

AS YOU ENTER

- 1) Sit in the row with your class
- 2) Get out paper and pen for notes
- 3) **Social Studies students**, answer:
 - What do you remember about the American Revolution?
 - How did you learn this? What helped you learn?
 - Did anything you did in class *not* help you learn?
- 4) **Theater Arts Classes**: in your notebook, answer
 - What do you think are the benefits of live theater over pre-recorded media

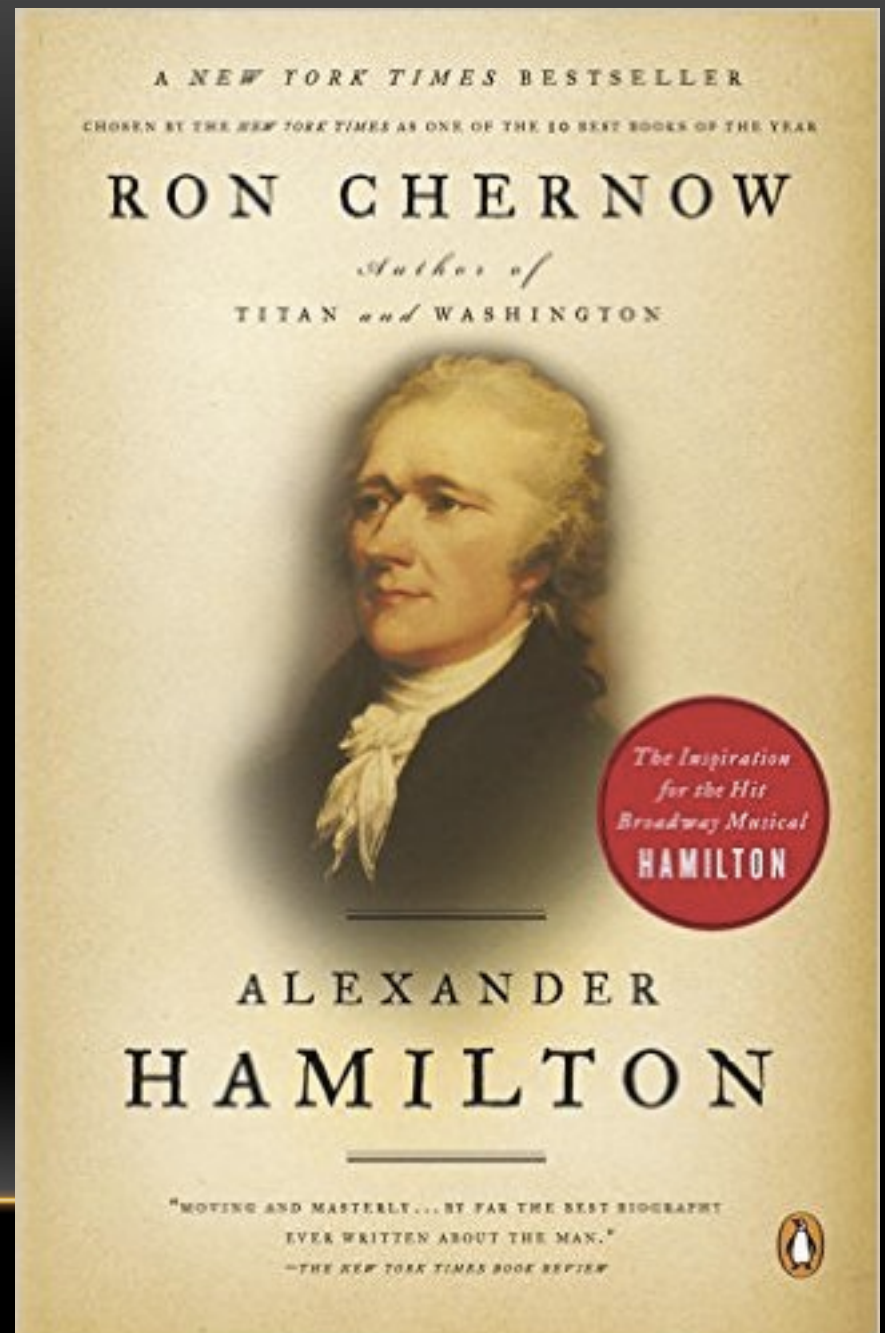
REVOLUTIONARY WARM-UP

LISTENING TO HAMILTON

Mr. Richardson, MAT
Mr. Gorski, M.Ed.

“I think it’s an entire course in American History in a two and a half hour show, and I actually think it’s the greatest opportunity of our lifetime to interest people in American History”

-Ron Chernow, Pulitzer Prize winning author of Alexander Hamilton



PRODUCTION

- This musical was written by Lin-Manuel Miranda
- The cast album was executive produced by Questlove and Black Thought of the Roots



Words per Second

INTRODUCTION

Alexander Hamilton

My Shot

ALEXANDER HAMILTON

- The song that started it all
- Premiered at the White House in 2011



- This song introduces characters and their desires (“I’m Wishing” song) and starts the main action of the musical

MY SHOT



THEATRE CHALLENGES THE IDEALS AND BELIEFS OF CULTURE AND SOCIETY

- 1949 Arthur Miller wrote “Death of a Salesman”
- The story is about a washed-up salesman chasing the “elusive” American Dream.



ANDREW LLOYD WEBER'S JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

- Rock Opera, 1971

- Dives into a free interpretation of the psychology of the characters of Christ, Judas, and other major characters.

- Controversial due to the “contemporary” concepts being infused with historical/religious classics.

- Later became an international hit and continues to inspire audiences today.



