

Harriet Lane First Ladies

To the list of John Updike's well-intentioned protagonists—Rabbit Angstrom, George Caldwell, Piet Hanema, Henry Bech—add James Buchanan, seen above as a young Congressman in the 1820's, and on the front cover as the harried fifteenth President of the United States (1857-1861). In a play meant to be read, Buchanan's political and private lives are represented as aspects of his spiritual life, whose crowning, condensing act is the act of dying. A wide-ranging Afterword rounds out the dramatic portrait of one of America's lesser known, and least appreciated, leaders.

Presents highlights from the lives of the presidents and their wives.

In this packet, your students will find biographical sketches with detailed information, followed by questions for discussion and research. Students will learn interesting and relevant facts about these First Ladies, and will walk away with a new appreciation for the women that filled this role!

"This historical fiction account follows the remarkable life of Harriet Lane, the niece of James Buchanan, who became First Lady of the Presidential Mansion in Washington although not married to the President. Raised in Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, Miss Lady became a ward of her uncle after the death of her

parents. He educated her in the finest schools. She became the mistress of his home at Wheatland in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. When Buchanan, a bachelor, was elected President of the United States in 1857, Harriet became his partner in the Presidential Mansion (it was not called the White House until much later)." ...amazon.com

The First Ladies The First Ladies profiles the many courageous women, from Martha Washington to Laura Welch Bush, who have served the presidency and the Nation and maintained one of the most appealing traditions of the White House--hospitality. Each woman profiled in this book has a unique story and an important place in history. This book describes the fascinating stories of how the first ladies served as advocates and volunteers. It also offers remarkable portraits of the first ladies, which were drawn from the White House collection.

This volume explores more than two centuries of literature on the First Ladies, from Martha Washington to Michelle Obama, providing the first historiographical overview of these important women in U.S. history. Underlines the growing scholarly appreciation of the First Ladies and the evolution of the position since the 18th century Explores the impact of these women not only on White House responsibilities, but on elections, presidential policies, social causes, and in shaping their husbands' legacies Brings the First Ladies into crisp

historiographical focus, assessing how these women and their contributions have been perceived both in popular literature and scholarly debate Provides concise biographical treatments for each First Lady

The friendship of the bachelor politicians James Buchanan (1791-1868) of Pennsylvania and William Rufus King (1786-1853) of Alabama has excited much speculation through the years. Why did neither marry? Might they have been gay? Or was their relationship a nineteenth-century version of the modern-day "bromance"? In *Bosom Friends: The Intimate World of James Buchanan and William Rufus King*, Thomas J. Balcerski explores the lives of these two politicians and discovers one of the most significant collaborations in American political history. He traces the parallels in the men's personal and professional lives before elected office, including their failed romantic courtships and the stories they told about them. Unlikely companions from the start, they lived together as congressional messmates in a Washington, DC, boardinghouse and became close confidantes. Around the nation's capital, the men were mocked for their effeminacy and perhaps their sexuality, and they were likened to Siamese twins. Over time, their intimate friendship blossomed into a significant cross-sectional political partnership. Balcerski examines Buchanan's and King's contributions to the Jacksonian political agenda, manifest destiny, and the

increasingly divisive debates over slavery, while contesting interpretations that the men lacked political principles and deserved blame for the breakdown of the union. He closely narrates each man's rise to national prominence, as William Rufus King was elected vice-president in 1852 and James Buchanan the nation's fifteenth president in 1856, despite the political gossip that circulated about them. While exploring a same-sex relationship that powerfully shaped national events in the antebellum era, *Bosom Friends* demonstrates that intimate male friendships among politicians were--and continue to be--an important part of success in American politics.

He was the only president from Pennsylvania. He was the last president to be born in the eighteenth century. He was the last of the Federalist Era presidents. He was the eighth in a line of successive one-term presidents. He was the last president to serve before the Civil War. Inaugurated in 1857, he was the last Democrat to serve as chief executive until President Grover Cleveland took the oath of office in 1885. His niece would be the first woman to be referred to as First Lady. She would establish a style that would not be witnessed again until the Kennedy administration in the 1960s. He was our only bachelor president. His closest friend for nearly twenty years would be our only bachelor vice president. He may have been a homosexual. He was blamed for the Civil War.

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After his death, she would continue in public life, establishing a pediatric center, a national gallery, a boy's school and a monument in his honor. He was the fifteenth president of the United States, and she was his official hostess and the envy of every woman in America. He was James Buchanan, and she was Harriet Lane.

Examines United States Presidential First Ladies through 2003.

The revised and updated edition, including all-new information on Michelle Obama, Hillary Clinton, Laura Bush, and Betty Ford America's first ladies have captured the hearts of the citizens of our country ever since its humble beginnings. This newly updated edition of *The First Ladies Fact Book* is a comprehensive, fascinating, and intimate look at the life of each first lady from Martha Washington to Michelle Obama. Each profile includes a portrait, key biographical information, and several additional photographs. Among the topics covered are childhood and upbringing, early marriage years, the path to the White House, hobbies, career, style of dress, and decorating preferences. Find out which first lady: had the most children • served as a delegate to the United Nations • was accused of looting the White House • was a professional dancer • or never cooked a meal. Packed with information and surprising facts, *The First Ladies Fact Book* combines the breadth of a textbook with the intimacy of a

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biography. And don't forget to pick-up the companion title, *The President's Fact Book -- Revised and Updated* (978-1-57912-889-0), also available by Black Dog & Leventhal.

Presents a biography of James Buchanan's niece who was the White House hostess during her uncle's presidency, helped create the National Gallery of Art, and started the first pediatrics hospital.

C-SPAN's year-long history series, "First Ladies: Influence and Image," aired in 2013 and 2014 and was devoted to revealing the private lives and public actions of 43 iconic American women. *First Ladies* captures the spirit of this special series by assembling its impressive collection of contemporary first ladies historians into book form. Their original interviews, condensed into an essay about each first lady, create intimate portraits of these women, their lives, ambitions, and their unique partnerships with their presidential spouses. Susan Swain and the C-SPAN team elicit the details that made these women who they were. You'll read how Martha Washington intentionally set the standards followed by first ladies for the next century; how Lucretia Garfield calmed the nation in the wake of her husband's shooting just four months into his presidency; and how Mamie Eisenhower harnessed the advent of television to reinforce her and her husband's positive public images. *First Ladies* informs its readers in interesting

ways about America's most well-known first ladies, such as Martha Washington, Abigail Adams, Mary Todd Lincoln, Eleanor Roosevelt, Jacqueline Kennedy, Nancy Reagan, and Michelle Obama. Yet, some of its very best gems are contained in the lives of first ladies whose stories had been lost to the pages of history or overshadowed by their powerful presidential partners—Louisa Catherine Adams, Jane Pierce, Sarah Polk, Frances Cleveland, and Edith Wilson. What is ultimately unraveled in the book is the untold half of the story: how American women lived, worked, and thrived over 200+ years of history. The role of first ladies in our political culture has long been a subject of lively debate. This book provides an intimate historical look at the interesting women who persevered in the glare that is the White House, supporting their families and famous husbands and sometimes changing history. You'll find it illuminating, entertaining, and ultimately inspiring. Illustrated, and including both the basic biographical information and a rich look at the public and inner lives of the first ladies, this book is a resource, a fascinating read, and a beautiful gift.

It's time for the ladies—the First Ladies, that is—to get their time in the spotlight. What does a First Lady do? What makes a First Lady successful? If you've always wanted to know, this is the place to come to for the answers! This reference has the inside scoop on all the First Ladies, including Michelle

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Obama's campaigns for healthy eating and Jackie Kennedy's emphasis on art and culture. In *First Ladies For Dummies*, you'll find out how these women's values, initiatives, and style have influenced all our lives, and how they've become true role models for generations. With the detailed biographies and personal profiles in *First Ladies For Dummies*, you'll gain a well-rounded knowledge of the United States' 47 First Ladies. From Martha to Melania, from Jackie to Dr. Jill, and everyone in between, every First Lady has left her stamp on the White House, in the Rose Garden, and in history, and this book covers it all. It includes: An historical context for a deeper understanding of the world these First Ladies lived in Accounts of their childhoods and early lives to learn who these women were before they stepped foot in the White House Each First Lady's interests and achievements Whether you're a history fanatic or just curious about these highly accomplished women, you'll find lots of fun facts about them in *First Ladies For Dummies*. Pick up your copy to be in the know!

This book introduces young readers to the life of Harriet Lane, beginning with her experience as an orphan and her childhood near Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Readers will become familiar with her charming personality as they learn about her education and social life in Washington, D.C., and her role as hostess for her unmarried uncle James Buchanan at his home and in Europe. Details of Miss

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Lane's time as First Lady, including her support of Native Americans, her love of art, and the coming American Civil War, are also discussed. Additionally, the book highlights her years after President Buchanan's term, including her time as a wife and a mother, and finally, her legacy in the founding of the Harriet Lane Home and her contribution of art to the Smithsonian Institution. Full-color photos accompany the easy-to-read text. Extras include a sidebar, a timeline, fun facts, an index, and a glossary. Checkerboard Library is an imprint of ABDO Publishing Company.

Comforting a dying car crash victim before being invited into the woman's privileged family's home, Frances is transformed through her friendships with two family members from an unknown editor to a sought-after figure in literary society. A first novel.

A gorgeous publication that reveals the historical importance of first ladies through portraiture. Each first lady has brought her own priorities and flair to the position that has never been officially defined. They have served as hostesses, trendsetters, activists, and political players. *First Ladies of the United States* features 84 portraits of the nation's first ladies, as varied in style and representation as the individual women they depict. From watercolors and oil paintings to engravings and photographs, this book celebrates the legacy of first

ladies throughout history. First ladies are some of the most scrutinized public figures in the country, praised or criticized on everything from their fashion to their level of political involvement. There's no better way to explore their visibility and lasting impact than with *First Ladies of the United States*, which places remarkable portraits alongside an insightful essay and lively entries that illuminate the history of the women who have shaped the White House.

From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of the groundbreaking backstairs look at the White House, *The Residence*, comes an intimate, news-making look at the true modern power brokers at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue: the First Ladies, from Jackie Kennedy to Michelle Obama and Melania Trump. One of the most underestimated—and challenging—positions in the world, the First Lady of the United States must be many things: an inspiring leader with a forward-thinking agenda of her own; a savvy politician, skilled at navigating the treacherous rapids of Washington; a wife and mother operating under constant scrutiny; and an able CEO responsible for the smooth operation of countless services and special events at the White House. Now, as she did in her smash #1 bestseller *The Residence*, former White House correspondent Kate Andersen Brower draws on a wide array of untapped, candid sources—from residence staff and social secretaries to friends and political advisers—to tell the stories of the ten

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remarkable women who have defined that role since 1960. Brower offers new insights into this privileged group of remarkable women, including Jacqueline Kennedy, Lady Bird Johnson, Patricia Nixon, Betty Ford, Rosalynn Carter, Nancy Reagan, Barbara Bush, Hillary Clinton, Laura Bush, and Michelle Obama. The stories she shares range from the heartwarming to the shocking and tragic, exploring everything from the first ladies' political crusades to their rivalries with Washington figures; from their friendships with other first ladies to their public and private relationships with their husbands. She also offers insight as to what Melania Trump might hope to accomplish as First Lady. Candid and illuminating, this first group biography of the modern first ladies provides a revealing look at life upstairs and downstairs at the world's most powerful address.

First published in 1947, Harriet Lane Levy's autobiography, 920 O'Farrell Street, chronicles her childhood in an upper-middle-class San Francisco neighborhood during the mid-late nineteenth century—a period in which young women such as Levy were expected to marry well-off men, generating additional societal expectations. The intellectually inclined Levy was hesitant to marry early and instead took herself off to study at the University of California at Berkeley.

A look inside the personal life of every first lady in American history, based on original interviews with major historians C-SPAN's yearlong history series, First

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Ladies: Influence and Image, featured interviews with more than fifty preeminent historians and biographers. In this informative book, these experts paint intimate portraits of all forty-five first ladies—their lives, ambitions, and unique partnerships with their presidential spouses. Susan Swain and the C-SPAN team elicit the details that made these women who they were: how Martha Washington intentionally set the standards followed by first ladies for the next century; how Edith Wilson was complicit in the cover-up when President Wilson became incapacitated after a stroke; and how Mamie Eisenhower used the new medium of television to reinforce her, and her husband's, positive public images. This book provides an up-close historical look at these fascinating women who survived the scrutiny of the White House, sometimes at great personal cost, while supporting their families and famous husbands—and sometimes changing history. Complete with illustrations and essential biographical details, it is an illuminating, entertaining, and ultimately inspiring read.

From Martha Washington to Michelle Obama, 46 illustrations portray the nation's First Ladies and official hostesses in this informative coloring book. Many of the First Ladies are depicted in their inaugural gowns."

Meet the First Ladies of the United States—sometimes inspiring, sometimes tragic, always fascinating—women who, though often unsung, helped hold the

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nation together in its infancy and advance it as a world power. • Overviews the social, political, and cultural significance of America's First Ladies in a convenient, chronological, reference format • Includes letters, notes, and speeches that allow the First Ladies to speak for themselves • Features engaging and informative sidebars that place the First Ladies in the cultural context of their times • Shares the 2014 First Ladies Ranking from the Siena Research Institute • Facilitates student research through an extensive reading guide and a list of online resources that will foster critical reading, thinking, and writing skills

In Meet the First Ladies, your students will find a biographical sketch with detailed information, followed by questions for discussion and research. A page focusing on some aspect of life in the time is also included. Students will learn that not every First Lady was a wife (daughters and relatives also filled the role), how Martha Jefferson made soap, the identity of the first baby born in the White House, who rode down the White House stairs on a cookie sheet and much, much more!

This volume includes biographies on famous First Ladies like Martha Washington, Abigail Adams and Anna Harrison as well as some about "unofficial" First Ladies, like Angelica Van Buren (President Van Buren's daughter-in-law) and Harriet Lane (President Buchanan's niece). She was the niece of America's Bachelor President and his official hostess in Lancaster, London and Washington. Anyone who met her was instantly enamored. Queen Victoria

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bestowed upon her the title "Honorary Ambassadors." The Washington press corps proclaimed her "Our Democratic Queen." She was the first White House Hostess to be called "First Lady." Ships were named after her. Songs were written about her. Women dressed like her. She was the most admired woman in the country and established a style of entertaining never before seen in the White House. And only she could get away with beating the Prince of Wales at bowling! Her life was marked by tragedy, yet she lived every day to the fullest. Her legacy lives on in Baltimore and Washington through a pediatric hospital, a school for boys, a museum of art, and a monument to James Buchanan. Thanks to her beauty, charm, and generosity of spirit, America's First Lady will always be Harriet Lane.

Worst. President. Ever. flips the great presidential biography on its head, offering an enlightening—and highly entertaining!—account of poor James Buchanan's presidency to prove once and for all that, well, few leaders could have done worse. But author Robert Strauss does much more, leading readers out of Buchanan's terrible term in office—meddling in the Dred Scott Supreme Court decision, exacerbating the Panic of 1857, helping foment the John Brown uprisings and "Bloody Kansas," virtually inviting a half-dozen states to secede from the Union as a lame duck, and on and on—to explore with insight and humor his own obsession with presidents, and ultimately the entire notion of ranking our presidents. He guides us through the POTUS rating game of historians and others who have made their own Mount Rushmores—or Marianas Trenches!—of presidential achievement, showing why Buchanan easily loses to any of the others, but also offering insights into presidential history buffs like himself, the forgotten "lesser" presidential sites, sex and the presidency, the presidency itself, and how and why it can often take the best measures out of even the most dedicated men.

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Betty Boyd Caroli's engrossing and informative *First Ladies* is both a captivating read and an essential resource for anyone interested in the role of America's First Ladies. This expanded and updated fourth edition includes Laura Bush's tenure, Hillary Clinton's 2008 presidential bid, and an in-depth look at Michelle Obama, one of the most charismatic and appealing First Ladies in recent history. Covering all forty-one women from Martha Washington to Michelle Obama and including the daughters, daughters-in-law, and sisters of presidents who sometimes served as First Ladies, Caroli explores each woman's background, marriage, and accomplishments and failures in office. This remarkably diverse lot included Abigail Adams, whose "remember the ladies" became a twentieth-century feminist refrain; Jane Pierce, who prayed her husband would lose the election; Helen Taft, who insisted on living in the White House, although her husband would have preferred a judgeship; Eleanor Roosevelt, who epitomized the politically involved First Lady; and Pat Nixon, who perfected what some have called "the robot image." They ranged in age from early 20s to late 60s; some received superb educations for their time, while others had little or no schooling. Including the courageous and adventurous, the emotionally unstable, the ambitious, and the reserved, these women often did not fit the traditional expectations of a presidential helpmate. Here then is an engaging portrait of how each First Lady changed the role and how the role changed in response to American culture. These women left remarkably complete records, and their stories offer us a window through which to view not only this particular sorority of women, but also American women in general. "Impressive...Caroli's profiles and observations of American first ladies and their relationship to the media are intelligent and perceptive." --Philadelphia Inquirer

A comprehensive collective biography of the first ladies documents the lives of the presidents'

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wives and official hostesses while exploring their political achievements and considering the electorate's influence on each woman.

Examines the parts played by the wives and other relatives who filled the role of first lady, and describes how they profoundly impacted each president's administration and political fate.

Harriet Lane The Original "first Lady" of Washington

Presents the lives and portraits of each of the First Ladies, highlighting their special interests, accomplishments, and influence on the politics and social customs of their time.

Admire the nationally famous collection of first ladies' gowns and learn about the contributions made by the women who wore them The Smithsonian First Ladies Collection is a beautifully illustrated book inspired by one of the most popular attractions at the Smithsonian: the first ladies exhibit at the National Museum of American History. This striking book showcases the treasures from first ladies throughout history, ranging from Martha Washington's silk dress and dressing mirror to Michelle Obama's 2009 inaugural gown and jewelry. These and many other unforgettable objects--including gowns, tableware, and invitations from beloved first ladies such as Mamie Eisenhower, Jacqueline Kennedy, Barbara Bush, Hilary Clinton, and more--tell the story of the first ladies as public and private figures. They illustrate how these women, thrust into an influential and visible role by happenstance of marriage, adapted themselves and the role of first lady by taking on responsibilities as campaigners, hostesses, and policy advocates. The Smithsonian First Ladies Collection features many treasures not on view at the exhibit. Complete with an insider's look at the acquisition, conservation, and exhibition of the pieces as well as a timeline of all forty-six first ladies, this is a must-have for anyone fascinated by these incredible women and their roles in American culture and political life.

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Being the First Lady is an honor that also comes with immense responsibility. The First Lady of the United States has the opportunity to spearhead initiatives to help Americans in addition to her job of representing the country with dignity and grace. This book presents a close look at the role the president's spouse plays.

A New York Times Bestseller and AHS Book Award winner *The 18-acres* surrounding the White House have been an unwitting witness to history—kings and queens have dined there, bills and treaties have been signed, and presidents have landed and retreated. Throughout it all, the grounds have remained not only beautiful, but also a powerful reflection of American trends. In *All the Presidents' Gardens* bestselling author Marta McDowell tells the untold history of the White House grounds with historical and contemporary photographs, vintage seeds catalogs, and rare glimpses into Presidential pastimes. History buffs will revel in the fascinating tidbits about Lincoln's goats, Ike's putting green, Jackie's iconic roses, and Amy Carter's tree house. Gardeners will enjoy the information on the plants whose favor has come and gone over the years and the gardeners who have been responsible for it all.

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