



## CELEBRATING UTAH'S TITLE IX CHAMPIONS

On June 23, 1972, thirty-seven words changed the course of education and sports in America, representing the formalization of equal opportunity for female athletes in high schools and colleges across the nation:

---

*“No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance”*

---

On that date, President Richard Nixon signed into law *Title IX*, a section of the Education Amendments Act, which created wide-ranging intersection of women, sports, culture, and the fight for equality. It established equity, removed barriers for women and girls, and created new and greater horizons for female athletes.

“Title IX is probably the most important law passed for women and girls in Congress since women obtained the right to vote in 1920,” explains Bernice Sandler, a staunch women’s rights activist known as the “Godmother of *Title IX*” for her role in creating the legislation.

The law ensures that all education programs and activities receiving federal funding must protect students and employees from sex-based discrimination and bans many aspects of gender inequality that had previously been tolerated or overlooked in education. Despite consistent attempts through legislation, executive actions, and lawsuits to diminish its effectiveness, *Title IX* continues to provide these protections today. All those who have benefited from the tenacity and commitment of *Title IX* pioneers and champions owe these women a debt of gratitude for opportunities they could only imagine.

### **Exhibit Sponsors:**

***Salt Lake Community College***

***Gunn Consulting Cooperative***

***Barbara Grover***

***Chris Redgrave***

***Sue Rice***

*The Utah Sports Hall of Fame Museum recognizes the generosity of sponsor support to develop and display this special exhibit.*

## CELEBRATING OUR CHAMPIONS

To celebrate *Title IX's* 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, *The Utah Sports Hall of Fame Foundation Museum* honors Utah's *Title IX* pioneers who began the fight for equity before *Title IX's* passage and championed its success for girls and women in Utah athletics. *Women's History Month* initiates a special exhibit of personal profiles of the honorees, detailing their individual journeys which paved the way for *Title IX* implementation in Utah. Each champion's profile tells a story of courage, determination, tenacity, and humility to do the right things to sanction high school and collegiate athletic programs. These pioneers faced challenges head on and worked over, under, and through any obstacles in their journey to provide equal opportunity for their players. They represent the best Utah has to offer in leadership through example and service to their institutions and communities. The *Utah Sports Hall of Fame Museum* is proud to honor their legacy.



**Shirley Allen, Cottonwood High School:**  
*Girls Can Accomplish Things, Too*



**Kathryn Berg, Southern Utah University:**  
*From the Sacrifice of Undaunted Women Comes Greatness*



**Norma Carr, Davis High School/  
University of Utah/Salt Lake  
Community College**  
*I wanted to teach and coach*



**Enid Enniss, Brighton High School:**  
*I Would Do It Again*



**Fern Gardner, Utah State University/  
University of Utah:**  
*Make A Difference*



**Elaine Michaelis, Brigham Young University:**  
*I Loved The Players*



**Leila Ogden, Orem High School:**  
*Be Wonderful*



**JoAnn Otte, Weber State University**  
*Women Can Compete At Any Level*



**Lu Wallace, Brigham Young University:**  
*Hang In There and Do What Is Right*



**Carole Westmoreland, Weber State University:**  
*Be An Example of Excellence*

