

TAKE YOUR POET TO WORK DAY

July 15, 2015

Maya Angelou

Dr. Maya Angelou was born in 1928 in St. Louis, Missouri. As a result of a childhood rape and subsequent murder of the rapist by her uncle, Dr. Angelou stopped talking for several years. Her autobiography, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, chronicles her life during these years. The book was the first non-fiction work by a black woman to reach best-seller status.

Dr. Angelou went on to work as a Tony and Emmy award-winning actress, a director, and a civil rights activist. She published several other autobiographies and several poetry collections, including the Pulitzer-nominated *Just Give Me a Cool Drink of Water 'Fore I Die*.

She recited the poem, "On the Pulse of Morning" at Bill Clinton's 1993 presidential inauguration. Dr. Angelou died in 2014 following several years of health issues.



*I long, as does every human being,
to be at home
wherever I find myself*

Want to take your favorite poet to work for Take Your Poet to Work Day?

1. Color your poet
2. Cut out your poet along dotted lines
3. Attach a popsicle stick to the back of your poet with tape or glue
4. Take your poet to work as shown



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