

20 FIRSTS

WOMEN PIONEERS OF THE 21ST CENTURY

2002

Melanie Wood was the first American woman and the second woman overall to be named a Putnam Fellow.

2006

Kim Coco Iwamoto became the first transgender woman to win statewide office in Hawaii.

2007

Nancy Pelosi became the first female Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

Harvard University names **Drew Gilpin Faust** its first woman president in the school's 371-year history.

Dr. Peggy Whitson, an American astronaut, becomes the first woman to command the International Space Station.

2008

Danica Patrick was the first woman to win an Indy Car Race - the Indy Japan 300.

Irish astrophysicist **Dr. Jocelyn Bell Burnell** served as the first female president of the Institute of Physics.

2009

Sonia Sotomayor became the first Latina Supreme Court Justice in U.S. history.

Elinor Ostrom was the first woman to win the Nobel Prize in Economics.

2010

Dr. Carolyn Bertozzi, an American chemist, became the first woman to win the prestigious MIT-Lemelson Prize, a \$500,000 award that honors mid-career inventors.

Kathryn Bigelow was the first woman to win the Academy Award for Best Director, the BAFTA Award for Best Direction, and the Critics' Choice Award for Best Director, all for *The Hurt Locker*.

2012

Liu Yang became the first Chinese woman in space.

2013

Deborah Rutter was named as the first female president of the Kennedy Center.

2014

Diane Humetewa was appointed first Native American woman federal judge.

Tamron Hall became the first black woman to co-anchor 'Today' Show.

2015

Misty Copeland was the first black performer to be appointed principal dancer for the American Ballet Theater.

Laverne Cox became the first openly transgender person to be nominated for an Emmy in an acting category: Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series for her role as Sophia Burset in *Orange Is the New Black*.

2016

Hillary Clinton became the first woman presidential nominee of any major political party in the U.S.

Maame Biney became the first black woman to make the US Olympic Speedskating team.

Rachel Morrison became the first woman to be nominated for an Oscar in cinematography for her work on "Mudbound".