

DISCOVERING TOM JUDD'S PORTAL TO DISCOVERY

In connection with the complete reconstruction of the 5th Street-Independence Hall subway station, SEPTA held a public competition for a major art installation. This is part of SEPTA's continuing Art in Transit program, designed to enhance the customer experience for SEPTA's hundreds of thousands of daily riders, and serve as a visible link to nearby community landmarks. This is the 20th rail station to receive a major artwork installation, with more planned in the future.

Tom Judd's Portal to Discovery was selected by a panel of judges as being a wonderful evocation of the links between America's most historic neighborhood and a diverse population over the last three centuries. As Tom noted in his proposal, "This is a place that welcomes people from all over the world, as well as people going to work everyday. Walking around Independence Mall, one is struck by the sound of different languages being spoken. The subway functions as a portal, a place of entry, a modern-day train station delivering its travelers to the historic sites depicting this critical time that changed the world forever."

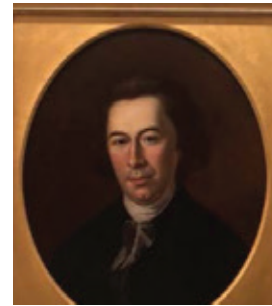
Tom was born in Salt Lake City, attended the University of the Arts, and has been a Philadelphia-based artist his entire career. His works have been exhibited in distinguished museums and galleries across the country, including New York, Atlanta and Denver. While his primary focus has been mixed oil painting-and-collage, he has worked in a wide range of mediums, including sculpture, photography, film and mural arts, one of which can be seen at 2nd and Arch Street nearby.

This brochure provides a key briefly describing many of the personages depicted in Tom's mural on both sides of the platform. For more information on SEPTA's Art-in-Transit program including a self-guided tour around the system, see <https://septa.org/art-in-transit/>.



Nathanael Greene
August 7, 1742 - June 19, 1786

Nathanael Greene was one of the most respected generals of the Revolutionary War and a talented military strategist. He led a valiant rearguard action against the British at the Battle of Brandywine, allowing the Continental Army to escape intact. Greene was appointed a major general and quartermaster for the Continental Army and served with General Washington at the Valley Forge encampment in the winter 1777-1778. As commander of the Southern Department of the Continental army, he led a brilliant campaign that ended the British occupation of the South.



John Nixon
1733 – December 31, 1808

John Nixon was a financier and official from Philadelphia who served as a militia officer in the American Revolutionary War. On July 8, 1776, he made the first public proclamation of the Declaration of Independence and read it from the steps of the Pennsylvania State House. He played a central role in establishing the Bank of North America, which was the young nation's first central bank, in 1781.



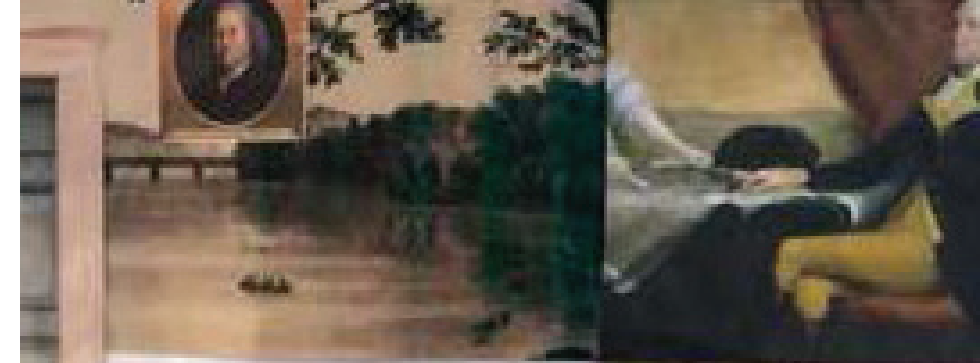
Artemas Ward
November 26, 1727 – October 28, 1800

Artemas Ward was the commander-in-chief of the Massachusetts Bay Colony's militia and subsequently rose to become an American major general in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. Following independence, he served as a state court justice, Speaker of the state House of Representatives, and a Congressman from Massachusetts. He was considered an effective political leader, and President John Adams describing him as "universally esteemed, beloved and confided in by his army and his country."

