The Legacies of America’s First Ladies

A CONFERENCE

MARCH 1, 2011
Throughout our nation’s history, first ladies have influenced politics, domestic policy, and global diplomacy. Our distinguished guests—historians, curators, authors, journalists, White House staff—will illuminate the significant contributions these leaders behind the leaders make toward promoting change and improving our society.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PRESIDENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1789–1797</td>
<td>George Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td>1797–1801</td>
<td>John Adams</td>
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<td>1801–1809</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson</td>
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<td>1809–1817</td>
<td>James Madison</td>
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<td>1817–1825</td>
<td>James Monroe</td>
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<td>1825–1829</td>
<td>John Quincy Adams</td>
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<td>1829–1837</td>
<td>Andrew Jackson</td>
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<td>1837–1841</td>
<td>Martin Van Buren</td>
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<td>1841</td>
<td>William Henry Harrison</td>
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<td>1841–1845</td>
<td>John Tyler</td>
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<td>1845–1849</td>
<td>James K. Polk</td>
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<td>1849–1850</td>
<td>Zachary Taylor</td>
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<td>1850–1853</td>
<td>Millard Fillmore</td>
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<td>1853–1857</td>
<td>Franklin Pierce</td>
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<td>1857–1861</td>
<td>James Buchanan</td>
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<td>1861–1865</td>
<td>Abraham Lincoln</td>
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<td>1865–1869</td>
<td>Andrew Johnson</td>
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<td>1869–1877</td>
<td>Ulysses S. Grant</td>
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<td>1877–1881</td>
<td>Rutherford Birchard Hayes</td>
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<td>1881</td>
<td>James A. Garfield</td>
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<td>1881–1885</td>
<td>Chester A. Arthur</td>
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<td>1885–1889</td>
<td>Grover Cleveland</td>
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<td>1889–1893</td>
<td>Benjamin Harrison</td>
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<td>1893–1897</td>
<td>Grover Cleveland</td>
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<td>1897–1901</td>
<td>William McKinley</td>
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<td>1901–1909</td>
<td>Theodore Roosevelt</td>
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<td>1909–1913</td>
<td>William H. Taft</td>
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<td>1913–1921</td>
<td>Woodrow Wilson</td>
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<td>1921–1923</td>
<td>Warren G. Harding</td>
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<td>1923–1929</td>
<td>Calvin Coolidge</td>
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<td>1929–1933</td>
<td>Herbert Hoover</td>
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<td>1933–1945</td>
<td>Franklin D. Roosevelt</td>
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<td>1945–1953</td>
<td>Harry S. Truman</td>
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<td>1953–1961</td>
<td>Dwight D. Eisenhower</td>
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<td>1963–1969</td>
<td>Lyndon B. Johnson</td>
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<td>1993–2001</td>
<td>Bill Clinton</td>
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<td>2001–2009</td>
<td>George W. Bush</td>
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<td>2009–</td>
<td>Barack Obama</td>
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*Did not serve as first lady
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2011
1:00–8:00 P.M.
Abramson Family Recital Hall
Katzen Arts Center
American University

The Legacies of America’s First Ladies Conference

William M. LeoGrande
Dean, School of Public Affairs

Anita B. McBride
Conference Chair
Executive in Residence, School of Public Affairs

Conference Partners

White House Historical Association
Presidential Libraries
American University Library

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
Kreeger Lobby

AFTERNOON SESSIONS
Abramson Family Recital Hall

1:00–1:30 P.M.
WELCOME
Neil Kerwin
President, American University
William M. LeoGrande
Dean, School of Public Affairs
Anita McBride
Conference Chair

1:30–2:45 P.M.
PANEL: First Ladies through the Sweep of History
MODERATOR
Richard Norton Smith
Presidential Historian
PANELISTS
Allida Black
Founder, Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project
Edith Mayo
Curator Emeritus, National Museum of American History
Kristie Miller
Political Biographer

