

# Black History Month 2019



View our Black History Month Events at [www.ccah.ca](http://www.ccah.ca)

## Kick-Off Celebration

Featuring performances by Diana Braithwaite  
and Chris Whiteley, Njacko Backo, and more!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019

QEP COMMUNITY & CULTURAL CENTRE | 2302 BRIDGE RD, OAKVILLE  
RECEPTION 6:30 PM | MAIN STAGE 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM



Sheridan



Canada



THE  
READY  
COMMITMENT

Presented by the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton in partnership with Oakville Museum



**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



### ***Greetings from the Mayor***

*On behalf of Town Council and the citizens of Oakville, I extend a warm welcome to all those attending the Black History Month Kick-Off Celebration on February 7, 2019.*

*This event begins a month of cultural and educational activities in celebration of Black History in our community.*

*Congratulations to The Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton, the Oakville Museum and Sheridan College for organizing this evening's festivities.*

*It is my hope that you will enjoy and participate in all of the Black History Month events planned for February.*

Sincerely yours,

**Mayor Rob Burton,  
TOWN OF 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) for Black History Month celebrations.

Since 1977, the CCAH has celebrated diversity in Halton through various activities. The programs and events you host throughout the year profile your distinct Caribbean heritage and its significance to our community. 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 showcases visual artists and performers, and initiates a month of cultural and educational activities in celebration of Black History Month. By inviting everyone to celebrate tonight and throughout February, the CCAH gives us a chance to get to know our neighbours and build a stronger, more cohesive region.

Halton Region welcomes, respects and values diversity, and we work to provide services in a way that meets the needs of all residents. We are fortunate to be a part of events like today, which reminds us that actively promoting inclusion helps us to embrace our common values as we celebrate diversity.

On behalf of Regional Council, I'd like to thank everyone involved with today's celebration, and all those involved with the CCAH's ongoing efforts in Halton. Together, we 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".

Gary Carr  
Halton Regional Chair

#### Regional Municipality of Halton

HEAD OFFICE: 1151 Bronte Rd, Oakville, ON L6M 3L1  
905-825-6000 | Toll free: 1-866-442-5866



**The Canadian Caribbean  
Association of Halton**  
in celebration of  
**Black History Month**



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 and black citizens whose contributions helped make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation it is today.



Thank you for your efforts to recognize and raise awareness for Black History Month in Halton.

*Pam Damoff*



Pam Damoff  
Member of Parliament  
Oakville North-Burlington  
pam.damoff@parl.gc.ca  
905-847-4043



February 2019





## **Greetings for the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)**

### **Black History Month February 2019**

I am delighted to extend my warmest personal greetings to everyone involved in the CCAH's Black History Month activities and Kick-Off Event.

This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the special history and significant contribution the black community has made to our community.

It has been more than a century since the early black settlers arrived in Halton. Their culture and activities have helped to build and enhance our community's knowledge of different cultures and our appreciation of all cultures that comprise the rich diversity of our Halton community.

The early settlers worked hard and not only made a better life for themselves and their own families but they enriched the lives of their fellow citizens and their descendants. They have left Halton an enduring legacy.

Please accept my best wishes for memorable and exciting month long celebrations of Black History Month.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Crawford".

Stephen Crawford, Member of Provincial Parliament  
Oakville



February 1, 2019

Dear Friends,

Black History Month is an opportunity for Canadians to acknowledge the contributions and achievements that Black Canadians have made to our nation. Throughout our history, Black Canadians have been integral in contributing to the development and growth of our diverse and compassionate country.

While many of us in Canada take diversity for granted, it's been less than 75 years since intolerance was commonplace in our country. It took the bravery and courage from black Canadians such as Viola Desmond who refused to accept the intolerance of segregation by defiantly sitting in the whites-only area of a movie theatre, to move our nation forward. We as Canadians see diversity as a source of strength. This month, we celebrate recognizing Viola Desmond on our \$10 bill and the advancements Canadians have made, while we also recognize that we can always do more to build up the communities that contribute to our culturally rich nation.

In addition to helping develop a more inclusive and welcoming society, Black Canadians have also contributed to our rich cultural heritage. In Oakville, we're fortunate to have groups such as the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CAAH), sharing their culture through activities such as Afro-Caribbean dance classes and steelpan lessons.

