

A Campaign of the Stanton and Anthony Statue Fund

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Statue Fund Calls For New York City To Create A Women's Rights Trail Honoring The Women Who Made This City Great

NEW YORK – February 25, 2019 – In testimony today at a City Council Hearing on Gender and Cultural Diversity in NYC Monuments, Board Members Pam Elam, Brenda Berkman, and Judaline Cassidy from the Stanton and Anthony Statue Fund and its Monumental Women Campaign outlined their five years of work to break the bronze ceiling in Central Park to create the first statue of real women in the Park's 165-year history. While Central Park has many statues of male historical figures as well as statues of fictional females like Alice in Wonderland, Mother Goose, and Juliet (with Romeo), no real women have ever been honored. Now starting its sixth year of work, The Statue Fund, an all-volunteer, tax-exempt charity, described the many bureaucratic obstacles the City puts in the way of organizations wishing to honor all those who made this City great - especially women and people of color. The Statue Fund plans to unveil its new statue on August 26, 2020 in celebration of both the Centennial Anniversary of the ratification of the 19th "Votes For Women" Amendment to the Constitution and the 200th Anniversary of the birth of Susan B. Anthony.

The testimony described the three different components of The Statue Fund's Monumental Women Campaign:

- Creation of the first statue of real women, New Yorkers Elizabeth Cady Stanton And Susan B. Anthony, in Central Park history as well as plans for many other statues of "Monumental Women" throughout the City;
- Creation of a Women's History Education Campaign, in partnership with the New-York Historical Society, to bring new curriculum and online resources for students and teachers, as well as programs, conferences, and exhibits for the public.
- Challenge to Municipalities to re-imagine their public spaces to honor women and people of color who have been left out of such tributes in the past.

The Statue Fund issued an immediate challenge to **this** municipality: the creation of a New York City Women's Rights Trail which would cover all five boroughs. This Trail

would consist of statues, gardens, plaques, street signs, historic homes, museum exhibitions, and other tributes to honor the diversity of women, especially those who fought for suffrage and for women's rights. The Statue Fund looks forward to working with the City to make the "Women's Rights Trail" a reality.

#MonumentalWomen is a campaign of The Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony Statue Fund, Inc., an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. All contributions to the group are tax-exempt. For further information or to make a contribution to match the New York Life Challenge Grant, please contact The Statue Fund at <u>www.monumentalwomen.org</u> or Post Office Box 150-074, Van Brunt Station, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

###

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Pam Elam, President of The Statue Fund and It's Monumental Women Campaign (347) 224-8976