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Nine

PHILADELPHIA'S RACE SCIENTIST

NEGRO, the designation of the distinctly dark-skinned, as opposed to the fair, yellow and brown variations of mankind. . . . The negro would appear to stand on a lower evolutionary plane than the white man, and to be more closely related to the highest anthropoid.

Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1911

RACE, cultural construct based on the popular, but mistaken notion that humans can be divided into biologically distinct categories by means of particular physical features such as skin color, head shape, and other visible traits that are transmissible by descent. . . . Genetic studies undertaken in the last decades of the 20th century confirm that "races" do not exist in any biological sense.

Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2002

REVOLUTIONARY IDEAS OF EQUALITY WERE IN THE AIR IN THE AUTUMN of 1772, when John Hancock and 17 others of Boston's elite convened to hear a case involving a teenage slave named Phillis Wheatley. The case had nothing to do with crime or Wheatley's status as prop-