PLAYS THAT ADDRESSED THE AIDS EPIDEMIC OF THE 1990'S

“Angels in America”

By Tony Kushner



“Rent”

By Jonathan Larson



MAJOR QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER WITH “HAMILTON”

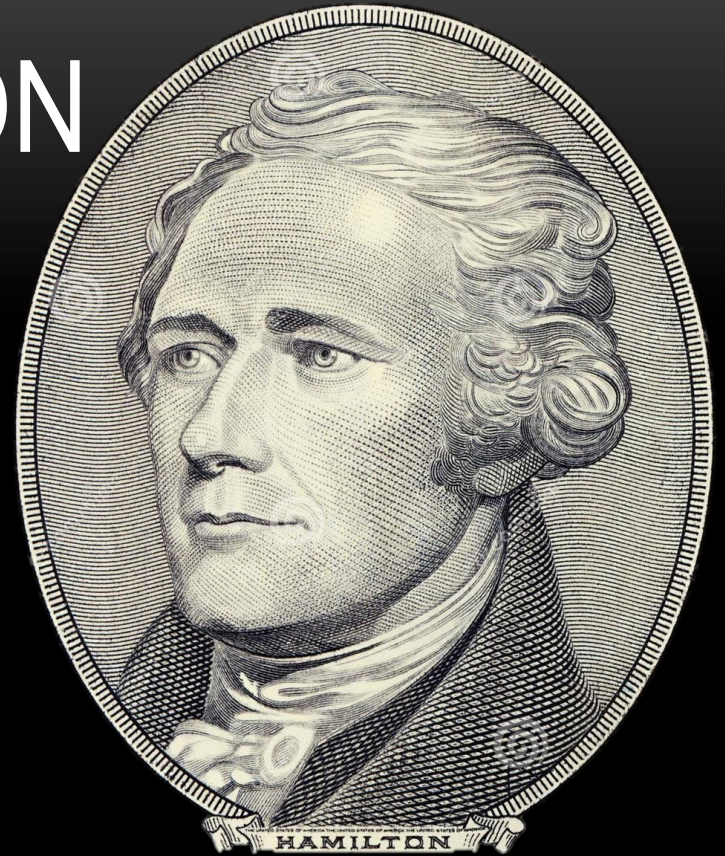
- Why tell this story now?
- What makes this story important to the American people of today?
- Why “live theatre” as the medium for its audience? Why not TV or feature film?
- What do you think Lin-Manuel Miranda wants audience members to take away from watching this story?
- What positive changes could come from this production on our culture?



MAIN CHARACTERS: ALEXANDER HAMILTON

- Aide to Gen. Washington,
- Author of 51/85 Federalist Papers
- First Treasury Secretary of US,
- Creator of the US Coast Guard

- Played by writer/creator Lin-Manuel Miranda



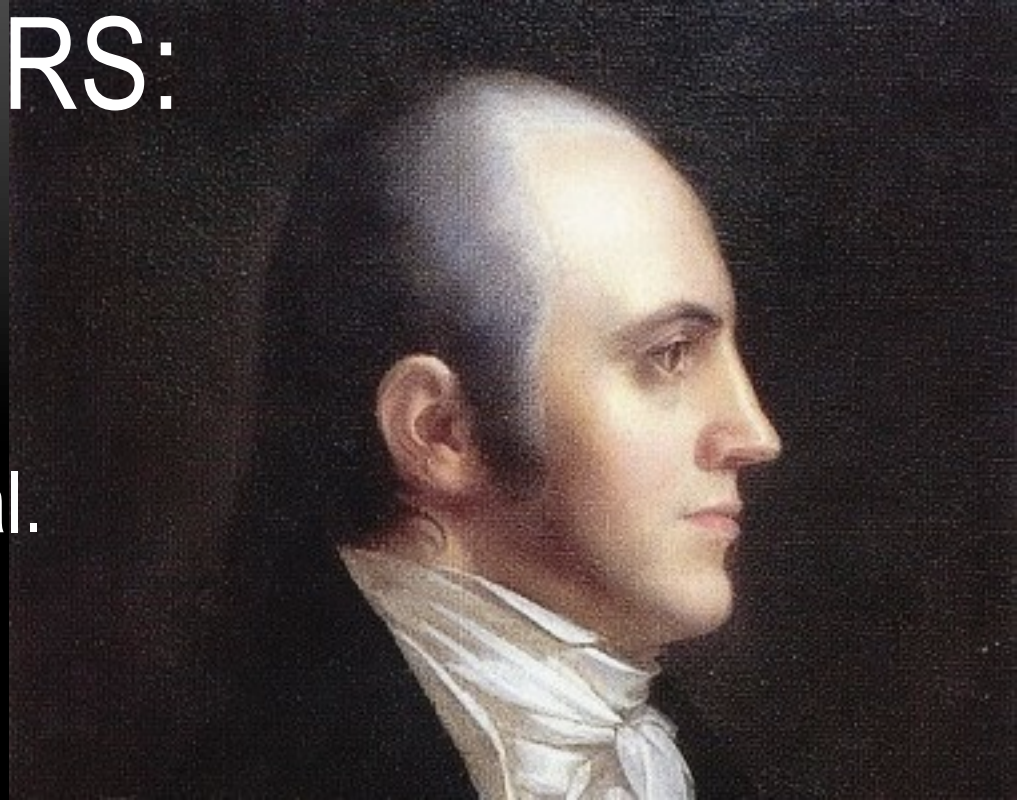
MAIN CHARACTERS:

AARON BURR

- Once friend and mentor to Hamilton, later political rival.

