The Rise of Women
In history and the future

Some Women in History

Julia Tuttle
After settling in Florida in 1875 and buying several acres of land, Tuttle knew the area would not succeed without railroads. Tuttle’s business endeavors brought the railroad to Miami making her Miami’s founder in 1896.

Margaret Chase Smith
The first woman to serve in both the House and the Senate. In 1964, she became the first female presidential candidate. She fought hard to be seen as a U.S. Senator, not as a “woman” Senator.

Jane Addams
The first American woman to receive a Nobel Peace Prize in 1931 for her work as a peace activist during World War I. In 1899, Addams founded Hull House in Chicago, an initiative to help improve conditions for working women, children, the elderly & immigrants. The House is still open today.

Illeana Ros-Lehtinen
The first Hispanic woman to serve in the Florida State House of Representatives (1982) and in the Florida Senate (1996). Today, Ros-Lehtinen is a leader in fighting for equal rights for the LGBTIQ community.

Julia Tuttle
Margaret Chase Smith
Jane Addams
Illeana Ros-Lehtinen

Modern Wage Gap

In 2014, the Miami-Dade wage gap was 13%.

Nationally, women earn 79 cents on the dollar to men, but women in Miami earn 87 cents on the dollar to men.

The gender pay gap exists in all top ten earning occupations but is largest in legal (114%), health diagnostics (40%), and architecture and engineering occupations (34%).

Female-Owned Businesses

Martha Matilda Harper
The woman responsible for inventing the concept of franchise.

After developing the concept of a professional beauty salon in 1888, the demand for her services quickly rose and led her to find other women to purchase and run salons for her. During its heyday, there were over 500 Harper Salons throughout the U.S., Canada, South America & Europe.

Madam C.J. Walker
America’s First Female millionaire.

Born to former slaves and orphaned at the age of seven, Walker supported herself by washing laundry. Years later, as a result of losing her hair, Walker developed a formula to grow hair and began to sell her product. By the end of her life in 1919, Walker’s sales and personal assets surpassed $1 million, or over $14 million in 2017 dollars.

In Miami-Dade County:

Miami-Dade has a larger percentage of women-owned firms (40.0%) than Florida (38.5%) or the United States (35.8%).

Women-owned firms in Miami-Dade increased at twice the rate as the rest of the country, between 2007 and 2012.

The growth of female-owned firms outpaced male-owned firms.

Photo Sources:
- Boombox, Wikipedia, Biography.com, bluchic
- US Department of Education, dadeschools.net
- American Community Survey, 2009-2014, National Women’s History Museum

Sources:
- US Department of Education, dadeschools.net