



For additional information about events, go to [mtsu.edu/jac/nwhm.php](https://mtsu.edu/jac/nwhm.php) or email [Wipfl@mtsu.edu](mailto:Wipfl@mtsu.edu). Events on the calendar may have changed. See [mtsu.edu/calendar](https://mtsu.edu/calendar) for current information.

WE INVITE YOU ALL TO B.E. TRUE BLUE

During 2024, we recognize the example of women who are committed to embracing everyone and excluding no one in our common quest for freedom and opportunity.

# NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2024

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

## National Women's History Month 2024

### Keynote Speaker Rebekah Taussig

Disability Advocate, Educator, and Best-Selling Author of *Sitting Pretty*

**Thursday, March 28**  
6 p.m., Student Union Ballroom

Cosponsored by The Distinguished Lecture Fund and the Disability and Access Center



Rebekah Taussig will challenge everything you think you know about disability as she invites us into her experience of living in a body that looks and moves differently than most. "What would it mean for disabled folks if society saw us as acceptable, equal, valuable parts of the whole?" she writes in her memoir, *Sitting Pretty: The View From My Ordinary Resilient Disabled Body* (HarperOne).

Taussig, who has been paralyzed since age 3, is a mom, wife, author, disability advocate, and educator with a Ph.D. in creative nonfiction and disability studies. Before pivoting to writing, speaking, and consulting, Taussig taught passionately for almost a decade from freshmen in high school to upper-level college classes and continues to offer writing workshops.

She is also one hell of a fighter on a mission to show that disabled people have incredible value; as she argues, a more inclusive world is a sturdier, kinder, more imaginative world for all of us.

A storyteller at heart with a great sense of humor, Taussig invites us to think bigger and more critically about who has a seat at the table and the barriers that bar others from inclusion. She has held talks and workshops at the University of Michigan, Davidson College, and Yale University on disability representation, identity, and community, and her writing appears in publications from *Time* to *Refinery29*. She's been a guest on many podcasts and also runs the Instagram platform @sitting\_pretty, where she crafts "mini-memoirs" for her more than 50,000 followers to contribute nuance to the collective narratives being told about disability in our culture. Taussig is the recipient of the Hefner Heitz Kansas Book Award in Literary Nonfiction for *Sitting Pretty*.

## National Women's History Month 2024 Button

### Ruth Bader Ginsburg 1933–2020

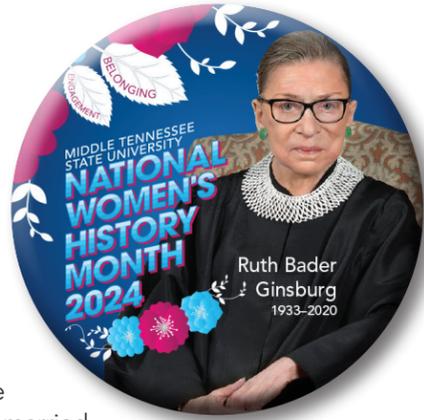
Ruth Bader Ginsburg has inspired generations of women to break gender barriers. Even after facing gender discrimination as she pursued her academic goals, Ginsburg forged ahead and became the second woman—and first Jewish woman—to serve on the Supreme Court.

She was born March 15, 1933, in Brooklyn, New York, and earned her bachelor's degree from Cornell University in 1954, the year she married Martin D. Ginsburg. She had her first child before starting Harvard Law School, where she was one of only nine women in a class of 500. Ginsburg often faced discrimination—she was asked how she felt about taking a man's spot in the program—and she and her female colleagues were even excluded from using certain sections of the library.

Ginsburg transferred to Columbia Law School in 1958 and graduated a year later at the top of her class, but it was hard to find employment. She explained: "In the fifties, the traditional law firms were just beginning to turn around on hiring Jews. . . . But to be a woman, a Jew, and a mother to boot, that combination was a bit much."

