

Phillis Wheatley

Hello, my name is Phillis Wheatley. I was one of America's first poets and the first African American to publish a book. Despite living as a slave, I had a good education, and I soon learned Greek and Latin. I was only 13 years old when my first poem was published. I wrote poems about my Christian faith, famous people, and the Revolution. I even wrote a poem about George Washington. He enjoyed it so much, I was invited to read it to him. I gained my personal freedom and was a strong supporter of freedom for the colonies.

Performance Instructions: Dress as a colonial woman and carry a copy of one of your poems. After speaking, hand it to the student playing George Washington.

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