



A TIMELINE OF THE WOMEN
WHO CHANGED AMERICA



March 2021 Her Story ENewsletter Women on Postage Stamps

We were delighted to purchase U.S. postage stamps issued in 2021 featuring nuclear physicist Chien-Shiung Wu, who we profiled in our April 2016 ENewsletter. We also previously profiled two women on U.S. postage stamps in 2018 – Sally Ride and Lena Horne. In this month's newsletter, we profile other women who were honored on U.S. postage stamps – Sarah Vaughan and Shirley Temple – both of whose stamps were issued in 2016. .



In 1932, at the age of three, **Shirley Temple** started her film career and became the number one Hollywood box-office draw from 1935 to 1938. She was recognized as a star in 1934 when the film *Bright Eyes* was released. Her song from that movie, *On the Good Ship Lollipop*, sold more than 500,000 sheet-music copies. In February 1935, she won a special Juvenile Academy Award for her 1934 performance. Temple was affectionately nicknamed “America’s Little Darling”; she sang and danced in comedy-dramas in which she was often a fixer-upper, good fairy or re-uniter.

Her friend, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, said of her performances, “It is a splendid thing that for just fifteen cents, an American can go to a movie and look at the smiling face of a baby and forget his troubles.” Temple retired from the movies when she was 22. As an adult, she became active in politics and served as the U.S. Ambassador to Ghana and later Ambassador to Czechoslovakia. Her many honors, in addition to her Oscar, include the Kennedy Center Honors.



Sarah Vaughan is regarded as one of the most influential singers of jazz and pop history and it has been said of her that she had one of the most wondrous voices of the twentieth century. Nicknamed “The Divine One” and “Sassy”, Vaughan had a multi-octave range and was at the height of her popularity in the 1950s and 1960s. She was able to ‘come back’ after rock and roll entered the music scene and record additional albums.

Vaughan began her involvement in music when, at the age of seven, she studied organ and piano and sang in her church choir. Her professional career was launched in 1942 after she won a contest at Harlem’s Apollo Theater. After performing with Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker, two well-known jazz greats, she said that she “always wanted to imitate the horns.” Vaughan appeared on television and in the movies. She won four Grammys including the Lifetime Achievement Award and her album *Sarah Vaughan with Clifford Brown* and her single *If You Could See Me Now* have been inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame. Vaughan has been inducted into the Jazz Hall of Fame and the New Jersey Hall of Fame.

Shirley Temple and Sarah Vaughan 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 all. Continue to help us tell women’s stories!

Charlotte Waisman and Jill Tietjen

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