2:45–4:00 P.M.
PANEL: First Ladies in the Carter, Reagan, and George H. W. Bush Administrations
MODERATOR
Jennifer Lawless
Director, Women and Politics Institute
American University
PANELISTS
Jean Becker
Former Deputy Press Secretary to Barbara Bush
Gahl Hodges Burt
Former Special Assistant to the President and Social Secretary
Reagan Administration
Kathryn Cade
Former Director of Projects for Rosalynn Carter

4:00–4:15 P.M.
BREAK

4:15–5:30 P.M.
PANEL: First Ladies in the Clinton, George W. Bush, and Obama Administrations
MODERATOR
Connie Morella
Ambassador in Residence
Women and Politics Institute
American University
PANELISTS
Anita McBride
Former Chief of Staff to Laura Bush
Susan Sher
Former Chief of Staff to Michelle Obama
Melanne Verveer
Former Chief of Staff to Hillary Rodham Clinton

5:30–6:30 P.M.
RECEPTION
Kreeger Lobby

6:30–7:45 P.M.
PANEL: Reporters’ Notebooks:
Covering the First Lady and Anticipating Madame President
MODERATOR
Jane Hall
Associate Professor, School of Communication
American University
PANELISTS
Ann Compton
White House Correspondent
ABC News
Ann Gerhart
Deputy Outlook Editor, Washington Post
Martha Kumar
Director, White House Transition Project
Lois Romano
National Political Correspondent
Washington Post

7:45–8:00 P.M.
ADJOURNMENT
Anita McBride

Program

12:15–1:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
Kreeger Lobby

* MARTHA WASHINGTON * ABIGAIL ADAMS * MARTHA JEFFERSON * DOLLEY MADISON * ELIZABETH MONROE * LOUISA ADAMS * RACHEL JACKSON * HANNAH VAN BUREN * ANNA HARRISON * LETITIA TYLER * JULIA TYLER * SARAH POLK * MARGARET TAYLOR * ABIGAIL FILLMORE * JANE PIERCE * HARRIET LANE * MARY TODD LINCOLN * ELIZA JOHNSON * JULIA GRANT * LUCY HAYES * LUCRETIA GARFIELD * ELLEN ARTHUR * FRANCES CLEVELAND * CAROLINE HARRISON * IDA MCKINLEY * EDITH ROOSEVELT * HELEN TAFT * ELLEN WILSON * Anna ANNE CLEOGERNE * FLORENCE HARDING * GRACE COOLIDGE * LOU HOOVER * ELEANOR ROOSEVELT * ELIZABETH “BESS” TRUMAN * MAMIE GRETCHEN EISENHOWER * JACQUELINE KENNEDY * CLAUDIA “LADY BIRD” JOHNSON * PATRICIA “PAT” NIXON * ELIZABETH “BETTY” FORD * ROSALYNN CARTER * NANCY REAGAN * BARBARA BUSH * HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON * LAURA BUSH * MICHÉLE OBAMA

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Anita B. McBride has a distinguished career in American politics and government. From 2005 to 2009, she served as assistant to President George W. Bush and chief of staff to First Lady Laura Bush. She developed the first lady’s global and domestic platform and directed her global travel to 67 countries in four years, including planning her historic, unannounced trips to Afghanistan in March 2005 and June 2008.

Her government service began in 1984 and spans three administrations. She served as White House personnel director from 1987 to 1992 under presidents Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush. From 2001 to 2004, she served President George W. Bush in the White House Management Office, at the State Department as White House liaison, and as senior advisor in the Bureau of International Organization Affairs. She also helped to coordinate three presidential transitions.

McBride is chair of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board and is a member of the U.S.–Afghan Women’s Council and the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS. She serves on the board of the National Italian American Foundation and is a senior advisor to the George W. Bush Institute.

She received her BA in international studies from the University of Connecticut, and she studied international relations and foreign languages at the University of Florence in Italy and at American University in the Washington Semester Program.
Founded in 1934 and ranked among the top institutions of its kind, American University’s School of Public Affairs offers educational programs on the undergraduate, graduate, and executive levels. SPA is also home to research centers and institutes in the fields of political science, public administration, public policy, and justice. Alumni are active in global policy, legislation, advocacy, and the nonprofit and private sectors.