Ginsburg became a law clerk in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, then worked for the Columbia Law School Project on International Procedure before becoming a professor at Rutgers University School of Law. She also became involved with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and was central to the founding of its Women's Rights Project in 1971. Ginsburg returned to Columbia in 1972, where she was the first woman to receive tenure. While teaching law at Columbia, she also served as the general counsel for the ACLU and on its National Board of Directors.

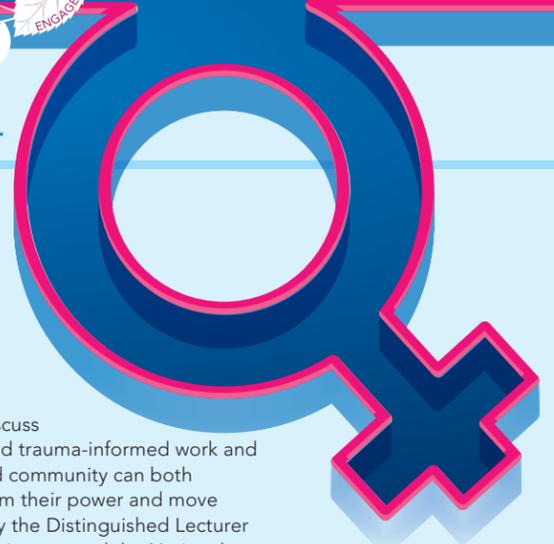
In 1980, Ginsburg was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, where she served until President Bill Clinton nominated her to the Supreme Court in 1993. There, Ginsburg fiercely advocated for gender equality and women's rights. She died September 18, 2020, from complications of metastatic pancreatic cancer.



# MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2024

Get links to virtual events at [mtsu.edu/jac](https://mtsu.edu/jac).

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**Tuesday, February 27**

## Fireside Chat with Brandice Daniel

6 p.m.  
Keathley University Center Theater (KUC)

Brandice Daniel is the founder of Harlem's Fashion Row, where she has been instrumental in promoting inclusivity and representation in fashion and bridging the gap between brands and designers of color, who were historically overlooked by the industry.



**Tuesday, March 12**

## National Women's History Month Opening Ceremony and Trailblazer Awards

2 p.m. • Tucker Theatre

Celebrate this year's National Women's History Month with opening remarks for the month's festivities and Trailblazer Awards ceremony.



**Tuesday, March 12**

## Women of True Grit

1–5 p.m. • Tucker Theatre

This conference features groundbreaking women of strength and determination who were "firsts" in their respective fields.



**Thursday, March 14**

## National Women's History Month Lunch and Learn: "B.E. True Blue"

Noon–1 p.m. • Student Union, Room 210

Join us for this month's Lunch and Learn. The National Women's History Month theme welcomes MTSU students, faculty, and staff to learn how to "B.E. True Blue" through the keywords "belong" and "engage." Guest Dr. Monica Smith shares with us her vision for our success. Lunch provided.



**Friday, March 15**

## Restorative Justice: Thinking about Belonging and Engaging with Our Criminal Justice System

9–10 a.m. • Honors Building, Room 107

Our three speakers examine criminal justice from a variety of perspectives that challenge us to think about the system we have now and whether it serves our purposes as a society. If not, how might we reimagine and reform it? These are the questions and perspectives that this panel discussion will tackle.



**Friday, March 15**

## Closing the Gender Negotiation Gap: The Power of Entitlements

12:30 p.m. • Business and Aerospace Building, Room N127

Women are less likely to negotiate than men, a finding linked to gaps in economic outcomes, such as the gender wage gap. Learn more about this research and the potential of transparent and merit-based recruitment practices to eliminate gender disparities within labor market outcomes. Contact [daniel.smith@mtsu.edu](mailto:daniel.smith@mtsu.edu) for more information.



