

## Phillis Wheatley

Hello, my name is Phillis Wheatley. At 13 years old, I was the author of the first book published by an African American and the second woman to publish a book in the colonies. My love of freedom came from the fact that I was seized and taken into slavery at the young age of seven. I was the first African American to gain an international reputation due to traveling to England. I wrote poems about my Christian faith, famous people, and the Revolution. I even met and wrote poems about Ben Franklin and George Washington. George Washington enjoyed his poem so much that I was invited to read it to him.

***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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