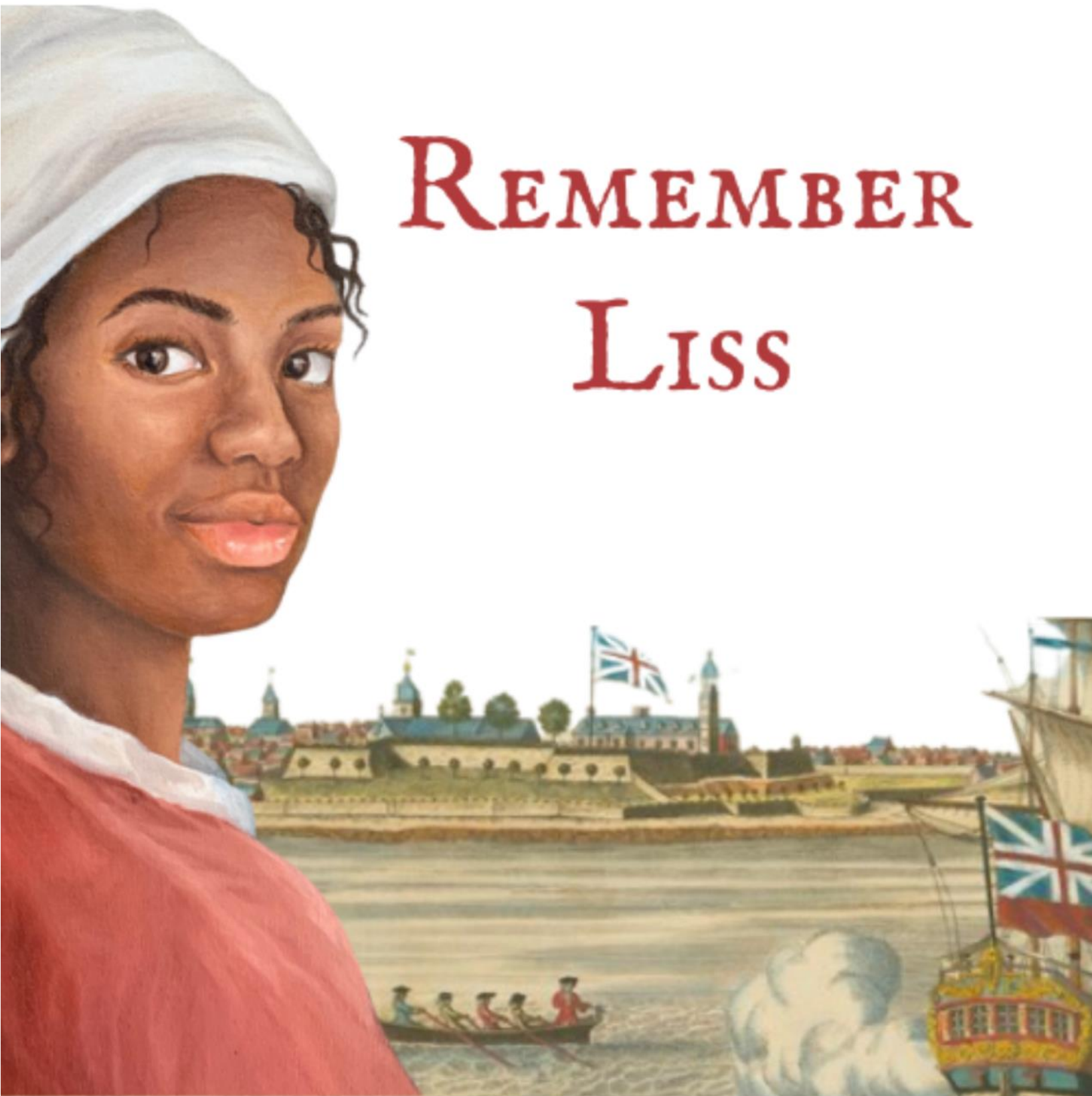


# 2023 Annual Report

## REMEMBER LISS



[www.rememberliss.org](http://www.rememberliss.org)

*The mission of Remember Liss is to educate the community about the extraordinary life and times of an enslaved Black woman from New York named Elizabeth, or Liss. Her bold and daring struggle for freedom introduces a new way of understanding the American founding through the eyes of a woman of color.*



## Remember Liss 2023 Board Of Directors



### Officers:

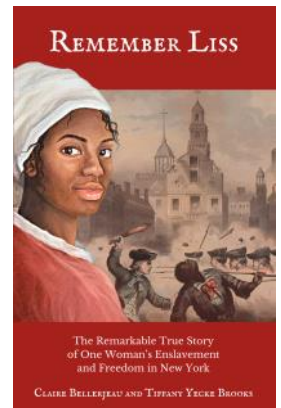
President, Claire Bellerjeau

Treasurer, Chris Bellerjeau

Secretary, Tiffany Yecke Brooks

### Board Member:

Anthony Townsend



To access a downloadable version of this report please visit [www.rememberliss.org](http://www.rememberliss.org).



