

Women of the Rainbow

March is Women's History Month. This section highlights a few women that have made an impact on our world. Compiled by L'Asia Brown

Alec Wek

Alek Wek, an internationally acclaimed supermodel has used her fame and fortune to battle the tragedies and refugee plight that has consumed a scorned Africa. As a teenager, Wek's family was forced to flee the worsening Sudan to avoid being fatally compromised in the nations' religious civil war. The family eventually settled in London, and Wek was discovered at an outdoor British market while shopping with friends. She has since made history with her astonishing breakthrough as a dark skin woman in the fierce high fashion, fair-skin industry. She was named Model of the Year in 1997 by MTV, and was also honored by Essence Magazine as an admirable, impacting entrepreneur. The young woman is a member of the U.S. Committee for Refugees Advisory Council. She makes regular charity trips to Africa, encourages health education and positive representation among budding models, and has also premiered her own line of vintage handbags, from which portions of annual sales proceeds are donated to various Hunger and Refugee charities specializing in women and children. She wrote an auto-biography on her struggles and success, with the intention on encouraging foreign, underprivileged citizens to strive for success. (Pictured Below)



Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch

Ms. Kickbusch is a Hispanic pioneer in the Hispanic field of progressed achievement. She founded her own company, Educational Achievement Services in 1994, and she hasn't looked back. A compassionate, bubbly, articulate businesswoman, Kickbusch has held various motivational seminars offering positive and valuable insight on effective leadership in such a cut-throat global market. Born to a poor and culturally proud Hispanic family in Laredo, Texas, Kickbusch learned early that her poverty stricken status had little to do with the vast opportunity that lie ahead of her. After graduating from Hardin Simmons University, she joined the US Army and became the highest ranking Hispanic female in the Combat Support Field. Retirement didn't slow her down at the least. She formed the Family Leadership Institute aimed at educating Hispanic immigrants. Kickbusch has worked with over one million families along with their educators to create a more hopeful future for her roots. The Latina is striving to help her people build a prominent place in American society by making opportunists out of sulkers. (Pictured Above)

Yoko Ono

When the name Yoko Ono rings, many picture the famous nude album cover photo of a young, eccentric, Avante-Garde, Japanese artist standing side by side with a tall, enormously famously and filthy rich British musician who just happened to be a former Beatle's member. Ono is indeed as passionate, wild, and retro as the photo. She is an artist in its rawest form, with the ability to spawn deep imaginative thoughts, dark impression, and eager complexity with her masterpieces. Yoko Ono has had dramatic impacts upon the entertainment, exhibition, and fine arts industries. She has served as a pioneer for Asian women across the board, breaking boundaries with her infamous passive peace demonstrations and defying the standard of a traditional Asian lady, whom were expected to obtain higher education, marry, and rear families. Ono founded the Strawberry Fields Memorial in New York City, along with the John Lennon Museum located in Saitama, Japan. Both establishments were created in honor of her slain husband, and their joint appreciation of the arts. She recently dedicated to Imagine Peace Tower in Iceland, to her legendary husband and wishes for world peace. Yoko Ono remains an icon in the international music industry and can still be found performing with ardent devotion. (Pictured Below)



Hillary Clinton

She is at the forefront of a historical presidential election. She has addressed everything from proposed domestic health care plans and judicial sentence audits to the current war against terrorism and a flawed foreign policy. She is every woman. Originally revered as one of the most productive first ladies since Jacqueline Kennedy, Hillary Clinton is pushing to become the first female president. In the process, she is leaving deep imprints along the sandy paths of American history. Ms. Clinton endured the scars of a highly publicized bout with an adulterous husband as well as the uninhibited scrutiny of her only daughter's adolescent journey to womanhood. She has proven herself a reeling survivor. She demonstrates perseverance, dedication, purpose, and intent in her endeavors. Without regard to a dog-eat-dog election campaign, Ms. Clinton is definitely a defining figure during the 21st century. Whether or not she emerges as the first female Commander in Chief is not important factor in determining her placement in the books. Hillary mirrors every woman's struggle to secure her spot in a male-dominant political field. (Pictured Above)

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