

# Diverse Perspectives

## Do you know this American?

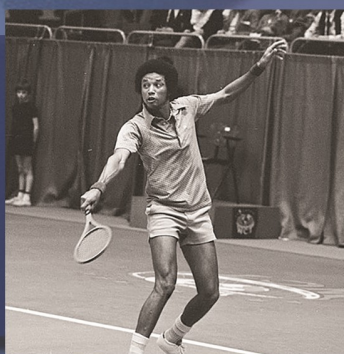


Helen Adams Keller was an American author, political activist and lecturer. She was the first deaf-blind person to earn a bachelor of arts degree. The story of Keller and her teacher Anne Sullivan was made famous by Keller's autobiography, *The Story of My Life*, and its adaptations for film and stage, *The Miracle Worker*. Her birthplace in West Tuscumbia, Alabama, is now a museum and sponsors an annual Helen Keller Day. Her June 27 birthday is commemorated as Helen Keller Day in Pennsylvania and on the centenary year of her birth was recognized by a presidential proclamation from President Jimmy Carter.

For further reading and resources, [click here](#).

Marlee Matlin is a world renowned actress who overcame her physical disabilities to become a role model for all women across the world. Matlin lost her hearing at the age of 18 months due to severe fever and illness. Despite this, she pursued her acting career and went on to win the Academy Award for Best Actress for her role in *Children of a Lesser God* in 1987.

For further reading and resources, [click here](#).



Arthur Robert Ashe Jr. was born on July 10, 1943, in Richmond, Virginia. Young Arthur lived on the grounds with four tennis courts and began playing tennis at age six. He received instruction from R. Walter "Whirlwind" Johnson, an African American doctor from Lynchburg. In 1963, Ashe became the first African American player to win the U.S. Men's Hard Court Championships, and the first to be named to a U.S. Junior Davis Cup (an international men's tournament) team.

For further reading and resources, [click here](#).

Juliette Gordon Low founded the Girl Scouts of the United States of America. Born in Savannah, Georgia, in 1860, Juliette Gordon Low spent her early life in the South as a member of a socially and financially elite family. On March 12, 1912, Juliette Low registered the first troop of American Girl Guides. The first of the 18 girls to register was Margaret "Daisy Doots" Gordon, her niece and namesake. Renamed the Girl Scouts in 1913, Low used her own money, and the resources of friends and family, to push the organization to new heights.

For further reading and resources, [click here](#).