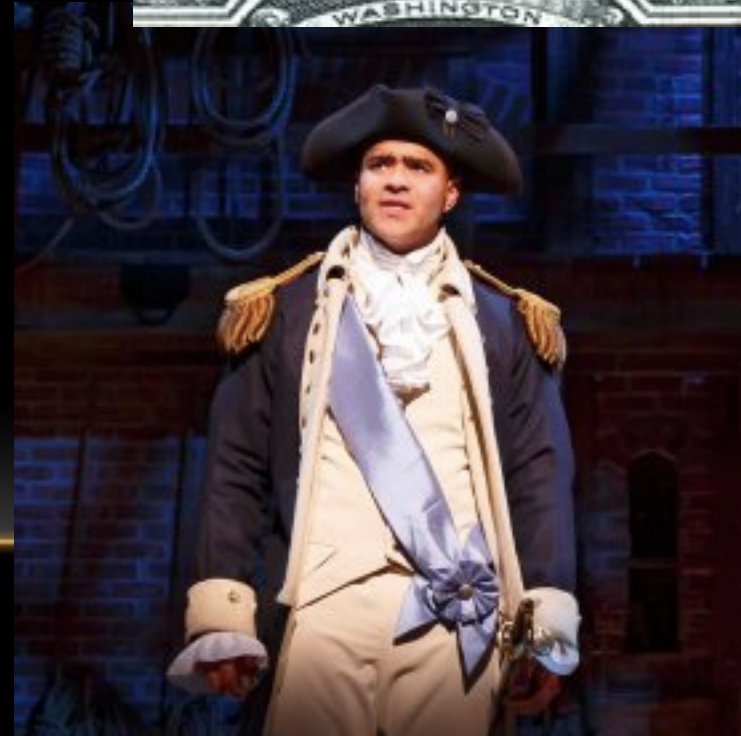
• SPOILERS...

- Played by Leslie Odom, Jr.
 - Narrator of the play



MAIN CHARACTERS: GEORGE WASHINGTON

- Commander in Chief of the Continental Army
- Presided over Continental Congress
- First President of the US
- Played by Chris Jackson



MAIN CHARACTERS: THOMAS JEFFERSON

- Author of the Declaration of Independence

- First Secretary of State

- Founder of Democratic-Republican Party

- Third President of the US

- Played by Daveed Diggs



LISTENING AGENDA

- We will listen to selections that focus on topics:
 - Revolution
 - Romance (non-linear storytelling)
 - Hamilton's Financial Plan
 - Democratic Republicans
-

REVOLUTION

Right Hand Man

Stay Alive

10 Duel Commandments

Guns and Ships

Yorktown

BEFORE WE LISTEN

- Based on the American History courses you have taken before, list the FIVE most important facts you can remember about the American Revolution
 - Social Studies: As you listen, note any important information Hamilton covers, compare and contrast with what you know from previous material
 - Theater Arts: Consider Hamilton's impact on modern society
-

RIGHT HAND MAN

- Washington's forces retreat and abandon Brooklyn
- Washington chooses Hamilton to be his personal secretary and aide



STAY ALIVE

- The Continental Army faces problems of morale and supplies. Hamilton takes over almost all correspondence for Washington.



10 DUEL COMMANDMENTS

- Shows infighting and cultural norms within the Revolutionary Army
- Theater and tech students: Listen to the stage manager as he calls the light cues during their performances



GUNS AND SHIPS

- The Marquis de Lafayette brings the French Navy into play, revitalizing the Revolutionary effort
- Also, Daveed Diggs is alright at rapping.



YORKTOWN

- Hamilton finally gets a command in the defeat of Cornwallis at Yorktown, which effectively ends the Revolutionary War
- The French Navy blockades, while American forces attack over land.



THINK-PAIR-SHARE

- How did your list of important information about the US Revolution compare to what the musical covered?
- In what ways does the musical broaden or limit our understanding of the war?

ROMANCE (NON-LINEAR STORYTELLING)

The Schuyler Sisters

Helpless

Satisfied

THE SCHUYLER SISTERS

- The daughters of a rich and famous NY politician have varied views and goals
- #GirlPower



THE LOVE STORY: HELPLESS

- Angelica Schuyler introduces Hamilton to her sister, Eliza
- This song tells of their courtship and marriage



