enchantment. Learn more on our website: nmhistoricwomen.org.

The New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program is made possible through generous support from the International Women's Forum of New Mexico, the state of New Mexico, and private donations. Our sponsors enable us to inspire the next generation of young people through awareness, curriculum, and opportunities to continue the legacy of women trailblazers in New Mexico.

The New Mexico Historic Women Marker Program has been brought to life through the skilled, persistent leadership of Steering Committee Volunteers Karen Abraham, Celia Foy Castillo, Betty A. Downes, Rhonda Faught, Veronica N. Gonzales, Nicole Rassmuson, and Paula Tackett.



Deslie Sawyer



SCAN ME