

#ARGIRLSLEAD

Daisy L. Gatson Bates

(1914-1999)

Born in Huttig, Ar, Ms. Bates was an activist for human & civil rights. She was the first woman president of the Arkansas Chapter of the NAACP. Ms. Bates is best known for the support, advisement, & mentorship she gave the Little Rock Nine during the 1957 Central High Crisis.



Betty Bumpers

(1925 - 2018)

Born in 1925, in Grand Prairie, Ar, Ms. Bumpers is a former first lady of Arkansas. She founded Peace Links in 1982, a national non-partisan organization through which women strive to end nuclear threat. She & Rosalynn Carter ran a successful campaign to ensure that all American school children were immunized.



Carol Anthony

(1953-2010)

Carol Crafton Anthony obtained her master's degree from the University of Arkansas School of Law (1979). She was the first elected judge in south Arkansas. Carol Anthony also developed S.O.A.R, a transitional living program, and Partners Against Youth Violence.



Florence Price

(1887 - 1953)

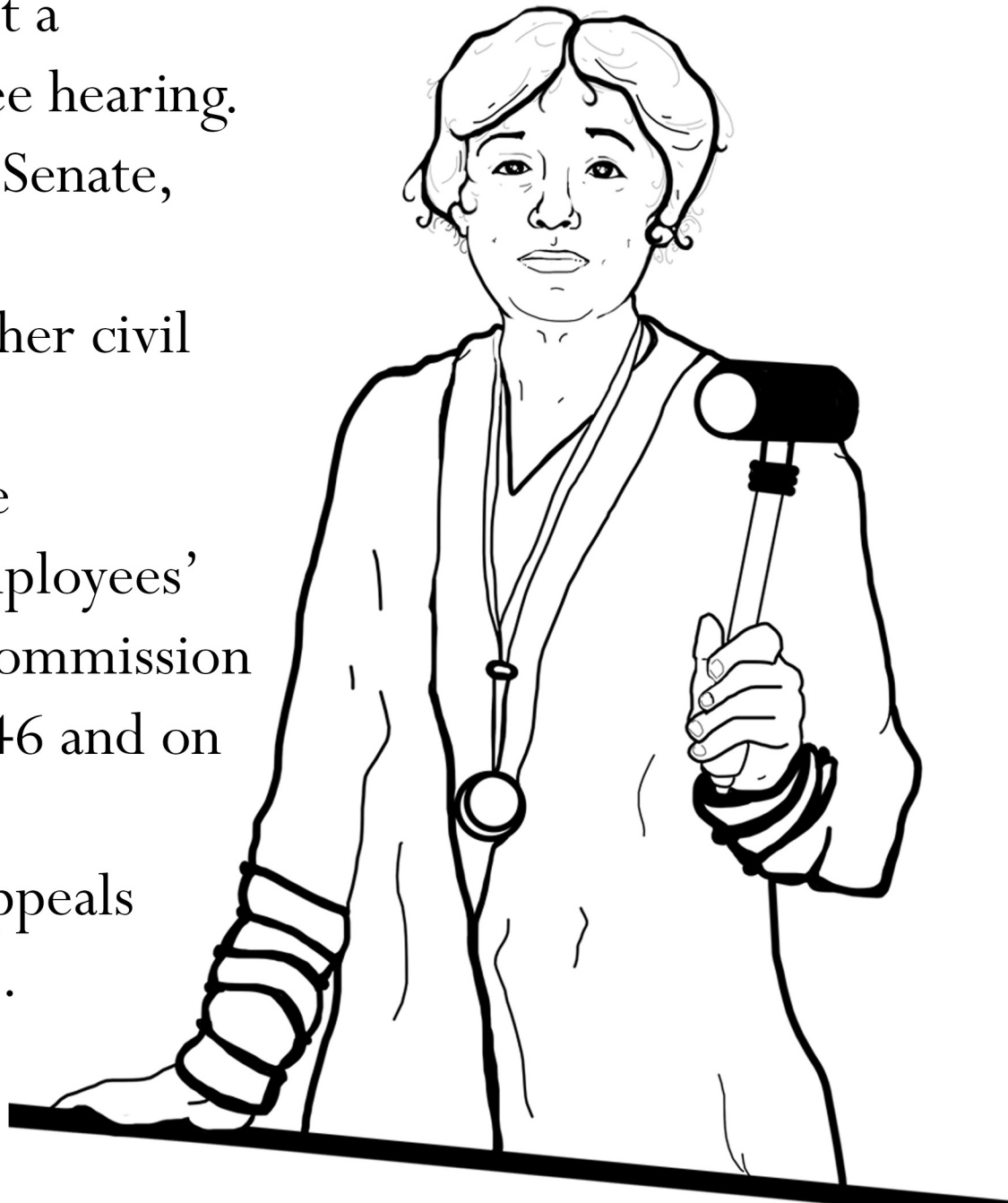
Florence Beatrice Smith Price became the first African-American female composer to have a composition performed by a major American symphony orchestra in 1933. She composed more than 300 works in her lifetime, including chamber music, vocal compositions & songs for radio. As a teacher in Little Rock, she had immense influence on many of her students.