Thank you CCAH for hosting the Black History Month Kick-Off Celebration and the coming month's activities. It's sure to be a wonderful series of events filled with food, art, and music. I'd also like to thank the Town of Oakville, Sheridan College and the Halton Regional Police Services for partnering and sharing their exhibitions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Oliver".

John Oliver  
Member of Parliament, Oakville

# HALTON REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

One Vision One Mission One Team



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

Diversity and inclusivity are fundamental principles entrenched in our Business Plan and reflected in the many partnerships and initiatives that the Halton Regional Police Service has established. Valuing diversity is a process that embraces the difference within our society and views it as a strength. What better way to promote the cultural diversity this Region is well known for than to celebrate its history and traditions, through the spoken word and other art forms.

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





Joan Butterfield | Art Director | Curator  
Association of African Canadian Artists  
Tel: 416-230-8615  
[www.colour-blind.ca](http://www.colour-blind.ca)  
[www.joanbutterfield.com](http://www.joanbutterfield.com)

Black History Month 2019

For over 15 years The AACA has had a collaborative partnership with the “Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton” – Plus the pleasure of fostering a close and heartfelt friendship with its principal, the late Veronica Tyrrell.

We honour her legacy.

It was our aim from the onset of our partnership, to present art exhibits that aesthetically linked our past to our future. We endeavored over the course of the journey to present artistic, positive, presentations, of the African Diaspora.

In our Black History Month 2019 exhibit we have strived to honour the commitment.

We will continue the journey - To document and to educate ourselves and the viewing audiences about our rich culture and heritage.

Sincerely,

Joan Butterfield | Artist | Curator



# Official Kick-Off Program

~ Reception at 6:30 pm ~

Featuring art exhibits by:

- Oakville Museum
- Association of African Canadian Artists
- Sheridan College

Featuring steelpan performance by Denise Als

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~ Main Stage at 7:00 pm ~

<b>Welcome</b>	Andrew Tyrrell, CCAH President
<b>Invocation</b>	Njacko Backo, World Drummer
<b>National Anthem</b>	Teniola Ayeni
<b>Dignitary Greetings</b>	Rob Burton, Mayor of Oakville
<b>Guest Speaker</b>	Kelly Gray
<b>Feature Performance</b>	Diana Braithwaite & Chris Whiteley
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Andrew Tyrrell, CCAH President

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## Our Sponsors:

Canada 



THE  
READY  
COMMITMENT

## Feature Performance



### **DIANA BRAITHWAITE**

When Diana Braithwaite sings, you hear passion, with sultry stories of life beautifully expressed through music. Braithwaite is a descendant of the Wellington County pioneers in Canada. With roots in the southern United States her ancestors escaped slavery through the Underground Railroad and lived for four generations in Wellington County, the first African-Canadian pioneer settlement in Ontario, Canada.

### **CHRIS WHITELEY**

A multiple award-winning international touring horn player, Chris Whiteley is also a sought-after recording artist and has appeared on over 250 recordings over his successful career as a trumpet and cornet player. Whiteley, who blows his trumpet with a clear tone and a sublime unique jazz style, has received numerous Canadian Maple Blues Awards as both songwriter and horn player of the year.



**Guest Speaker  
Kelly Gray**

Kelly Gray is a teacher with the Halton District School Board. She is a graduate of both Dalhousie and Acadia Universities. As an Equity and Literacy Lead at Emily Carr Public School here in Oakville, Kelly has a demonstrated passion for spreading awareness and understanding of the contributions and experiences of Black Canadians to the settlement, growth, and development of Canada. She has facilitated opportunities for students and teachers alike to critically examine issues related to race and to build capacity for teaching and learning in a way that reflects the richness and complexity of the full Canadian story. Kelly was recently featured in the Museums of Burlington's Toast to History speaker series. Born and raised in one of Canada's largest indigenous Black communities, East Preston, Nova Scotia, Kelly can trace her roots back to the Loyalist migration of 1783 when many Black Loyalists were granted land and freedom in exchange for their military service. She has been fortunate to have been mentored and guided by several influential Black Canadian trail blazers such as Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard, Rev. Dr. Donald D. Skier and Rev. Dr. Joyce Ross just to name a few.



