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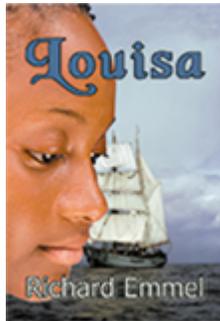
Vision Public Relations Group

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

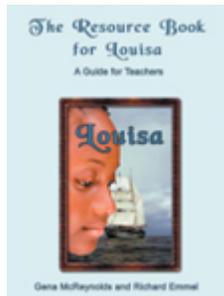
Are You Looking for a Fresh Way to Commemorate Black History Month?



ATLANTA, (January 15, 2009) -- As we celebrate the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. next week, what better time to consider how best to commemorate the accomplishments of Black Americans during the upcoming month of February, which has been designated as Black History Month? Co-authors and teachers Richard Emmel and Gena McReynolds, along with Parson Place Press, invite you to think about using the novel, *Louisa* by Richard Emmel, and the educational aid, *The Resource Book for Louisa: A Guide for Teachers*, by Gena McReynolds and Richard Emmel, to educate yourself, young people, and adults alike on the astounding life of Black American poetess, Phillis Wheatley.

Mr. Emmel's story of *Louisa*, which is loosely based on the life of African-American poetess, Phillis Wheatley, transports you back to colonial American times to witness the terrifying capture and brutal enslavement of Farih Morowa, a Fulani African princess, who is renamed Louisa by her owners. She later amazes the world with her intellect and poetic writing skills. How she was nurtured, educated, and rose to international celebrity as an authoress, before ultimately gaining her freedom from slavery, is a truly inspiring journey for readers of all ages.

Ms. Kathy Hickey, also known as "the Book Lady," a Literacy Specialist with the Arkansas Department of Education, says of *Louisa*, "The narrative swept me along as I vicariously lived the amazing story of this black woman who rose, despite all odds, to become a famous poet of her day." Dr. Paul J. Smith, a Little Rock educator, says, "*Louisa* is an excellent book."



Middle School teachers, Richard Emmel, of Little Rock, Arkansas, and Gena McReynolds, of Bellevue, Washington, have co-authored an excellent resource to accompany the novel *Louisa*. *The Resource Book for Louisa: A Guide for Teachers* provides a wide variety of methods for teaching intermediate and middle school students such topics as slavery in colonial America, civil and human rights, literature in colonial America, and the influence of religion in early America.

To obtain copies of the novel, *Louisa*, or *The Resource Book for Louisa: A Guide for Teachers*, ask your local bookstore or library to order it from Ingram Books using ISBN 978-0-9786567-3-7 (for the novel, *Louisa*), or ISBN 978-0-9786567-5-1 (for *The Resource Book for Louisa*), or you may purchase them as a package directly from the publisher at www.parsonplacepress.com/store/special. Both titles are also available online at Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com, BlackCBC.com, and wherever fine books are sold.