



## July 2018 Her Story ENewsletter 2018 Women on U.S. Postage Stamps

During 2018, the United States Postal Service has selected two women to be featured on U.S. postage stamps. These stamps have already been released; they feature Lena Horne and Sally Ride. Let's learn more about these amazing women!

For over seventy years, actress, singer and dancer Lena Horne excelled in her entertainment career. In 1933, at age 16, she appeared in the chorus line of the Cotton Club in New York City. She made her first records in the late 1930s and also appeared in a few low-budget movies. Her movie debut was in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's 1942 movie Panama Hattie. In 1943 she performed the title song to the movie Stormy Weather. Her career was thwarted as she was not cast in leading roles because she was African American.



**Lena Horne**

Frustrated by the restrictions in Hollywood and blacklisted because of her ties to communism, Horne then concentrated on her nightclub and recording career. Her 1957 album titled Lena Horne at Home at the Waldorf-Astoria became the biggest selling record by a female artist up to that date. In 1958, she was the first African-American woman nominated for a Tony award. Horne made many television appearances, even appearing on Sesame Street.

A committed civil rights activist, Horne entertained troops during World War II and received the Spingarn Medal from the NAACP for her many efforts. In addition to being featured on a 2018 U.S. postage stamp, Horne received Grammy awards, the Kennedy Center Honors and a Tony award.



**Sally Ride**

The first U.S. female astronaut in space, Sally Ride made two trips aboard a space shuttle. She later encouraged children to pursue careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Ride grew up in California where she was a star tennis player. She attended Stanford University, majored in physics as an undergraduate and also received her masters and doctoral degrees. She was one of the first six women selected to train as astronauts in 1978.

Her first flight was aboard the space shuttle Challenger in 1983. During that flight, Ride operated the robotic arm. The crew successfully launched satellites and performed the first successful satellite retrieval and deployment. Her second flight was in 1984, also aboard the space shuttle Challenger. She again successfully operated the robotic arm to remove ice from the shuttle's exterior and to adjust a radar antenna.

Later, she served on committees investigating the Challenger and Columbia shuttle tragedies, taught college physics and started Sally Ride Science, to encourage children, especially girls, to pursue STEM careers. She also wrote science-related books for children. In addition to being featured on a 2018 U.S. postage stamp, Ride has been inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously.

Lena Horne and Sally Ride are among the more than 850 women profiled in our book *Her Story: A Timeline of the Women Who Changed America*. Women's accomplishments continue to inspire and encourage us. Help us to tell women's stories!

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