

Black History Month 2020

CANADIAN CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION OF HALTON

KICKOFF CELEBRATION

Thursday, February 6, 2020 @ 6:00 - 8:00 pm Oakville Town Hall | South Atrium





















PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

Message from the Prime Minister of Canada

It is with great honour that I join communities across Canada in celebrating Black History Month.

For more than 20 years, Canada has officially recognized February as Black History Month. Canada derives strength from our diversity – a strength that has been immeasurably bolstered by our Black Canadian community. For hundreds of years, this diverse community has helped forge our nation, despite the barriers of discrimination and injustice faced by Black Canadians over the span of our history.



Today, we gather to celebrate the countless contributions and rich cultural heritage of our Black Canadian community, which is, and will continue to be, a crucial part of our nation's collective identity.

Thank you to the organizers for hosting this amazing event and all those in attendance for coming out to celebrate Black History Month.

Please accept my warmest welcome and best wishes for a memorable event!

Ottawa 2020



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.

The CCAH is an important organization in our community which promotes diversity and promotes inclusion in Halton through various activities. The art exhibits, cultural celebrations, educational programs and family events that you host honour your distinct Caribbean heritage and its significance to Halton's history.



Tonight's event showcases visual artists and performers, and begins a month of cultural and educational activities to celebrate Black History Month. By inviting everyone to celebrate tonight and throughout the month of 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. Tonight's celebration reminds us that actively promoting inclusion creates a more vibrant and supportive community.

On behalf of Regional Council, I'd like to thank everyone involved with today's celebration, and the CCAH's ongoing efforts in Halton. Together, we keep Halton a great place to live, work, raise a family and retire.

Sincerely,

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



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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 6, 2020.

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 for organizing this evening's event and many others being held throughout the community.

I hope you enjoy and participate in the events being held this month.

Yours very sincerely,

Rob Burton, Mayor TOWN OF OAKVILLE





To the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton in celebration of Black History Month 2020

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.

This year's Black History Month theme is "Canadians of African Descent: Going forward, guided by the past" it is inspired by the United Nations proclaiming 2015-2024 the International Decade for People of African Descent, which emphasizes; recognition, justice and development.

Every February, and throughout the year, we honour the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present whose contributions helped make Canada the prosperous, compassionate and multicultural nation it is today.

Thank you for bringing our community's rich black history to life throughout the month.

Best regards,

Pam Damoff, MP

Oakville North-Burlington





Greetings for the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)

Black History Month February 2020

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,

Stephen Crawford, Member of Provincial Parliament Oakville





Dear Friends,

As Member of Parliament for Oakville and on behalf of the Government of Canada, I would like to wish everyone a wonderful Black History Month. Every February, we acknowledge and celebrate the many achievements of Black Canadians across Canada.

Black Canadians have helped to shape Canada into the compassionate, diverse and prosperous country that we are fortunate to call home. This occasion is an opportunity to acknowledge and educate all Canadians about the important contributions of Black Canadians to the settlement, as well as the growth and development, of our nation.

I look forward to continuing to recognize the contributions of Black Canadians who have helped to develop an increasingly inclusive society including right here in Oakville. I would also like to thank The Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton who continue to share their culture and have an extensive schedule of events planned for Black History Month.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office for assistance with any federal issues; my staff and I are always happy and willing to assist you.

Sincerely yours,

Hon. Anita Anand Member of Parliament

Short duard

Oakville





February 1, 2020

It is with great honour that I join with the Black community in Halton to celebrate Black History Month.

In December 1995, the Honourable Jean Augustine, the first ever Black woman elected to the House of Commons, introduced a motion that received unanimous consent to recognize February every year as Black History Month in Canada.

This year's theme is "Canadians of African Descent: going forward, guided by the past." It echoes the United Nation's theme for the International Decade for People of African Descent: recognition, justice and development.

As a kid growing up in Oakville, aspiring to go to 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 try my best. Now that I'm in public service, people like Jean Augustine, President Barack Obama and my colleagues Greg Fergus, Ahmed Hussen and Emmanuel Dubourg are my role models.

Thank you to the organizers and supporters for hosting us at all of the Black History Month events throughout February across the Halton region.

By celebrating the contributions, stories and successes of the Black community – Canada's youth of today and tomorrow will have no shortage of inspiration to chase their goals and achieve their dreams.

Sincerely,

Adam van Koeverden

HALTON REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE



One Vision One Mission One Team

On behalf of the Halton Regional Police Service, I am honoured to support 2020 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.

Stephen J. Tanner Chief of Police





Joan Butterfield | Art Director | Curator Association of African Canadian Artists joanbutterfield1@gmail.com

Tel: 416-230-8615

Black History Month 2020

Heartfelt thanks to the "Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton" for affording us the opportunity to once again partner with them for Black History Month 2020.

"Our Journey" Is a vibrant visual art exhibit that uniquely tells our story. An exhibit that aesthetically links our past to our future.

It is our hope that you the viewing audience will take the time to experience the exhibit on display for the month of February 2020 at Oakville Town Hall. You will I'm sure be touched and enlighten by the works presented.

We are committed to continuing the journey - To document and to educate ourselves and the viewing audience about our rich culture and heritage.

Sincerely,

Joan Butterfield | Artist | Curator

KICKOFF PROGRAM

Reception at 6:00 pm Main Stage at 6:20 pm



Steelpan performance by:

Denise Als

Art exhibits by:

Association of African Canadian Artists

~Curated by Joan Butterfield

Oakville Museum

~Next Stop, Freedom!

Sheridan College

~"Espresso Yourself" contestants

Author displays by:

Evan Winter

~The Rage of Dragons

Sheridan College

~ "Write the Journey" contest winners

Welcome Rhoma Spencer

Holly Buchanan **National Anthem**

Dignitary Greetings Rob Burton, Mayor of Oakville

Guest Speaker Winston LaRose

CCAH Donation Andrew Tyrrell, CCAH President & Mary

McPherson, CEO, Oakville Hospital Foundation

Sing Our Own Song Choir (SOOS) **Feature Performance**

Andrew Tyrrell & Sheridan College Students **CCAH Scholarship**

John Campbell and Soul Band **Musical Performance**

Closing Remarks Rhoma Spencer





















Master of Ceremonies, Rhoma Spencer

Rhoma Spencer is an award-winning actor, director, comedian, and broadcast journalist from Trinidad and Tobago. Her company, Theatre Archipelago, seeks to present, promote and develop theatre from the Caribbean and its Diaspora through new and existing works.



Guest Speaker, Winston LaRose

Winston LaRose is a prominent community activist and Director of The Jane Finch Concerned Citizens Organization (JFCCO). Winston was featured in a documentary called *Mr. Jane and Finch*, which explores his bid for Toronto city council during the 2018 municipal election.



Musical Performance, Sing Our Own Song

Sing Our Own Song (SOOS) is a Toronto-based community choir for self-identified Black LGBTQ+ folks and their Black allies. They perform music from many different traditions with a focus on music from the African continent and diaspora, including the Caribbean.





Enjoy the soulful songs of freedom that have helped inspire and uplift a people with Adult Contemporary Vocal Artist and Pianist, John Campbell. Backed by Vito Rezza on drums, Andrew Stewart on bass, and Nick Tateishi on guitar.



Featured Author, Evan Winter

Born in England to South American parents, Evan Winter was raised in Africa near the historical territory of his Xhosa ancestors. He grew up loving fantasies and being transported to brilliant worlds of magic heroism, conflict and wonder. By reading and writing, we could experience a thousand more.

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.

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.



Beverly Tang Kong

Culture: The CCAH has established a steel band program that involves the broader community - people of al 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 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 2020 Board Members



Andrew TyrrellPresident



Sheldon WilliamsVice President



Richard Pinnock Youth Leadership



Alicia SullivanDiversity and
Inclusion



Tricia Constantine-Joefield Member-at-Large



Katherine Dottin- AdamsTreasurer



Paula Simmons-Wint Secretary



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

February 1- 29 (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 1- 29 (excluding Weekends): African Canadian Art Exhibition – "Our Journey" Oakville Town Hall | 1225 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville | 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Curated by celebrated artist Joan Butterfield, this exhibit includes 50 artworks at the Oakville Town Hall by contemporary African Canadian artists; facilitated tours of the exhibit available.

January 30 – February 20: Oakville Community Foundation Community Classroom: Elementary School Steelpan Drumming Workshops (12 performances): Holy Family School; St. Mary School, St. Teresa of Calcutta School; St. Marguerite d'Youville School; West Oak Public School; Sunningdale Public School, St. Luke School; Our Lady of Peace School; and St Joan of Arc School.

