



Proclamation

WHEREAS: Mary McLeod Bethune was born in a log cabin near Mayesville, South Carolina, on July 10, 1875; and

WHEREAS: Mrs. Bethune gladly walked six miles a day to be the first of her fourteen brothers and sisters to attend school; and

WHEREAS: She fulfilled her dream of educating other black children by founding her own school in Daytona Beach, Florida which became the Bethune-Cookman College in 1925; and

WHEREAS: In 1936 President Franklin D. Roosevelt put Mrs. Bethune in charge of Negro Affairs in the National Youth Administration; and

WHEREAS: Phillis Wheatley was stolen from her family in West Africa in 1761 and brought to Boston as a slave;

WHEREAS: She published her first book of poetry at age 20 and was honored as the first black poet in America; and

WHEREAS: Mrs. Wheatley wrote a poem about General George Washington whom she later met; and

WHEREAS: The Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School and adjoining Phillis Wheatley Community Center were dedicated on May 13, 1969, giving support, guidance and quality education to children and adults of all races;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the second week in May to be

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE SCHOOL
AND
PHILLIS WHEATLEY CENTER
REDEDICATION WEEK

in Minnesota, to honor their twenty years of service.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this fourth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-nine and of the State the one hundred

39179
STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED

Rudy Perpich
GOVERNOR JUN 1 1989

Joan Anderson Shover
Secretary of State

Joan Anderson Shover
SECRETARY OF STATE