THE LOVE STORY: SATISFIED

Angelica Schuyler
recalls the events of
Hamilton and Eliza
meeting

Addresses the changing
nature of marriage and
gender roles



Colin Richardson @richardsonsroom

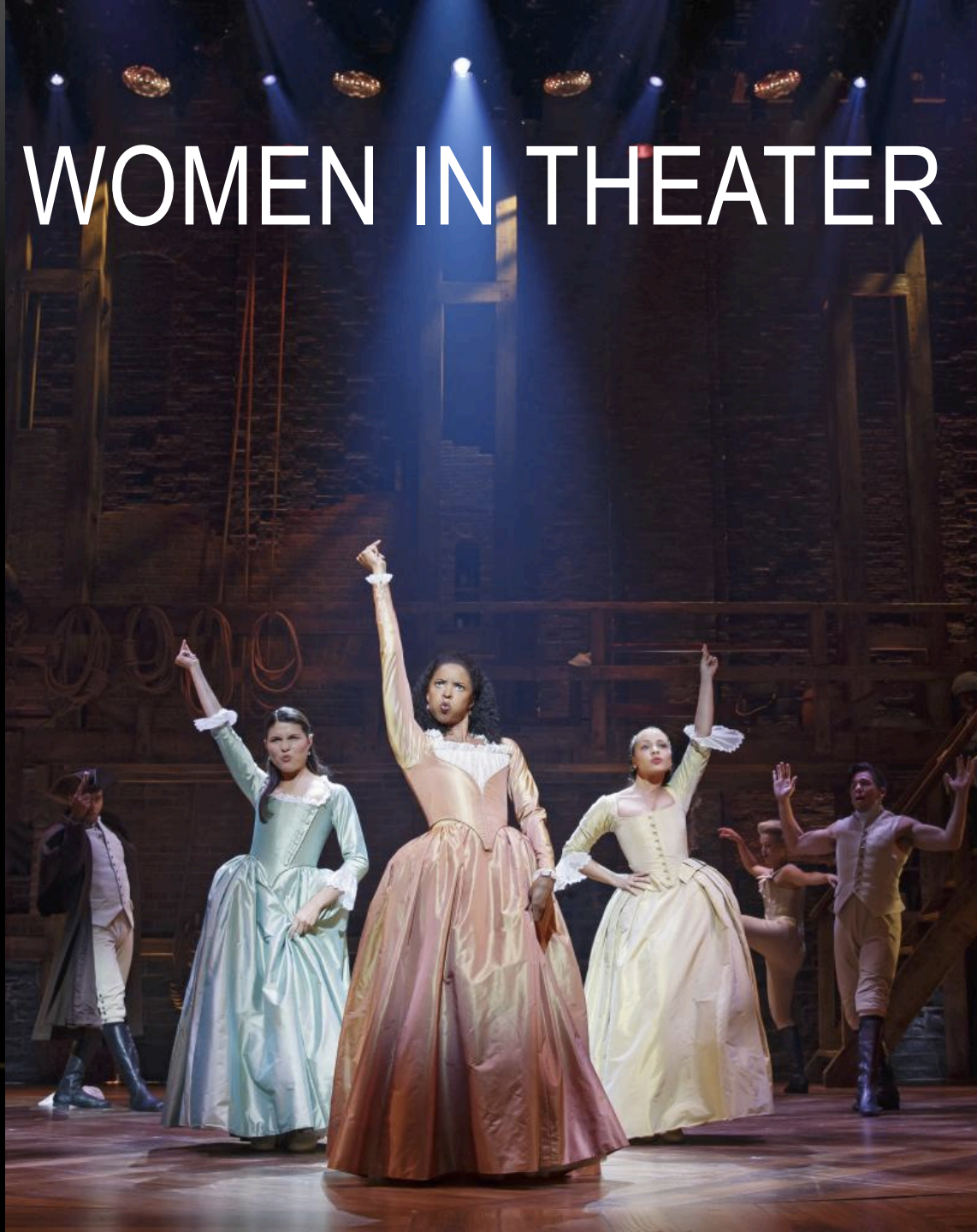
@lin_manuel You said you made the Hamilton wedding less heartbreaking than Chernow's but you lied, fam

RETWEETS
24

FAVORITES
202



WOMEN IN THEATER



HAMILTON'S FINANCIAL PLAN

What'd I Miss?

Cabinet Battle #1

The Room Where it Happens

DIFFERENT WAYS TO LEARN

- Textbook Excerpt
- HBO John Adams Clip
- Hamilton Musical

Hamilton Revives the Corps of Public Credit

The key figure in the new government was still smooth-faced Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton, a native of the British West Indies. Hamilton's genius was unquestioned, but critics claimed he loved his adopted country more than he loved his countrymen. Doubts about his character and his loyalty to the republican experiment always swirled about his head. Hamilton regarded himself as a kind of prime minister in Washington's cabinet and on occasion thrust his hands into the affairs of other departments, including that of his archrival, Thomas Jefferson, who served as secretary of state.

A financial wizard, Hamilton set out immediately to correct the economic vexations that had crippled the Articles of Confederation. His plan was to shape the fiscal policies of the administration in such a way as to favor the wealthier groups. They, in turn, would gratefully lend the government monetary and political support. The new federal regime would thrive, the propertied classes would fatten, and prosperity would trickle down to the masses.

The youthful financier's first objective was to bolster the national credit. Without public confidence in the government, Hamilton could not secure the funds with which to float his risky schemes. He therefore boldly urged Congress to "fund" the entire national debt "at par" and to assume completely the debts incurred by the states during the recent war.

"Funding at par" meant that the federal government would pay off its debts at face value, plus accumulated interest—a then-enormous total of more than \$54 million. So many people believed the

infant Treasury incapable of meeting those obligations that government bonds had depreciated to ten or fifteen cents on the dollar. Yet speculators held fistfuls of them, and when Congress passed Hamilton's measure in 1790, they grabbed for more. Some of them galloped into rural areas ahead of the news, buying for a song the depreciated paper holdings of farmers, war veterans, and widows.

Hamilton was willing, even eager, to have the new government shoulder additional obligations. While pushing the funding scheme, he urged Congress to assume the debts of the states, totaling some \$21.5 million.

The secretary made a convincing case for "assumption." The state debts could be regarded as a proper national obligation, for they had been incurred in the war for independence. But foremost in Hamilton's thinking was the belief that assumption would chain the states more tightly to the "federal chariot." Thus the secretary's maneuver would shift the attachment of wealthy creditors from the states to the federal government. The support of the rich for the national administration was a crucial link in Hamilton's political strategy of strengthening the central government.

States burdened with heavy debts, like Massachusetts, were delighted by Hamilton's proposal. States with small debts, like Virginia, were less charmed. The stage was set for some old-fashioned horse trading. Virginia did not want the state debts assumed, but it did want the forthcoming federal district*—now the District of Columbia—to be located on the Potomac River. It would thus gain in commerce and prestige. Hamilton persuaded a reluctant Jefferson, who had recently come home from France, to line up enough votes in Congress for assumption. In return, Virginia would have the federal district on the Potomac. The bargain was carried through in 1790.

