

Sadie Jacobs Crockin



As a woman, an American, and a Jew, Sadie Jacobs Crockin championed many causes. She brought women together in organizations that empowered diverse Americans to participate fully in civic life.

Under Crockin's leadership, the Baltimore chapter of the League of Women Voters helped women exercise their newly won right to vote. She was the founding president of the Baltimore chapter of Hadassah, the first Zionist women's organization. Once she had firmly established these and other organizations locally, Crockin achieved statewide prominence as an advocate for social justice and world peace.



(Top) Sadie Crockin, about 1915
Jewish Museum of Maryland, 1996.21.9b

(Above) Sadie Crockin (standing) leading a meeting of a woman's club, 1950s
Courtesy of Arthur C. and Sally T. Grant, L2010.14.3

Vote! The Life and Work of Sadie Jacobs Crockin 1879-1965 was made possible with generous support from:

League of Women Voters of Baltimore City,
Sadie Crockin Memorial Fund
Mayer Crockin Liebman, MD, and David B. Liebman, DPA
Arthur Crockin Grant and Sally T. Grant
Hadassah of Greater Baltimore
League of Women Voters of Baltimore County
Maryland Women's Heritage Center
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Exhibition Designer: Ken Falk

Exhibitions at the Jewish Museum of Maryland are supported by the Hoffberger Family Exhibition Endowment, the Stanford Z. and Cory Rothschild Exhibition Endowment, the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Exhibition Endowment and the Booke Research Fund.

The Jewish Museum of Maryland
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The Museum and shop are open
Tuesday – Thursday and Sunday 12 – 4 p.m.



VOTE!

The Life and Work of Sadie Jacobs Crockin 1879-1965



VOTE! commemorates the 90th anniversary of the League of Women Voters of Baltimore City.



THE ASSOCIATED

THE
JewishMuseum
OF MARYLAND
At the Herbert Bearman Campus

Growing into Womanhood 1879-1920



Sadie Jacobs Crockin was born in Baltimore in 1879 and grew up in Lynchburg, Virginia. Graduating from Randolph-Macon Women's College in 1898, she joined the first generation of college-educated women. They enjoyed unprecedented freedom, and many achieved great influence.

In 1903, Sadie wed Emil Crockin and settled in the city of her birth. In Baltimore, Sadie Crockin immersed herself in a range of educational and philanthropic organizations. Much of her work focused on "Americanization," the effort to help new immigrants adapt. Her intelligence, strong presence, and inspired public speaking soon vaulted her into leadership roles.

(Top) Sadie Crockin and Emil Crockin, Lynchburg, 1903
Courtesy of Arthur and Sally Grant, L2010.14.19

(Center) Certificate from Randolph-Macon Women's College
Jewish Museum of Maryland, 1996.21.20.1

(Right) Sadie Crockin with daughter Frieda, about 1910
Courtesy of Arthur C. and Sally T. Grant, L2010.14.5

Every Woman an Intelligent Voter 1920-1935

After decades of struggle, women won the right to vote with ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920. As passage of the amendment drew near, suffragist leaders organized the League of Women Voters to encourage women to vote and to educate them so they could make good choices at the ballot box. Inspired by a thrilling address by first League President Maud Wood Park, Crockin stepped forward to lead the Baltimore chapter.

Crockin threw herself into organizing programs on citizenship, domestic policy, and foreign affairs. She helped spearhead the creation of the Maryland Legislative Clearing House, designed to streamline the work of sixteen women's organizations in Annapolis and join their combined membership of 30,000 into a single powerful voice.



Courtesy of the Library of Virginia

A Senior Stateswoman 1935-1965



By the 1930s, Sadie Crockin had founded, joined, or led nearly a dozen women's organizations. Her lengthy service as

president of Hadassah and the League of Women Voters—two of Baltimore's largest and most active women's groups—brought Crockin to prominence throughout the state.

Throughout her life, Crockin acted upon her progressive belief in reason, dialogue, and education to reform institutions and solve social problems. She used her prodigious energy to rally women for women's rights, aid to immigrants, Zionism, good citizenship, efficiency in government, and other causes.

Leading by her own example, Crockin assured women that activism would bring them "a different outlook on life, a bigger, broader view," that would enrich their own lives and the lives of women and men in Maryland.



(Top) Sadie Crockin and League of Women Voters meet, 1939
Jewish Museum of Maryland, MS 95

(Above) Sadie Crockin giving Hadassah award to Mrs. Israel Shapiro, 1955
Photo by Jack Classon
Courtesy of Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Baltimore Chapter