Hattie Caraway

(1878–1950)

Hattie Ophelia Wyatt Caraway was the first female United States Senator (representing Arkansas) & the first female to preside over the U.S. Senate, the first female U.S. Senate Committee chairperson, & the first female senior Senator. While in office, Ms. Caraway was also the first female to conduct a Senate Committee hearing. After leaving the Senate, she remained in Washington in other civil service positions. She served on the United States Employees' Compensation Commission from 1945 to 1946 and on the Employees' Compensation Appeals Board from 1946 until her death.



Irma Hunter Brown

(1939 - Present)

Irma Hunter Brown served 24 years in the Arkansas Legislature as the first African-American woman to have been elected to both the Arkansas House of Representatives & to the Arkansas Senate.

Her work in the legislature is expansive & impressive, in that she championed many causes that have impacted the community, the city & the state.

In 2015, she was included in the Arkansas Civil Rights Heritage Trail.

Other honors include recipient of the Distinguished Citizen award,

Philander Smith College, Little Rock, 1981;

Fellow, Institute Politics, 1975;

Arkansas Black Hall of Fame Honoree

“Trailblazing Legislative Leader” class of 2019.



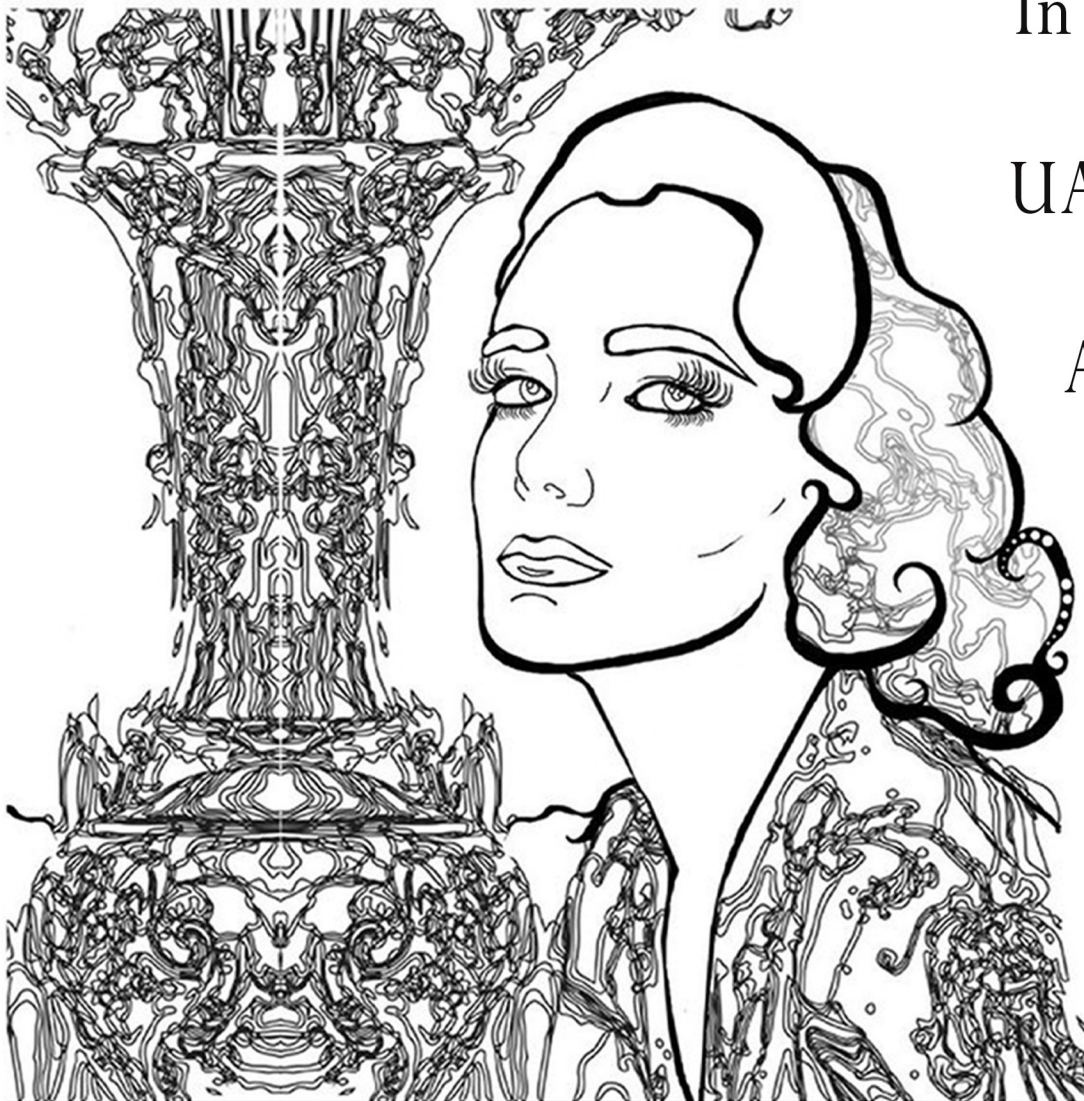
Julie Adams

(1926 - 2019)

Betty May “Julie” Adams was an actress who made more than fifty films and appeared in numerous TV series. Raised in Little Rock, she attended Little Rock Junior College, now UA Little Rock.

Best remembered for her role in the cult classic *Creature from the Black Lagoon*, she also had a recurring role on the popular TV series *Murder, She Wrote*.

In 2013, she was honored with UA Little Rock’s Distinguished Alumni Award.



Louise McPhetridge Thaden

(1905 – 1979)

Louise McPhetridge Thaden was an aviation pioneer & holder of many flight records during the late 1920s & 1930s. At one point, she was the most famous female American aviator only after Amelia Earhart, whom she helped found the Ninety-Nines (with Thaden eventually serving as vice-president & secretary).

