



2025



**Society of
Woman
Geographers** *Centennial*

October 9-13th 2025

Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill

Centennial

Program

Thursday October 9th

Hotel check in time is 4:00 pm.

5:00 – 7:00 pm: SWG Headquarters cocktail party – Flag bearers exhibit. 415 E Capitol St SE, Washington, DC 20003–3810. Feel free to wear attire representing your geographic area, traditional dress, or area of expertise.

Friday October 10th

Morning Field trips

Botanical Garden, self guided tour, meet at 9:00 am

Smithsonian African American Museum (Lonnie Bunch – guided tour), meet 8:45 a.m.

3:00–5:00 pm Library of Congress Exhibition: Presentation by Liz Novara and Library of Congress staff on holdings and how to research. This presentation will be located in room LM 621 (West Dining Room), on the 6th Floor of the James Madison Memorial Building at 101 Independence Ave SE. **Cancelled due to government shutdown**

5:30–7:30 pm Welcome Cocktail Party. Naval Lodge Building;
Address: 330 Pennsylvania Ave Southeast

Saturday October 11th; First Day of Conference

8:30–4:00 pm Conference proceedings

Awards Banquet 6:00–8:00 pm

Sunday October 12th: Second Day of Conference

8:30 am – 4:00 pm Conference proceedings

5:00 pm – 8:00 pm Dinner on your own or with Award winners

Monday October 13th (US Indigenous People Day)

7:30 am – 8:30 am breakfast at hotel on your own

9:00 am – 11:00 am Visit to SWG HQ

1:00 pm – 3 pm Nicole Trenholm field trip– Eastport MD

Centennial

Saturday Details

All talks are in
Congressional A; Breakout
Sessions are in
Congressional C and D
All times are Eastern Time

- 08:30 AM - 09:00 AM **Welcome: SWG President, Maria Pia Casarini, Zoom**
- 09:00 AM - 10:00 AM **Plenary #1: Arlene Blum: "Women in High Places: Mountains, Molecules, and Motherhood: Zoom**
- 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM **Tea/Coffee Break**
- 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM **Breakout Session #1**
- 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM **Bathroom break and lunch setup**
- 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM **Lunch Break**
- 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM **Plenary #2: Ulyana Peña: Zoom presentation**
- 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM **SWG Priorities, Strategic Planning and Business meeting. Board Meeting: Zoom**
- 3:00 PM - 03:15 PM **Tea/Coffee Break**
- 03:15 PM - 04:00 PM **Break Out Session #2**
- 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM **Awards Banquet: Recorded message by the late Dr. Jane Goodall, presentation by Gold Medal Winner Lynn Funkhouser and address by Maria Pia Casarini: Zoom**

Centennial

Sunday Details

All talks are in Congressional A;
Breakout Sessions are in
Congressional C and D
All times are Eastern Time

- 08:30 AM – 8:45 AM

Agenda Updates: SWG President

- 8:45 AM – 9:45 AM

Plenary #3: Gaelin Rosenwaks: Zoom

- 9:45 AM – 10:00 AM

Tea/Coffee Break

- 10:00 AM – 10:45 AM

SWG Outstanding Achievement Award winner Iris Priestaf will present “Groundwater Sustainability in California: One Way or Another”: Zoom

- 10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

Plenary #4: Sunniva Sorby: Zoom presentation

- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Lunch Break

- 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Breakout Room: Congressional C – Short talks by members, films, student presentations, and exhibits.

- 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Breakout Room: Congressional D – SWG Board meeting

- 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Dinner on your own or with Award Winners at Hyatt

Monday Details

- 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Farewell Meet up at SWG Headquarters

- 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Nicole Trenholm Field Trip tour of the Research Vessel Marie Tharp – Eastport MD – Limited to 8 members.

Speakers

Four plenary speakers will be speaking over the two-day conference.

Arlene Blum, PhD: Saturday morning (upper left)
<https://www.arleneblum.com/>



Ulyana Horodyskyj Peña, PhD: Saturday afternoon (Zoom)
(upper right) <https://nccasc.colorado.edu/partners/who-we-are/ulyana-horodyskyj-pena>

Sunniva Sorby: Sunday morning (Zoom) (lower left)
<https://www.sunnivasorby.com/>



Gaelin Rosenwaks: Sunday Morning (lower right)
<https://www.gaelinrosenwaks.com/>

We will be celebrating three special award winners:

Lynn Funkhouser is the recipient of *SWG's Gold Medal Award*. Lynn's pioneering underwater photography and over 45 years of advocacy and activism for protecting the oceans and marine life have contributed significantly to our understanding of the world's environment.



Carolyn Merchant is a recipient of *SWG's Outstanding Achievement Award* in recognition of her lifetime contribution to geography and science as one of the most distinguished and influential scholars in environmental studies, ecofeminism, and environmental philosophy.



Iris Priestaf is a recipient of *SWG's Outstanding Achievement Award* in recognition of her work on groundwater that is of lasting benefit to science and humanity. For over 40 years she has been planning and managing groundwater resources to meet the critical needs of agriculture and humanity worldwide.

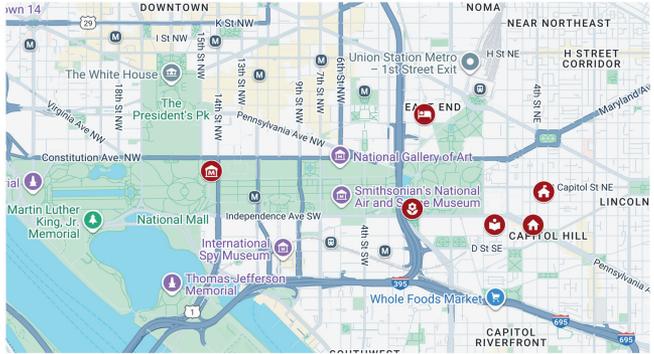


DC Location Map

SWG Conference Map

-  Naval Lodge Building
330 Pennsylvania Ave. SE
-  National Museum of African
American History and Culture
1400 Constitution Ave SE
-  SWG Headquarters
415 East Capitol St SE
-  United States Botanic Garden
100 Maryland Ave NW
-  James Madison Memorial
Building- Library of Congress
101 Independence Ave SE
-  Hyatt Regency Washington
on Capitol Hill
400 New Jersey Ave NW

SWG Centennial Locations in Red



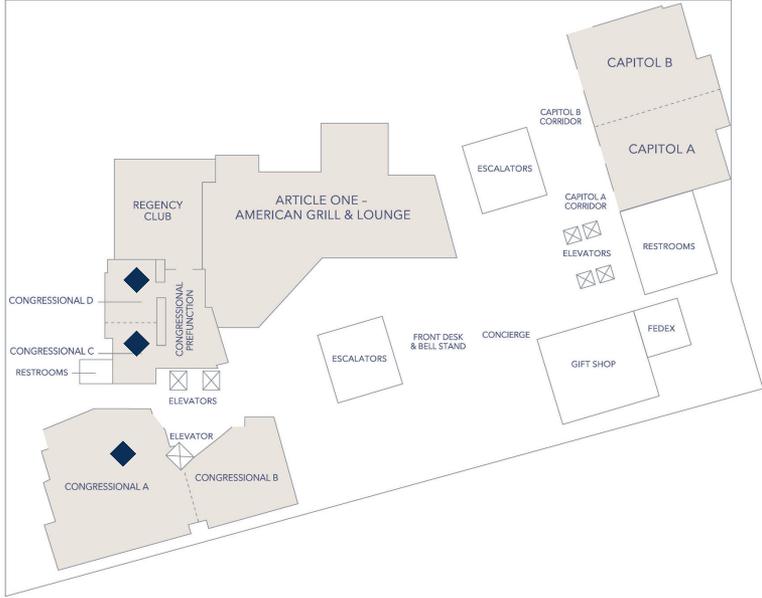
Venue Map



FLOOR PLAN
LOBBY LEVEL



Event space



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Presentations at Break out Sessions: Slide shows, short talks, films, exhibits

	Title of presentation	Format	Session
Joanna Biggar	How SWG records got into the LC Archives: an insider's view	Talk	Saturday Breakout #1 10:30-11:30
Judith Bock	"That the Public May Be Brought to Understand the Importance of Geography" - Zonia Baber	Powerpoint	Saturday Breakout #2 3:15-4:00
Jenny Bueno	Pruitt Fellow	Recording	Sunday 1-4 pm
Maria Pia Casarini	Polar Educators International: A Network of Educators, Scientists, and Indigenous People	Poster	Sunday 1-4 pm
Sallie Greenwood	Society of Woman Geographers: The Mountaineers, 1925-2025	PowerPoint	Saturday Breakout #1 10:30-11:30
Kevin Kling	Set of short films	Video	Sunday 1-4 pm
Susan Leonard	Looping film of marine life	slide show	Sunday 1-4 pm
Kathryn Lucchese	<i>A Japanese Mission to 17th Century Rome: Date Masamune's Cosmopolitan Dream</i>	books for sale	Saturday and Sunday
Sandy Nichols	Happy 150th Harriet! SWG's First President	Powerpoint	Saturday Breakout #1 10:30-11:30
Sarah Oktay	Field Stations and Marine Labs around the world	Powerpoint	Saturday Breakout #2 3:15-4:00
Mechtild Rossler	Presentation of the 'Dictionnaire des Femmes Creatrices'	Powerpoint	Saturday Breakout #2 3:15-4:00
Lida Teneva	Who Owns the Arctic?	PowerPoint	Sunday 1-4 pm
Nicole Trenholm	Greenland's Glaciers	PowerPoint	Sunday 1-4 pm
Betty Trummel	Polar Science Education Outreach	PowerPoint	Saturday Breakout 1 10:30-11:30
Susan Leonard	Looping film of marine life	slide show	Sunday 1-4 pm
Janice Terry	Books for sale	books for sale	Saturday and Sunday
Karen Ronne Tupek	<i>Antarctica's First Lady</i>	books for sale	Saturday and Sunday
Elizabeth "Betsy" White	<i>Balancing Act: Mountains, Family, Career</i>	books for sale	Saturday and Sunday

Centennial Committee

Maria Pia Casarini was the original Chairperson; she had to step down as Chair when she became SWG President in January 2025. The Centennial committee was convened in May of 2024. A survey was sent to members to determine the time of year and location preferred for the Centennial.

Other committee members in alphabetical order are: Judy Bock, Sallie Greenwood, Frances McLean, Mary Megalli, Susan Leonard, Sarah Oktay (Chair from January–October 2025), Mechtild Rössler, Betty Trummel, and Serina Miu Yin Ha.

Assistance was provided by Jihan Asher, Barbara Euser, Libby Ingalls, Markie Hunsiker, Ann Oberhauser, Trudy Suchan, and Karen Ronne Tupek.

Registered Attendees

Jeanne Adams
Marcella Adamski
Cristina Aggazotti
Joanna Biggar
Arlene Blum
Judith Bock
Anna Borg
Donna Cartwright
Maria Pia Casarini
Betsy Constenbader
Kimberly Crews
Dorothy Dare
Debra Denker - Virtual
Barbara Euser
Lynn Funkhouser
Sallie Greenwood
Amy Greeson - Virtual
Markie Hunsiker
Libby Ingalls
Kirstie Kaiser
Kevin Kling
Susan Leonard
Linda Liscom
Sylvia Lu
Kathryn Lucchese
Carmen Maso
Shawn McCrohan - Virtual
Mary Megalli - Virtual
Carolyn Merchant - Virtual
Carol Meyer - Virtual
Christine Morel
Marcia Morrison
Sandra Nichols
Sarah Oktay
Ulyana Horodyskyj Peña - Virtual
Iris Priestaf
Gaelin Rosenwaks

Mechtild Rossler
Sunniva Sorby -
Virtual
Ann Schneider
Trudy Suchan
Lida Teneva
Janice Terry
Nicole Trenholm
Karen Ronne Tupek
Betty Trummel
Elizabeth White

Guests:
Roseanna Ander
Francis Horan
Kathleen Johnston
Janet Weiss
Paul Zeisset

Things to do in DC

What's Open in Washington, DC During the Government Shutdown

Outdoor/open air monuments and Smithsonian Museums will remain open despite being National Park Service locations

<https://washington.org/dcisopen/whats-open>

Hop-on/Hop-off Busses

Washington DC Tickets & Passes

Will bring you near to the monuments in DC

<https://www.bigbustours.com/en/washington-dc/>

Viator Tours <https://viator.com>

George Washington's Mount Vernon

Open 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. <https://www.mountvernon.org/>

Arlington National Cemetery

Open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Accessible from the Metro

<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/>

International Spy Museum

10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

<https://www.spymuseum.org/>

National Museum of Women in the Arts

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

<https://nmwa.org/>

People staying at the Hyatt get discounts to some attractions :

10% off Old Town Trolley Tours silver pass

Discounted luxury town car transportation to local airports (DCA, IAD, BWI)

Over \$70 discount on a two-hour private sedan tour of monuments and memorials

15% off guided bike and Segway tours with Bike & Roll

\$5 discount at the National Law Enforcement Museum

Our Beginnings

For women who know no boundaries . . .

On a blustery winter day in January 1925, four friends met for tea in an apartment on New York's Upper West Side. Marguerite Harrison, Blair Niles, Gertrude Shelby, and Gertrude Emerson were all explorers in an age of homemakers.

Harrison studied the habits of people in Bactriana (a region in Iran). Niles wrote about the cultures of Colombia while traveling through the country in an ox cart. Shelby was an experienced economic geographer, who studied the folklore of Surinamese natives. Emerson traveled with Mahatma Ghandi.



Marguerite Harrison



Blair Niles



Gertrude Shelby

Collectively, they had traveled hundreds of thousands of miles across five continents. Between them they spoke at least eleven different languages. Each had written and presented extensively about cultures, geographies, and economies. They *were* woman explorers.

Yet, they were under appreciated for their contributions. They were unable to join the Explorer's Club. These woman explorers were considered a novelty.

On that January day, they decided to create a forum for women explorers and scientists, a time and place where women could meet, exchange ideas, find mutual support, and foster geographical scholarship. Membership was restricted to women who conducted and published distinctive work, adding to the world's geographical knowledge. The term *geography* was applied broadly.

The first president of the Society of Woman Geographers was legendary. Harriett Chalmers Adams was known as the "first lady of adventure," having been the first white lady to travel where no white woman had gone before, taking an eight-year journey, traveling 40,000 miles, and visiting all the countries of South America, either on foot or by horse.

Since 1925, when these women founded the Society of Woman Geographers, there have been many other extraordinary women in the Society. Triennials provide a time to learn about each other, celebrate achievements, share research, and appreciate the comradery of geography-focused exploration.

Here, at the Centennial Meeting of the International Society of Woman Geographers, we continue the traditions of our founders. We hope you will enjoy your time together.



Gertrude Emerson



Harriett Chalmers Adams