

# Alliance Theatre

## *institute*

Historical Figures Come to Life  
*A Virtual Resource for High School Students*  
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### Objectives:

- Identify significant events in the life of a historical figure connected to the American Revolution
- Make inferences regarding the historical figure's thoughts and feelings
- Compose and present a monologue from the historical figure's point of view
- Design a costume that accurately represents the time period and historical figure

### Georgia Standards of Excellence:

- ELAGSE9-10W3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
- TAHS.A.PR.1 Act and direct by communicating and sustaining roles within a variety of situations and environments.
- SSUSH4 Analyze the ideological, military, social, and diplomatic aspects of the American Revolution.

### Try It!

**Step 1:** Select a historical figure connected to the American Revolution to research

- Suggestions: Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, George Washington, Baron von Steuben, the Marquis de LaFayette, or other figure connected to this historical event
- Gather research about the person's life, making particular note of:
  - How and why they "made history"
  - At least (5) interesting facts about their early life; and
  - At least (5) interesting facts about their adult life and career

**Step 2:** Use your research and imagination to compose a monologue from the figure's point of view.

- Hook your audiences with a strong, compelling opening (consider using onomatopoeia, flashback, a notable quote from your figure, or dialogue).
- Then, use first-person perspective ("I") to tell your story as if you are that historical figure. Create (1) paragraph detailing your early life and (1) paragraph detailing your adult life and career.
- Share feelings throughout (incorporate strong adjectives to describe thoughts and feelings).
- Close your monologue by summarizing how you made history, and how you are remembered.

**Step 3:** Design a costume to "step into the shoes" of the historical figure.

- Tip: Study photographs online to design a costume that accurately reflects the time period.
- Your design may include: specific textures, fabrics, accessories, props, hairstyle/wig, or makeup.

**Step 4:** Perform!

- Take time to memorize your script to go "off book." Then, share your work with your family (at home) and friends (perhaps in a virtual space)!