Yale Women Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon

About the Event

The Yale community is invited to participate in a Yale Women Wikipedia Editathon on July 9. Drop in any time between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm to help create and edit the Wikipedia pages of Yale Women. The event is free and open to Wikipedia beginners and people of all gender expressions and identities.

What is a Wikipedia Editathon?

A Wikipedia Editathon is a hackathon but for Wikipedia, usually organized around a theme to mobilize Wikipedia editors to generate edits and new content about an under-recognized topic. It is also an opportunity to teach basic editing skills for new Wikipedia authors.

Why host an Editathon for Yale women?

This year Yale is celebrating Women at Yale, a year-long series of events that recognizes the 50th anniversary of coeducation in Yale College and the 150th anniversary of women students at the university. This is a prescient time to recognize and celebrate Yale women on a platform where women are currently under-represented in terms of biographies as well as those who edit and create content.

Only 17% of the biographies on Wikipedia are of women. Contributing to that inequity, is the fact that up to 90% of editors on Wikipedia are male while general readership remains generally evenly split among genders. As the largest general reference resource on the internet (over 5 million and counting) and the fifth most popular website in both the U.S. and across the globe, this is an alarming statistic. If women don’t tell or share our stories, our place in history is threatened and certainly distorted.

Gender offers distinct perspectives and an inequity contributes to an implicit bias in the information being contributed and edited. Put simply, Wikipedia should reflect the people who use it, along dimensions of race and sexual orientation, including all dimensions of diversity, such as race, sexual orientation and gender.

Get to Know Wikipedia

1. Most important step! Create your account.

Yale Women Resources

50Yale150: https://celebratewomen.yale.edu/
Wikipedia Event: som.yale.edu/wikipedia
Wikipedia List: Missing Yale Women
Yale Women Spreadsheet: Yale Women's List (in progress)

Resources

c/o Jonathan Manton, Yale Music Librarian
Fake News infographics (useful when assessing your sources)
- IFLA - How to spot fake news
- ISTE- Real or Fake

Databases (available on the Yale Network)
- American National Biography
- Articles +
- Biography Reference Center
- Guides from the library listing Yale History Resources

Newspapers (available on the Yale Network)
- New York Times
- Washington Post
- Yale Daily News Archive
- Yale Alumni Magazine

It is also totally fine to start with Google. Just again, consider your sources, adjust your search keywords as you learn more, and don’t just use Google.

Self-Guided Wikipedia Resources

The links and guides below taken from Yale Wikipedia #artandfeminism.

Guides and Tutorials
- Art+Feminism training videos
- Beginners’ Guide to Wikipedia (account creation, article editing)
- Bookshelf (additional "getting started" resources)
- How to Edit a Page
- About the Sandbox

Formatting shortcuts
- Cheatsheet for editing Wikipedia Commonly-used Wiki markup language, including how to sign your username and add links
- PDF cheatsheet for editing Wikipedia (PDF version of printed handout of commonly-used Wiki markup language)

3. Basic Rules of Editing

4. Play in the Sandbox

- Full list of Wiki markup All of the Wiki markup language
- Text Formatting
- Section Headers, Indents, and Lists

Images and photos:
- Uploading Images -- tutorial, general overview
- Image Use Policy -- rights, licenses, is it okay to use the image
- Picture Tutorial -- technical details of getting image uploaded and displaying in a way that looks good
- Adding Photos

Wikimedia
- First steps
- Wikimedia FAQ
- How to Upload Files
- Licensing

Related Research

Julia Adams, Professor of Sociology and International & Area Studies; Head of College, Grace Hopper College

- “Wikipedia and the Democratization of Academic Knowledge” is an (NSF) funded study of how academics and academic subjects are represented on Wikipedia. The ongoing work is directed by Professors Julia Adams of Yale University and Hannah Brückner of NYU Abu Dhabi. Read the statement.
5. Adding Citations

6. Adding Images
(View Adding Images in Google Slides)