CLIP FROM HBO MINISERIES “JOHN ADAMS”

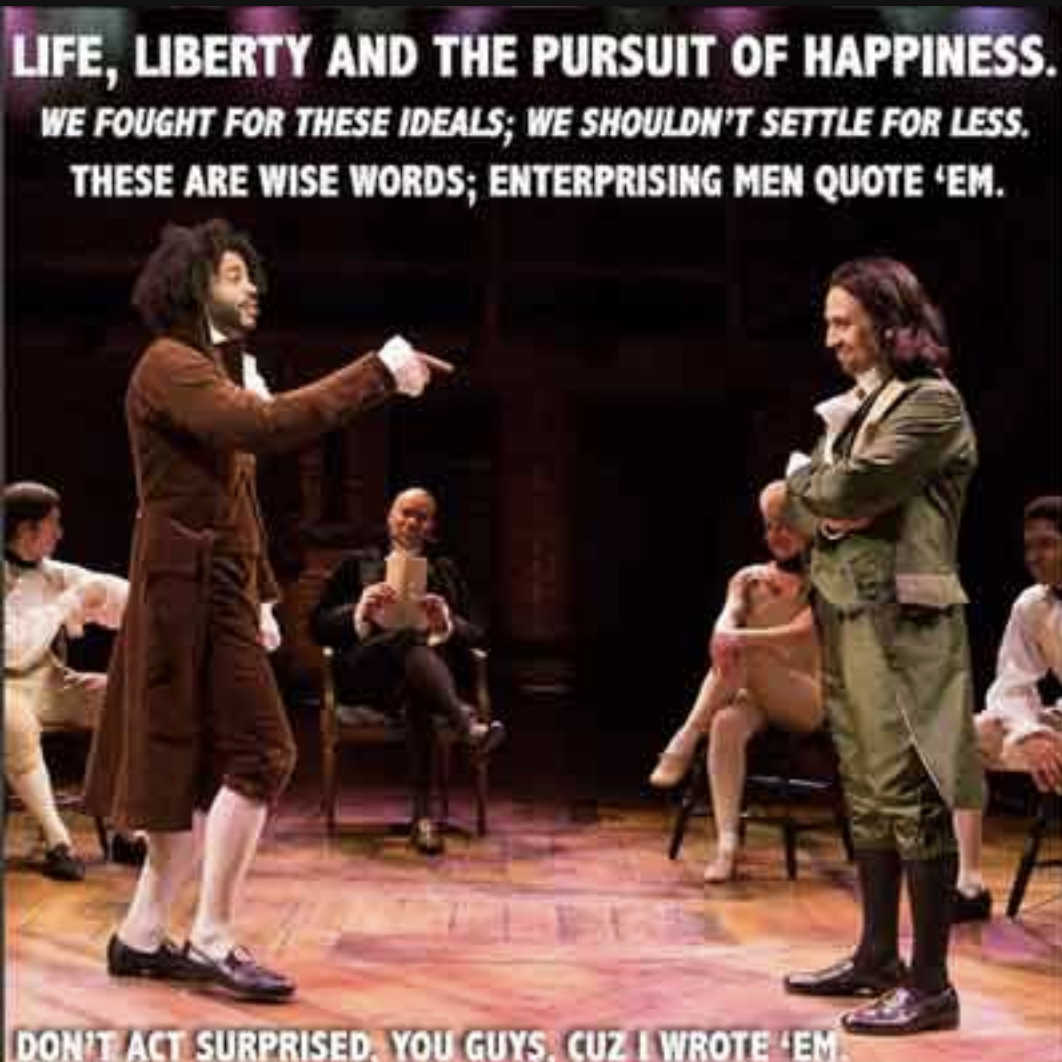


WHAT'D I MISS?

- Jefferson returns from France to become Secretary of State



CABINET BATTLE #1



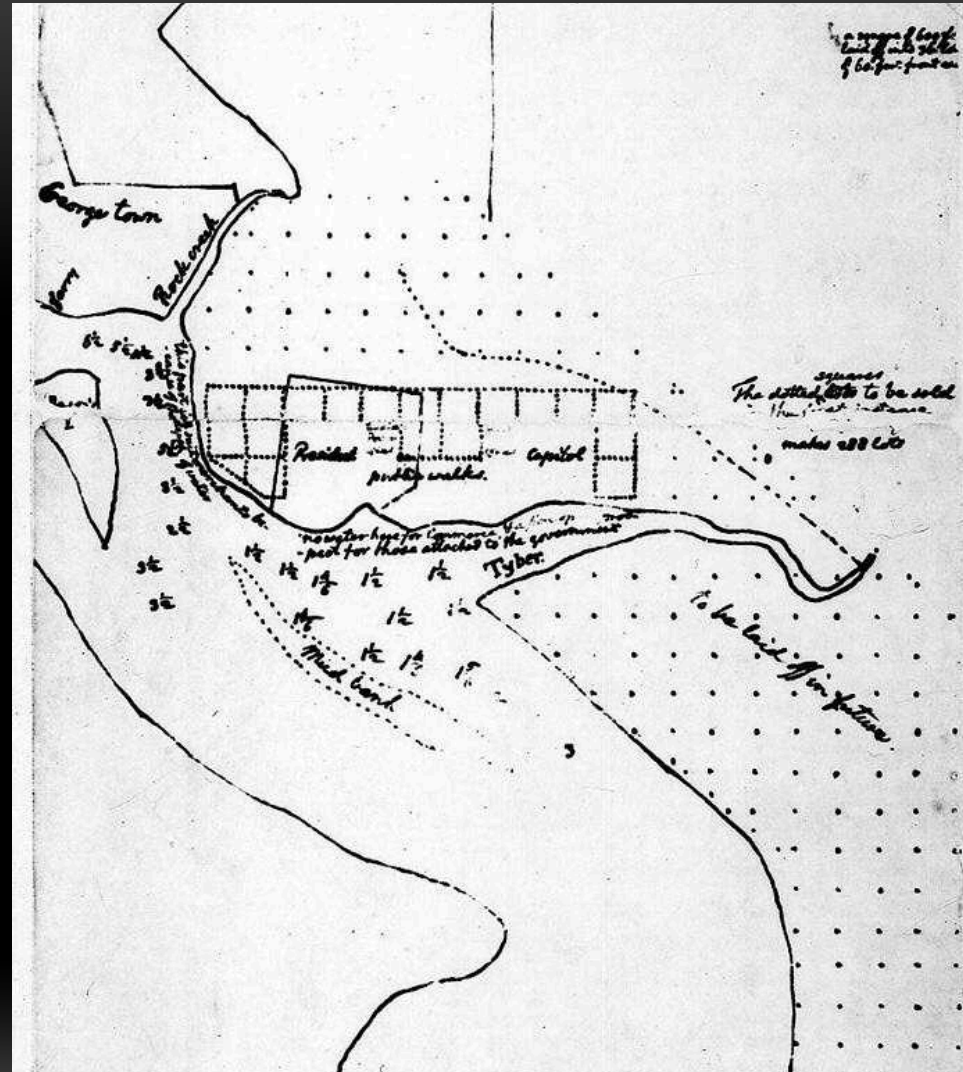
Debating the question of the new federal government assuming state debts