**Saturday, March 16**

## Writing HerStory

11 a.m.–3 p.m. • Student Union, Second Floor Conference Room

"Writing HerStory" is a creative and therapeutic event designed to help individuals explore and express their thoughts, feelings, and experiences through the power of storytelling. This event provides a safe and supportive space for participants to use writing as a tool for self-reflection, healing, and personal growth.



**Monday–Wednesday, March 18–20**

## National Women's History Month Craft Night Pick Up

9–11 a.m. or 1–3 p.m. • Student Union, Room 330

Pick up a kit and craft with us! We will be painting kits from Murfreesboro Board and Brush. Optional Zoom to craft together Wednesday, March 20, at 8 p.m.



**Wednesday, March 20**

## Human Trafficking—The Classroom Experience

12:40–2:05 p.m., Academic Classroom Building, Rooms 110 and 112 and Zoom  
Guest speaker Dr. Celia Williamson will discuss differences between trauma-responsive and trauma-informed work and provide ways that professional helpers and community can both identify victims and support them to reclaim their power and move from survivors to thrivers. Find Zoom link at [mtsu.edu/jac](https://mtsu.edu/jac)

**Wednesday, March 20**

## Human Trafficking—Putting a Name to my Face

6–8 p.m., doors open at 5:30 p.m.  
Academic Classroom Building, Room 104

Guest speaker Dr. Celia Williamson will discuss differences between trauma-responsive and trauma-informed work and provide ways that professional helpers and community can both identify victims and support them to reclaim their power and move from survivors to thrivers. Co-sponsored by the Distinguished Lecturer Fund, College of Behavioral and Health Sciences, and the National Women's Health Committee

**Thursday, March 21, and Friday, March 22**

## Movie Night

5 p.m. and 8 p.m. • Student Union Theater

Join SPARE for a movie night that celebrates women, engagement, and belongingness. Title TBA at [mtsu.edu/campuslife](https://mtsu.edu/campuslife).



**Thursday, March 21**

## TXMD Women's Panel

6 p.m. • Learning Resources Center (LRC), Room 221

Join us for a panel of women local to MTSU and the community who work in the fashion industry.



**Friday, March 22**

## MTSU Women and Friends Idea Sharing Session

3 p.m. • Miller Education Center, Second Floor Meeting Room

We invite all women and allies to a meeting to share ideas about how to improve the lives of women on campus. Sponsored by the Women's History Collective.



**Thursday, March 28**

## National Women's History Month Keynote Speaker: Rebekah Taussig

6 p.m.  
Student Union Ballroom  
Cosponsored by The Distinguished Lecture Fund and the Disability and Access Center

Rebekah Taussig will challenge everything you think you know about disability as she invites us into her experience of living in a body that looks and moves differently than most. She is a fighter on a mission to show that disabled people have incredible value; as she argues, a more inclusive world is a sturdier, kinder, more imaginative world for all of us. Closed captioning and ASL interpretation provided.



**Monday, April 1**

## Advocate for Women in STEM

6 p.m. • Science Building, Room 1006

Gender diversity in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields brings diverse perspectives to the STEM-based workforce. As girls typically lose interest in science and math throughout their education, increasing the availability of science, technology, and math classes promotes girls in the STEM field. As an African American woman, I attribute my career path to a STEM foundation through such efforts I experienced when I was young, which is why I advocate for Women in STEM.



**Saturday, April 6**

## My Beautiful Black Hair: 101 Natural Hair Stories from the Sisterhood

10:45 a.m. • Student Union Ballroom

*My Beautiful Black Hair* is a book about Black women's embracing their natural hair. One hundred and one Black women share their stories of learning to love their natural hair and the immense power in that self-love. St. Clair Detrick-Jules was inspired to write the book when her little sister, Khloe, came home from preschool where a classmate had told her that her hair was ugly. St. Clair wanted to send a message to Khloe and young Black women everywhere that their hair is beautiful just the way it is. Co-sponsored by the Distinguished Lecture Fund and the Intercultural and Diversity Affairs Center, presented in conjunction with the LGBT Plus College Conference