# Remember Liss

## Facts and Statistics

- Remember Liss, Inc. was founded in 2022.
- Our student book “Remember Liss: The Remarkable True Story of One Woman’s Enslavement and Freedom in New York” by Claire Bellerjeau and Tiffany Yecke Brooks was published through the non-profit in 2023.
- In 2023 we launched our “Fill the Map” Campaign, and achieved our goal of sharing copies of “Remember Liss” with teachers in all 50 states, and Puerto Rico.
- In 2023 we reached 3,567 individuals directly through a Remember Liss program.
- Remember Liss gave presentations to 988 students at 15 school including grades 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 11th, and college students.
- On our Remember Liss Walking Tour participants traveled a 1.7- mile circuit in lower Manhattan, viewing historic streets and sites as they learned about Liss.
- Community presentations about Liss in 2023 reached 2,679 individuals at museums, national historic sites, libraries, senior centers, and corporate events.
- Liss’s story gained exposure in national media and at social studies conferences.



# Liss's Timeline

*Liss*

**ROBERT TOWNSEND IS BORN - 1753**



**1778** Culper Spy Ring is formed.  
Col. Simcoe meets Liss while living in the Townsend home.



**1780** Benedict Arnold's plot fails.  
Caught, Andre is hanged.  
Arnold escapes to NYC.

**1782** Pregnant, Liss moves in with Robert instead of evacuating with the British.

**1785** Ann marries Alexander Robertson.  
Liss is sold to Charleston without Harry.



**1790** Liss works at Fort Neck House and is listed as a free person.



**1806** Liss is recorded as a member of the Baptist Church of Oyster Bay.

*Elizabeth, black woman dead*

**ROBERT TOWNSEND DIES - 1838**

**1763 - LISS IS BORN**

*Free Elizabeth*

**1774** Robert works in NYC at an auction house.  
Liss is enslaved by his family in Oyster Bay.

**1776** The war begins. Long Island and NYC are captured by the British.

**1779** John Andre visits and meets Liss.  
Liss escapes with Col. Simcoe.  
Robert becomes lead spy in NYC.  
Liss lives in NYC and "355" letter is written.



**1781** Robert goes into hiding and then moves to Peck Slip in NYC.

**1783** Liss gives birth to a boy named Harry.  
Ann Sharwin purchases Liss and Harry.  
The war ends.

**1787** Robert confronts Alexander Robertson.  
Robert takes young Harry to Oyster Bay.  
Liss is smuggled back to Oyster Bay.



**1803** Liss obtains her legal freedom.

*Oyster Bay, Sept. 3, 1803*  
We the subscribers do hereby certify that a certain black woman named Elizabeth the daughter of Robert Townsend late of Oyster Bay appears to be under the age of fifty years and of sufficient ability to provide for herself

**1827** Slavery ends by law in New York.

# Remember Liss

## 2023 Unaudited Financial Summary

	<b>Total</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Income</b>	
Donations by individuals	\$3,873.49
Grants	\$24,000.00
Book Sales	\$7,959.43
Programs	\$8,310.00
	<hr/>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 44,142.92</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Advertising & marketing	\$7,066.49
Book Printing	\$6,214.86
Book Publishing	\$564.00
Bookkeeping	\$1,900.00
Insurance	\$699.00
Office expenses	\$4,453.00
Supplies & materials	\$2,328.37
Travel	\$6,923.00
	<hr/>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$30,148.72</b>



# Remember Liss

a 501(c)3 non-profit organization



"Thank you for visiting our class. It meant so much to all of us. I think everyone should know who Liss is. Liss was bold and brave. She deserves to be known all over the world."

*- a 5th grader in 2023*



Remember Liss, Inc.  
Church Street Station  
P.O. Box 3372, New York, NY 10008  
[www.rememberliss.org](http://www.rememberliss.org)