Jefferson and Hamilton argue, with Washington presiding/MC-ing

CABINET BATTLE #1

- “His plan would have the government assume state’s debts.
Now, place your bets as to who that benefits: the very seat of government where Hamilton sits.”
 - -Jefferson
- “If we assume the debts, the union gets
A new line of credit,...
How do you not get it?”
 - -Hamilton
- “You’re gonna need congressional approval and you don’t have the votes.”
 - -Jefferson & Madison

- Hamilton compromises with Jefferson & Madison, moving the capitol to Virginia in exchange for the passage of his financial plan



THE ROOM WHERE IT HAPPENS

Two Virginians and an immigrant walk into a room, Diametric'ly opposed, foes.

They emerge with a compromise, having opened doors that were previously closed, Bros.

The immigrant emerges with unprecedented financial power, a system he can shape however he wants. The Virginians emerge with the nation's capital.

- -Burr

- Burr: did you know, even then, it doesn't matter where you put the U.S. Capital?
- Hamilton: Cuz we'll have the banks, we're in the same spot
- Burr: You got more than you gave
- Hamilton: And I wanted what I got.

FACTIONS LEAD TO POLITICAL PARTIES

Cabinet Battle #2

Washington on Your Side

Washington's Neutrality Proclamation

Ominously, the Franco-American alliance of 1778 was still on the books. By its own terms it was to last "forever." It bound the United States to help the French defend their West Indies against future foes, and the booming British fleets were certain to attack these strategic islands.

Many Jeffersonian Democratic-Republicans favored honoring the alliance. Aflame with the liberal ideals of the French Revolution, red-blooded Jeffersonians were eager to enter the conflict against Britain, the recent foe, at the side of France, the

■ ■ ■
quarrels, Washington's Neutrality Proclamation proved to be a major prop of the spreading isolationist tradition. It also proved to be enormously controversial. The pro-French Jeffersonians were enraged by the Neutrality Proclamation, especially by Washington's method of announcing it unilaterally, without consulting Congress. The pro-British Federalists were heartened.

Debate soon intensified. An impetuous, thirty-year-old representative of the French Republic, Citizen Edmond Genêt, had landed at Charleston, South Carolina. With unrestrained zeal he undertook to fit out privateers and otherwise take advantage of the existing Franco-American alliance. The giddy-headed envoy—all sail and no anchor—was soon swept away by his enthusiastic reception by the Jeffersonian Republicans. He foolishly came to believe that the Neutrality Proclamation did not reflect the true wishes of the American people, and he consequently embarked upon unneutral activity not authorized by the French alliance—including the recruitment of armies to invade Spanish Florida and Louisiana, as well as British Canada. Even Madison and Jefferson were soon disillusioned by his conduct. After he threatened to appeal over the head of "Old Washington" to the sovereign voters, the president demanded Genêt's withdrawal, and the Frenchman was replaced by a less impulsive emissary.

Washington's Neutrality Proclamation clearly illustrates the truism that self-interest is the basic cement of alliances. In 1778 both France and America stood to gain; in 1793 only France. Technically, the Americans did not flout their obligation because France never officially called upon them to honor it. American neutrality in fact favored France. The French West Indies urgently needed Yankee foodstuffs. If the Americans had entered the war at France's side, the British fleets would have blockaded the American coast and cut off those essential supplies. America was thus much more useful to France as a reliable neutral provider than as a blockaded partner-in-arms.

