

November 30, 2011

Singer-songwriter performs tribute to Washington's Women

Songwriter and singer Linda Allen celebrates the passage of women's suffrage in Washington State just over 100 years ago with a free performance of "Here's to the Women!" to be held after hours at the [Olympia Timberland Library](#) on Wednesday, December 7 from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m.

Ms. Allen presents songs, stories, readings and images that highlight both the silencing and the empowering of women's voices in Washington. The audience meets Helga Estby of Spokane. With just a handful of dollars and the clothes on their backs, Estby and her daughter walked across America in 1896 on a mission to save the family farm, yet her story was concealed and nearly lost.



Allen also introduces Emma Smith Devoe and May Arkwright Hutton, suffragists instrumental in winning the vote in Washington in 1910, Alice Lord who organized Seattle waitresses in the 1930s, Rosie the Riveter, an icon from the '40s and Rosalinda Guillen, a contemporary activist.

Allen has released nine original recordings and two Northwest songbooks. She has worked with the Washington Women's History Project, the Washington Centennial Commission (as Washington's Resident Songwriter), the Washington Women's History Consortium, the Inquiring Mind program of Humanities Washington, the Cultural Enrichment and Folklife Programs of the State Arts Commission and the Folklife in the Schools program. Allen lives in Bellingham. Her Web site is www.lindasongs.com.

This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Olympia Library. It takes place after the library closes. The library is at 313 8th Avenue. For more information, please call the library at (360) 352-0595 or go to www.TRL.org.