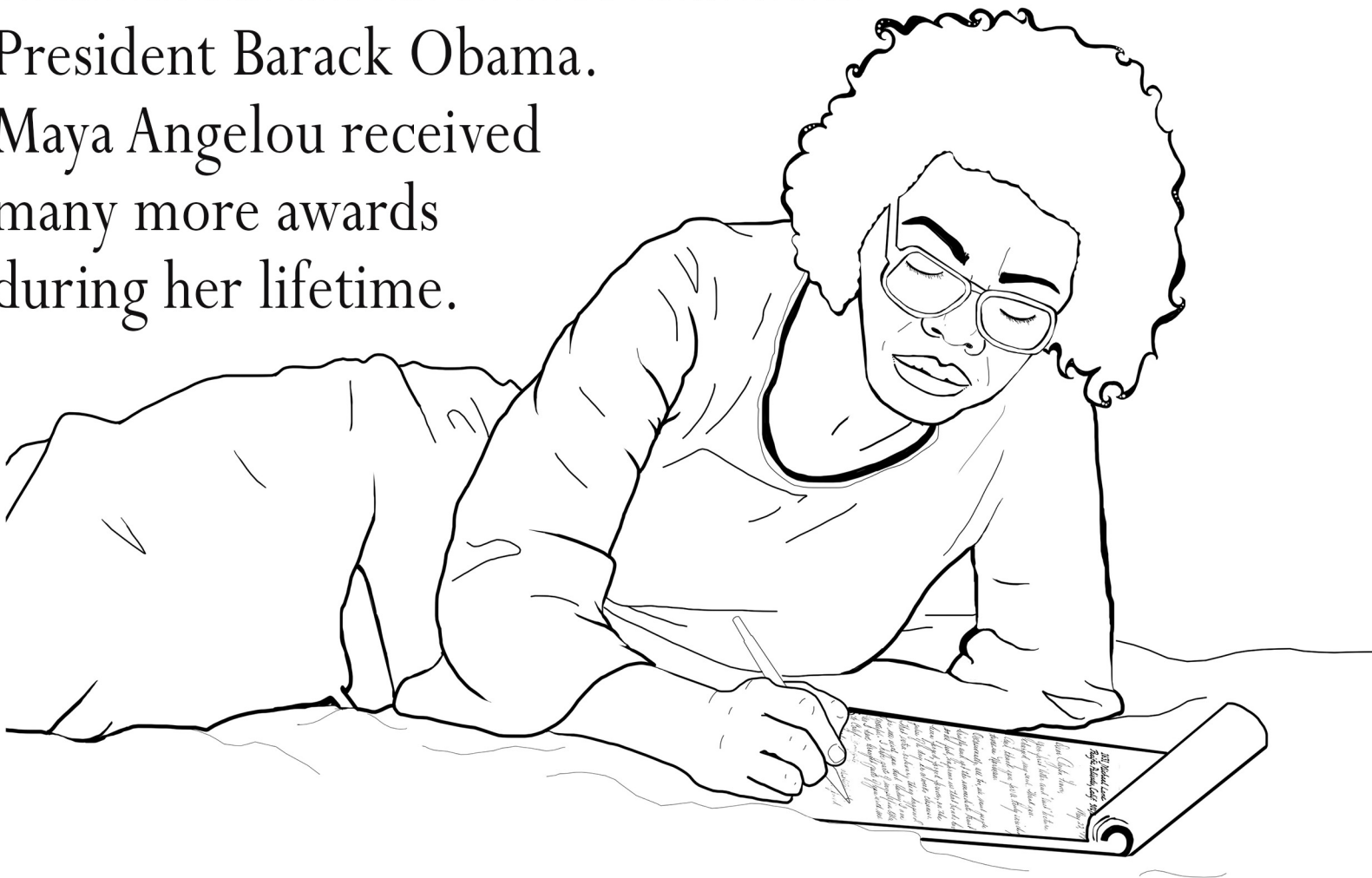


Maya Angelou

(1928-2014)

Maya was sent to Stamps, Arkansas in 1935, to live with her paternal grandmother. She experienced a nomadic lifestyle as a child, even after reuniting with her mother later on. Traveling around the U.S. & eventually throughout the world as an adult, she would begin writing *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (1970). Angelou was awarded the National Medal of Arts in 2000. On February 15, 2011, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Barack Obama.

