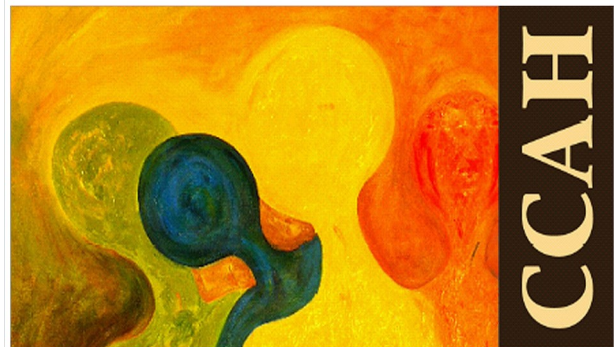


Black History Month 2022: Imagining Futures



EDUCATION | CULTURE | COMMUNITY | HARMONY





Office of the Mayor
Town of Oakville
1225 Trafalgar Road
Oakville, Ontario L6H 0H3
Tel: 905-338-4173
Fax: 905-815-2001
mayor@oakville.ca



PROCLAMATION BLACK HISTORY MONTH February 2022

WHEREAS, throughout its long history, Ontario has been characterized and strengthened by its diverse and distinctive cultures, and;

WHEREAS, from the time of its establishment, people of African and Caribbean descent have made significant contributions to the development and betterment of the province; and

WHEREAS, the Black community continues to play a vital role within the social and cultural mosaic that is Ontario; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month was first recognized in Ontario in February 1993, marking the 200th anniversary of the passage of legislation prohibiting the importation of slaves into Upper Canada; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month continues to provide the opportunity to remember and celebrate the contribution that African and Caribbean Canadians have made to Ontario.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Rob Burton, Mayor of the Town of Oakville, **DO HEREBY PROCLAIM** February 2022, as **Black History Month** in the Town of Oakville.

Mayor Rob Burton,
TOWN OF OAKVILLE



ANITA ANAND
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
OAKVILLE

February 2022

Dear Oakville Friends and Neighbours,

This year as we commemorate Black History Month and honour the incredible contributions of Black Canadians, we reflect on how we can improve equity, inclusion, and justice in our communities. While we cannot meet in person this year, the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton has put together an amazing schedule of virtual events.

As we look toward creating a better future for all Canadians, our Federal Government is supporting the growth of Black Canadians through the Black Entrepreneurship Fund. This program builds on the Government's work to address systemic racism against Black Canadians and serves to increase equity and participation in our communities. Here in the GTA, this has meant that organizations like CaribbeanTales, Open HXOUSE and the OYA Black Arts Coalition, are further supported in their vital endeavors to share and promote Black Canadian culture and entrepreneurship.

Oakville is steeped in the contributions of its early Black settlers. From James Wesley Hill whose Strawberry Farm helped lift our town out of economic depression in the 1850s; to Samuel Adams and Rev. William Butler whose early church organization led to the construction of the Turner African Methodist Church which stands to this day. Oakville's Black community was essential in shaping the town we know and see today.

I want to express my appreciation for the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton for supporting our community and continuing to share your culture. I look forward to this month of remembering and learning about the integral ways the Black community has contributed to the growth and culture of our town, which has all too often been overlooked.

As always, my constituency office remains available at 905-338-2008, or anita.anand@parl.gc.ca if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely Yours,

Hon. Anita Anand

Constituency Office

301 Robinson Street, Oakville, Ontario L6J 1G7 | Tel: 905-338-2008 | Fax: 905-338-5432 | anita.anand@parl.gc.ca

House of Commons

133 Confederation Building, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6 | Tel: 613-995-4014 | Fax: 613-992-0520 | anita.anand@parl.gc.ca

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ADAM VAN KOEVERDEN, M.P.
MILTON

February 1, 2022

It is with great honour that I join Black communities in Halton to celebrate Black History Month. In December 1995, the Honourable Jean Augustine, the first Black woman to be elected to the House of Commons, introduced a motion that received unanimous consent to recognize every year that February is Black History Month in Canada.

Growing up in Oakville and training to compete in the Olympics, I had no shortage of Black sporting heroes to look up to. From local track and field Olympic Champion Donovan Bailey to World Champion kayaker Renn Crichlow, I was consistently inspired by them and others to excel. Now that I am a public servant, individuals such as the Honourable Jean Augustine and my colleagues the Honourable Ahmed Hussen, the Honourable Marci Ien, the Honourable Greg Fergus, MP Emmanuel Dubourg, MP Arielle Kayabaga, and MP Michael Coteau are my role models as they pave the way for future generations.

Whether it's in academia, sports, health, sciences, business, or the arts, Black Canadians have made – and continue to make – an important impact on our country, and in Milton. The organizers and volunteers at Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) exemplify this impact, and I want to offer my sincerest gratitude to them. Despite the ongoing pandemic and the difficulties that come with it, CCAH has continued to provide engaging and educational programming to residents of Halton that showcase the strength and achievements of Black communities from coast, to coast, to coast.

Black Canadian History is Canadian history, and no matter the month of the year, Black Canadians help build a stronger Canada.

Happy Black History Month!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adam van Koeverden".

Adam van Koeverden

Member of Parliament, Milton

Pam Damoff, M.P.
Oakville North-Burlington



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

February 2, 2022

To the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton in celebration of Black History Month 2022

In 1995, the House of Commons officially recognized February as Black History Month in Canada following a motion introduced by the first Black Canadian woman elected to Parliament, the Honourable Jean Augustine. The motion was carried unanimously, officially recognizing our nation's black history.

Every February since, and throughout the year, we honour the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present whose contributions have helped to make Canada the prosperous, compassionate and multicultural nation it is today. This year's theme, "Imagining Futures," offers us all the opportunity to reflect upon the challenges of the past and to consider how a better tomorrow may look.

The Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton's leadership in the community has ensured that the black history of our community is recognized and celebrated. Thank you for bringing our community's rich black history to life, throughout Black History Month and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pam Damoff".

Pam Damoff, MP
Oakville North-Burlington



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Hon. Karina Gould
Member of Parliament
Burlington

Andrew Tyrell
President, Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)
Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre
2302 Bridge Road
Oakville, ON L6L 2G6

February 1, 2022

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for the important work that you and the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton do for our community and thank you for hosting this event, *Imagining Futures*, to mark Black History Month 2022.

For me, imagining futures means that we take time to acknowledge and reflect on the past, and looking forward towards a society that is safe, inclusive, and equitable.

Each February, we mark Black History Month – a time to reflect on the significant contributions and achievements of the many of Black Canadians.

Black Canadians are leaders in our communities, playing a vital role in building a stronger, fairer, and more inclusive country. In recent years, we have been reminded that systemic discrimination and racism remain problems in our society. That's why every Canadian must recommit to combating anti-Black racism and all forms of discrimination, and xenophobia.

In my work as Member of Parliament for Burlington, and also as the Minister for Families, Children and Social Development, I recognize my platform and the responsibility I have in our fight against discrimination.

Black Canadian History is Canadian history. This year's theme, *Imagining Futures*, reminds us of the importance of learning about Black experiences in Canada, recognizing and addressing injustices, and thinking forward to a world that we will leave behind for our little ones, that is happier and stronger than the one we live in today.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Karina Gould
Member of Parliament
Burlington

Room 606, Justice Building, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
Tel.: 613-995-0881 Fax.: 613-995-1091

Ottawa | *Constituency Office*

777 Guelph Line Suite 209, Burlington, Ontario, L7R 3N2
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Karina.Gould@parl.gc.ca
<http://karinagouldmp.ca>



Black History Month 2022

It is my pleasure to offer greetings and best wishes to the black community of Oakville on Black History Month 2022.

This year's National theme of Health and Wellness encapsulates activities, rituals, and initiatives that members of the black community have practiced to maintain good health and wellbeing.

This theme is not only an acknowledgment of the legacy of black scholars and medical practitioners in Western medicine, but a recognition of contributions made to healthcare. For example, historically black people have been employed as doulas, midwives, naturopaths, and herbalists throughout the African diaspora.

It is not commonly known that Oakville has a rich black history. Oakville served as a major gateway to Canada for blacks who were fleeing slavery from the American south. (Slavery had been abolished in Canada in 1834, as part of Britain's Slavery Abolition Act.) They crossed the Canadian border by means of the Underground Railroad, a network of people, secret routes, and safe houses.

Between 1850 and 1860, approximately 400 black people settled in Oakville, representing 20 per cent of the town's population of 2,000 people. Due to the efforts and assistance of the local community, many black people were able to establish their first homes in Oakville.

Throughout the 19th century, the black community helped shape this once forested area into a bustling port town. During the 1930's, black farmers helped lift the town out of economic depression by turning Oakville into the strawberry capital of Canada.

The black community comprises a sizable portion of the fabric of Canada and contributes significantly to the prosperity and diversity of our town.

I would like to wish you a wonderful Black History Month for 2022.

Kind regards,

**Stephen Crawford,
Member of Provincial Parliament
Oakville**

Message from Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr

On behalf of Regional Council, I am pleased to extend my best wishes to the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) as you celebrate Black History Month.

Since 1977, the CCAH has celebrated diversity and promoted inclusion in Halton through various programs and activities. This includes art exhibits, cultural celebrations, educational programs and family events that are all an important part of honouring your distinct Caribbean heritage and its significance to Halton's history.

Additionally, your youth Leadership in Action workshops inspire the next generation to explore their cultural identity and learn life-long skills. Your tireless efforts through these programs, initiatives and events help foster an inclusive community for all.

Tonight's event kicks-off a month filled with cultural and educational activities to celebrate Black History Month, including discussions with local leaders, visual artists and performers, virtual tours and more. Although we cannot gather in-person to celebrate this year, these events help us to learn more about the history of Black Canadians in Halton, and allow us to get to know our neighbours to build a stronger, more cohesive region.

Thank you to everyone involved in this month's events and the CCAH's ongoing efforts in Halton. By celebrating the contributions of Black Canadians and working toward a more inclusive community, we can help keep Halton a great place to live, work, raise a family and retire.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Carr", written in a cursive style.

Gary Carr
Halton Regional Chair



HALTON REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

One Vision One Mission One Team



On behalf of the Halton Regional Police Service, I am honoured to support this year's Black History Month and the many related events, sponsored by the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton.

Black History Month is an opportunity for all of us to recognize and honour the enormous contributions that the black community has made across all sectors in Canada. It is also an opportunity to heighten our focus on building an inclusive and equitable society where we all have the opportunity to prosper, grow and ultimately succeed.

Equity, diversity and inclusion are built within the fabric of our Police Service and is reflected in the many partnerships and initiatives that we have established. Valuing diversity is a process that embraces the differences within our society and views it as a strength. By celebrating history and traditions, we can promote the cultural diversity that this Region is known for.

Our Service is proud of our partnership with the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton and look forward to many collaborative opportunities in the future.

Diversity is our strength.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen J. Tanner".

Stephen J. Tanner
Chief of Police





February 1st, 2022

Happy Black History Month!

On behalf of the Oakville Community Foundation, we send our well wishes to the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) for its efforts in leading local celebrations of Black History Month and what is sure to be another successful month of events.

The Oakville Community Foundation's **Community Classroom** program will feature a month of programming from the CCAH and the Oakville Museum in honour of Black History Month that is available to all elementary schools in the Halton District School Board and the Halton Catholic School Board.

