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NAPER SETTLEMENT

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Naper Settlement exhibit commemorates the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage

NAPERVILLE, IL — Naper Settlement's new exhibit, "Women: Waves of Change", on view now through December 31, commemorates the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage by sharing the many ways that local women have made civic change for over 150 years.

"Women: Waves of Change" shares the stories of local women from the past and present who have impacted the community and beyond. The exhibit ties national trends and movements to local history, framing it within the larger story of the ways women have impacted the world in which we live for the past century and a half.

"Women today stand on the shoulders of those women who came before us and made it possible to be whatever we aspire to become. Naperville is blessed to have so many incredible women in our community, past and present, that have influenced civic change and inspired others. For example, Caroline Martin Mitchell is Naperville's most significant philanthropist. Naper Settlement, along with so many other amenities, exists because of her bequest of a perpetual charitable trust that gifted her home and surrounding 212 acres to the community." said Rena Tamayo-Calabrese, president and CEO of Naper Settlement.

The exhibit shares how the local story fits into the national narrative, including different social movements, significant eras in history, and the rise of women to leadership and policy making positions. It also features cultural touchstones and artifacts, like the tongue-in-cheek "Motoring, Militant Suffragettes!" and guides to being a "Lady." The stories of women from Naper Settlement's HERstory 2020 campaign, which highlights the women and girls in the community who strive to make a difference, are also featured.

"Women: Waves of Change" is located throughout the museum campus, including the Pre-Emption House Visitor Center first floor galleries, on oversized banners on building exteriors, mobile tours on your personal cell phone, and QR codes throughout the museum grounds.

"Naper Settlement is a place of women's history. We look forward to continuing to add HERstory submissions to the exhibit through the end of this year. Later, these stories will become part of the museum's archive and provide future generations with the context of women's role in history and society today. We need to commemorate and celebrate those who have come before and those who walk beside us now." said Donna Sack, vice president and chief program officer of Naper Settlement.

“Women: Waves of Change” runs now through December 31 at Naper Settlement. Naperville residents, members, and children under 4 receive free admission. For more information on the exhibit and to reserve tickets, visit www.NaperSettlement.org.

About Naper Settlement

Naper Settlement is a nationally accredited, award-winning outdoor living history museum set on 13 magnificent acres in the heart of Naperville. Located 30 miles from Chicago, the museum is home to thirty historical structures dating back as early as the 1830s. Featuring exhibits, special events, educational programming and more, Naper Settlement is where history comes alive and the community comes to connect. For more information, visit www.napersettlement.org or call (630) 420-6010.