



Impact Statement

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Harbor in Her Hands, 2026

Digital Art

The Overlake School, Redmond, WA

Unsung Hero: Sarah Bradlee Fulton

The person I chose to represent in my artwork is Sarah Bradlee Fulton, an important woman from the American Revolution who not many people know about. Even though she isn't as famous as others, she played a really big role in helping the Patriot cause. She was born in 1740 in Massachusetts and grew up during a time when the colonies were starting to have serious problems with Britain. As things got more intense, she didn't just stand by. She got involved and helped make a difference.

Fulton was part of a group called the Daughters of Liberty. This was a group of women who protested British taxes by making their own goods instead of buying from Britain. They also encouraged other people to boycott British products. I think this is really powerful because even though women didn't have a voice in government back then, they still found ways to stand up for what they believed in. It shows that you don't need to be in charge to make an impact.

I made my artwork to honor what Sarah Bradlee Fulton did during the Boston Tea Party. Most people only talk about the men who dumped the tea into the harbor, but Fulton helped behind the scenes. She helped make disguises so the men wouldn't be recognized, which was super risky. After the event, she also helped them get rid of the disguises and hide any evidence so they wouldn't get caught by the British. I think that took a lot of bravery because if she got caught, she could have been in serious trouble.

She didn't just help with that one event either. During the war, after the Battle of Bunker Hill, she helped organize women to take care of injured soldiers. At that time, there weren't a lot of doctors or supplies, so what she did really mattered. She helped save lives and made soldiers feel supported. I think that shows she was not only brave but also caring and a strong leader.

My artwork is called *Harbor in Her Hands*. I used different symbols to show her personality and what she did. Her calm pose shows how she stayed steady and brave even in dangerous situations. One of the main parts of the artwork is a tiny ship floating in a teacup. This is kind of surreal, but it represents the Boston Tea Party and her role in it. The ship being in her hands shows that even though she wasn't the one throwing the tea, she still helped make it happen. It's like she was holding part of history in her hands.

I also chose to dress her in plaid clothing with muted colors. I did this to show that she was just an ordinary person. She wasn't rich or famous, but she still did something really important. I

wanted to show that anyone, even someone who seems “normal,” can do something big and meaningful.

Sarah Bradlee Fulton’s story made me think differently about what it means to make a difference. She wasn’t loud or famous, but she still helped change history. It reminds me that you don’t have to be the most popular or powerful person to matter. Sometimes it’s the quiet people who do the most important things.

Her story also shows that history isn’t just made by famous leaders. There are so many people behind the scenes who help make things happen, and they deserve to be remembered too. Learning about her made me realize that even small actions can have a big impact.

Overall, Sarah Bradlee Fulton inspires me because she stepped up when it mattered. She didn’t wait for someone else to act—she did something herself. That’s something I think we can all learn from. Even today, we can make a difference in our own ways, just by being brave and helping others when we can.

References:

"Sarah Bradlee Fulton." The Liberty Trail, thelibertytrail.org/history/biographies/sarah-bradlee-fulton

"Sarah Bradlee Fulton." Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 1 Apr. 2026, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sarah_Bradlee_Fulton.