



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Chicago Public Library has a long history of remarkable women among its front line staff and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Charlamae Hill Rollins, children's librarian at Hall Branch fought for children's rights and positive images in the books on the shelves of the Chicago Public Library and libraries across the county; and

WHEREAS, we honor the work of librarian Helen Zatterberg who in 1931 started collecting photographs, oral histories, books, and other materials to document the history of the Ravenswood and Lake View communities; and

WHEREAS, Vivian G. Harsh, as first African American woman branch manager at the George Cleveland Hall Branch, started an African American history and research collection that now bears her name and continues to grow in size and reputation; and

WHEREAS, we honor former Assistant Commissioner of Neighborhood Services Charlotte Kim, who won the 2003 Kathy Osterman Award for her outstanding public service achievements; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Public Library has had three women Commissioners who have lead the institution in its 140 year history, including Mary A. Dempsey who oversaw unprecedented growth in the library system during her tenure from 1993-2011; and

WHEREAS, we honor aviatrix Bessie Coleman and community organizer Mabel Manning with branch libraries in their names; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Public Library's current workforce consists of 71% women working in a variety of positions – administrative, reference, clerical, and page:

NOW THEREFORE, I, RAHM EMANUEL, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim March 2013 to be WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH IN CHICAGO and encourage all Chicagoans to take part in the Chicago Public Library and the City of Chicago's month-long series of book discussions, film screenings, art programs, tours, and other events to highlight the important contributions of the women of Chicago.

Dated this 5th day of March.


Mayor