## **National Anthem Teniola Ayeni**

**CCAH is proud to welcome Teniola Ayeni as tonight's singer for the National Anthem. Teni is currently in the IB program at St. Thomas and will be attending Brown University next year as one of the 60 PLME scholars in the world with guaranteed admission into the Warren Alpert Medical School. Very active in the Oakville community, Teni received an Ontario Youth Award for her role as Head Chorister of the Oakville Choir for Children and Youth.**

# 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 newly designed 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 Caribbean Folk Dance lessons, African Drumming classes, and New Horizons for Seniors.

**Community:** The CCAH participates in numerous community events including the Oakville Waterfront Festival, the Carousel of Nations, and numerous Black History Month events. The goal is 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-focussed programs.

# CCAH Programs

We offer a variety of programs aimed at engaging a wide cross section of the community including youth, adults, and seniors. Here are just a few of our offerings:

## **Inspire the Leaders of Tomorrow**

Youth ages 12 to 18 are welcome to participate in our Youth Leadership Development workshops. The Halton Regional Police Service is our partner in this program. Participants earn volunteer hours towards their high school community service.

## **Discover the Joy of Music with Steelpan Lessons**

We offer a unique steelpan program that invites both youth and seniors to learn the art of steelpan. Improve concentration and memory while socializing and having fun!

## **Spice it Up!**

This intergenerational cooking class designed to enhance social participation is facilitated by a guest chef and nutritionist. Learn how to cook the best Caribbean cuisine including recipes, demonstrations, and sampling! Participants will compile a cookbook to distribute to local seniors centres.

## **There is an opportunity for you to become active in 2019!**

Location: QEP Community & Cultural Centre  
2302 Bridge Road, Oakville ON L6L 2G6

Contact: [info@ccah.ca](mailto:info@ccah.ca)

More Info: [www.ccah.ca](http://www.ccah.ca)

## 2019 Board Members



**Andrew Tyrrell**  
**President**



**Sheldon Williams**  
**Vice President**



**Richard Pinnock**  
**Youth Leadership**



**Alicia Sullivan**  
**Diversity and Inclusion**



**Tricia Constantine-Joefeld**  
**Member-at-Large**



**Katherine Dottin-Adams**  
**Treasurer**



**Paula Simmons-Wint**  
**Secretary**

Express Yourself

Find Belonging

Build Community

Be Creative



Facilitated by accomplished visual artist Camille King, participants will create art in a relaxed and informal setting. Offered in partnership between CCAH, Creative Community Hive, and the Oakville Museum, these open-studio style workshops will offer a unique, inclusive blend of art-making, African-Canadian experience, and connections to Oakville's growing newcomer communities.

Saturday, February 9, 2019

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Iroquois Ridge Community Centre

1051 Glenashton Dr, Oakville

Saturday, February 23, 2019

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Oakville Museum

8 Navy St, Oakville



Sheridan



Canada





Sheridan Reads Presents

# Black Panther



Directed by Ryan Coogler, 2018's top grossing film **Black Panther** is nominated for Best Picture at this year's Academy Awards. Join us for this pre-Oscar screening as we cheer on **Black Panther**, celebrate Black History Month, and look forward to further conversations about works of African-fantasy as Sheridan Reads welcomes Man Booker Prize-winning author Marlon James on March 4th to discuss his "African Game of Thrones", **Black Leopard, Red Wolf**.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019 @ 7:00 PM**

1430 TRAFALGAR RD, OAKVILLE ON L6H 2L1  
FREE ADMISSION | REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Offered in collaboration with the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton,  
Sheridan Reads and the Sheridan Student Union



**Sheridan**

# Black History Month 2019 Event Schedule



## **FEBRUARY 1-28 (EXCLUDING WEEKENDS)**

### **Journey to Africa – African Canadian Art Exhibit**

**Oakville Town Hall | 1225 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville | 8:30 am – 4:30 pm**

Exhibit includes 50 artworks on display by contemporary African Canadian artists. Facilitated tours of the exhibit available to schools.

## **FEBRUARY 1-28 (EXCLUDING MONDAYS)**

### **The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Freedom!**

**Oakville Museum | 8 Navy St, Oakville | 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

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.