February 4: Diana & Chris perform "All About the Blues" at the Village of Tansley Woods Retirement Residence, Burlington 4100 Upper Middle Rd | 3:00 pm -4:00 pm

February 5 (Closed event): Diana & Chris perform "All About the Blues" at Thomas A. Blakelock High School, Oakville 1160 Rebecca Street | 8:30 am – 9:30am

February 6: Official Black History Month Kick-Off Event. Oakville Town Hall | 1225 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville | 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm



February 7 (Closed event): Diana & Chris perform "All About the Blues" at St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School 1550 Nottinghill Gate, Oakville | 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

February 7: Burlington Caribbean Connection Black History Month event. Port Nelson United Church Hall, 3132 South Drive, Burlington | 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

February 9: Sunrise Seniors Living Residence, Burlington I 5401 Lakeshore Rd | CCAH Community Parang/Creole players Interactive Concert | 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

February 9: Art Hive Open Studio at the Village of Tansley Woods Retirement Residence, Burlington 4100 Upper Middle Rd | 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

February 10: Sheridan College - Sheridan Student Union Black History Month Pop-Up Music Concert. Interactive musical performance by John Campbell | 1430 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville | SSU Atrium | 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

February 10: Town of Milton Black History Month Proclamation Milton Town Hall 150 Mary Street, Milton | 12:00 pm

February 11: Roger Gibbs Inter-Active Music Therapy at the Village of Tansley Woods Long Term Care Residence, Burlington 4100 Upper Middle Rd | 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

February 15 (Closed event): Art Hive Studio at Acclaim Health Seniors' Day Program, Oakville Trafalgar Campus K-Wing | 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm



February 17: Family Day with CCAH. QEP Community & Cultural Centre | 2302 Bridge Rd, Oakville | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Steelpan music by CCAH Steelpan Band from 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm and Roger Gibbs with the CCAH Seniors Parang/Creole group perform 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

February 18: Roger Gibbs Inter-Active Music Therapy at the Village of Tansley Woods Long Term Care Residence, Burlington 4100 Upper Middle Rd | 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

February 19 (Closed event): Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School Black History Month Concert. Featuring: Njacko Backo and Kalimbas. 2420 Sixth Line, Oakville | 10:00 am – 11:00 am

February 19 (Closed event): Oakville/Burl/Milton Fire Services Lunch 'n Learn. Featuring: Karolyn Smardz-Frost, Keynote Speaker. Topic: Digging for the Promise Land. Music by Roger Gibbs | 12:00 Noon - 1:30 pm

February 19: Sheridan College Black History Month Movie Screening. Documentary about the Sir George Williams Riot in 1969 entitled "Ninth Floor" at 1430 Trafalgar Rd, (Trafalgar Campus) Room B125 | 7:00 pm

February 20 (Closed event): Halton Regional Police Services Lunch 'n Learn. Featuring: Karolyn Smardz-Frost, Keynote Speaker. Topic: Digging for the Promise Land. Music by Roger Gibbs at HRPS Headquarters 2485 North Service Rd. West, Oakville | 11:30 am – 1:00 pm



February 22: Art Hive Open Studio Oakville Museum, 8 Navy St, Oakville | 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

February 23: Milton Public Library – Black History Month Interactive West African and Afro-Caribbean Drumming Event. Featuring: Njacko Backo and Kalimbas at Work. Milton Public Library | 1010 Main St E, Milton, Bandura Lounge. | 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

February 24 (Closed event): St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School - Caribbean Cooking Class for students (2 classes) Featuring Chef Delvon Greene 1550 Nottinghill Gate, Oakville | 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

February 24 (Closed event): Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School – Caribbean Cooking Class for students (1 Class) Featuring Chef Delvon Greene 2420 Sixth Line, Oakville | 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

February 25 (Closed event): Roger Gibbs Inter-Active Music Therapy at Acclaim Health Seniors' Day Program, Oakville Trafalgar Campus K-Wing | 11:00 am-12:00 pm

February 25: Roger Gibbs Inter-Active Music Therapy at the Village of Tansley Woods Long Term Care Residence, Burlington 4100 Upper Middle Rd | 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

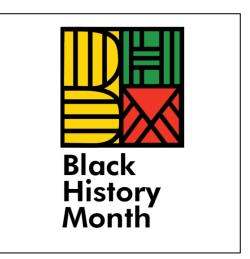
February 29: Art Hive Open Studio (Children aged 6yrs to 12yrs) Sherwood Community Centre and Library 6355 Main Street West, Milton | 1:00 pm -3:00 pm



Sheridan College Contests

The "Write the Journey" Creative Writing Contest

The Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) partnered with the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Sheridan College to develop a creative writing contest. To celebration of Black History Month, we invited submissions of students' original creative writing in English exploring the theme or idea of "the journey." Poems, short stories, personal essays, plays/monologues, spoken word, comics, and all



other forms of narrative, language- based storytelling were welcomed.