We are particularly delighted that CCAH has agreed to share its programming with Lloyd S King Elementary School, a school of our local Treaty Holders, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, as we believe it is important to bring allyship and reciprocity into modern Treaty relations.

I am also looking forward later this year to the launch of the Peace and Harmony Garden that the CCAH is developing at Queen Elizabeth Park Community & Cultural Centre that the Foundation has supported.

We and other community organizations rely on the leadership of CCAH for its wise counsel and advice on issues of inclusion and belonging in our community. The Foundation is particularly grateful for the benefit we receive from having your president, Andrew Tyrrell, on our board as he brings many perspectives in this role – his roles as a fundholder and leader of an important community agency and his lived experience in the Oakville community.

Congratulations and we look forward to wonderful and engaging Black History Month.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bindu Cudjoe".

Bindu Cudjoe, Board Chair
Oakville Community Foundation

410 North Service Rd. East
Suite 200, Oakville, Ontario
L6H 5R2

T: 905.844.3562
F: 905.845.1395
info@theofof.org

theofof.org
CHARITABLE BN: 89193 4374 RR0001



February, 2022

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Oakville Hospital Foundation and Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, I would like to take this opportunity to enthusiastically recognize Black History Month, a time when Canadians come together and celebrate Black culture and achievement in Canada.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CAAH) for your dedication to community healthcare and long-time support of OTMH. Your current pledge to the hospital's Halton Diabetes Program means that countless patients have and will continue to benefit from vital equipment and technology such as blood glucose monitors. Because of donors like you, access to this life-changing equipment is available to anyone in need.

When I learned of your 2022 Black History Month theme 'Imagining Futures', I immediately imagined a future where the pandemic is over, but the love of community, spirit of generosity and gratitude for community healthcare continues. Even in these dark days, there is much to be thankful for and a knowledge that brighter days are ahead.

Thank you for your generosity and best wishes as we celebrate this special month together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary McPherson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mary McPherson
Chief Executive Officer, Oakville Hospital Foundation

YOU'RE INVITED!

Wednesday

02

February

2022



Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH
KICKOFF CELEBRATION**

Imagining Futures

Livestream from the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts
Registration through Eventbrite

Featuring live entertainment and music performances

7:00PM-8:30PM



Guest speaker — Professor Mohamed Banda

Proclamation — His Worship Mayor Rob Burton

Performances by — Sonia Collymore Band & CCAH Steel Band

Sheridan Student Union — Creative Reflection Winners

And more...

Supported by



**TD READY
COMMITMENT**

Canada



WWW.CCAH.CA/BHM2022



VIRTUAL KICKOFF PROGRAM

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

7:00 — 8:30 pm

Welcome	Akil McKenzie, Master of Ceremonies
National Anthem	Jocelyn and Janelle Brathwaite, Panists
Proclamation	His Worship Mayor Rob Burton, Oakville Mayor
TD Bank Group	Message of support, TD Bank Group
Message from CCAH	Andrew Tyrrell, President
Guest Speaker	Mohamed Banda, Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and, Sheridan College
Creative Reflection Winners	Alicia Sullivan, DEI Outreach, CCAH; Andrew Tyrrell
Musical Performance	Sonia Collymore Band
Message from OHF	Suzanne Hallsworth, Chief Development Office, Oakville Hospital Foundation
Dignitary messages	Halton Region dignitaries reflecting on the theme "Imagining Futures"
Musical Performance	Denise and Jasmine Als, CCAH Steel Band
Closing Remarks	Akil McKenzie

Thank you to the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts and Falling Motion for support with the development of our event.

NOTE: Kickoff Celebration will be aired on COGEGO's YourTV Halton

Burlington: Thu, Feb 10; Fri, Feb 11; Sat, Feb 12; Tue, Feb 15

Milton: Sun, Feb 13

More dates will be posted on our website





Akil McKenzie is the CEO of media production company, Falling Motion. He runs a team of talented people that work on films, commercials, music videos, weddings, and events. Falling Motion is currently Halton's main hub for media production and has been filming many community-oriented projects throughout the pandemic. Akil is an award-winning director, producer, cinematographer, editor, public speaker, and poetic artist. He does numerous lectures at secondary and post secondary institutions about film, poetry, social justice, and speech writing etiquette. As a creative, Akil is always looking for new art forms to express thought and emotion.



Mohamed Banda is a professor in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Sheridan College. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Political Science, a Bachelor of Education in Intermediate / Senior Social Science, a Master of Arts in International Development Studies and Master of Environmental Studies. His lectures focus on social justice, human rights and equity, sociology, political science, globalization, environment justice. He was also involved with Social Inclusion and Sense of Belonging Survey project that CCAH sponsored with Sheridan.



Two-time JUNO award winner **Sonia Collymore** has developed a unique sound supported by a bold stage presence. Sonia's niche is Reggae, but she has developed a strong jazz, soul and R&B vocal style. Her music is soulful with a Caribbean twist!



Talented panists, **Denise Als** and **Jasmine Als**, have been teaching our community about the origins of the Steelpan and the variety of sounds that they make for over 10 years. They educate the community about the cultural origins of the steelpan and provide lively entertainment of pan classics and pop favourites.



Jocelyn and Janelle Brathwaite joined the CCAH steel pan class 7 years ago, and have enjoyed learning traditional and modern steel pan as taught by Denise and Richard. They are volunteer teachers for CCAH steel pan classes. We are proud of their involvement in this year's Black History Month kickoff event as panists playing the National Anthem.

Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

The Four Pillars

The members of the CCAH support what we call the four pillars of our organization: (1) **Education**; (2) **Culture**; (3) **Community**; and (4) **Harmony**.

These four core values are beautifully captured in local artist Beverly Tang-Kong's painting entitled "The Spirit of Angels." This artwork was incorporated into the CCAH logo.