CABINET BATTLE #2

- Jefferson and Hamilton debate supporting France during their war with England

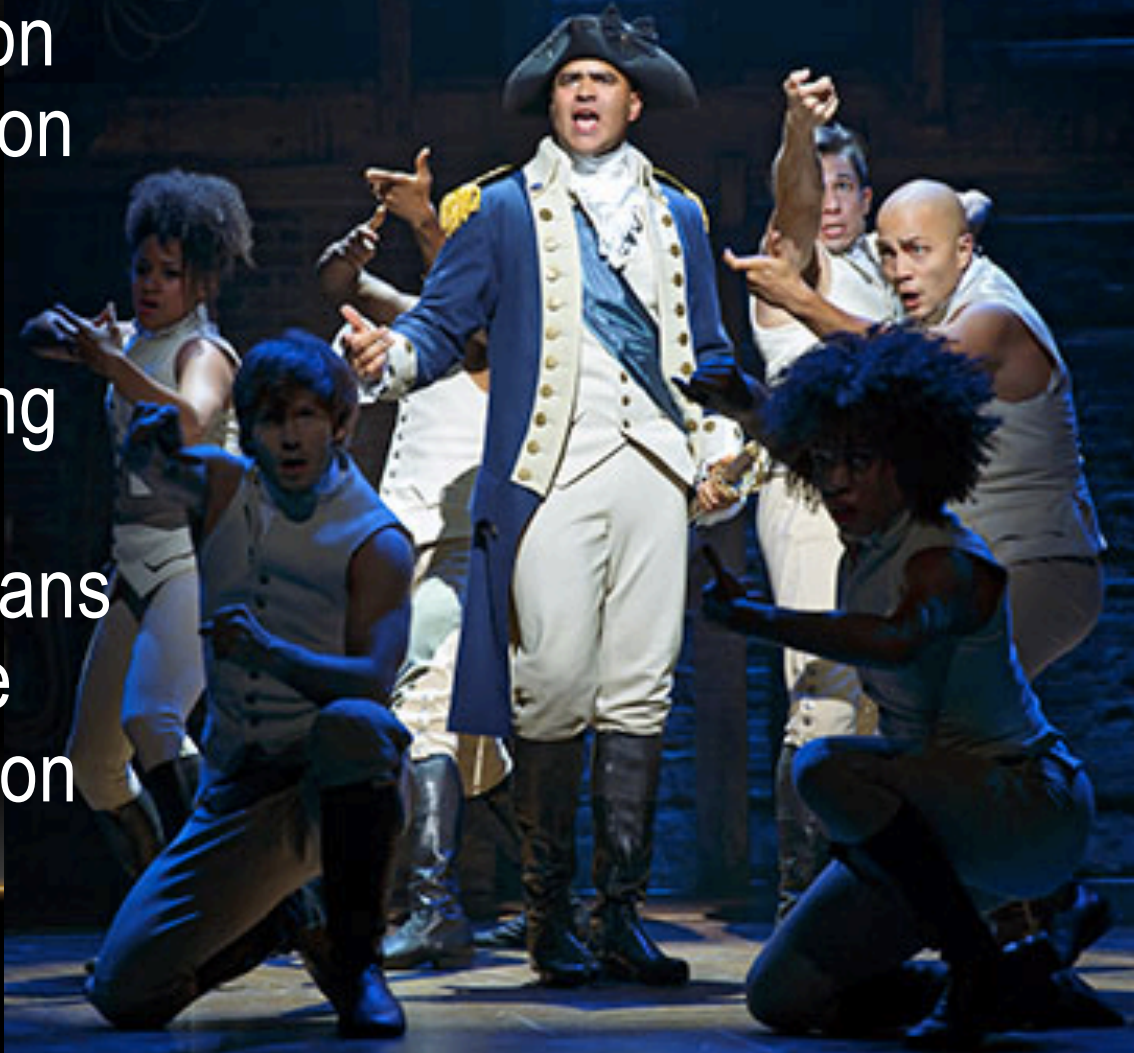


CABINET BATTLE #2

- When we were on death's door, when we were needy, we made a promise, we signed a treaty. We needed money and guns and half a chance. Who provided those funds? France.
 - Jefferson
- We signed a treaty with a King whose head is now in a basket. Would you like to take it out and ask it? 'Should we honor our treaty, King Louis' head?'
- 'Uh... do whatever you want, I'm super dead.'
 - Hamilton
- Washington decides:
- "Draft a statement of neutrality"

WASHINGTON ON YOUR SIDE

- Jefferson and Madison are upset that Hamilton has influence in the Washington Administration, leading to the formation of Democratic-Republicans political party and the resignation of Jefferson



WASHINGTON ON YOUR SIDE

Thanks to Hamilton, our cab'net's fractured into factions... we're breaking down like fractions.

- Jefferson

So he's doubled the size of the government. Wasn't the trouble with much our previous government size?

- Madison

- I have to resign. Somebody has to stand up for the South! Somebody has to stand up to his mouth!

If there's a fire you're trying to douse,
You can't put it out from inside the house.

- Let's show these Federalists who they're up against: Southern Democratic-Republicans

- Jefferson & Madison

BASED ON THESE PIECES

- US History: how might Hamilton and Jefferson view America's position in the world today? Would their opinions change at all based on how our world has changed?
- Sociology: How would the three main sociological theories interpret the struggle over power in Washington's Cabinet, especially with respect to Hamilton's Financial Plan and the Neutrality Proclamation?

DISCUSSION

- Do you listen to hip-hop and rap on a regular basis?
 - If so how, does this music compare?
 - If not, how does this affect your perceptions of this musical genre?
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- For today's participation grade, go to
- [Twitter.com/richardsonsroom](https://twitter.com/richardsonsroom)
- Fill out the Google Form survey there

THANK YOU'S

- Thanks to Mr. Gorski for collaborating!
 - Thanks to all social studies and arts teachers for being open to this experiment
 - Thanks to Mr. Sanders for his help with editing, students for help with tech
 - Thanks to Dept Chairs and Principal Summers for supporting innovative and collaborative work!
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HAMILTON AFTER THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

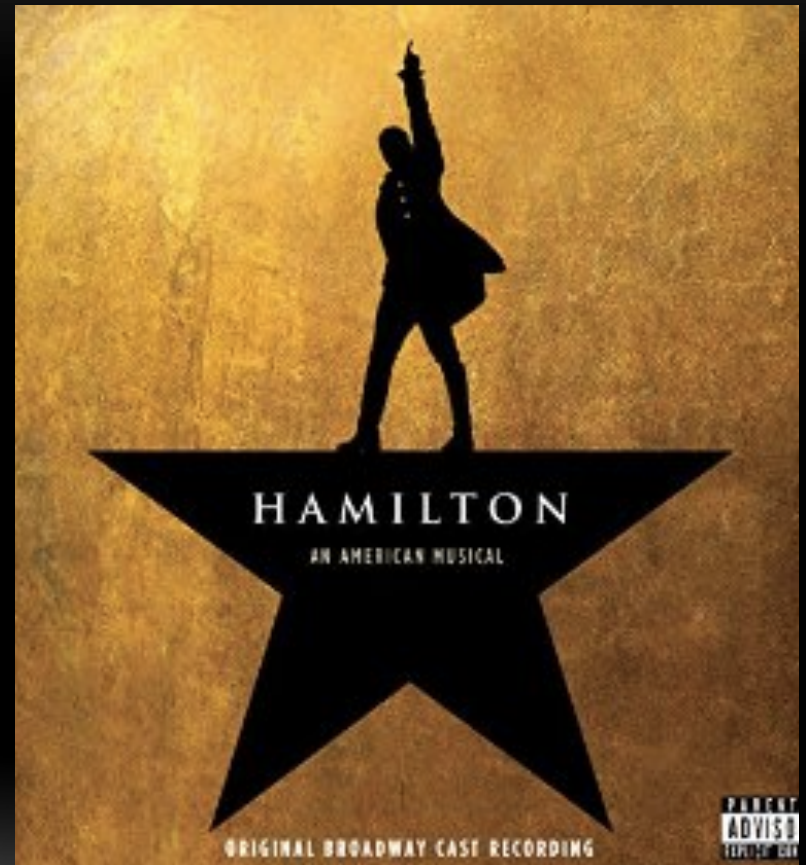
YOU'LL BE BACK

- King George can't believe the colonies would leave him.



