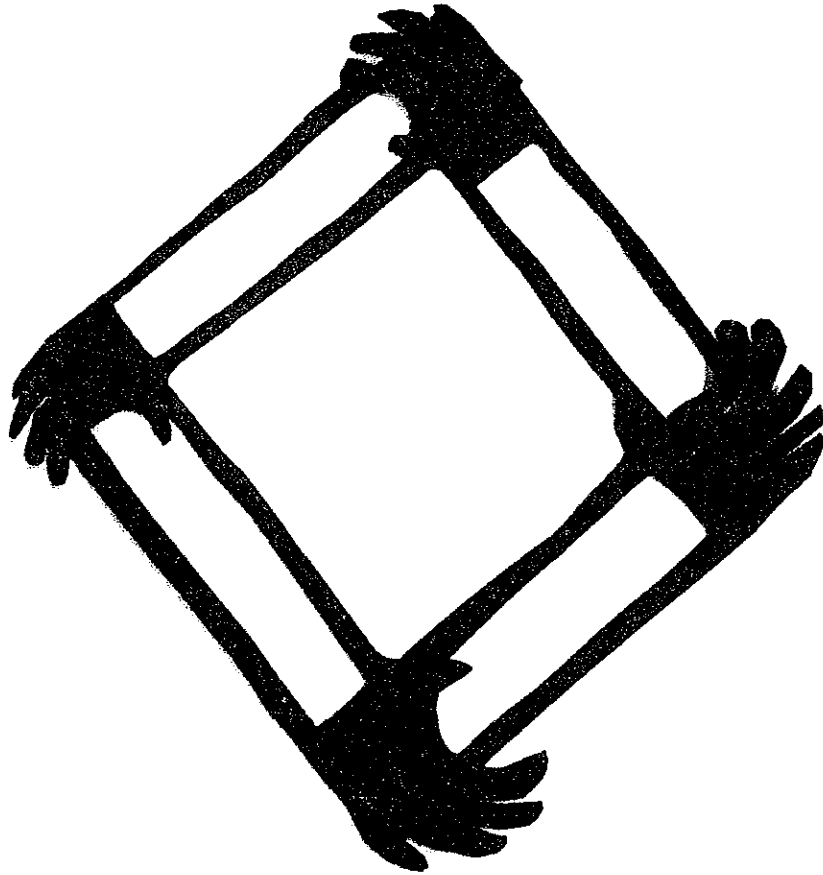


CREATION OF A
NATION



A play written and performed by the
students of the
Fourth Grade Class
At Genesee Community Charter School

CAST (in order of speaking parts)

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------|-------------------|-----------|
| FRANCIS LEWIS | Autumn | BENJAMIN FRANKLIN | Sophie |
| JOHN DICKINSON | Gwynnie | STEPHEN HOPKINS | Mecca |
| PHILIP LIVINGSTON | Cameron | ROGER SHERMAN | Garrett |
| SAMUEL CHASE | Clara | JAMES WILSON | Michaela |
| ELBRIDGE GERRY | Katrina | LYMAN HALL | Wolde |
| ROBERT TREAT PAINE | Shelby | JOHN HANCOCK | Lydia |
| JOHN ADAMS | Matthieu | BENJAMIN HARRISON | Adem |
| WILLIAM ELLERY | Matan | GEORGE READ | Adryana |
| SAMUEL ADAMS | Amelia | JOSIAH BARTLETT | Lauren |
| GEORGE CLYMER | Tim | THOMAS JEFFERSON | Alexander |
| SAMUEL HUNTINGTON | Victoria | EDWARD RUTLEDGE | Maya |
| WILLIAM WHIPPLE | Charlie | FRANCIS HOPKINSON | Hannah |
| THOMAS McKEAN | Noah | GEORGE WYTHE | Addie |
| OLIVER WOLCOTT | Endya | RICHARD HENRY LEE | Rosie |
| THOMAS NELSON, JR. | Allison | ROBERT MORRIS | Kenneth |
| GEORGE WASHINGTON | Jack | JOHN WITHERSPOON | Margo |

MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR THEIR HELP:

Mrs. Diana Carter & the Costume Committee for the many, many hours spent sharing ideas, organizing materials and assembling our incredibly beautiful costumes. This would not have been possible without you.

Mr. Ben Wilson for setting up all the technical details with the lighting and **Mr. Vince Hesketh** for volunteering to operate the lights for us on such short notice.

Mrs. Carrie Haymond-Hesketh for finding wonderful songs for us to sing and rearranging her schedule to meet our needs. **Ms. Nancy Valle** for creating the collages of our silhouettes, mixed media images and powerful language, and projecting these masterpieces on the scrim. **Ms. Sarah Morell** for helping us with our tableaux and the movement of our bodies

Dr. Lisa Wing, Mrs. Lisa O'Malley, Ms. Cicero, Mr. Walpole, and all of our **Philadelphia chaperones** for organizing and leading a memorable field study that helped us to make connections during the rest of our expedition. **Mrs. Carol Aspenleiter (Mrs. "A.")** for the stage work, drafting help, organizing our many materials and keeping us well-nourished.

Mr. Fred Rogers & his crew from the Rochester Museum & Science Center for setting up the auditorium and being flexible enough to meet our many needs during a very busy time of year.

Our families for their feedback on our lines and singing, for help with the research and biographies, for getting our costumes together, their support and inspiration, and the countless other ways they helped.

ACT I: HISTORICAL EVENT TABLEAUS

Song: "Rich Lady over the Sea"

Scene 1: Stamp Act

LEWIS, DICKINSON, LIVINGSTON, CHASE, GERRY

Song: "Castle Island"

Scene 2: Boston Massacre Trial

PAINE, J. ADAMS

Song: "Free America"

Scene 3: Sons of Liberty/Resisting the British

ELLERY, S. ADAMS, CLYMER, HUNTINGTON

Song: "Ready the Fife"

Scene 4: Military Involvement

WHIPPLE, McKEAN, WOLCOTT, NELSON, WASHINGTON

INTERMISSION (~ 10 minutes)

ACT II: DECLARATION TABLEAU

Song: "The Egg"

Scene 1: Declaration Contributions

FRANKLIN, HOPKINS, SHERMAN, WILSON, HALL, HANCOCK,
HARRISON, READ, BARTLETT, JEFFERSON, RUTLEDGE,
HOPKINSON, WYTHE, LEE, MORRIS, WITHERSPOON

Song: "Hail Columbia"

CHARACTER BIOGRAPHIES

(Each biography was written by the cast member playing the character.)

Connecticut

Samuel Huntington

Samuel Huntington was born July 3, 1731 in Windham, Connecticut. He had 10 siblings. He was the fourth child. He married a minister's daughter, Martha Devotion in 1761. They had no children of their own. They adopted Francis and Samuel Huntington, sons of Reverend Joseph Huntington.

Samuel Huntington had many jobs in his lifetime. He received very little formal education but instead he was self taught studying Latin and law. He was admitted to the bar in 1758. In 1764, at the age of 23, he was appointed king's attorney until 1774 when he was active with the Sons of Liberty. He was also voted twice to be president of the Continental Congress. In 1773 the colonial legislature had named him as a judge of the Connecticut Supreme Court. Samuel represented the colony of Connecticut by signing the Declaration of Independence on August 2, 1776. He was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1784. In 1786 he became governor. He proved to be an extremely popular governor winning each election until his death in 1796.

Roger Sherman

When Roger Sherman was born in 1721, he was born with a desire to learn. Roger was born in Newton, Massachusetts. Roger spent most of his time working and farming. When Roger was 22 he moved in with his brother in New Milford, Connecticut. There, he married Elizabeth Hartwell. She died when she was 34. Roger got married again to Rebecca Prescott. In the end he had 15 children total!

In 1743 Roger moved into Connecticut, he became a County Judge and held the office of Justice of the Peace. He was a Representative in both Houses, which means he was a Senator and a representative in the colonial legislature. Roger then moved from County Judge to Associate Judge of the Connecticut Supreme Court. In 1754 Roger was admitted to the Connecticut Bar. Roger played a big role in the documents that created our country. He was the only delegate to sign all four documents: the Articles of Association, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution.

When Delegate Sherman attended the First Continental Congress meeting, people laughed at him because he didn't wear a wig. Instead, people saw his short brown hair. Roger had been an honest man. People gained his trust. John Adams called him "as honest as an angel" and "one of the soundest and strongest pillars of the Revolution."

As Roger Sherman retired from his political career, he wrote a series of almanacs about space. In 1793 Roger Sherman died.

Oliver Wolcott

Oliver Wolcott was born in Connecticut on December 1, 1726. He also grew up in the colony of Connecticut. He had fourteen siblings and he was the youngest. He graduated from Yale University at the age of twenty. He was at the top of his class. Later in life he became the President of the Arts Department at Yale University. Mr. Wolcott had a wife named Laura Collins and later had five children.

Mr. Wolcott was a judge in the Connecticut courts for ten years from 1750-1760. In 1771 he joined the Revolutionary War. He was a militia leader. He became a General of the military around 1776. On July 9, 1776 Mr. Wolcott pulled the head off of King George III's statue. He ordered his daughters and their friends to melt the statue into bullets so they may be shot while fighting the English troops. Oliver Wolcott died on December 1st 1797. He died on a special day, his birthday. He was 71 years old.

Delaware

Thomas McKean

Thomas McKean, the second son of farmer-tavern keeper William McKean was born in New London, Chester County in 1734. In 1763 he married Mary Boredon, the sister of Francis Hopkinson's wife. Mary died in 1773. When Mary died, Thomas married Sarah Armitage. He had six children with Mary and five with Sarah.

Thomas was first home-schooled. At age nine he was sent to the Reverent Francis Allison Academy at New London, Pennsylvania. He studied at the Francis Allison Academy for seven years. He then went to New Castle, Delaware, where he studied law under his cousin, David Finney. He received his honorary M.A. degree from the College of Pennsylvania (Penn's Woods).

To some McKean was know as "the fierce raging rebel." Thomas was also a delegate of Delaware in Continental Congress. Thomas shortly filled in for the President of Continental Congress in 1781. Thomas McKean was governor of Pennsylvania from 1799 to 1808.

Thomas McKean accomplished many feats, such as drafting and signing the Articles of Confederation. He signed the Declaration in 1777, he was last to sign the Declaration of Independence. He also helped write the Constitution for Delaware and Pennsylvania.

The man who got things done and done in a big way died in 1817. He left behind 34 grandchildren.

George Read

George Read was born September 18, 1733 in northeast Maryland. He had no siblings. George Read had five kids, four boys and one girl. He married one of his fellow lawyer's sisters. His kids' names were John (but he died at age four), George, William, John, and Mary. John that died was born in 1763, George in 1765, William in 1767, John in 1769, and Mary in 1770.

George Read was a delegate and a lawyer too before signing the Declaration of Independence. He wanted protests that were organized and nonviolent. He voted against independence in Congress because he thought they could reconcile with Great Britain.

George Read was still a lawyer after the signing of the Declaration of Independence. He was not a delegate after the signing of the Declaration of Independence. He died September 21, 1798 at age 68.

Georgia

Lyman Hall

Lyman Hall was born in Wallingford, Connecticut. As a child Lyman Hall grew up in Savannah, Georgia with no siblings. He married Abigail Burr and Mary Osborne. His first wife died in one year. Then he remarried. He had one son and no daughters.

He went to Yale College. He studied ministry and became a minister. Then he studied medicine and became a doctor. Then was a delegate to the Continental Congress, then a governor of Georgia, then a judge in 1783.

Hall was elected as a representative in the Second Continental Congress. In 1776 two representatives of Georgia joined Hall. Hall was still in the Continental Congress during the war. Hall died in October 19, 1790.

Maryland

Samuel Chase

Life was exchanged for death on April 17 of 1741. At the birth of Samuel Chase, Sam's mother died shortly afterward. When Sam grew older he lived with his father, Reverend Thomas Chase. Sam was schooled by his father and then moved off to Annapolis, Maryland to study law. In 1761 Samuel was admitted to the bar. A year later Sam married Anne Baldwin with whom he had at least two sons and two daughters. During the War of Independence Chase's wife died. So in 1784 he remarried; Hannah Kitty Giles was found by Chase in England.

The newlyweds with Samuel's original children moved from Annapolis to Baltimore in 1786, where Chase grew up. In 1788, Chase was assigned the judge of criminal jurisdiction from the town of Baltimore. Chase was on the bench as an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court for 15 years; from 1796 until his death in 1811.

Samuel Chase is known today for his enthusiasm in insulting the British crown and he stuck with his opinions no matter what the consequences. Also he was an active member of a protesting group that existed in every colony, the Sons of Liberty. Chase was assigned a delegate of the Continental Congress. He rode with Pride to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. At first he did not agree to the idea, independence, when Richard Henry Lee proposed independence on June 7, 1776. Then, finally, he broke free from England. Sam was not available when Congress voted their approval of independence. He signed his name on the document on August 2, 1776. Chase was assigned by Congress to journey to Canada with Dr. Franklin and Charles Carrol of Carrolton in 1776 to achieve a union, but this mission concluded a failure. Chase also served on a special committee with Richard Henry Lee and Gouverneur Morris to write a paper to discredit the British peace overtures of 1778, which would have rescinded American independence.

Sam Chase bore many different names upon his chest. From the Loyalists and those who were hurt by the Sons of Liberty, came the names: "busy, restless incendiary," "a ringleader of mobs," "a foul mouthed son of discord and faction," "a common disturber of the public tranquility," and "a promoter of the lawless excesses of the multitude." Several have named Chase with reason. For instance, he was called "bacon face" because of his ruddy complexion, which grew even redder with excitement. These creative nicknames were thought up by those who thought highly of his work: "the Samuel Adams of Maryland," and "the torch that lit the revolutionary flame in Maryland." The Samuel Adams of Maryland died on the 19th of June, 1811, three months and four days after his 70th birthday.

Massachusetts

John Adams

John Adams was born talented. He began his famous life on October 19, 1735 in a cottage at the bottom of Pen Hill. His parents were Susannah and John Adams. He married Abigail Smith at the age of 29 and a few days later his father died. His son John Quincy Adams grew up to be the sixth president. In later years his other son Charles in old age and sickness, successfully defended a native tribe from Africa revolt on the LA AMISTAD. After graduating from Harvard University studying law John Adams became a school teacher.

After being admitted to the bar John became a lawyer. His many famous cases include John Hancock's smuggling charges and the Boston massacre case where two out of six British soldiers were found guilty. The two had their thumbs branded and were dismissed from the army. Then in 1777 John became a diplomat to France. John worked hard under George Washington as Vice President of the United States. When Washington willingly gave up power as President of the United States in 1796 John Adams skyrocketed to president.

John had challenges. Other men might have shown their opinion with guns but John hated violence to get what you want.

He was the first vice president and the second President. He was the first President to have a son that was President.

The first diplomat to Britain signed the Declaration of Independence He was in France at the time of the signing of the Constitution. He wrote "Thoughts on Government" to rival Thomas Paine's "Common Sense." John also helped think of and helped write the Declaration of Independence.

Samuel Adams

A founding father of the revolution... He was born in Boston on September 16, 1722. When he was old enough, his parents put him to work in the family brewery. When he inherited the brewery from his father he failed miserably. When he went to college at Harvard University (in Massachusetts), he wrote a school paper about justice and fairness. When he married his first wife he had 2 kids, a boy and a girl.

In early adulthood, he had several jobs. He was a tax collector, but he was so kind that when people told him they did not have enough money he would not make them pay the tax. Another job he had was a delegate in Continental Congress. He thought it would be a good idea to bring the people together to discuss their grievances. He had found success by signing the Declaration of Independence.

While he was in Continental Congress, he didn't say much, which was a very unusual thing for him to do. Some considered him to be a radical of high status. He knew that there was a time for dumping tea, there was a time for making speeches, and then there was a time for sitting on a hot Monday morning and keeping your silence while others argued. He did speak out and when he did he always supported independence.

He signed the Articles of Confederation which can be considered our first Constitution because it told us about what our government is supposed to do. The Articles of Confederation did not work because they gave too much power to the states and not that much to the president.

He died October 2, 1803 in his home town of Boston. He was 81. He sunk back into the shadows and no one remembered how important he was to the revolution but he would not have minded because of his saying, "I work for the millions not yet born so they might enjoy freedom."

This astounding man's name is Samuel Adams, signer of the Articles of Confederation, organizer of the Boston tea party, and last but not least a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Elbridge Gerry

It all started in Marblehead Massachusetts on July 17th, 1744. Elbridge Gerry was born from his parents Thomas Gerry and Elizabeth Greenleaf Gerry. Elbridge was the third of nine children. An astonishing number of his siblings died in infancy. Elbridge married on January 12th, 1786 to Ann Thompson. Ann and Elbridge had three sons and six daughters: Catherine 1787, Eliza 1790, Ann 1791, Elbridge 1793, Thomas 1794, Helen 1796, James 1797, Eleanor 1800, and Emily 1802.