Beverly Tang Kong

Education: The CCAH works closely with the Halton Region schools to create a positive impact among the students who are directly engaged in our exhibits and programs throughout the year.

Culture: The CCAH has established a steel band program that involves the broader community - people of all ages and backgrounds - and creates the opportunity to discover the joy of music in a unique way that is fun and easy to learn. Other programs include New Horizons for Seniors, Parang, Sizzlin' Halton Caribbean Cooking, a library Reading Corner focusing on Black authors in Milton, and Black history bike and walking tours in Oakville.

Community: The CCAH participates in numerous community events including the Black History Month, Emancipation Day, Culture Days and the Carousel of Nations. The goal is to ensure that the larger community is aware that the Caribbean community is committed to contributing to the Halton community.

Harmony: The CCAH participates and sponsors research studies that help provide insight and better understanding of Halton's Black community. The CCAH partners with the Halton Regional Police Service to co-deliver diversity and youth-focused programs.

Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

Board of Directors 2022

Andrew Tyrrell

President



Sheldon Williams

Vice President



Richard Pinnock

Youth Leadership



Katherine Dottin-Adams

Treasurer



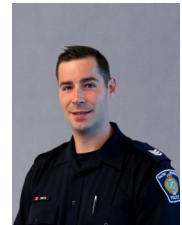
Paula Simmons-Wint

Secretary



Ryan Smith

HRPS Community Liaison



Pamela Chase

Member



Saud Juman

Member



Rajan Sandhu

Legal Counsel



QEP Community and Cultural Centre | 2302 Bridge Road, Oakville, ON, L6L 2G6 | info@ccah.ca | www.ccah.ca |

 @CANADIANCARIBBEANASSOCIATIONOFHALTON

 @ccahofficial

 Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

Staff 2022

Alicia Sullivan

Diversity and Inclusion



Marny Bruce

Programs and
Communications



Nathalie de Caen

Events



Charlotte de Caen Mische

Social Media



Julie Stone

Funding



Rabab Salim

Student & Family Advocate
for Halton

Photo
unavailable

Odinchezo Udezue

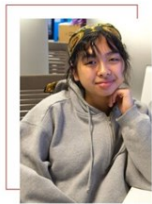
Acting Student & Family
Advocate Outreach
Coordinator

Photo
unavailable

Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

List of Events 2022

BHM Flag and Logo



CHARLENE PURA

Junior Designer, Sheridan Student Union
Second Year, York/Sheridan Design Program

WHAT WAS YOUR INSPIRATION FOR THE BLACK HISTORY MONTH IDENTITY?

"My goal for creating the BHM identity was to commemorate black history in a vibrant way. I wanted to be able to create something that is timeless and relevant to black history month should continue to be. BHM is about celebrating a very dynamic past and present, and so I wanted to depict that through a more dynamic design."



In 2020, our Black History Month logo was designed by Charlene Pura, a Sheridan College student as part of a CCAH-sponsored initiative with Sheridan. We then had it developed into a flag that was present at event venues and schools. The Oakville Town Hall and Halton Regional Police Service flew the flag throughout February. We look forward

to raising the flag for 2022.

Tuesday, February 1 @ 10:00 am: Black History Month Flag Raising | Oakville Town Hall

Mayor Rob Burton will raise the flag alongside Members of Council and Black-led community organizations: CCAH, African Caribbean Council of Halton, BLing Events International Entertainment, Black Mentorship Inc, and Halton Black History Awareness Society.

Wednesday, February 2 @ 7:00 pm: Black History Month Kickoff

This virtual event will include: Master of Ceremonies Akil McKenzie; Guest Speaker Professor Mohamed Banda; musical performances by Sonia Collymore and the CCAH Steelpan Band; announcing the winners of the Creative Reflection contest; and messages from community partners reflecting on our 2022 theme of "Imagining Futures." Register here: [CCAH Black History Month Kickoff Tickets, Wed, 2 Feb 2022 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

February 1-28: The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Freedom & Legacy Voices | Oakville Museum | 8 Navy St, Oakville | Please contact julian.kingston@oakville.ca with questions.

Through virtual tours, digitized artifacts, hands-on activities, stories, and a live interactive video presentation, this inquiry-based education program helps students immerse themselves into historical experiences that offer unique opportunities to experience our shared living heritage. Students will explore Oakville's relationship with the United States in the context of the Underground Railroad. They will learn about how Oakville Harbour played a significant role in the journey to Canada for many freedom seekers. Key figures in the Oakville Underground Railroad story are introduced through the exhibition *Freedom, Opportunity and Family: Oakville's Black History*, and excerpts from the multimedia presentation *The Underground Railroad: Next Stop Freedom* as well as more contemporary stories from the documentary *Legacy Voices*. Register with the Oakville Community Foundation: [The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Freedom & Legacy Voices Description – Community Classroom \(theocf.org\)](#)

Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

List of Events 2022

February 1-28: Oakville Early Black History. Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre, Oakville | Halton Schools

Traveling exhibition created by the Oakville Museum; displays with pictures and cultural information. Participating schools: St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School; Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School; Bishop P. F. Reding Catholic Secondary School; Corpus Christi Catholic Secondary School; E.J. James Public School. Please contact andrew@ccah.ca to book the installation at your school or facility.

Wednesday, February 2 @ 7:30 pm: Interview | Oakville Mayor Burton's "Oakville Matters" | COGECO's YourTV Halton

Oakville Mayor Rob Burton will interview CCAH President, Andrew Tyrrell about Oakville Black History and 2021 Black History Month Events.

