

EVERY WORD WE UTTER MOVES FORWARD

The bronze monument "Every Word We Utter", by Loveland artist Jane DeDecker, is moving closer to becoming a reality. Inspired by the suffragettes who worked tirelessly to gain the right of women to vote, DeDecker designed a 20-foot tall sculpture, "Every Word We Utter," to be placed in Washington, D.C. by August 18, 2020, the 100th anniversary of the passing of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution giving women the right to vote.

The monument honors six women who over the years fought for women's rights and equal rights: Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Harriot Stanton Blatch, Sojourner Truth, Alice Paul, and Ida B. Wells. "It's based on ripples," said DeDecker, "The first ripple was the women who dreamed. The second ripple is the women who first voted. The third ripple is contemporary women or women in the past who strived to make changes."* The monument's name, "Every Word We Utter", was taken from a letter Lucretia Mott wrote in 1880 to Stanton and emphasizes that words in support of women by generations past, by those living now, and those that follow are all important to the goal of securing women's rights.

This project, which requires an Act of Congress in order for the monument to be placed in the National Mall, has been introduced and heard in committee in both houses of Congress. Rep.Joe Neguse (CO-2) is the sponsor of H.R. 473 the House bill; Sen. Michael Bennet is the sponsor of the companion bill S. 1705. All members of the Colorado House delegation and Sen. Cory Gardner are co-sponsors.

The LWVUS is tracking progress of the bills and the LWVCO endorsed the project with financial support. Donations are encouraged via the website. Members are encouraged to learn more about the project on the artist's website, and video, and inform friends of this exciting project. Promoting the project across the country through networks of family and friends, and urging support of members of Congress can move the monument forward!

^{*}Quotation from Loveland "Reporter-Herald" article, 1-17-19