Elbridge entered Harvard University at the young age of fourteen. He entered Harvard to be a merchant. Mr. Gerry was at Harvard when the British Stamp Act was going on. He wrote a letter saying "all Americans should resist the British Stamp Act." A few years later he graduated from Harvard with a Master's Degree. Shortly after this time he met Ann. Time passed as he entered his families business selling fish, sailing far from Massachusetts where he was living. After he retired from sailing he welcomed himself to the Continental Congress and helped with the Declaration of Independence. He signed the Declaration of Independence on behalf of the colony of Massachusetts. He also participated with the Constitution. With the revisions of the Constitution Mr. Gerry dissented to signing it, meaning he refused to sign. Then on November 23, 1814, Mr. Gerry died. His wife was the last surviving wife of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Ann lived seventy-three years after Elbridge signed the Declaration of Independence.

Without Elbridge Gerry many ideas and words would be missing from the Constitution and the gerrymandering would never be such a problem. The gerrymandering is a cartoon to show reshaping of political party power.

John Hancock

John Hancock was born on January 23rd, 1737. After his father died John went to live with his Uncle Thomas. John was seven at the time. He went to Harvard University and graduated in 1754. He witnessed the funeral of King George II and though later became one of his greatest enemies, John Hancock witnessed the coronation of King George III (along with the funeral of George II) and

wrote back the news that the king was good-natured and well-liked. Though he liked King George III before, when the Stamp Act, Tea Act, and Townshend Acts came out, John Hancock liked him much less.

As he grew up John became rich, lucky, and popular. Sam Adams was much against King George and Parliament at the time, and who would be better to help him than John Hancock? Sam's cousin, John Adams, was also Hancock's friend and his lawyer. He defended him in a smuggling case. John Hancock made a speech at the funeral of those killed at the Boston Massacre and had views similar to Sam Adams. He was elected President of the Continental Congress in 1774. Because he was President of Congress, he made the first and largest signature on the Declaration of Independence. To this day when people sign important documents, they are asked to put their "John Hancock" on the signature bar.

During the Revolutionary War he expected to make a great success on the Rhode Island expedition. They needed to meet a French fleet and fight a very small army. What could go wrong? Everything did. A storm came and crippled the French fleet, John forgot to bring his favorite books, and it was raining. John felt it was hard to be noble when you are wet. The French fleet, however, wanted repayment for their troubles. And so, John Hancock entertained 120 French officers for six weeks!

One of the saddest things that happened to him was that both his children died young. His son, John George Washington Hancock, hit his head trying on a new pair of skates. His daughter, Lydia, died after only a few months. He did get to be a leader. He was elected Governor of Massachusetts twelve times. He died in 1793 at the age of 56. He died on the morning of a review that he wanted to attend, of a sickness that had been plaguing him throughout the fall.

Robert Treat Paine

Robert Treat Paine was born on March 11, 1731. During his childhood he loved to spy. He was a lonely child. He didn't have any brothers or sisters. Robert Treat Paine had one love of his life. He got married to Sally Cobb. She was his only wife. They had eight children that they loved very much. Robert home schooled his children. Robert Treat Paine was a great student. He was always at the head of his class. His teachers placed him in different classes that were much more advanced. At fourteen, Robert entered Harvard University. When he was older he became a teacher at Harvard.

Some of the jobs that Robert Treat Paine had were: a lawyer, a teacher, and governor. He was a lawyer for fourteen years. He also defended the patriots during the Boston Massacre. Robert Treat

Paine was eighty-three years old when he died.

New Hampshire

Josiah Bartlett

Josiah Bartlett was born on November 21, 1729. He grew up in Massachusetts. His parents were Stephen Bartlett and Hannah Bartlett. Josiah was the fourth out of seven children. When he was a young adult he apprenticed as a doctor. After he became a doctor he gave birth to a doctor's office in Kingston. After he opened a doctor's he married his first wife. His first wife was his first cousin. They married on January 15, 1754. Together they had 12 children. His children were Mary (1754), Lois (1756), Ezra (1756), Miriam (1758), Hannah (1758), Rhoda (1760), Levi (1763), Josiah (1765), an unnamed child (1767), Sarah (Sally) (1773), Hannah again (1776).

As a doctor Mr. Bartlett found a disease. The name of the disease was distemper of the throat. It was killing kids while sitting at play. Before he became a doctor he studied medicine. During his free time he studied Greek and Latin.

As he studied hard to be a doctor he was elected to the Continental Congress. He did not go to represent Massachusetts but to represent New Hampshire with William Whipple. He was the second signer of the Declaration of Independence but the first to sign the Declaration of Independence from New Hampshire.

In Josiah's life he was elected for a large amount of duties he had accomplished. He was elected president of New Hampshire. He was also a judge. He died in 1795 but is remembered today as the second signer of the Declaration of Independence.

William Whipple

William Whipple the signer of the declaration of independence, who was a general in the revolutionary war, was born in 1730. William was born in Kittery Maine and was the eldest of 5 children. Whipple was locally schooled until his teens when he took to the sea. At the age of 21 young William Whipple owned his own ship. Around 1760 Whipple gave up the sea to become a merchant and later married his cousin Katherine Haffatt.

Soon after marriage calls for public duties came. Some of these public duties were judging, a seat on the New Hampshire Community of Safety, New Hampshire legislative and a seat on the provincial congress.

Later Whipple won a spot on the Continental Congress and signed the declaration under New Hampshire, though he was born in Maine. Josiah Bartlett, a friend of William's was also on the continental congress under New Hampshire.

Whipple favored severe punishment of loyalists and spectators.

After signing the declaration of independence, Whipple joined the army and rose to the rank of brigadier general. He fought and won at both the battles of Saratoga and Stillwater.

Whipple died in his home in Portsmouth on the 28th of November 1785 from a heart condition at the age of 55.

New Jersey

Francis Hopkinson

Francis was born in Philadelphia, PA on September 21, 1731. He was born to the proud parents of Thomas and Mary. During Francis' adulthood he met a wonderful woman, Ann Borden. They got married and had five kids. One son wrote a famous song, "Hail Columbia." Have you heard of it?

Francis had many hobbies including some of the following. For one, he was a composer along with his son. Francis wrote "Battle of the Kegs," "My Days Have Been So Wondrous Free," and many more. He also wrote poetry, humorous poetry. He was an author who wrote books for all ages. Not to mention he was a musician as well.

Francis had many talents, useful talents, talents he could use for a job. So in just 20 years he was an artist with his wonderful art teacher Mr. Benjamin West. He was a lawyer with the law teacher of Mr. Benjamin Chew. Francis was a designer of famous things, like the redesigned American flag and back of the dollar bill. He was also a librarian as well.

Last but not least, Francis was a delegate. He was a patriot and, finally, he signed the Declaration of Independence under the colony of New Jersey with Mr. John Witherspoon. Fifteen years later he died and is now buried in the Christ Church Burial Ground in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he was born.

John Witherspoon

John Witherspoon was born 1723 in Scotland. His father was a minister. John could read the bible at a young age. He attended a public school.

When he was a young adult he married a woman named Elizabeth. Elizabeth and John had ten children together. Five of Elizabeth's ten children survived their childhood. But then Elizabeth died and he remarried. He married again to a lady named Anne. She had two children. One of the children's names was James.

John Witherspoon was a man with many different occupations. One of his favorite jobs was being a minister. He talked at ceremonies and gatherings. He could practice his speeches three times and it was memorized. HE was good at

memorizing speeches. One of his other careers was working at Princeton University in New Jersey. During the Revolutionary War the college was burned. Then John spent his last few years helping rebuild college.

He was also part of the Continental Congress. He also signed the Articles of Confederation. He also signed the Declaration of Independence representing the colony of New Jersey. John took his seat at the Continental Congress just a few days before the fourth of July. As John Witherspoon got older he became totally blind. Then he died on his farm on November 15, 1794.

New York

Francis Lewis

Francis Lewis was born March 21, 1713. He grew up in Llandaff, Wales. He went to school at Westminster in London. His parents were Jone and Jane Lewis. When he was older he married a woman named Elizabeth Annesley. They had seven children, however four of them died in infancy. The children's names that survived were Morgan, Ann, and Francis, two boys and a girl.

Francis Lewis was elected to the Continental Congress in 1775. In 1765 when the Stamp Act was passed he joined the Sons of Liberty and started protesting. In fact, he was leader and one of the first to join. He was supporting this group by giving them money.

Francis Lewis was taken prisoner during the French and Indian War. When he returned in 1763, the British rewarded him with a large piece of land for his services. A devastating thing happened to Francis Lewis. His house was burned down by the British. In 1775 Francis was elected to represent New York. In 1776 Francis signed the Declaration of Independence on August second. After his years of hard work he sadly died December 13, 1802 and was buried in Trinity Church.

Philip Livingston

Philip was born in a very prosperous, wealthy, and healthy family. He had one brother, William Livingston. Phillip was born January 15th, 1716 in Albany, New York. He was home schooled and tutored until he was 14, and then became a talented scholar at Yale College. He was a very skilled merchant during and after college. He then married Christina Ten Boreck. They eventually had nine children. Soon after, Philip became involved in politics.

Some of Philip's most important jobs were merchant, member of Senate, Continental Congress member, signer of the Declaration of Independence, Stamp Act Congress member, and importer of weapons for the army. When it came to politics, he stood for what he believed and protested, yet he was

against violent protesting. He mostly protested taxes. His big moment came in 1776 when he was chosen to sign the Declaration of Independence. Representing New York, he took the biggest risk of his life, but with bravery, signed the document. After that, he looked joyfully on the others he helped free from Britain.

Philip had many hobbies. One of them was education. He was also very active in the community and loved to help with education. His biggest commitment was establishing both Columbia and Rutgers University. Along with education, he also loved his family. Whenever he had extra time, he would be at his house admiring and playing with his children. However, on June 12th, 1778, Philip died at the age of 62 during the sixth session of a Congress meeting. He was buried on Prospect Hill in New York. Although he was dead, his family still carried on his legacy. His dying wish of freedom for his children came true in 1783 with the signing of the Constitution by his brother and eventually the Treaty of Paris. So, many can say that Philip Livingston lived the complete Livingston life and beyond.

Pennsylvania

George Clymer

George Clymer's mom died when he was only a month old in 1740. His dad died in a sea accident when he was seven years old. So, he was raised by his maternal uncle who gave him a good education. As a young man he attended the College of Philadelphia from 1757-58. He later apprenticed in the counting rooms of his uncle's business to prepare for a mercantile profession. In 1765, George married Elizabeth Meredith Clymer, the daughter of one of his business partners, who was also friends with George Washington. This was a vital friendship since later Washington and Clymer were instrumental in the American Revolution since Washington was a soldier and Clymer supplied the gunpowder. Clymer had eight children with Elizabeth, three died when they were young and one went on to be an important surgeon in Philadelphia. He owned a very large house in Philadelphia. The more steps you have on your house, the wealthier you are. The Clymer family had four steps.

Clymer started as a clerk in his uncle's business and then later inherited it. He was a member of the Philadelphia Committee of Safety, the Continental Treasurer, and represented Pennsylvania in the Congress at two different times from 1776-1777 and again from 1780-1782. He was elected to serve in the Pennsylvania Legislature and was a member of the House of Representatives in the first Congress.

George Clymer was a merchant who signed the Declaration of Independence and the U.S Constitution. He was one of only six people who

signed both documents. His job was important since he worked for the army by supplying gunpowder for the war. He also made people quit their jobs just because they were selling British goods. He was boycotting Britain and making other people boycott British goods as well. When the British came through Philadelphia, Clymer was out of town. His wife and kids hid in the woods while British troops ransacked his home and destroyed everything. This was more of a reason for him to continue to boycott Britain.

Mr. Clymer was the first collector of excise taxes on alcoholic beverages in Pennsylvania. It was a very difficult job for him since his son died during the wine act because he got in fight.

He was the founder and first person elected to be president of the Pennsylvania Bank. Like Ben Franklin, he worked to convince the Indians of the Pennsylvania area to help with the United States army. Not all the Native Americans in the area sided with the Colonist. Some were on the British side. Mr. Clymer was a member of the commission that negotiated a treaty with the Cherokee and Creek Indians in Georgia. He continued working until he was 73 and died on January 23, 1813.

Clymer is remembered in many ways. There is a town in Pennsylvania called Clymer Borough where they celebrate the Clymer Days Festival on September 26th through 28th. They celebrate George Clymer and all that he stood for. There also exists a battleship named the USS George Clymer. It is an Arthur Middleton class Attack Transport that started serving June 15, 1943. It served in Vietnam, Korea, Asian-Pacific, and the Middle East Campaigns.

John Dickinson

John Dickinson was born November 8, 1732 near Trappe, Talbot county Maryland. John was born into a wealthy Quaker family. He and his family moved to Dover, Delaware to a mansion when John was eight. His family was so wealthy that his parents hired William Killen, a tutor (which was rather unpopular for that time) from Ireland.

John Dickinson went to Princeton University which at the time was an all boys school. After college he studied law in Philadelphia, then went to Middle Temple in London to study law, then went back to Philadelphia to study more law! And guess what he did next. He was a lawyer! John Dickinson had an odd study habit, he thought it was healthier to read standing, rather than sitting.

When John became a lawyer (in 1751) he was interested in politics, so he left law for government. In 1765 John was a delegate to the Stamp Act Congress (a congress against the British Stamp Act). John was governor to Delaware from 1781 to 1782, then Pennsylvania from 1782 to 1785. John

signed the Declaration of Rights from the Stamp Act Congress in 1765, the Articles of Confederation in 1777 and the Constitution in 1789. When John Dickinson heard the idea of separation from the mother country (England) he did not want it! That's why he did not sign the Declaration of Independence.

John Dickinson was an excellent writer. He wrote many things such as the Declaration of Rights for the Stamp Act Congress and the Articles of Confederation, which were some of our first laws. He wrote what was called "letters from a farmer in Pennsylvania" which was a series of letters that were printed in the newspaper protesting against the Intolerable Acts. He also wrote the Declaration on the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms, which was a declaration about what causes people to defend themselves.

John Dickinson was very honest person, which made his writing and speaking even better. John Dickinson was famed for his many writings and speeches. He wrote so much for the Revolution he was called John Dickinson, "Penman of the Revolution." The Penman of the Revolution died February 14, 1808. He is buried today at Friends Meeting House (which is a Quaker meeting house) Burial Ground in Wilmington, Delaware.

Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin was born January 17, 1706, in Boston. Ben was the 15th child in his family. He had 17 brothers and sisters. Ben was the youngest boy. When Ben got older he married a woman named Deborah Read. Ben had three children. One of his children died of smallpox at the age of four. Ben's daughter Sarah Franklin was very loyal and dear to her father. Ben's other son William Franklin was what Ben called a traitor because he was a Loyalist. Ben never forgave him.

Benjamin Franklin had many jobs. His first job he got when he was only eight. He helped his father as a soap and candle maker. He hated it! A few more of his jobs were printing and publishing. He was a scientist, and he founded the first firehouse, library and the Academy of Science. He was an ambassador for Philadelphia and postmaster of Philadelphia. Ben Franklin was a very well rounded person.

Ben Franklin was a very gifted writer. He wrote many things such as Poor Richard's Almanack, which was a bit hit in England and the colonies. He wrote an autobiography. He worked and owned the Pennsylvania Gazette. When Ben was an apprentice to his brother he played a trick on his brother and wrote letters to his brother and called himself Silence Dogood. When his brother found out he was furious. Ben thought it was hilarious. Ben loved to write and loved a lot of different types of writing.

Ben was a big politician. In 1767 Ben was an ambassador in Europe for Philadelphia. Ben was also ambassador for Pennsylvania, Georgia, New Jersey and Massachusetts. Ben was elected to the Continental Congress in 1775. He was a commissioner to the French court and a debater of the Treaty of Paris in 1781. Benjamin Franklin was very helpful when it came to political situations.

Two of Ben Franklin's many talents were inventing and experimenting. A few of his inventions were the glass armonica (ARM-on-ica), which was used for playing wonderful music. For a majority of Ben's life he had troubles seeing, so he invented bifocal glasses. The purpose of bifocals is so that you can see far away and up close without changing your glasses. Since modern heating didn't exist yet, they had to use wood burning stoves, but the heat didn't circulate very well, so Ben invented a stove that helped the heat circulate. It was called a Franklin stove. He invented a lighting rod. It prevented fires caused by lightning. What he's probably most famous for is his lightning experiments. One of his experiments was proving lightning was electricity. Ben Franklin loved to invent things. Most of the things he invented were extremely helpful to the public.

Robert Morris

Robert Morris was born on January 20, 1734. He grew up in Lancashire, England. When Robert was young he left home to search for employment. He had the jobs of Special Commissioner of Finance in 1776, author of the Plan for a National Bank in 1771, and Financial Agent of the United States in 1781. He was a United States Senator from 1789 to 1795 and in 1789 he was appointed Secretary of the Treasury.

Robert's wife's name was Mary White. His children's names were Robert, Thomas, William White, Hetty, Charles, Martha, and Christian.

At the Continental Congress he was elected to be a delegate. As a delegate, he was part of the Constitutional Convention. He donated \$3,000,000 to the Revolutionary War and went to jail for four years. He went to jail because he ran out of money and robbed a bank. After he was released from jail it was as if no one knew him any more. He was set free in 1801 and lived only five more years. He died in 1806 in relative poverty at the age of 72.

James Wilson

James was a very shy person. He was born in 1746 in Carskerdo, Scotland. Then in college his father died. James decided to come to America. He settled in Philadelphia Pennsylvania in 1776. There he married Rachel Bird. They had six children. Rachel died in 1786. Seven years later he married nineteen year old Hannah Gray. They had one child. The baby died as an infant.

Later in his time, James Wilson got arrested for being in debt. He studied at St. Andrews in Glasgow, and in Edinburgh for college. He wanted to be a minister. But, his father's death changed his mind. Then he tutored at the College at Philadelphia. Then in November 1776 he became a lawyer, and then in 1778 he became part of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

In 1776 he became a delegate to the Continental Congress. He signed the Declaration of Independence. In 1789 he signed the Constitution. Later, he became a Whig leader. In 1798 he died in North Carolina.

South Carolina

Edward Rutledge

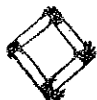
Edward Rutledge is a very important character. For example his family is a very artistic family. You might not know this, Edward was the youngest child of three siblings. He was born November 23, 1749 and he was born in Christ Church in the city of Charleston, South Carolina. When Edward was an adult he married Henrietta Middleton, a few or so after they married she died so Edward married again. Edward was to have three children.

Edward Rutledge had two jobs and one of them happened to be a lawyer. He studied law at Middle Temple. Edward started learning about law in January of 1773. His other job was that he was the governor of South Carolina from 1798 to 1800.

As some of you might know Edward Rutledge signed the Declaration of Independence. He signed the Declaration of Independence on August 2, 1776. Edward was the 46th to sign the Declaration of Independence and he was the youngest to sign. Edward Rutledge was 26 years old when he signed the Declaration.

Edward Rutledge even went to Congress! When Edward attended Congress he was 27. Edward took leave from Congress during the Independence War in November of 1776 to join the defense of his colony. Then the colonial legislature called him back to Congress in 1779 to fill a vacancy. Again he took leave in 1780 when the British conducted a third invasion of South Carolina.

Edward Rutledge changed history, for example Edward was very stubborn. When he believed in something he fought hard for it, such as when he felt the United States should keep slavery and all of the men opposed him due to the fact that Edward Rutledge worked hard for his causes he was able to be the youngest signer of the Declaration of Independence which changed United States History.



Rhode Island

William Ellery

Did you know that William Ellery, a kind, gentle and nearsighted man barely five feet tall that loved to garden was part of the most rebellious group of Americans called the High Sons of Liberty when Britain started taxing the Americans?!

William Ellery was born on December 22, 1727 in Newport, Rhode Island. William was the second child of four. But, even though William had three siblings, his family was so rich that they could hire private tutors, and they did. After being taught by private tutors, he went to Harvard and graduated in 1747. Three years later, on October 11, he married Ann Remington. Although Ann died 14 years later, she left six children behind. Later he married Abigail Carey and then had 10 more children.

William Ellery had loads of jobs. Also in 1764 he became a founder of Rhode Island College. In 1769 and 1770 he was clerk of General Assembly. In 1770 he started practicing law. In 1776 he was elected to be a delegate in the Continental Congress to replace Samuel Ward who died of smallpox. The Continental Congress was a group of people who were elected to represent each colony (sometimes colonies had two or three delegates) and have meetings to make big decisions about issues that affected all of the colonies. He was there until 1786 with the exceptions of 1780 and 1782. In 1778 he was a judge in the Supreme Court of Rhode Island. He also had the jobs of collector of customs and merchant (a person that sold various goods in a market). He hated being a merchant; he probably thought it was a boring waste of time. Also, he was an active patriot.

William also signed the Declaration of Independence on August 2, 1776. The Declaration of Independence was a document that stated that Americans were free from the English "tyrants" written by Thomas Jefferson in 1776 (although America wasn't really a country until the Treaty of Paris in 1783). Ellery also signed the Articles of Confederation. They were written by John Dickinson to explain the government's rights and how the government would be chosen. It turned out that the Articles of Confederation gave the states too much power, so they each seemed to be more of a separate country than part of a union. Ellery died on February 15, 1820 at the age of 92 and was the second oldest surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence behind only Charles Carrol.

Stephen Hopkins

Stephen Hopkins was born on March 7, 1707 in Scituate, Rhode Island. He had one sibling and his name was Esek Hopkins. Stephen Hopkins got married at the age of 19. He had seven kids. He

married Sarah Scott. After Sarah Scott died he married Ann Smith.

Stephen Hopkins was governor of Rhode Island at a young age. He was a Chief Justice for Rhode Island Superior Court between the years 1769 and 1774. Hopkins was a delegate to Continental Congress in 1778.

Stephen Hopkins founded a newspaper called the Providence Gazette. When a group of Americans burned a British ship and shot a British officer, Stephen Hopkins did his best so that they were not caught. Hopkins as a Chief Justice, stated that he "would neither apprehend them by his own order nor suffer any executive" to do it. Hopkins signed the Declaration of Independence on August 2, 1776. When he signed the Declaration of Independence he had to guide his right hand with his left hand. Because he didn't want to show fear when signing he said, "My hand trembles but my heart does not" to tell them he was not afraid. Stephen Hopkins helped create the Continental Navy. He died in 1785 and was buried in North Burial Ground in Providence.

Virginia

Benjamin Harrison

Benjamin the signer of the Declaration of Independence was born in Charles City County, Virginia in 1726. Harrison had lots of siblings. When he was at college his father and two sisters died by lightning that struck them. He attended William and Mary College. He married Elisabeth Bassett.

Benjamin Harrison was part of the Continental Congress in 1774. He served on three committees. First he worked with foreign affairs. Second he worked with the navy and army. The foreign affairs, navy and army became departments of the United States Government. Mr. Harrison was reelected to the House of Burgess in 1777, elected as a speaker of the House of Burgess until 1782. In 1782 he was chosen twice as governor of Virginia. In 1788 Benjamin Harrison was appointed as chairman of the new Constitution of the United State and the new Constitution established certain rights to the people. Harrison had power and a voice in government. Benjamin Harrison was a delegate. He was responsible for signing the Declaration of Independence. He was a delegate for Virginia and signed for Virginia.

He was known as a Berkeley, Virginia planter. He was also known for owning his father's estate. He shared a house with General Washington. He was lieutenant for Charles City County. Benjamin Harrison died on April 24, 1791 in Charles City County.

Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson was a cunning young fellow while he grew up. He grew up on a plantation in Shadwell Virginia. When Jefferson grew up on the plantation he got jobs and chores on the farm, like feeding the animals and milking the cows. On this plantation his family gained wealth and had hundreds of slaves. Jefferson despised slavery ever since he was little. Jefferson grew up in a family of five, with three sisters and one brother. During college Thomas moved away from home to William and Mary College at the age of seventeen. Two years later in the year of 1762 he graduated going to law school under the professor George Wythe, (a future Declaration signer). George became like a brother father mix to Thomas. After this Thomas married a lady named Martha and they had one child.

While he did all this he had many hobbies that he loved to do! One of these hobbies was Thomas Jefferson loved to play the violin. The reason for this is because when Jefferson was young one of his sisters encouraged him to start fiddling. One of Jefferson's favorite songs to play was "The Vivaldi Concerto". Whenever Thomas went his fiddle came with him.

Jefferson's first job in life was a lawyer. He didn't intend it but this carried his job to the extreme. After this Thomas was made a member of Congress because of his intelligence and also because Richard Henry Lee had to go back to Virginia, Thomas was chosen to write the Declaration of Independence which was one of Thomas' greatest accomplishments. Finally in 1801 he became President of the United States until 1809. Then ten years later he became founder of the University of Virginia and lived until his happy ending in 1826. On July 4th of that year he died on the anniversary of the approval of the Declaration of Independence years earlier.

Richard Henry Lee

Richard Henry Lee had a hard working life. He was born into a rich family in southern Virginia in 1732. Richard was the seventh of eleven children. For education as a young boy, he had private tutors. When Richard was in his college years, he went to Wakefield University in Yorkshire England to study farming. He returned to Virginia in 1751. After college and as a young adult Richard got married and had nine children but sadly had been married twice and had four children with Anne Aylett and five with Ann Pinckard. Richard had a brother named Francis Lightfoot Lee. One very strange thing happened to Richard. In 1768 at age 36, all four of his fingers were shot off in a hunting accident.

Richard also had quite a few jobs during his lifetime. The first was Justice of the Peace, in 1757.

The second job was a representative in the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1757. Third was as a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1774. The fourth job was the first United States Senator for Virginia in 1789. An important fact about Richard was he was the first delegate to suggest the idea of independence to congress on June,7,1776. He also signed the Declaration of Independence representing Virginia, with his brother Francis. Richard died at the age of sixty-four (of sickness) in 1794.

Thomas Nelson, Jr.

