

New York Public Schools, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Gilder Lehrman Institute to make sure that thousands of low-income students have the chance to see the show. There's now a curriculum to give students context and a deeper meaning—or deeper understanding of our Nation's founding.

Today Michelle hosted a workshop for a group of area high school students with some of the castmembers. I understand these young men—people put on some pretty terrific performances of their own. Look at this brother. He's like, "All right, thank you." [Laughter] That's good. I mean, you've got to have confidence. [Laughter] What did Malia and Sasha say to me the other day? You've got to be your own number-one fan. [Laughter] He's obviously internalized that. [Laughter]

We did have one rule, which is, no dueling on the nice furniture, some of which is antique. [Laughter]

But the real heroes are the extraordinary educators and counselors and community members who pour their heart into their students and make learning come alive every single day. So I want to give all those educators, counselors, and community members a big round of applause for the support that you've given to our students.

And we hope that this helps every teacher who's spent hours trying to make the "Federalist Papers" teenager-friendly. [Laughter] We hope that the remarkable life of Alexander Hamilton will show our young people the pos-

sibilities within themselves and how much they can achieve in the span of a lifetime.

And we hope that they'll walk away with an understanding of what our Founders got started, that it was just a start. It was just the beginning. That's what makes America so great. You finish the story. We're not finished. This is a constant work in progress, America. We're boisterous, and we're diverse. We're full of energy and perpetually young in spirit. We are the project that never ends. We make mistakes. We have our foibles. But ultimately, when every voice is heard, we overcome them.

It's not the project of any one person. America is what we make of it. And we only need to look at this cast, performing in front of George and Martha, to know that our Founders could not have dreamt—I think it's fair to say that our Founders couldn't have dreamt up the future that they set in motion. And it's only by exercising their greatest gift to us—the gift of citizenship—that we keep our democracy alive and continue the work of creating that more perfect Union.

So, with that, let's get started. Enjoy the show.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:38 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Lin-Manuel Miranda, playwright, composer, and lyricist, Alex Lacamoire, music director and coarranger, and Sander Jacobs, Jill Furman, and Jeffrey Seller, producers, "Hamilton" musical; and former Vice President Richard B. Cheney. He also referred to his mother-in-law Marian Robinson.

Statement on Senate Confirmation of John B. King, Jr., as Secretary of Education *March 14, 2016*

I applaud the Senate for confirming John King as Secretary of Education. In this role, John will continue to lead our efforts to work toward high-quality preschool for all, prepare our kids for college and a career, make college more affordable, and protect Americans from the

burdens of student debt. John knows how education can transform a child's future. He's seen it in his own life. And his experience, counsel, and leadership couldn't be more valuable to me and to our country as we work to open the doors of opportunity to all of America's children.