

# MARCH is National Women's History Month

2011 THEME: OUR HISTORY IS OUR STRENGTH

## Gerder Lerner, A Founder of Women's History

Gerda Lerner is a historian, author and teacher. She is a professor emerita of history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a visiting scholar at Duke University. She wrote the screenplay for Carl Lerner's film *Black Like Me* in 1966.



Gerda Lerner with landmark sign designating Sarah Lawrence College the home of the first graduate program in women's history. Photo: Courtesy Gerda Lerner, from Jewish Women's Archive. "JWA - Womens History Month - Gerda Lerner."

<<http://jwa.org/discover/throughtheyear/march/lerner/index.html>> (February 14, 2011).

Lerner is one of the founders of the field of women's history and African-American history and is a former president of the Organization of American Historians. Lerner has played a key role in the development of women's history curricula. She taught what is considered to be the first women's history course at the New School for Social Research in 1963. She was also involved in the development of similar programs at Long Island University (1965–1967), at Sarah Lawrence College from 1968 to 1979 (where she established the nation's first graduate program in women's history), at Columbia University (where she was a co-founder of the Seminar on Women), and since 1980 as Robinson Edwards Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerda\\_Lerner](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerda_Lerner)

### Books by Gerder Lerner:

No Farewell (1955) an autobiographical novel  
The Grimké Sisters from South Carolina: Rebels against Authority (1967)  
The Woman in American History [ed.] (1971)  
Black Women in White America: A Documentary History (1972)  
The Female Experience: An American Documentary (1976)  
A Death of One's Own (1978/2006)  
The Majority Finds Its Past: Placing Women in History (1979)  
Teaching Women's History (1981)  
Women's Diaries of the Westward Journey (1982)  
The Creation of Patriarchy (1986)  
Why History Matters (1997)  
The Creation of Feminist Consciousness (1993)  
Scholarship in Women's History Rediscovered & New (1994)  
Fireweed: A Political Autobiography (2003)

### Related Links:

#### Jewish Women and the Feminist Revolution:

<http://jwa.org/feminism/?id=JWA048>

#### National Women's History Museum:

[www.nwhm.org/education-resources/biography/biographies/gerda-lerner/](http://www.nwhm.org/education-resources/biography/biographies/gerda-lerner/)