Thomas Nelson, Jr. was born on December 26, 1738 in Yorktown, Virginia. His family was very rich. His father owned a mansion and over 400 slaves. Also, twice his father was acting Governor of Virginia. Nelson was the oldest of five children. When Nelson was fourteen, his parents sent him to a private school to be a farmer at Cambridge University in England. Nelson was thirty-three when he got married. A few years later he had eleven or thirteen children. Many articles contain conflicting information about the number of children. When Nelson was still young his father died. On his trip back from England he was elected to the House of Burgesses. The House of Burgesses was the lower house of the colonial legislature.

Nelson had many jobs. His first was a merchant, then a soldier, and then General in 1778. In 1781 he became Governor of Virginia. When Nelson was a General he ordered the American troops to fire at his house because the British soldiers were using it as their headquarters. The soldiers did not listen so he bombed his own house. This took place during the Battle of Yorktown, which was the last major battle of the War of Independence. Before Nelson was a soldier or General, he supported the American troops with his own money because he was very rich. During the summer of 1775 he was elected to the Continental Congress. In 1777 he went home to Virginia because of poor health.

On January 4, 1789 he died nine days after his 50th birthday. He died because of his poor health.

George Washington

George Washington was born in 1732 in Wakefield, Virginia. He had an older brother. His father died when George Washington was young. George Washington married a widow named Martha. They didn't have any children of their own but he took Martha's children in. Their daughter, whose name was Patsy, died in George Washington's arms at the age of sixteen when Patsy had a seizure.

George Washington joined the militia at the age of twenty-one. He worked for the British. He lost his first battle during the French and Indian War

when he was working for the British in the French and Indian War. Before the French and Indian War there had been little conflicts between the French and the British but nothing Serious. He was sent to deliver a letter to the French. When he was scouting for the British he found a French group and this was really his first conflict in battle. It ended up being a diplomatic group. He lost more battles in the Revolutionary War than he won. George Washington won the battle of Yorktown with the help of the French. Remember that he fought the French in the French and Indian War.

George Washington was the first president under the Constitution. He lived to be 67 years old. He died on December 14, 1799 from a throat disease. Even though he might not have meant to, George Washington has changed our country more than most men.

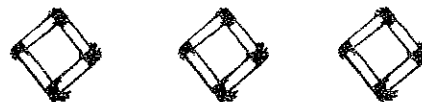
George Wythe

George Wythe was born in Virginia in 1726. He lost his father at the age of three. He was schooled by his mother, who died when Wythe was an early teenager. He was under the guardianship of his older brother. He got married two times. The first time Wythe got married his wife died 8 months after their marriage. He had no kids with his first wife. The second time Wythe got married, Wythe and Elizabeth Taliaferro had 1 child but it died at a very young age. (They did not have a name for their child.)

George's love was teaching law. He learned it with his uncle. He went to College at William and Mary but could not keep up with the fees so he dropped out at age 13. Later on he became the first law teacher at William and Mary College in Virginia. He taught two future politicians which were Henry Clay and Thomas Jefferson.

In the year of 1776 George Wythe was not there for the real signing of the Declaration of Independence because he was creating laws for his home colony of Virginia. Someone might have signed it for him. He represented the colony of Virginia.

George Wythe died in 1806. He was 80 years old when he died. He died of poisoning. It was an accident. His favorite grandnephew poisoned food that Mr. Wythe's slaves were going to eat. George Wythe's grandnephew poisoned the food because Mr. Wythe said to his slaves., "When I die you will be free and own my land and have my money." As a result George Wythe died he freed his slaves in his will. That is the story of George Wythe, friendly, kind and understanding.



**“CREATION OF A NATION”
4th GRADE PERFORMANCE**

Cast [in order of appearance]

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| FRANCIS LEWIS | Autumn |
| JOHN DICKINSON | Gwynnie |
| PHILIP LIVINGSTON | Cameron |
| SAMUEL CHASE | Clara |
| ELBRIDGE GERRY | Katrina |
| ROBERT TREAT PAINE | Shelby |
| JOHN ADAMS | Matthieu |
| WILLIAM ELLERY | Matan |
| SAMUEL ADAMS | Amelia |
| GEORGE CLYMER | Tim |
| SAMUEL HUNTINGTON | Victoria |
| WILLIAM WHIPPLE | Charlie |
| THOMAS McKEAN | Noah |
| OLIVER WOLCOTT | Endya |
| THOMAS NELSON, JR. | Allison |
| GEORGE WASHINGTON | Jack |
| BENJAMIN FRANKLIN | Sophie |
| STEPHEN HOPKINS | Mecca |
| ROGER SHERMAN | Garrett |
| JAMES WILSON | Michaela |
| LYMAN HALL | Wolde |
| JOHN HANCOCK | Lydia |
| BENJAMIN HARRISON | Adem |
| GEORGE READ | Adryana |
| JOSIAH BARTLETT | Lauren |
| THOMAS JEFFERSON | Alexander |
| EDWARD RUTLEDGE | Maya |
| FRANCIS HOPKINSON | Hannah |
| GEORGE WYTHE | Addie |
| RICHARD HENRY LEE | Rosie |
| ROBERT MORRIS | Kenneth |
| JOHN WITHERSPOON | Margo |

ACT I: HISTORICAL EVENTS TABLEAUS

SCENE 1: STAMP ACT TABLEAU

[Lights dim. Enter (from stage left exit curtain, up stairs downstage left) SONG 1 SINGERS (PAINE, J. ADAMS, ELLERY, S. ADAMS, CLYMER, HUNTINGTON, WHIPPLE, McKEAN, WOLCOTT, NELSON, WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN, HOPKINS, SHERMAN, WILSON, HALL, HANCOCK, HARRISON, READ, BARTLETT, JEFFERSON, RUTLEDGE, HOPKINSON, WYTHE, LEE, MORRIS, WITHERSPOON) in front of curtain. AMERICAN singers are downstage right. PAINE, HUNTINGTON & WASHINGTON (stage left to right) stand in back row, WHIPPLE, WOLCOTT, FRANKLIN & NELSON (stage left to right) sit on stools, and J. ADAMS, S. ADAMS, CLYMER, McKEAN & ELLERY (stage left to right) sit on lip with feet hanging off the edge. BRITISH singers are stage left. LEE, RUTLEDGE, BARTLETT & HARRISON (stage left to stage right) sit on stools. MORRIS, WITHERSPOON, HANCOCK, READ, JEFFERSON, WYTHE, SHERMAN, HOPKINS, HALL, HOPKINSON (stage left to stage right) are standing. Lights shine on singers.]

SONG 1 SINGERS: “Rich Lady Over the Sea”

[Enter LEWIS, DICKINSON, LIVINGSTON, CHASE & GERRY onstage in front of scrim. LEWIS, DICKINSON & LIVINGSTON stand center stage. CHASE stands downstage left. GERRY stands upstage right. Actors freeze in tableau positions as soon as song ends.]

[Lights dim. Exit SONG 1 SINGERS (from stairs downstage left to behind stage left exit curtain) during instrumental music interlude. When all characters are offstage, music stops. Curtain opens. Actors move downstage (in a 4 count) in tableaux. Stage lights come on. Actors remain frozen in a tableau unless they are speaking.]

LEWIS: The British are causing people to pay more taxes on all paper. Have they ever heard the phrase “taxation without representation”?! Apparently not. This nonsense is causing protest and very upset colonists. We want a voice, we want to REPEAL the Stamp Act. I gave most of my money into supporting people that have the same thought to protest against the British.

DICKINSON: “That it is inseparably essential to the freedom of a people, and the undoubted rights of Englishmen, that no taxes should be imposed on them, but with their own consent, given personally, or by their representatives.

“That it is the right of the British subjects in these colonies to petition the King or either house of Parliament.

“Lastly, that it is the indispensable duty of these colonies to the best of sovereigns, to the mother country, and to themselves to endeavor, by a loyal and dutiful address to His Majesty and humble application to both Houses of Parliament, to procure the repeal of the act for granting and applying certain stamp duties, of all clauses of any other acts of Parliament whereby the jurisdiction of the admiralty is extended to the aforesaid, and of the other late acts for the restriction of American commerce.”

A worthy document, eh? We should announce it as early as possible. Do you not think so? For, how long shall this last? Are you not all concerned about what is happening?

LIVINGSTON: Of course I am concerned about England. They are a big country and they can do anything. They have a big army and a mean, selfish king. But what baffles me are the taxes. They are taking money out of our pockets and wasting it on scoundrels to put in the COLONIES. But they are giving us no voice and when we form meetings, our meetings suddenly become illegal. And some people get arrested for treason, which is known as being disloyal to one's country which not only most despise but we were never loyal to the British in the first place.

DICKINSON: Good! Now shall we sign the Declaration of Rights so we can send it to Parliament, and state that this has gone too far.