The author of the winning submission will receive \$500.00 and will read from their work at the Celebrating Black History Kickoff Event at Oakville Town Hall on February 6, 2020. Two runners-up will receive \$125.00 each.

Espresso Yourself: What does black history mean to you? Art Contest



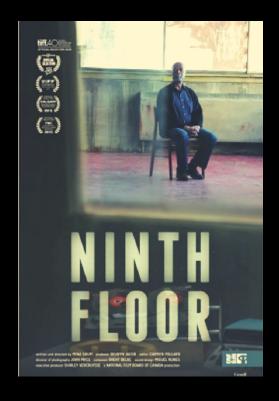
Sheridan Student Union (SSU) Vice Presidents wanted to showcase student artwork throughout Sheridan campuses. Students have the chance to showcase their artwork in our coffee shops: The Coffee Loft at Trafalgar and Bruin Coffee House at Davis and on our website.

By submitting artwork, students were automatically entered into a draw for a \$500 grand prize from the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton.





THE CANADIAN CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION OF HALTON AND FILM FOR THOUGHT, SHERIDAN COLLEGE, PRESENT:



February 19, 2020 | 7:00 pm Sheridan Trafalgar Campus Room B125

NINTH FLOOR

DIRECTED BY MINA SHUM

NINTH FLOOR TELLS THE DRAMATIC STORY OF A WATERSHED MOMENT IN THE HISTORY OF CANADIAN RACE RELATIONS.

IN 1969 A GROUP OF CARIBBEAN STUDENTS AT SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY IN MONTREAL ACCUSED THEIR PROFESSOR OF RACISM, TRIGGERING AN EXPLOSIVE STUDENT UPRISING. FILMMAKERS MINA SHUM AND SELWYN JACOB LOCATE MANY OF THE PROTAGONISTS AND LISTEN AS THEY SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT, TRYING TO MAKE PEACE WITH THE PAST.

THE MEDIA CALLED IT THE GEORGE WILLIAMS "COMPUTER CENTRE RIOT." BUT THE REALITY WAS MUCH MORE COMPLEX.







Art Hive



Facilitated by accomplished visual artist Camille King, participants will create art in a relaxed and informal setting. Offered in partnership with 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 22, 2020

2:00 – 4:00 pm Oakville Museum 8 Navy Street, Oakville

Saturday, February 29, 2020

2:00 – 4:00 pm Sherwood Community Centre & Library 6355 Main Street W, Milton











One Burlington:

Celebrating Faith & Culture



presents... Rise & Struggle,

a multimedia presentation to mark



Friday, February 7, 2020



7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Port Nelson United Church

3132 South Drive, Burlington



Siona Neale

Featuring

Siona Neale & *One Accord CCAH Steel Pan Players*Caribbean Finger Foods



One Accord Gospel Choir

This event is FREE! If you are able, please bring a canned good for the Food Bank.

To ensure seating, email OneBurlingtonEvents@gmail.com







Apply to attend

CAMP MOLLY

Fire Services Leadership Camp for Young Women in Halton

















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,

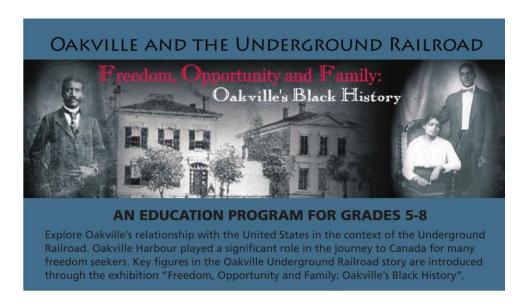
as a gateway to Canada for many African Americans. William Chisholm purchased land around the Sixteen Mile Creek in 1827, and in 1834, the Town of Oakville became an official Port of Entry to Canada. Ships from Oakville sailed throughout the Great Lakes and many escaped slaves were assisted by ship captains 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



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!" (Presentation disponible en français)

Curriculum Connections:

- Subject: Social Studies; History and Geography
- Curriculum St rand s: 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 need s, 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

To book your school visit, contact

Julian Kingston | julian.kingston@oakville.ca | 905-845-6601 ext. 5016



"Our Journey" A Black History Month Art Exhibit



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

Oavkille Town Hall

1225 Trafalgar Road, Oakville February 1 – 29, 2020

Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm



Black History Month 2020

We appreciate your support!

For a listing of all events www.ccah.ca

















