

Savannah Catron

Dr. Andrew Maginn

6510 Seminar in Public History

April 9, 2026

Mock Grant Proposal: Cokie Roberts 2026 Fellowship Application

Provide a title for your proposed project.

The Women and Women's Groups That Helped to Gain the Right to Vote

Provide an abstract for your proposed project.

This project will cover the ways in which women helped to gain the right to vote in the United States. These include petitions and letters that were written to the congressmen of the time. These women went through many years of not having a say in the way that the country was going, but these women lead to fix this problem. This was an important time that led what women today look to for inspiration in today's world. This is a foundation for what was to come in the following years for women's suffrage to come to life. This project hopes to prove that women's groups were not idle but were, for many years, trying to fight for their right to vote.

Briefly explain your experience conducting research, in person or online, at the National Archives.

As a first-year graduate student, I have experience working and researching local archives, but unfortunately, I do not have much experience with the National Archives in person. I hope to use the National Archives in person and learn what is to research in the National Archives. As for online usage, I have used the online catalog for research enough to be acquainted with the system and know how to find the things that I need.

Identify and explain the primary National Archives and Records Administration Records Collection(s) you plan to use to conduct your research for the fellowship.

For this project, I want to explore the file unit called "Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary during the 64th Congress." As it contains petitions and letters that were written to the United States congressmen. These would be very informative in telling what women and women's groups had to say to these men and how they felt about the right to vote.

Explain your proposed research topic and why this topic is important to you.

Women have had an impact on politics for years before they had the right to vote. When they wrote to lawmakers in 1915-1917, they were trying to convince the men that it was the right

thing to do. They tried to prove that it was a normal thing that many women were fighting for. There are lots of reasons that these women wanted the right to vote. This was not only because they would have one more right, but this lies in the fact that this right would help them to later gain political influence and a fairer legal system.

Using these details, this leads to a greater picture of how this foundational step led to a new world for women. Women could now have a voice in how the country was going. This actually led to a time where women left the days of traditional dress of the years past. Although this is true, not all women were in this camp of being able to vote, and there was still a vast number of women who still did not have a voice and would not for almost 60 years. The women that this project will cover, though, are unfortunately the only ones that had a voice during these years.

This project is important to me because it displays the ways that women politically fought for the right to vote, and what kind of hardships they had to go through to get that right. These women paved the way to the future that we live in today. Their movement slowly got the ball rolling for women to be respected in society. This also very slowly gave women a place in the education system and a way to learn in universities that were male-dominated. Without these women, I personally would not have the chances that I have as a woman and the degree that I have. Overall, these women helped to create the country that we live in today. One that women are free to gain whatever kind of education they want and do anything that a man can do, without society telling them what they should not or cannot do it because they are unable to or not good enough to.

This topic is also important to a lot of women in the country because it shows that there was an effort other than the stories that we as children heard about Susan B Anthony and Elizabeth Katy Stanton. Although these women were very important to this topic and to history, it is important to learn about the other voices that were working for women's suffrage.

Will this fellowship assist as a continuation of your research on this topic, or will this fellowship support new work on the subject?

This fellowship will assist in the research of this topic and help to gain knowledge about the groups that helped gain women's suffrage. It will also gain new work to be done on this topic.

Identify how research conducted at the National Archives will inform your writing.

The research that will be conducted at the National Archives will help to gain the primary sources that will be the basis of this research. Without this research, the structure of this project will fail, and the presentation will fail.

Explain when and where you plan to publish your final work.

This work will be published after its completion and after the research of it is completed and interpreted. After the completion of the project, it will be published on my website for all to view, but this author hopes to publish it in journals as well.

Resume or CV

Savannah Catron

Shelbyville, Tn | 931-492-1085 | src6n@mtmail.mtsu.edu

Education

Master of Arts, History with a Concentration in Public History

Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tn

Currently pursuing

Bachelor of Science in History

University of Tennessee Southern, Pulaski, Tn

August 2023- May 3, 2025

Associate of Science

Motlow State Community College, Tullahoma, Tn

August 2021-May 2023

Magna Cum Laude

Employment

Assistant Daycare Teacher

Barnyard Children's Academy

August 2021-January 2026

330 Bethany Lane, Shelbyville, TN 37160

Volunteer

Bedford County Archives

June 2025-Current

1 Public Square, Shelbyville, TN 37160

Intern

Giles County Archives

January 2026- May 2026

11 S Cedar Ln, Pulaski, TN 38478

Research Interests

Victorian England, the middle to late 19th-century America, and the American Revolution

Scholarship

Graduate Projects

- Historical Silences project
- Victorian England Historiography

Undergraduate Projects

- Trail of Tears Project
- Middle Class Foodways Paper
- USCT Project
- The Start of the National Park Service: The Growth of It paper

Letter of recommendation:

Will be submitted via email

Three Samples of Your Work:



Silences in Women's
History and Steps to 1



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