CHASE: Those British scoundrels have levied an unfair tax upon the good people of Maryland. Destroy the stamps! Burn the stamps! Do not let any of your money reach the pockets of fat King George. Burn the despicable tax collectors in effigy. Burn them, supporters of the rusty crown of Britain. We must all join together, we must all rise to find our voice in Parliament.

GERRY: [*pacing downstage, past the 3 delegates centerstage*] To whom it may concern,

Yes I may be far away in college but I need to say all Americans should resist the British Stamp Act. Of course, I am not saying go boycott everything, I am saying do not follow their path. I oppose the Stamp act because it is taxation without representation. If we are going to become independent we cannot let taxes be forced upon us without our voice. I mean we cannot let this happen to us. We have a voice, also. We can not let King George take over our future and freedom. We must fight for our liberty, our life, our representation.

Together in liberty,

Elbridge Gerry of Massachusetts

Harvard Un

Yes! What a grand letter.

[Lights dim. Performers move upstage and re-form tableaux behind curtain line.

Curtain closes. Exit LEWIS, DICKINSON, LIVINGSTON, CHASE & GERRY, and set up as part of jury behind scrim. Enter WOLCOTT, WASHINGTON & McKEAN as prison guards, herding the SONG 2 SINGERS up stairs and onto stage. Enter (from stage left exit curtain, up stairs downstage left) SONG 2 SINGERS (HARRISON, HALL, HOPKINSON, HOPKINS, SHERMAN, JEFFERSON, WITHERSPOON, HANCOCK, READ, WYTHE, FRANKLIN, MORRIS, WHIPPLE, NELSON) onstage in front of curtain. WOLCOTT is holding a sign reading "Castle Island Prison." WOLCOTT, WASHINGTON & McKEAN herd the remaining singers onto stage. WYTHE carries British flag.]

SCENE 2: BOSTON MASSACRE TABLEAU

SONG 2 SINGERS: “Castle Island” [*WOLCOTT, WASHINGTON & McKEAN stand silently as SONG 2 SINGERS sing at them.*]

[Enter PAINE & J. ADAMS onstage in front of scrim. PAINE stands stage right, and J. ADAMS stage left. Enter ELLERY, S. ADAMS, CLYMER, HUNTINGTON, LEE, RUTLEDGE & BARTLETT behind scrim, set up as jury in two row. LEWIS, DICKINSON, LIVINGSTON, CHASE & GERRY should already behind scrim as jury. Back row of jury (stage left to stage right): Cameron, Clara, Autumn, Gwynnie, Katrina, Victoria. Front row of jury (stage left to stage right): Amelia, Lauren, Matan, Maya, Rosie, Tim Actors freeze in tableau positions as soon as song ends.]

[Lights dim. Exit SONG 2 SINGERS (stairs downstage) left during instrumental music interlude. When all characters are offstage, music stops. Curtain opens. Actors move downstage (in a 4 count) in tableaux. Stage lights come on. Lights behind scrim illuminate shadows of actors (lower portion of scrim only – so images can still be projected above). Actors remain frozen in a tableau unless they are speaking.]

PAINE: In March 1770 the British soldiers murdered 4 people and injured 1 who died later during the Boston Massacre. The soldiers had a dreadful plan to kill the Patriots. Someone overheard them talking. They said the Patriots didn't treat soldiers fairly so

they shot without provocation and no signal. Please take that into consideration, your honor. Thank you.

J. ADAMS: Your honor, the British troops are not at fault! The colonists threw clubs, stones, iceballs – anything that is hurtful. The soldiers were able to defend themselves so their charges should be lowered to manslaughter. The colonists are at fault for calling the soldiers cowards and swearing at them. Your honor and gentlemen of the jury, would you not fire against these violent protesters for your own life? Carry this in mind.

[Lights dim. Performers move upstage and re-form tableaux behind curtain line.

Curtain closes. Exit PAINE & J. ADAMS. Enter (from stage right exit curtain) SONG 3

SINGERS (WHIPPLE, McKEAN, WOLCOTT, NELSON, WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN, HOPKINS, SHERMAN, WILSON, HALL, HANCOCK, HARRISON, READ,

JEFFERSON, HOPKINSON, WYTHE, MORRIS, WITHERSPOON) in front of curtain.

Front row (down on one knee): MORRIS, READ, HANCOCK, NELSON, McKEAN,

WHIPPLE, WASHINGTON, WOLCOTT; Back row (standing): HARRISON, HALL,

HOPKINSON, HOPKINS, SHERMAN, JEFFERSON, FRANKLIN, WITHERSPOON,

WYTHE]

SCENE 3: SONS OF LIBERTY/PROTEST TABLEAU

SONG 3 SINGERS: *[with body percussion]* “Free America”

[Enter ELLERY, S. ADAMS, CLYMER & HUNTINGTON onstage in front of scrim. ELLERY (center stage, slightly left) & S. ADAMS (center stage, slightly right) are on a riser CLYMER stands stage right, HUNTINGTON sits stage left. Actors freeze in tableau positions as soon as song ends.]

[Stage lights dim. Exit SONG 3 SINGERS (stairs downstage left) during instrumental music interlude. When all characters are offstage, music stops. Curtain opens. Actors move downstage (in a 4 count) in tableaus. Stage lights come on. Actors remain frozen in a tableau unless they are speaking.]

ELLERY: Thou must exert yourselves. *[Jumps to the floor and paces among audience (house left/center) while speaking]* We must be ruled fairly by America, not unfairly by Britain. Taxation without representation is always unjust but taxing glass, paper AND tea is sick! With bellows there is Liberty, and fire enough. Blow, blow a blast that will shake this country!

S. ADAMS: We must resist the British crown! *[Jumps to the floor and paces among audience (house right/center) while speaking]* We, the Whigs of Boston, must unite to force the British Parliament to realize who they're dealing with! Tonight we shall take one more step towards freedom! We shall attack the British ships in three groups. Only the tea shall we destroy. I shall go to the harbor. Revere, I leave you in charge. When I give the signal bring the men and separate and assign each a leader and a ship to attack. And remember, even if we are never written about, all should work for the millions not yet born, so they might enjoy freedom.

CLYMER: People of Philadelphia, I work for the army and helped supply the war with ammo. I made people quit their jobs just because they were selling British tea.

HUNTINGTON: The taxes, as you know my fellow friends, are unfair and destroying British goods will not help but bring us even more trouble. But we should boycott because it is the only safe course of action and no one shall get hurt. It would be effective because England shall not get the money. King George might get tired of us boycotting and repeal stamp taxes.

[Lights dim. Performers move upstage and re-form tableaux behind curtain line.

Curtain closes. Exit ELLERY, S. ADAMS, CLYMER & HUNTINGTON. Enter (house right) MORRIS, LIVINGSTON & WILSON, crossing to front of house center to play snare drum. Enter (house right) SONG 4 SINGERS two-by-two (right line, front to back: LEWIS, DICKINSON, GERRY, LEE, HANCOCK, WYTHE, FRANKLIN, SHERMAN, HOPKINS, HALL; left line, front to back: BARTLETT, RUTLEDGE, CHASE, PAINE, J. ADAMS, READ, WITHERSPOON, JEFFERSON, HOPKINSON, HARRISON), marching two-by-two up house right aisle, up to front-of-house center, towards curtain at house left.]

SCENE 4: MILITARY TABLEAU

SONG 4 SINGERS: “Ready the Fife” *[Play recorders 2 times, then sing 2 times.*

Continue marching, and break up into 2 rows with split (between J. ADAMS and READ

for the right line, and between HANCOCK & WYTHE for left line) before singing round. Recorders are played 2 times, then singing 2 times. After round, performers do a salute & ¼ rotation, and proceed to march out in time with the drum.]

[Enter WHIPPLE, McKEAN, WOLCOTT, NELSON, WASHINGTON onstage in front of scrim. WOLCOTT upstage right, WHIPPLE mid-stage, right-center, McKEAN downstage center, NELSON mid-stage left-center, WASHINGTON upstage left standing on a wooden box. Actors freeze in tableau positions as soon as song ends.]

[Stage lights dim. Exit SONG 4 SINGERS (front-of-house left) during instrumental music interlude. When all singers have exited, drumming stops. Drummers (LIVINGSTON, MORRIS & WILSON) sit down silently in front of stage. Curtain opens. Actors move downstage (in a 4 count) in tableaux. Stage lights come on. Actors remain frozen in a tableau unless they are speaking.]

WHIPPLE: I have the honor to bring you four New Hampshire militia regiments to your aid, General Gates, because General Burgoyne wishes to end this with his campaign.