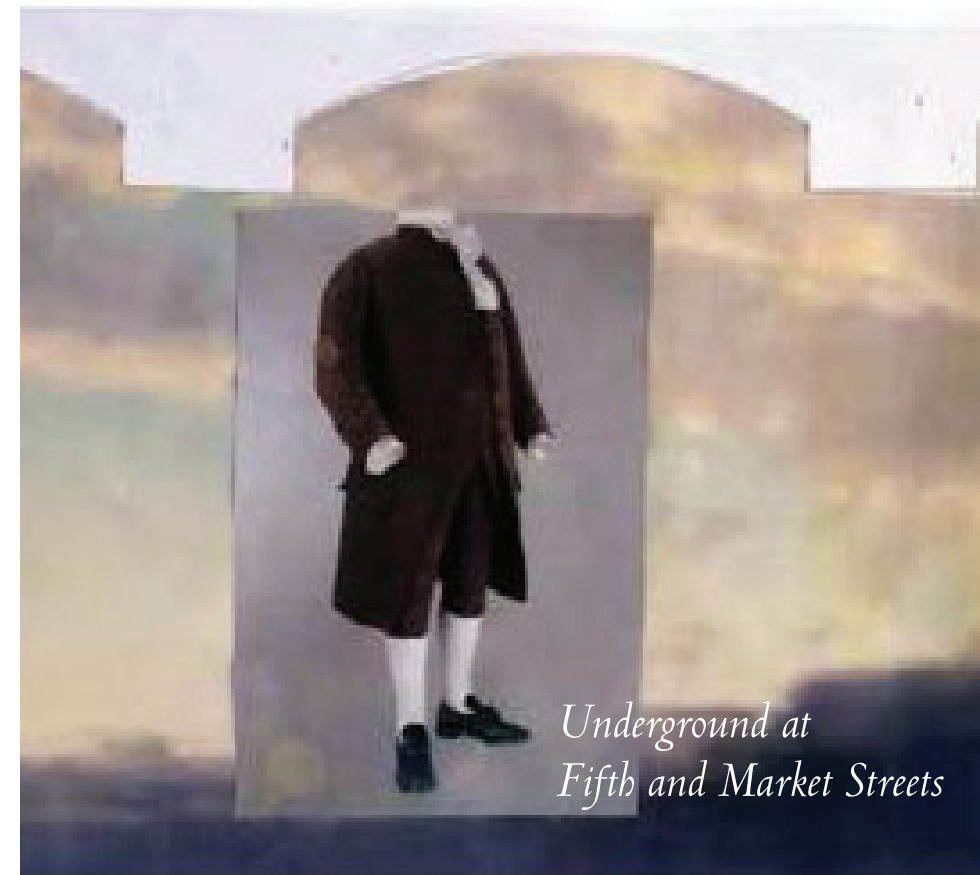


John Hanson
April 14, 1721 – November 15, 1783

John Hanson was a merchant and public official from Maryland during the era of the American Revolution. He was a delegate to the Continental Congress and was elected as first President of the new Confederation Congress, both in Philadelphia. In that position, he introduced the Treasury Department, the first Secretary of War, and the first Foreign Affairs Department. He also led the fight to guarantee statehood for the Western Territories beyond the Appalachian Mountains that had been controlled by



THE INDEPENDENCE MURALS



*Underground at
Fifth and Market Streets*



John Abeel III - generally known as Cornplanter.
Born c. 1742– February 18, 1836.

John Abeel was a Dutch-Seneca war chief and diplomat of the Wolf clan. Led negotiations with the United States and was a signatory of the Treaty of Fort Stanwix (1784). He met with President George Washington in Philadelphia in 1790 to secure rights in Western Pennsylvania for the Seneca people.



Jane Johnson
Born c. 1814-1827 - August 2, 1872

Jane Johnson was an enslaved African-American who gained freedom while passing through Philadelphia on July 18, 1855, as Pennsylvania was a “free-state” that did not recognize slavery. This resulted in a precedent-setting legal case challenging the controversial



Yarrow Mamout
Born in 1736 – January 19, 1823.

Yarrow Mamout was a formerly enslaved African entrepreneur, and later property owner in Georgetown, Washington, DC. After 44 years of being enslaved, Mamout gained freedom at the age of 60. He made enough money to purchase a home in Washington in the early 1800s and was a financier who loaned funds to merchants. The original portrait by Charles Willson Peale painted in 1819 hangs in the Philadelphia Museum of Art.