February 3, 10, 16: Imagining Futures: A Black History Month Special | Sheridan College | Register [here](#)

Join Sheridan alumni, the Student Leadership Development and Engagement team and the Sheridan Student Union for a series of 30-minute coffee chats – Imagining Futures: A Black History Month Special. Register here: [Imagining Futures: A Black History Month Special | February | Sheridan College](#)

Wednesday, February 9 @ 6:00 pm: Lending a Helping Hand: SVG Project – Life After the Eruption | Virtual | Presented by The Backpack Project and CCAH | Register [here](#)

St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) is in the eastern Caribbean and comprises a main island – St. Vincent – and 32 smaller islands which make up the Grenadines. In 2021, the people of SVG were impacted by the eruption of La Soufrière, the largest volcano at the highest peak. The CCAH partnered with two other organizations to assist families and students. Join us to learn more about this island, the project and how you can get involved. There will also be games and prizes, too. One lucky winner will take home a new Cuisinart Convection Toaster oven! So come ready to have some fun and win some prizes! Register here: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

List of Events 2022

Thursday, February 10 @ 10:30 am: Virtual author visit with Lawrence Hill | Crowdcast | Presented by the CCAH, Halton Catholic District School Board, and Milton Public Library | Register [here](#)

Join author Lawrence Hill for a virtual talk and Q&A. He'll speak about his new book, *Beatrice and Croc Harry*, which is a meditation about forced migration, predation, danger, trust, and friendship. It gives readers reason to reflect about injustice and how to confront it, and about how perpetrators of injustice and those who have been wronged might meet again later in a place of respect and healing. For Grades 4 and up, including teens and adults of all ages. ASL interpretation provided by Canadian Hearing Services. Register with the MPL here: [Black History Month Virtual Author Visit: Lawrence Hill - Crowdcast](#)

Thursday, February 10 @ 6:30 pm: Inspiring Future Generations with Gyimah Gariba | Virtual | Sheridan Alumni | Register [here](#)

Gyimah Gariba is a social change catalyst, and a proud Ghanaian-Torontonian who graduated from Sheridan's Animation program in 2013. When he's not designing covers for Marvel Comics, creating and executive producing new animated series (*Big Blue* for Guru Studio), or landing on Forbes' "15 Young African Creatives Rebranding Africa," Gyimah works tirelessly to break down barriers for the next generation through his art. Register here: [Inspiring Future Generations with Gyimah Gariba | February | Sheridan College](#)

Saturday, February 12 @ 1:00: Clef Notes to Canvas | In-person at Coach House, Oakville Museum; Virtual by Zoom | Hosted in partnership with the CCAH and Oakville Museum and facilitated by local artist Omar "Oms" Hopkinson | Free supplies (canvas and paints) to be picked up from Oakville Museum. | Ages 16+ years | Register [here](#).

This interactive art session, where creativity, music and awareness meet, will be hosted in a hybrid format with restricted numbers in-person and limited numbers virtually. Join us for a creative afternoon of music and visual art. The first part of the program focuses on "The Struggle" whereby participants allow the mood of the background music to evoke feelings that are translated onto the canvas. The second part focuses on the "Freedom" of creativity whereby participants allow music to influence exploration and expand upon the initial artwork created. All supplies provided; no experience necessary. Please register here: [Clef Notes to Canvas - Oakville Tickets, Sat, 12 Feb 2022 at 1:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

List of Events 2022

Tuesday, February 15 @ 12:00 pm: Home is a dream for youths living with mental health challenges | Virtual | Hosted in partnership with the CCAH, Kevin Flynn Mental Health Foundation, Oasis Youth Care, Home Suite Hope and Summit Housing | Register [here](#).

Halton Region, one of Canada's most affluent municipalities, is not immune to social issues that impact other communities. There is a mental health crisis that is largely invisible and tightly linked to housing instability. With the pandemic, we recognized very quickly that groups which have historically experienced marginalization were further marginalized within our own backyards. While our proverbial 'boats' are sailing on the same lake, the quality of our vessels vary greatly. Youths are among those whose 'vessels' may not be equipped to navigate the pandemic waters and Halton has been no exception. Join us and community partners for an overview about the challenges facing youths experiencing housing insecurity and mental health challenges in Halton. The Kevin Flynn Mental Health Foundation will highlight their focus on research while Oasis Youth Care, Summit Housing, Home Suite Hope will discuss the services that do exist to support our youths in Halton Region. Register here: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Tuesday, February 15 @ 4:30 pm: Issues of Race | Virtual | Hosted in partnership with the CCAH and Halton Catholic District School Board | Private event

This 3-part session is designed in English for secondary students and focuses on creative expression regarding experiences with racism, understanding and addressing everyday racism in Canadian society, and conflict communication and resolution.

Tuesday, February 15 @ 7:00 pm: Oakville's Black History | Virtual | Hosted in partnership with the CCAH, Oakville Public Library, Oakville Museum and Oakville Historical Society | Register [here](#)

Did you know Oakville is rich in Black history? From the comfort of your home, join us for our guided virtual tours of Bronte Harbour and Kerr Village and explore sites related to Oakville's Black heritage. Register with the OPL: [Oakville's Black History - Oakville Public Library \(opl.on.ca\)](#)

Wednesday, February 16 @ 12:00 pm: Oakville & the Underground Railroad | Virtual | Hosted in partnership with the CCAH and Halton Regional Police Services | Private event

Dr. Karolyn Smardz Frost, a Canadian historian and an adjunct professor at both Acadia and Dalhousie Universities, presents this 40-minute pre-recorded lecture on the history of Black History Month and Emancipation Day as well as integrating local Oakville history specific to landmarks, like the naming of schools, as it relates to the Underground Railroad.

Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

List of Events 2022

Thursday, February 17 @ 6:00 pm: BLACKS Career Conversation Series: Imagining Futures | Virtual | Sheridan College | Register [here](#)

Black Leadership, Ambition, Collective Knowledge and Success (BLACKS) is a Career Conversation Series in partnership with Black Mentorship Inc. (BMI), Sheridan's Career-Integrated Learning services, Student Affairs and the Alumni Relations team. In celebration of Black History Month, we have invited Sheridan students and alumni to dive deep into a conversation about "Imagining Futures": it is now time for us – individually and collectively – to envision dynamic futures grounded in hope and how a better tomorrow may look. Join us to hear from alumni who are successful Black professionals, and Black students about their experiences and success stories. Register here: [BLACKS Career Conversation Series: Imagining Futures | February | Sheridan College](#)

Saturday, February 19 @ 1:00 pm: Clef Notes to Canvas | In-person at Studio at the Halton Hills Public Library and Cultural Centre, 9 Church Street, Georgetown OR by Zoom | Hosted in partnership with the CCAH and Halton Hills and facilitated by local artist Omar "Oms" Hopkinson | Free supplies (canvas and paints) to be picked up from Halton Hills Public Library and Cultural Centre | Ages 16+ years| Register [here](#).

This interactive art session, where creativity, music and awareness meet, will be hosted in a hybrid format with restricted numbers in-person and limited numbers virtually. Join us for a creative afternoon of music and visual art. The first part of the program focuses on "The Struggle" whereby participants allow the mood of the background music to evoke feelings that are translated onto the canvas. The second part focuses on the "Freedom" of creativity whereby participants allow music to influence exploration and expand upon the initial artwork created. All supplies provided; no experience necessary. Please register here: [Clef Notes to Canvas - Halton Hills Tickets, Sat, 19 Feb 2022 at 1:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Tuesday, February 22 @ 12:00 pm: Progress towards equitable education for Black students and families in HDSB | Virtual | Hosted in partnership with the CCAH, Roots Community Services, Student and Family Advocate Program and Halton District School Board Register [here](#)

Black students have historically had lower academic and career outcomes than their peers from other racial and ethnic backgrounds. An explanation for the inequitable outcomes is embedded racism and discrimination built into the education system. Halton District School

Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

List of Events 2022

Board recently conducted research about the experiences of Black high school students within its network of schools and found that “challenge with racism and discrimination and a lack of response and accountability for racism in secondary schools are a systemic problem...” They have renewed their efforts to “providing learning environments that are free of racism and discrimination” through several measures. We’ll explore what’s being done to support Black students’ success in the Halton District School Board. Register here: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Thursday, February 24 @ 1:00 pm: Allendale Long-Term Care | Milton | Private event

CCAH and Chef Garfield Houston, Open Appetite Catering, will be serving Caribbean meals to staff of the long-term care facility to recognize their efforts with supporting our vulnerable seniors during these challenging times. Non-alcoholic beverages provided by Nickle Brook Brewing Co.

Thursday, February 24 @ 6:00 – 8:00 pm: Elevate Greatness Meets Imagining Futures | Virtual | Hosted in partnership with the CCAH and Black Mentorship Inc | Register [here](#)

“Elevate greatness” is to promote others; it means no one is left behind. “Imagining futures” starts with a vision and then steps to make it happen. To achieve all this takes teamwork. Join us for a night of entertainment and collaboration as we begin to wrap up another Black History Month and jointly celebrate our achievements, cultures, and communities beyond February. Register here: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Saturday, February 26 @ 2:30 pm: Ekiuwa Aire | Virtual Branch | Hosted by the Oakville Public Library | Ages 4-7 | Registration opens 2 weeks prior to the event [here](#)

Join local author Ekiuwa Aire for a walk through of African culture through stories and discussion. Ekiuwa Aire is an award-winning children's book author. She is passionate about sharing positive stories on African history with children. Ekiuwa's debut title *Idia of the Benin Kingdom* has been the recipient of the Children's Africana Book Awards, Kidshelf Book Awards, and Eric Hoffer Book Awards. Her second book is titled *Njinga of Ndongo and Matamba*. Register with the OPL here: [Ekiuwa Aire Author Visit - Oakville Public Library \(opl.on.ca\)](#)

Monday, February 28 @ 1:00 pm: Tansley Woods Long-Term Care | Burlington | Private event

CCAH and Chef Garfield Houston, Open Appetite Catering, will be serving Caribbean meals to staff of the long-term care facility to recognize their efforts with supporting our vulnerable seniors during these challenging times. Non-alcoholic beverages provided by Nickle Brook Brewing Co.

Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

School Programs 2022

The five school programs listed below can be offered for remote class learning. All programs are in English. If your school is interested in offering one of these programs, please contact info@ccah.ca to book any school program.

1. **Diana Braithwaite and Chris Whiteley**

Blues and Jazz with Christ and Diana: Pre-recorded musical performance featuring jazz songs, and the spoken word created by multiple Maple Blues award winning artists Diana Braithwaite and Chris Whiteley. During the performance, they educate and entertain audiences with a musical journey through history to discover the early origins of jazz and the current music they performed. This 30-minute presentation is educational while entertaining. Program suited for elementary and secondary students.

Celebrate Canada's Black History with Diana Braithwaite: This 30-minute upbeat video for students provides an overview of Black history in Canada by focusing on amazing and proud stories about outstanding African-Canadian legends from coast to coast with musical performances. Program suited for elementary and secondary students.

2. **Steelpan Music Demonstration** (15 mins) and **Mini Concert** (15 mins)

Pre-recorded performance and workshop to be securely broadcast via the Ministry of Education portals. Programs funded by Oakville Community Foundation's Community Classrooms project. New content for 2022. Program suited for elementary students.

Dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion, supporting cultural development, and encouraging civic engagement, the CCAH brings Caribbean music and education to Community Classroom participants. This vibrant and informative session about Steelpan has been designed with the young online learner in mind. Register with the Oakville Community Foundation: [Steel Pan Demonstration and Mini Concert – Community Classroom \(theocf.org\)](https://theocf.org)

3. **Sizzlin' Halton Caribbean Cooking Sessions**

Sessions are designed for English Secondary students but are also an excellent opportunity for ESL students and participants in social justice or hospitality programs. These are 30-minute pre-recorded cooking videos followed by a 30-minute live-feed discussion with the Chef. There are 6 episodes to choose from. Sessions are broadcast via the Ministry of Education portals.

Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton

School Programs 2022

4. **Issues of Race**

This 3-part session is designed in English for secondary students and focuses on creative expression regarding experiences with racism, understanding and addressing everyday racism in Canadian society, and conflict communication and resolution. | Format may be virtual through Zoom to allow for student interaction or via the Ministry of Education portals.

Akil McKenzie, CEO of media production company, Falling Motion. He oversees 50 talented team members that work on commercials, music videos, films and weddings. Akil is a director, producer, cinematographer, editor, public speaker, and poetic artist. As a creative, Akil is always looking for new artforms to express thought and emotion. (15 mins)

Kara Morgan, Addressing Everyday Racism. Kara will focus on the meaning of systemic anti-Black racism and the challenges to finding an appropriate solution. Organizations are looking to be more inclusive as they review internal policies and practices. She uses images and video to demonstrate and discuss ally-ship, popular culture, cultural misappropriation and how to reframe thinking. Join Kara as she clarifies some confusion around common, misunderstood terms and unravels some reasons why anti-Black racism continues. (30 mins)

Jasmine Als, Conflict Communication and Resolution. Jasmine is a Durham College Campus Conflict Resolution Services Student Practitioner. She is currently focused on mediation and alternate dispute resolution. Before going to Durham College, she received her degree in Conflict Resolution Studies from the University of Winnipeg. (15 mins)

5. **(Un)healthy Youth Relationships**

Presented by Radius Child and Youth Services, in this workshop for secondary students, youth will learn about the different types of abuse and how unhealthy relationships can begin. We will cover several "red flags" or warning signs that could be indicators of an abusive or unhealthy relationships. Statistics regarding types of abuse in different populations will be presented, as well as the impact of abuse on victims. Finally, we will talk about how you can help a friend who might be in an unhealthy relationship, and where the person perpetrating the abuse can seek help.

Creative Reflection Contest Winners

Imagining Futures

Why Does It Matter? by Roop Malhans

I always felt burdened by the walls of oppression
 A world that is guilty of labelling me, why?
 Because of my colour
 I imagine the future, yearning for a world with freedom of expression
 Where all are embraced, no matter size or color

How can I forget the treatment you gave me? The very unjust
 Well, you're Black!! Try to adjust
 Now I remain no more shattered, your abuse won't hurt me anymore
 I've learnt to stand up and am stronger than ever before
 Why does it matter if I am black, blue, or purple? Why?
 Shed the hate and make love universal
 Shed the hate and make love universal
 Make kindness eternal



We Win by Daniela Dampare

Dark melanin skin with braids sewed in.
 Her mother told her to be above it all, to forgive the world's sin.
 She was told to be proud of the heritage,
 Blood and gold flows through her veins, within.

Dark melanin skin with braids sewed in.
 He is as bold as a lion; fearless and driven.
 He doesn't have much, but he does wonders with what he is given.

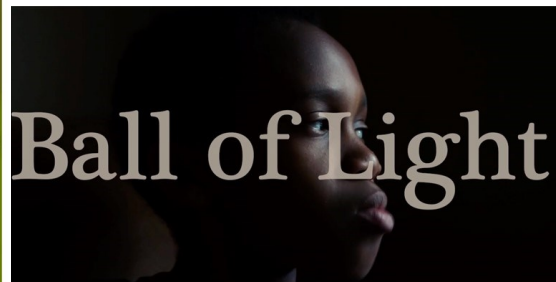
We are more than statistics; we are more than the perceived.
 We revel in our past and use what we were taught to discover the unseen.
 Our minds are so beautiful, filled with strength and potential.
 We are electrical, consequential, and essential.

Dark melanin skin with braids sewed in.
 Brown eyes so deep, so wild, it makes our enemies fall.
 We win.

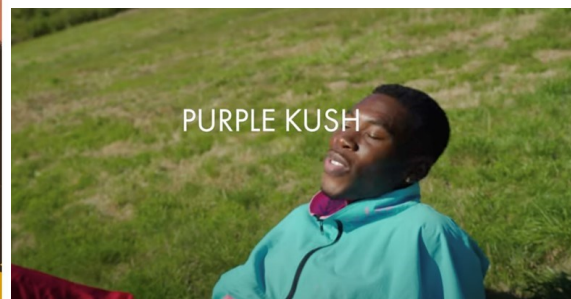


Creative Reflection Contest Winners

Imagining Futures



Multi-media
1st Place
Grace Munene
'Ball of Light'



Multi-media
2nd Place
Natan Tshilolo Muepu
'Purple Kush'

CCAH Documentary

Legacy Voices



What is a legacy? It's the story of your life, your accomplishments and your failures. It's your home and your family. It's what you leave behind to ensure future generations know the importance of what has been accomplished. Five voices describe their extraordinary journey of immigration and settlement in the Halton Region. Often the only Black families in their community, they found strength in overcoming racism and worked for change. Halton Region has a rich history of Blacks in the community that should not be forgotten. This is the importance of leaving a legacy.

Documentary available on COGECO's on-demand listing for February 2022.

A Virtual Author
Visit with

Lawrence
Hill



Photo Credit: Beatrice Freedman

Presented by the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton,
Halton Catholic District School Board and Milton Public Library

Thursday, February 10th at 10:30 am

Join author Lawrence Hill for a virtual talk and Q&A. He'll speak about his new book, *Beatrice and Croc Harry*, which is a meditation about forced migration, predation, danger, trust and friendship. It gives readers reason to reflect about injustice and how to confront it, and about how perpetrators of injustice and those who have been wronged might meet again later in a place of respect and healing. For Grades 4 and up, including teens and adults of all ages.