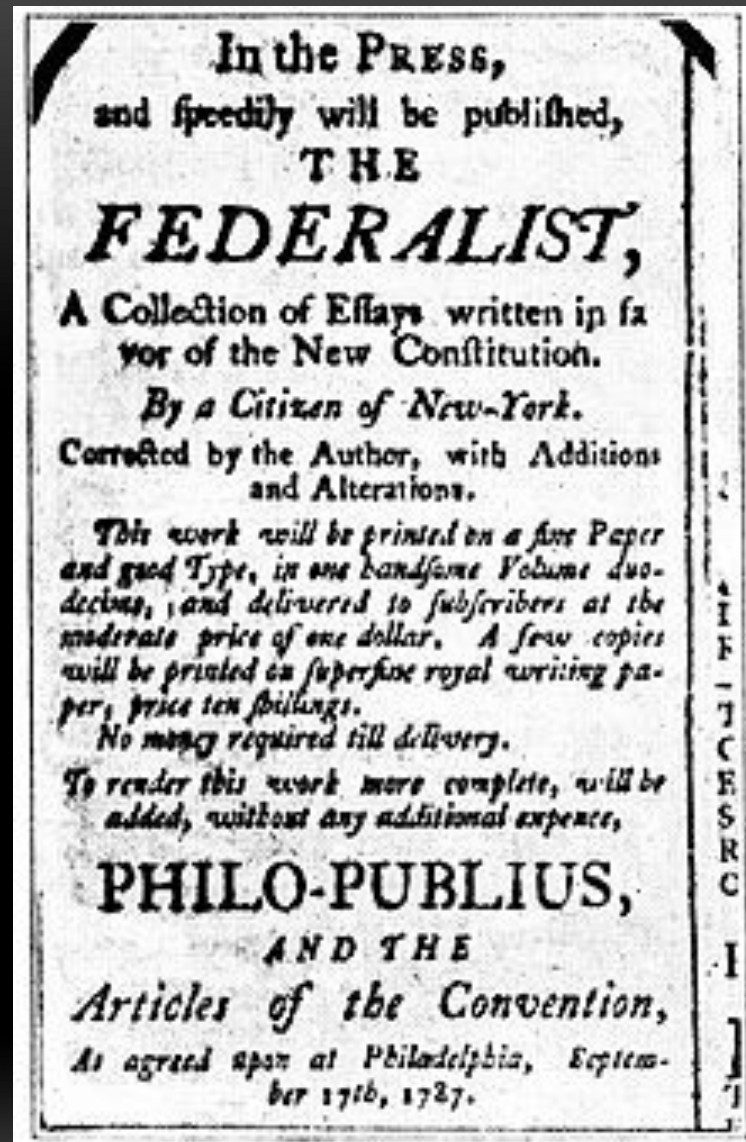
DEAR THEODOSIA

- Our fearless and selfish young founding fathers are also actual fathers with hopes and dreams for their kids and country.



NON-STOP

- Burr and Hamilton become successful lawyers in NY
- Hamilton is the principal author of the Federalist Papers



THE ADAMS ADMINISTRATION

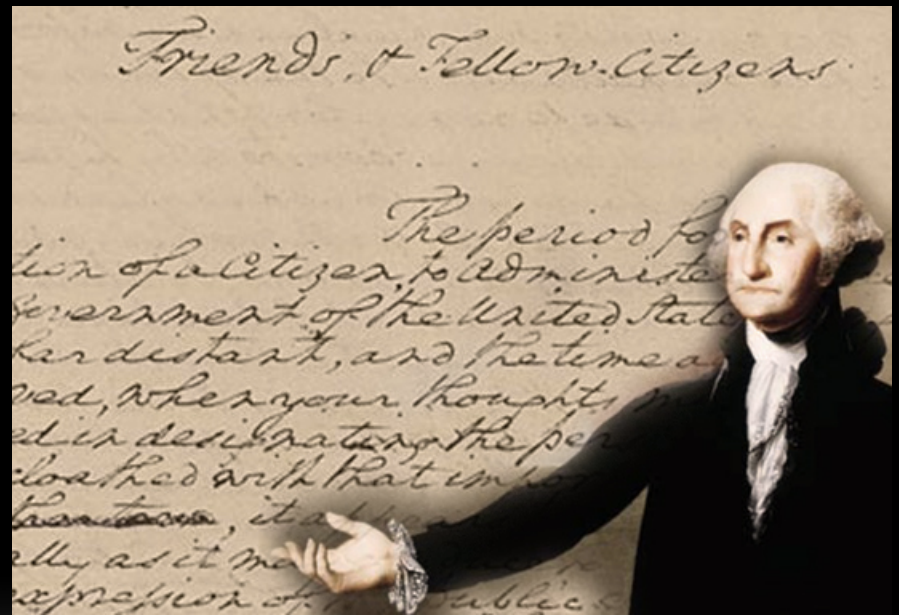
One Last Time

I Know Him

Adams Administration

ONE LAST TIME

- Washington tells Hamilton he will not seek a third term, together they write Washington's Farewell Address



I KNOW HIM

- King George responds to the election of John Adams, former ambassador to England



THE ADAMS ADMINISTRATION

- Hamilton loses power and returns to New York

2.