## **FEBRUARY 9**

### **Art Hive Open Studio**

**Iroquois Ridge CC | 1051 Glenashton Dr, Oakville | 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Facilitated by accomplished visual artist Camille King, participants will create art in a relaxed and informal setting. Offered in partnership between CCAH, Creative Community Hive, and the Oakville Museum, these open-studio style workshops will offer a unique, inclusive blend of art-making, African-Canadian experience, and connections to Oakville's growing newcomer communities.

## **FEBRUARY 17**

### **West African and Afro-Caribbean Drumming**

**Milton Public Library | 1010 Main St E, Milton | 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm**

Interactive performances with Njacko Backo and World Drummers. Audience will participate in a drumming circle demonstration.

For more information, visit [cch.ca](http://cch.ca)

# Black History Month 2019 Event Schedule



## **FEBRUARY 18**

### **Family Day with CCAH**

**QEPCCC | 2302 Bridge Rd, Oakville | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

Enjoy demonstrations by the CCAH Steelband and a performance by the Seniors Parang group led by instructor Roger Gibbs.

## **FEBRUARY 19 (PRIVATE EVENT)**

### **All About the Blues with Diana Braithwaite and Chris Whiteley**

**Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School | 2420 Sixth Line, Oakville**

This award-winning, highly interactive program involves live music and slides presented to grades 9 to 12.

## **FEBRUARY 20 (PRIVATE EVENT)**

### **Lunch & Learn with John Campbell**

**Halton Regional Police | 2485 North Service Rd W, Oakville**

Featuring an educational African history musical performance by celebrated musician John Campbell. Oakville Steelpan Duo will also be performing. Traditional Caribbean food will be served during lunch.

## **February 20 (PRIVATE EVENT)**

### **Multicultural Food Night**

**Sunningdale Public School | 1434 Oxford Ave, Oakville**

CCAH Steel Band will provide a musical backdrop to enhance the overall experience of Multicultural Food Night which will showcase a delectable array of culinary delights from around the world.

For more information, visit [cch.ca](http://cch.ca)

# Black History Month 2019 Event Schedule



## FEBRUARY 21

### Public Film Screening Hosted by Sheridan College

**Sheridan College | 1430 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville | Room B125 | 7:00 pm**

In collaboration with the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton and the Sheridan Student Union, Sheridan Reads presents a screening of the top-grossing movie of 2018: **Black Panther**. Directed by Ryan Coogler, **Black Panther** is nominated for Best Picture at this year's Academy Awards, airing February 24th. Join us for this pre-Oscar screening as we cheer on **Black Panther**, celebrate Black History Month, and look forward to further conversations about works of African-fantasy as Sheridan Reads welcomes Man Booker Prize-winning author Marlon James on March 4th to discuss his "African Game of Thrones", **Black Leopard, Red Wolf**.

## FEBRUARY 22 (PRIVATE EVENT)

### Pop-Up Music Event Hosted by Sheridan Student Union

**Sheridan College | 1430 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville | SSU Atrium**

The SSU will be holding a pop-up interactive musical performance by John Campbell as part of BHM and Sheridan Family Day celebrations. Traditional Caribbean food such as roti and Jamaican patty will be served.

## FEBRUARY 23

### Art Hive Open Studio

**Oakville Museum | 8 Navy St, Oakville | 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Facilitated by accomplished visual artist Camille King, participants will create art in a relaxed and informal setting. Offered in partnership between CCAH, Creative Community Hive, and the Oakville Museum, these open-studio style workshops will offer a unique, inclusive blend of art-making, African-Canadian experience, and connections to Oakville's growing newcomer communities.

For more information, visit [cch.ca](http://cch.ca)

# Black History Month 2019 Event Schedule



## **FEBRUARY 26 (PRIVATE EVENT)**

### **In-School Program**

**Munn's Public School | 1511 Sixth Line, Oakville**

Calypsonian singer Roger Gibbs together with steelpan player Pat McNeilly will perform Caribbean folk music. This is an interactive performance with traditional Caribbean folk songs and stories for grades 3 to 6.