Register Here!

ASL interpretation provided by
Canadian Hearing Services.



Borrow *Beatrice and Croc Harry* from your library today! Check it out as a book, eBook, or eAudiobook.

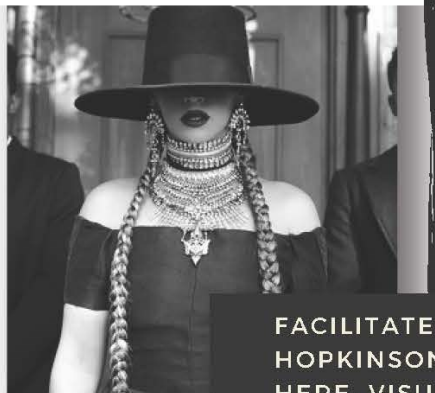




FROM CLEF NOTES TO CANVAS

WHERE CREATIVITY, MUSIC
AND AWARENESS MEET

LOCATION: COACH HOUSE,
OAKVILLE MUSEUM
SATURDAY, FEB 12, 2022
1:00 - 4:00 PM



REGISTRATION REQUIRED

AGE: 16+
SUPPLIES PROVIDED
IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL
VIRTUAL CAPACITY: 10
REGISTER [HERE](#)
CONTACT: INFO@CCA.H.CA

FACILITATED BY OMAR 'OMS'
HOPKINSON. FEATURED
HERE, VISUAL ARTIST.
CURATOR OF CREATIVE
EXPERIENCES. MEMBER OF
ARTS MILTON BOARD OF
DIRECTORS.

"I love working with different
art mediums, like music, to
influence and fuel creations
on canvas."



FROM CLEF NOTES TO CANVAS

WHERE CREATIVITY, MUSIC
AND AWARENESS MEET

LOCATION: GEORGETOWN
SATURDAY, FEB 19, 2022
1:00 - 4:00 PM



REGISTRATION REQUIRED

AGE 16+ | SUPPLIES PROVIDED

IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL

REGISTER [HERE](#)

CONTACT: PSCHACHTER@HALTONHILLS.CA

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The Underground Railroad:

Next Stop, Freedom!

Erchless, home of the Chisholm's, Oakville's founding family, has an informative Black History Exhibit which gives the visitor an in depth overview of how the Town of Oakville played an integral part in the road to freedom, as a gateway to Canada for many African Americans. William Chisholm purchased land around the Sixteen Mile Creek in 1827, and in 1834, the Town of Oakville became an official Port of Entry to Canada. Ships from Oakville sailed throughout the Great Lakes and many escaped slaves were assisted by ship captains to stow away in grain vessels. In particular Captain Robert Wilson of Oakville transported many African Americans to Oakville



Upon arrival in Oakville many escaped slaves were aided by James Wesley Hill, an escaped slave and celebrated conductor of the Underground Railroad. In this exciting and moving multi-media presentation, the ghost of Deborah Brown tells the true story of her heroic flight from a life of slavery in Maryland to her new life of freedom in 19th-century Toronto.

Oakville Museum at Erchless Estate | 8 Navy Street | 905-338-4400

For further information, visit www.oakville.ca/museum

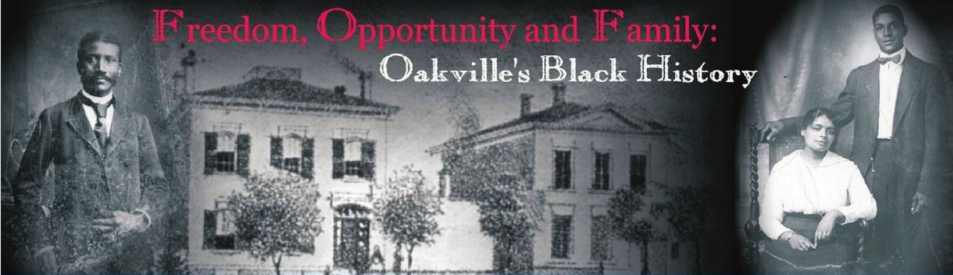
**OAKVILLE
MUSEUM
AT ERCHLESS
ESTATE**



Community Classroom

OAKVILLE AND THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

Freedom, Opportunity and Family:
Oakville's Black History



AN EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR GRADES 5-8

Explore Oakville's relationship with the United States in the context of the Underground Railroad. Oakville Harbour played a significant role in the journey to Canada for many freedom seekers. Key figures in the Oakville Underground Railroad story are introduced through the exhibition "Freedom, Opportunity and Family: Oakville's Black History".

Through virtual tours, digitized artifacts, hands-on activities, stories, and a live interactive video presentation, this inquiry-based education program helps students immerse themselves into historical experiences that offer unique opportunities to experience our shared living heritage. Students will explore Oakville's relationship with the United States in the context of the Underground Railroad.

Students will learn about how Oakville Harbour played a significant role in the journey to Canada for many freedom seekers. Key figures in the Oakville Underground Railroad story are introduced through the exhibition *Freedom, Opportunity and Family: Oakville's Black History*, and excerpts from the multimedia presentation *The Underground Railroad: Next Stop Freedom* as well as more contemporary stories from the documentary *Legacy Voices*.

The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Freedom & Legacy Voices **Oakville Museum | 8 Navy St, Oakville**

Please contact julian.kingston@oakville.ca with questions.

Register with the Oakville Community Foundation: [The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Freedom & Legacy Voices Description – Community Classroom \(theocf.org\)](https://theocf.org)



Black History Month 2022: Imagining Futures

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