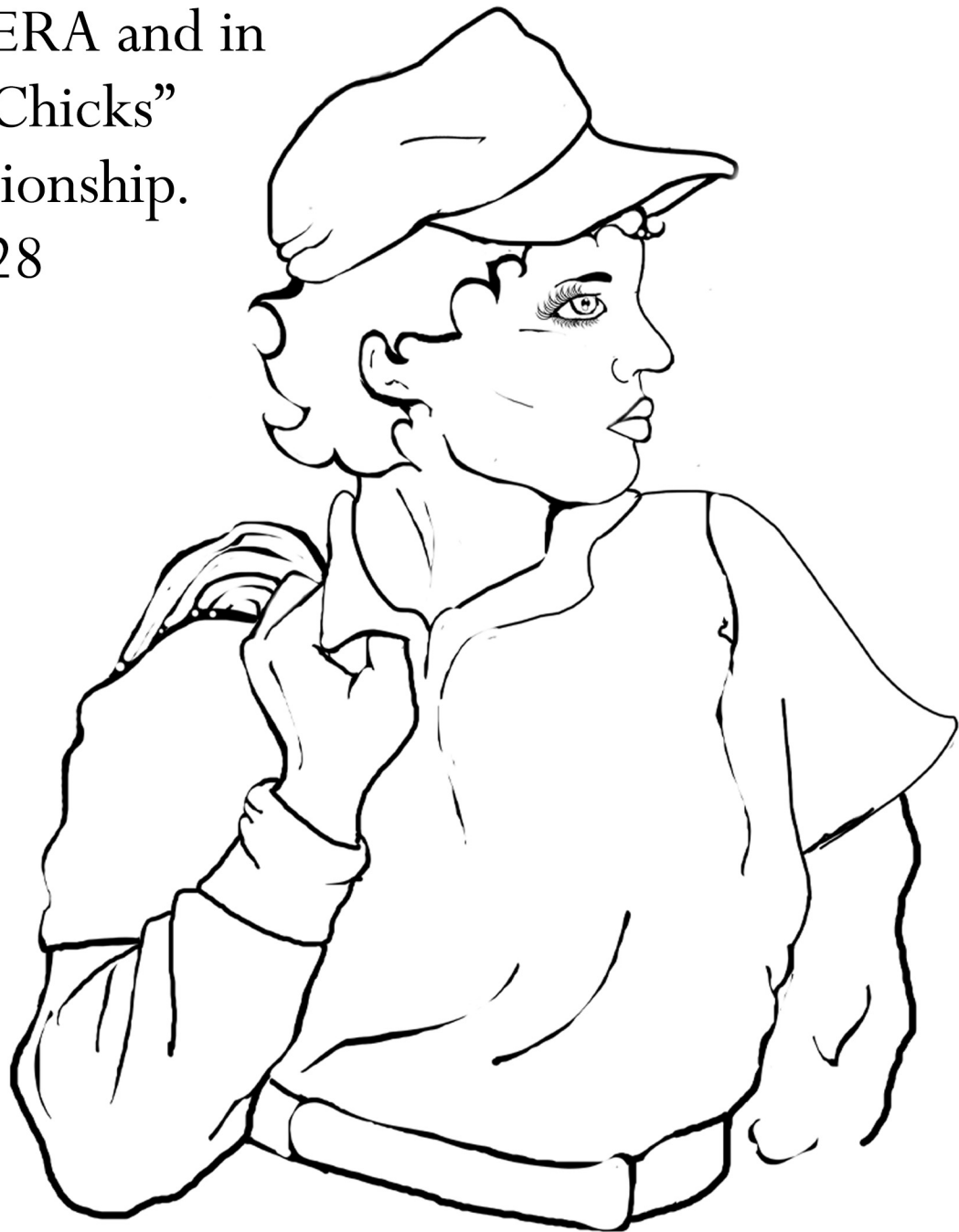
Maya Angelou received many more awards during her lifetime.



Mary Lou Studnicka Caden

(1931 - 2015)

Born July 19, 1931, Mary Lou was an overhand pitcher for three seasons with Grand Rapids Chicks in the All American Girls Professional Baseball League from 1951-1953. Nicknamed "ML," in her rookie year, she went 15-5, 2.36 ERA and in 1953 helped the "Chicks" to their 2nd championship. Later, she served 28 years with the Chicago Police. She resided in Hot Springs Village, AR, later in life & remained active in bowling, Softball and golf.



Raye Jean Jordan Montague

(1935-2018)

Raye Jean Jordan Montague was an internationally Registered Professional Engineer (RPE) with the U.S. Navy who is credited with the first computer-generated rough draft of a U.S. naval ship.

The U.S. Navy's first female program manager of ships (PMS-309) Information Systems Improvement

Program, she held a civilian equivalent rank of captain.

She was inducted into the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame in 2013 and the Arkansas Women's Hall of Fame in 2018.

In 2017, She was featured on *Good Morning America* & dubbed a "real-life hidden figure."

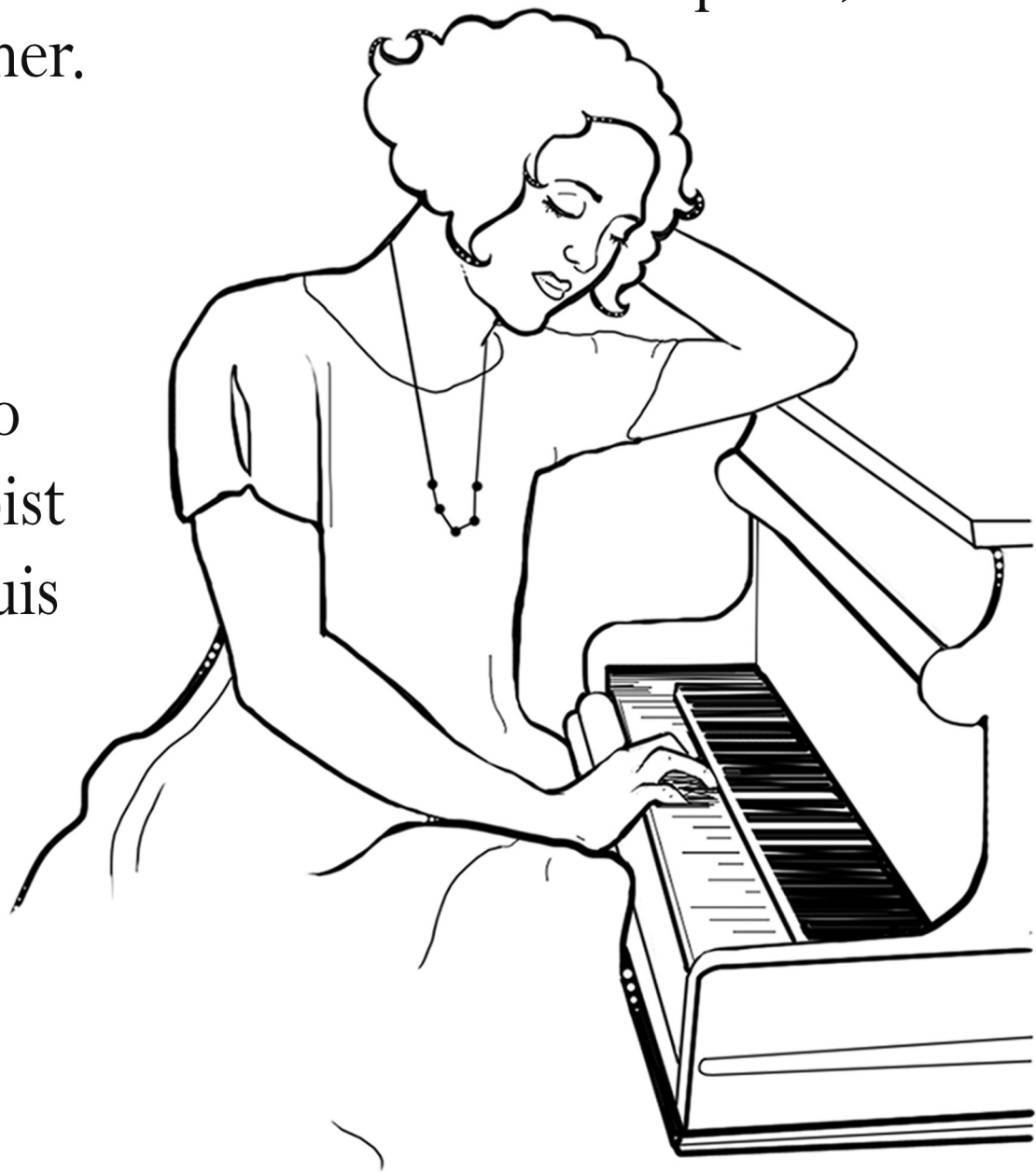


Nola Locke Arndt

(1889-1977)

A native of De Queen, AR, Nola Locke moved to New York in 1814, to pursue a musical career. There she met Felix Arndt, who wrote the famous song “Nola” in 1914, and went on to marry her the same year. After the death of Felix in 1918, she continued her musical work and was active as a composer, singer and teacher.

Giving many performances in the U.S. and Europe, she also toured as a soloist with the St. Louis Symphony.



Shirley Jean Abbott Tomkiewicz

(1934 - 2019)

Shirley achieved her greatest fame for her three volumes of memoirs, which detail the story of her family history and her own coming of age in Hot Springs, AR. Her books are well-written examinations, not only of her own life, but of the south in an age of transition. She continued to write about Arkansas for wide audiences in magazines & newspapers.

“I learned to respect and love history from being born a southerner.

To come from a definable place and to seek understanding of that place are incentives for the writer’s imagination.”





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MISSION STATEMENT

#ARGIRLSLEAD is a movement started by the women serving in the Arkansas House. Each of them has a unique story to share about their journey on the road to their current leadership position. The purpose of this movement is promote positive self image and leadership for young girls across the state.

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YOUR SCHOOL OR YOUNG WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION?**

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