Respectfully,

General William Whipple

McKEAN: Men, the road up ahead is blocked by British soldiers and it's up to us to reach General Washington's army with reinforcements, for he's losing many militia. General Washington needs our help! Anyone scared enough can very well turn around and march home!

WOLCOTT: Pull faster so we can get King George’s head off the statue and then send it to King George saying, “Ha ha! You have no head.” And with the rest of the body, have some of my daughters and their friends melt it into bullets and shoot them at English troops.

NELSON: Why do you spare my house? The British soldiers are living there using my house as headquarters. Give me the cannon, so I can bomb my house. Then the British officers can’t live there.

WASHINGTON: Hey, you men over there finish digging that ditch! You over there get those cannons in the ditch. We have a French fleet guarding the seas. So once we finish bombarding the British we must move in to finish off the British troops and capture General Cornwallis.

[Lights dim. Performers move upstage and re-form tableaux behind curtain line.

Curtain closes. Exit WHIPPLE, McKEAN, WOLCOTT, NELSON, WASHINGTON stage right and down stairs into basement. House lights come on for 10-minute intermission.]

ACT II: DECLARATION

[House lights dim. Enter (from stage left exit curtain, up the stairs downstage left)

SONG 5 SINGERS (LEWIS, DICKINSON, LIVINGSTON, CHASE, GERRY, PAINE, J. ADAMS, ELLERY, S. ADAMS, CLYMER, HUNTINGTON, WHIPPLE, McKEAN,

*WOLCOTT, NELSON, WASHINGTON, JEFFERSON, FRANKLIN) in front of curtain.
FRANKLIN, J. ADAMS & JEFFERSON stand stage left, around a separate microphone stand. Lights on singers. MRS. ASPENLEITER stands near curtain stage left (pulley side) to help soloists with their exit.]*

SONG 5 SINGERS: "The Egg" *[Exit FRANKLIN, JEFFERSON (behind curtain downstage left) after solos.]*

[Enter DICKINSON, FRANKLIN, HOPKINS, SHERMAN, WILSON, HALL, HANCOCK, HARRISON, READ, BARTLETT, JEFFERSON, RUTLEDGE, HOPKINSON, WYTHE, LEE, MORRIS, & WITHERSPOON onstage in front of scrim. Actors are arranged by the colony they represent, with the exception of HANCOCK, who is in the center. Actors freeze in tableau positions as soon as song ends.]

[Stage lights dim. Exit SONG 5 SINGERS except FRANKLIN & JEFFERSON (downstage left behind curtain) during instrumental music interlude. LEWIS, LIVINGSTON, CHASE, GERRY, PAINE, J. ADAMS, ELLERY, S. ADAMS, CLYMER, HUNTINGTON, WHIPPLE, McKEAN, WOLCOTT, NELSON, and WASHINGTON move upstage (behind scrim). WASHINGTON stands upstage left, apart from the others, on a wooden box to elevate height and give the sense of being elsewhere. Curtain opens. Actors move downstage (in a 4 count) in tableaux. FRANKLIN & JEFFERSON move into their places at the same time. Stage lights come on. Actors remain frozen in a tableau unless they are speaking.]

FRANKLIN: “The unanimous declaration of the thirteen united states of America:
When in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve
the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the
Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of
Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that
they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.”

Gentlemen. This is the beginning of a new country. Of course we are going to
make mistakes and have troubles at first. We deserve to win this war. After all, the
dreadful laws and taxes parliament and the King imposed upon us. I have traveled to
France and Spain again and they have agreed to help us support us in the war. Remember,
there is no good war and no bad peace.

HOPKINS: “We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that
they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are
life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

All men are created equal. I did my best to free the slaves in the colony of Rhode
Island by creating one of the earliest antislavery laws. Certain unalienable rights. Rights
that can never be taken away.

SHERMAN: “That whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these
ends...It is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new
government.”

I, delegate Roger Sherman, am part of the Judicial system. It is my duty along with yours if any of the three branches, President, Congress, or Judge becomes destructive we must institute new government.

WILSON: “ He has refused his assent to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance.”

My dear friend Dickinson [*motions to DICKINSON*] and I believe imposing taxes without representation is wrong. The united colonies should form our own democracy. Independence...breaking away from England.

HALL: “He as refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature, a right in estimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.”

The King is a tyrant, I say! [*gestures with fist in the air*] He does not respect the people’s rights. Some of Georgia is loyal to the King. And some are wanting independence. I think it is in the best interest for the people of Georgia to be free from this tyrant.

SHERMAN: “He has obstructed the Administration of Justice by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.”

For I am a judge myself. Part of the Connecticut Supreme Court. We are losing power. We need to take action!

HANCOCK: “For cutting off trade with all parts of the world.”

I take great pleasure in breaking away from King George III, because he has forced many happenings on us. The most atrocious of these are undoubtedly the taxes. England is trying to steal from pockets an ocean away. Many merchants like myself have also suffered from the limited trading opportunities that the King has caused. We must show we will not depend on England. We must show that we are a country, not ruled by one. I, president of the Continental Congress have spoken.

HARRISON: “For imposing taxes on us without our consent.”

I was one of the Stamp Act protesters. This Stamp Act is important to us, the people of these colonies. Colonists are refusing to buy British goods. They are boycotting British goods because they don't want to support Parliament and the King.

READ: “For depriving us in many cases of the benefits of trial by jury for transporting beyond seas to be tried for pretended offenses for abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province.”

I do not want the King's taxes. The Stamp Act is cruel. Our protests need to be organized and nonviolent. Could we reconcile with Great Britain?

BARTLETT: “He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.”

‘Twas Monday mornin’ and I was watchin’ my house bein’ burned to the ground by British soldiers during the War of Independence. I place my own name upon this declaration for independence in the colonies. *[holding quill pen in the air]*

JEFFERSON: “ He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions.”

I have promised I would free my slaves after this declaration ‘tis finished! I have seen that you people took out my passage on slavery. But why are you deleting it, Mr. Rutledge?

RUTLEDGE: Our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. Mr. Jefferson...your paragraph about men being bought and sold has been removed from your draft. *[pointing to Declaration of Independence]* This declaration is about independence from England, not about equal rights.

HOPKINSON: “They too have been deaf to the voice of Justice and of consanguinity.”

I, Francis Hopkinson had the thought to redesign our nation’s flag. The colonies will soon be free. ‘Tis equality that is shown by the stars. We all deserve freedom, liberty, respect, and our own rights.

WYTHE: “We therefore the representatives of the United States of America in general congress assembled appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our

intentions do in the name and by authority of the good people of these colonies solemnly publish and declare freedom.”

It was I who expressed the concept of separation from Great Britain during the Stamp Act in 1765.

LEE: “That these colonies, and of right ought to be, free and independent states, that they are absolved from all allegiance from the British crown, and that all political connection between America and the state of Great Britain is, ought to be totally dissolved.”

‘Tis I, Richard Henry Lee the first to propose independence to Congress. Many delegates were thinking about separating from England, but not brave enough to speak about it.

MORRIS: “And that as free and independent states they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do.”

I donated three million dollars to support the Revolutionary War. Some called me the “Financer of the Revolutionary War.”

[Exit DICKINSON, shaking head in disagreement. Actors behind scrim (LEWIS, LIVINGSTON, CHASE, GERRY, PAINE, J. ADAMS, ELLERY, S. ADAMS, CLYMER, HUNTINGTON, WHIPPLE, McKEAN, WOLCOTT, NELSON, and WASHINGTON) silently stand up in thoughtful, optimistic tableaux.]

WITHERSPOON: “And for the support of this Declaration with a firm reliance on the protection of divine providence we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.”

‘Tis I, John Witherspoon, representing the colony of New Jersey, and the only minister who is signing the Declaration of Independence. These thirteen colonies have been for sometime loud in demand for the proposed declaration and we are not just ripe for the measure but in danger for the want of it.

HOPKINSON: Your words have inspired us, Mr. Witherspoon. Let us all sing “Hail Columbia,” written by my son Joseph, in honor of our independence.

[Lights come on behind scrim to illuminate LEWIS, DICKINSON, LIVINGSTON, CHASE, GERRY, PAINE, J. ADAMS, ELLERY, S. ADAMS, CLYMER, HUNTINGTON, WHIPPLE, McKEAN, WOLCOTT, NELSON, & WASHINGTON.]

CAST: “Hail Columbia”

[Curtain closes. CAST moves downstage (to lip) and forms 2 rows. FRONT ROW steps one large step downstage, cued by SHERMAN and takes a single bow to the audience, cued by SHERMAN. FRONT ROW kneels down on one knee following bow. BACK ROW steps one large step downstage, cued by LEWIS and takes a single bow to the audience, cued by LEWIS. BACK ROW takes a large step upstage, FRONT ROW rises and does the same. Curtain closes. Lights dim. Exit CAST.]