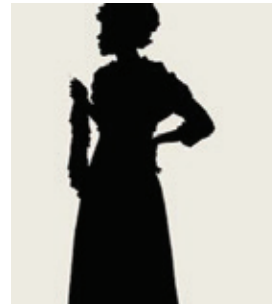
Frances E.W. Harper
September 24, 1825–February 22, 1911

Frances Harper, born in Baltimore to free Blacks, lived the second half of her life in Philadelphia. She was one of the first African-American women to be published in the United States, and her writings ranged from poetry and novels to anti-slavery essays. She was an active lecturer on Black and women’s rights, and co-founded the National Association of Colored Women, which sought to improve the lives and advance the rights of African American women.



James Forten
September 2, 1766 – March 4, 1842

James Forten was an African-American abolitionist and wealthy businessman in Philadelphia. Born a free Black, he built one of the city’s leading sail making businesses, employing a multi-racial workforce of 30. Active in philanthropic causes, he used over half his wealth to win freedom for slaves, finance the abolitionist paper The Liberator, operate an Underground Railroad station from his home, and fund a school for Blacks. He became vice-president of the American Anti-Slavery Society, founded in 1833, and worked for national abolition of slavery.



Ona “Oney” Judge Staines
1773 – February 25, 1848

Ona Staines was an African American woman born in Mt. Vernon and enslaved to the Washington family. She was a personal attendant to Martha Washington and lived in the President’s House adjacent to this station. At the age of 20, to avoid being sent back to Virginia, she absconded to New Hampshire, becoming a “fugitive slave”. The Washington family did not want to risk public backlash in forcing her to return to servitude. She married, had children, and lived out her remaining years in freedom in New Hampshire



Richard Allen
February 14, 1760 – March 26, 1831
Richard Allen was a Philadelphia minister, educator, writer, and one of early America’s most active and influential black leaders. In 1787, he purchased a lot at 6th & Lombard for a future church building and it remains the oldest real estate parcel in the United States continually owned by Blacks. In 1794, he founded the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME), the first independent black denomination in the United States, in which free African-Americans could worship without racial oppression and those enslaved could find a measure of dignity.



William Still
October 7, 1821 – July 14, 1902
William Still was an African-American abolitionist and successful coal merchant based in Philadelphia. He was a conductor on the Underground Railroad using his home as a “station.” He helped hundreds of fugitive men and women escape slavery and also kept records of the people he assisted in order to help families reunite. His book The Underground Rail Road, published in 1872, contains his first-hand testimonies from former enslaved Blacks, and is considered the definitive work on the subject



Absalom Jones
November 7, 1746 – February 13, 1818

Absalom Jones was an African-American abolitionist and clergyman who became prominent in Philadelphia in the late 18th century. He founded the Free African Society with Richard Allen in 1787, a mutual aid society for African Americans in the city. The Free African Society included many people newly freed from slavery after the Revolutionary War. He founded the country’s first Black Episcopal congregation in 1794 and in 1802 became the first ordained priest of the Episcopal Church in the United States.



Teedyuscung
1700–1763
Teedyuscung was known as King of the Delawares (the Lenape nation), who resided in eastern Pennsylvania. The Lenape had been unfairly deprived of their lands by the infamous Walking Purchase Treaty of 1737. Teedyuscung, fluent in English and adopting European-style clothing, became a spokesman for the Lenape in dealings with the colonial government in Philadelphia. He participated in the Treaty of Easton in 1758 which resulted in the surrender of Lenape claims to all lands in eastern Pennsylvania in exchange for permission for his people to continue living in the Wyoming Valley of northeastern Pennsylvania. He was murdered by arsonists on April 19, 1763, marking the beginning of the end of the Lenape presence in Pennsylvania.



Elizabeth Peel
(dates unknown)
This portrait of Elizabeth Peel by renowned American artist Benjamin West, was painted in 1757, while he was still a teenager. Little is known about her life. West would go on to great acclaim over the next 60 years as one of the young nation’s finest artists.



James Biddle
February 18, 1783 - October 1, 1848

James Biddle, brother of noted financier Nicholas Biddle, was born in Philadelphia in 1783, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, and entered military service as a United States Navy midshipman. In 1804, during the war of the Barbary Pirates his ship the USS Philadelphia struck rocks off Tripoli and he and his commodore, William Bainbridge, were kept imprisoned for 19 months. He subsequently led successful naval actions against the British fleet during the War of 1812, and in 1818 led an expedition on the Columbia River exploring the Oregon