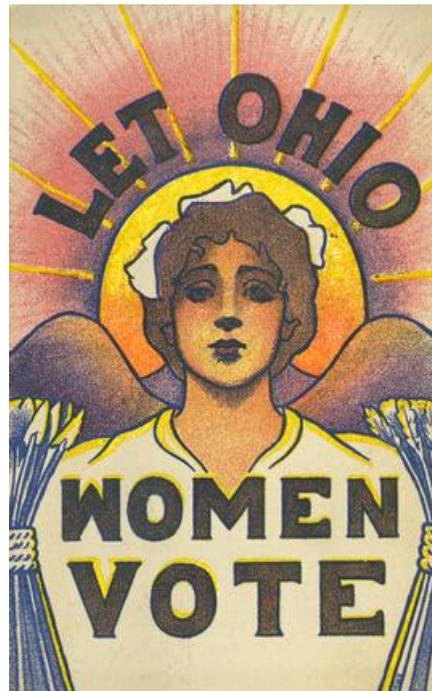


“Let Ohio Women Vote” Poster



In 1912, Cornelia Cassidy Davis (1870-1920) was awarded the prize for the best suffrage poster by the Ohio Woman Suffrage Association. Davis was born in Hamilton County, Ohio and studied art in Cincinnati. After living in Arizona and Chicago, she returned to Cincinnati and became the first female member of the Cincinnati Art Club in 1913.

It may have been accolades, such as the selection of her design by the state suffrage association which proved her merit in the eyes of men. Her work appeared on suffrage postcards and posters, which both advertised and raised funds for the movement. Although the 1912 campaign for Ohio women's voting rights failed, women received the right to vote with the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1920.

Ohio played a pivotal role in the long battle for woman suffrage, from the 1851 Women's Rights Convention in Akron, to the 1910 formation of the Cleveland Woman Suffrage Party. Suffragists canvassed, marched, petitioned, gave speeches, and wholly stepped outside of the traditional woman's role. The journey wasn't simple, and many activists were wealthy white women, who sometimes ignored voices of the working class and people of color. Unlike some states, however, Ohio hosted integrated parades and did count important African American suffragists amongst its ranks. For years, Cleveland suffragists pushed to amend Ohio's constitution, and after four failed campaigns Ohio became the fifth state to ratify presidential suffrage, securing the vote for women in the 1920 election.

For Kids!

Create your own "Go Vote" poster below: