



Celebrating 50 years of NU Trailblazers!

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SECRETARY OF THE ARMY WASHINGTON

Cadets, Faculty, and Alumni of Norwich University:

It is my pleasure to congratulate you as you celebrate 50 years of trailblazing women in the Norwich University Corps of Cadets. In keeping with Norwich's tradition and reputation for pioneering new frontiers, it is no surprise that the school known as "the birthplace of ROTC" would be one of the first to incorporate women into their Corps of Cadets.

Norwich was instrumental in setting the conditions for women to serve at all levels of the U.S. military, laying the practical foundation for the service academies and producing strong leaders who served as mentors and inspiration for cohorts of military women. These conditions ensured that future generations of women could realize their full potential, serve their nation, and lead with distinction.

From the first days of Lima Company and the women who joined the Corps in 1974 to the more than 5,500 women who have graduated since, Norwich women have faced any challenge and boldly said, "Essayons!" I am proud that many of these women chose to serve in the Army, [starting with Donna Rix](#), who commissioned in 1979. As all positions and ranks within our military opened to women, [Norwich graduates like Katie Hathaway](#), class of 2012, were among the first women in the Army to volunteer to lead soldiers in combat units.

Congratulations to Norwich University and the Norwich women around the world on achieving this historic milestone. There is no doubt that Norwich University and its graduates will continue to make history and set themselves apart as trailblazers for our military and our nation.


Sincerely,

Christine E. Wormuth

Did You Know?

This post concludes our 50-week countdown to Homecoming.


We hope you have enjoyed learning about the history and achievements of Norwich women. If you missed any of the posts, you can find them on the NU Alumni website!



Women Kicking Glass Archive

Learn About the History and Women of Norwich
Each week through Homecoming 2024 we will share profiles and photos highlighting 50 years of NU trailblazers via email and social media.

Here are the archived weekly emails (from October 14, 2023):



- Issue #1: [Title IX Opens Doors For Women to Attend Norwich](#)
- Issue #2: [The VC-NU Bus Society](#)
- Issue #3: [A History Gone Right](#)
- Issue #4: [First to Letter: Roberta Moskos '76](#)
- Issue #5: [First to Commission: Diane Gionet '75](#)
- Issue #6: [Blazing Her Own Trail: Nancy Young '76](#)
- Issue #7: [Accepting the Challenge: Vicki Hippard '78](#)

See alumni.norwich.edu/womenkickingglass_archive for all the profiles, from *Title IX Opens Doors For Women to Attend Norwich* to *Mothers and Daughters: Legacy Families on the Hill*.

Records documenting women's history and experience at Norwich are available through the University Archives. <https://archives.norwich.edu/>