

HARRIS Arts CENTER

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Welcome to the Harris Arts Center and to *Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence*, a poster exhibition celebrating the centennial of the 19th Amendment that secured women's voting rights in the United States.

The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) and the National Portrait Gallery created *Votes for Women* to explore the complexity of the women's suffrage movement and the relevance of this history to Americans' lives today.

The Harris Arts Center, home of the Calhoun Gordon Arts Council, and its Visual Arts Guild are pleased to host this exhibition during the closing days of the 2020 election season.

Because we cannot hold a public program to accompany the physical exhibition hanging in the arts center, we have invited women elected officials and other civic leaders to post comments on our Web site. We are honored that Ms. Shea Hicks, chairperson of the Gordon County Board of Elections, has agreed to introduce their remarks.

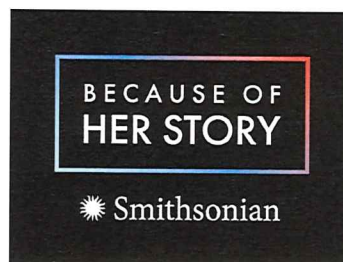
Created with generous support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative, *Votes for Women* provides a unique opportunity for visitors, including students, to explore one of the longest reform movements in American history. Based on the National Portrait Gallery's exhibition of the same name, the poster exhibition addresses women's political activism and explores the racism that challenged universal suffrage. It traces the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which prohibits the government from denying U.S. citizens the right to vote on the basis of sex. *Votes for Women* also touches on the suffrage movement's relevance to current conversations on voting and voting rights across America.

Please enjoy this virtual exhibit and the insightful remarks from our own city and county women leaders. Then come to the Harris Arts Center to view the actual posters.

Jennifer Dudley, Director
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Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence is organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service in collaboration with the National Portrait Gallery. This project received support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.



Thank you for your contribution to the Calhoun Gordon Arts Council, a non-profit corporation under the provision of Section 501(c)(3) of the I.R.S. Contributions are tax deductible.