## **FEBRUARY 27 (PRIVATE EVENT)**

### **Passing It On: Black Oral Traditions, History, and Music**

**Acclaim Health - Sheridan College | 1430 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville**

**The Village of Tansley Woods | 4100 Upper Middle Rd, Burlington**

Calypsonian singer Roger Gibbs together with steelpan player Pat McNeilly will perform Caribbean folk music. This is an interactive performance by, and for seniors, with traditional Caribbean folk songs and stories.

Participants will be encouraged to sing and will have opportunities to play percussion instruments and share their own stories.

## **FEBRUARY 27 (PRIVATE EVENT)**

### **Black History Educational Music Performance**

**Ontario Correctional Institute | 109 McLaughlin Rd S, Brampton**

John Campbell will present an interactive/educational performance to the inmates. Accompanying each musical performance will be a description of the song and how it is historically relevant to Black history. While John performs the music, a projector will scroll through a series of images in order to enhance the cultural and historical significance. Oakville Steelpan Duo will also be performing a variety of melodies.

For more information, visit [cchah.ca](http://cchah.ca)

## **The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Freedom!**

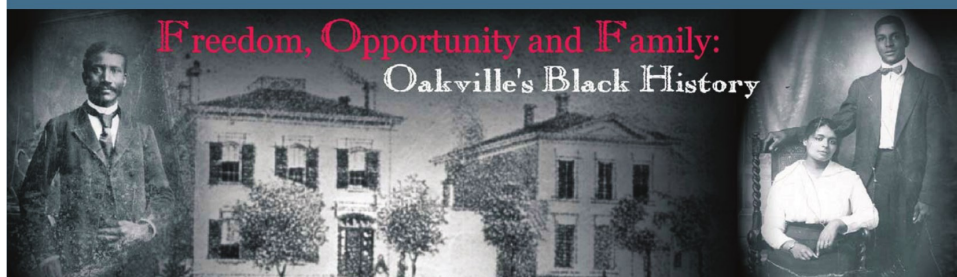
Erchless, home of the Chisholm's, Oakville's founding family, has an informative Black History Exhibit which gives the visitor an in depth overview of how the Town of Oakville played an integral part in the road to freedom, as a gateway to Canada for many African Americans. William Chisholm purchased 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 19<sup>th</sup>-century Toronto.



**Oakville Museum at Erchless Estate, 8 Navy Street**  
For further information visit [www. oakville.ca/museum](http://www.oakville.ca/museum)

## OAKVILLE AND THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD



### 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".

#### Students will:

- Study the exhibition "Freedom, Opportunity and Family: Oakville's Black History" featuring Branson Johnson's Freedom Papers
- Examine primary source documents
- Participate in an outdoor walking tour of six key Oakville Underground Railroad sites, weather permitting
- View the multimedia presentation "The Underground Railroad: Next Stop Freedom!" (*Présentation disponible en français*)

#### Curriculum Connections:

- Subject: Social Studies; History and Geography
- Curriculum Strands: History; Heritage and Identity
- The Role of Government and Responsible Citizenship (Gr.5)
- Communities in Canada, Past and Present (Gr.6)
- Canada, 1800–1850: Conflict and Challenges (Gr.7)
- Creating Canada, 1850–1890 (Gr.8)

**Accessibility:** The multimedia presentation is located on the second floor of the museum, accessible by stairs only. If your group has any accessibility needs, please contact us to discuss how we can best accommodate your visit.

Oakville Public and Catholic school grade 6 classes can come for free!  
See: <https://theocf.org/our-impact/community-classroom>

#### Program Details:

- Program length: 2 hours
- Fee: \$7.50 per student
- Max: 35 students

Please note part of this program will take place outdoors.

#### To book your visit contact:

Susan Crane  
[susan.crane@oakville.ca](mailto:susan.crane@oakville.ca)  
905-845-6601, ext. 5019



#### Oakville Museum at Erchless Estate

8 NAVY STREET 905-338-4400  
[WWW.OAKVILLE.CA/MUSEUM](http://WWW.OAKVILLE.CA/MUSEUM)

# Beyond the Journey

## A Black History Month Art Exhibit



*A collection of works that will arouse  
the conscience, still the mind,  
and soothe the soul.*

**OAKVILLE TOWN HALL**  
1225 TRAFALGAR RD, OAKVILLE  
FEBRUARY 1 - FEBRUARY 28, 2019

**HOURS OF OPERATION:**  
MONDAY - FRIDAY  
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM