

**CANADIAN CARIBBEAN  
ASSOCIATION OF HALTON**

**CELEBRATES**

# **BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2026**

*Out of Many Cultures, One People*



**PROGRAM & EVENTS**

# OUT OF MANY CULTURES, ONE PEOPLE

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This Black History Month, we celebrate the vast and vibrant tapestry of the African Diaspora. From the Caribbean to the African continent, and across the Americas to Europe, we are a global family defined by diverse traditions and a shared, unbreakable bond. We honor the many journeys that have shaped our rich identity, standing together as a testament to resilience, joy, and a powerful collective legacy.

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# OUR FOUNDATION



To honor the theme "Out of Many Cultures, One People," CCAH remains dedicated to the core values that turn our diverse history into a shared future. Our work is grounded in four essential pillars that ensure every member of our global diaspora is supported, heard, and celebrated:

These pillars are the heartbeat of our organization, guiding us as we move together with one spirit and one purpose.

## EDUCATION

We partner with organizations in Halton Region to empower youth through leadership development and Caribbean cultural education. Our goal is to empower youth to reach their full potential.

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## CULTURE

We promote Caribbean culture and history by celebrating our rich diversity and fostering inclusiveness through a variety of programs and initiatives across the Halton Region aimed at building greater awareness and stronger community connections

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## COMMUNITY

We are dedicated to delivering programs and events that foster meaningful community engagement and enhance awareness of Caribbean history and culture across the Halton Region

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## HARMONY

We value togetherness and engage with individuals and groups from diverse backgrounds through our programs and initiatives. Through this work, we aim to build inclusive communities and support cross-cultural collaboration.

# Black History Month 2026 Proclamation



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 2026

WHEREAS, throughout our history, Oakville has been strengthened by its diverse and distinctive cultures; and

WHEREAS people of Black African and Caribbean descent significantly contribute their progress and success to Canada, Ontario and Oakville; and

WHEREAS Black History Month provides us all the opportunity to remember and celebrate Black African and Caribbean contributions to our society, past and present; and

WHEREAS the Black African Caribbean community have and continue to be a vital element of our town's social and cultural fabric;

NOW THEREFORE, I HEREBY PROCLAIM February 2026 as Black History Month in the Town of Oakville.

Rob Burton, Mayor  
TOWN OF OAKVILLE

*Proclaimed by the Town of Oakville in recognition of Black History Month 2026.*

# Launch Program

<b>LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	Dionne Downer, Executive Director, CCAH
<b>NATIONAL ANTHEM</b>	CCAH Steelpan
<b>WELCOME</b>	Anne-Marie Green, MC
<b>GREETINGS</b>	Gary Carr, Chair, Regional Municipality of Halton
<b>BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2026 PROCLAMATION</b>	Mayor Rob Burton, Town of Oakville
<b>MUSICAL PERFORMANCE</b>	The Band Destiny
<b>GUEST SPEAKER</b>	Dr. Cindy Gouveia, President & Vice Chancellor, Sheridan College
<b>MUSICAL PERFORMANCE</b>	CCAH Parang Ensemble
<b>KEYNOTE PRESENTATION</b>	Sean Mauricette Out of many cultures, WE A're WON (people)
<b>CCAH BOARD REMARKS</b>	Richard Pinnock, Vice-President, CCAH Board of Directors
<b>TITLE SPONSOR VIDEO</b>	TD Bank Group
<b>MUSICAL PERFORMANCE</b>	The Band Destiny
<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b>	Sheldon Williams, President, CCAH Board of Directors

*We gratefully acknowledge the Oakville Centre for  
Performing Arts for their support in bringing this  
event to life.*

# Presenters



## MASTER OF CEREMONIES

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Anne-Marie Green is an award-winning journalist and correspondent for 48 Hours, where she reports on some of television's most compelling crime and investigative stories. She is also the host of the 48 Hours: Post Mortem podcast, which takes audiences deeper into the cases featured on the program.

With more than two decades of experience in broadcast journalism, Green has served in anchor and reporting roles across CBS News platforms, including CBS News 24/7. Her work has appeared across multiple CBS News broadcasts, reflecting a career marked by in-depth reporting, clarity, and trusted storytelling on major national and international stories.



Scan to learn more about Anne-Marie Green



## KEYNOTE PRESENTER

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Sean Mauricette is an award-winning artist, actor, author, and speaker with over a decade of experience across film, literature, architecture, and community leadership. His screen credits include Disney's Jump In, Phantom Punch, and 12 Monkeys, and he is the author of the children's book A Name Just For You.

A University of Toronto architecture graduate, Sean has led community-focused design projects and received over 20 awards, including the United Nations Association of Canada's Medal of Appreciation. He is the Founder and Director of Laying Foundations Together (LFT), supporting organizations in advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion through speaking, mentorship, and advocacy.



Scan to learn more about Sean Mauricette

# Presenters



## THE BAND DESTINY

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The Band Destiny is a high-energy, Toronto-based West Indian crossover band known for bringing vibrant rhythms and positive vibes to every stage. Formed in 2007, they've earned acclaim as a three-time CMEA Top Soca Band in Canada, blending Soca, Reggae, R&B, Chutney and Dancehall into a sound that gets crowds moving whether at carnivals, festivals, or community events.

With a dynamic lineup of talented vocalists and musicians, TBD brings infectious energy and musical diversity that unites audiences of all backgrounds. They've performed across major Canadian events including Vancouver Carnival, Toronto Carnival, Barrie and Ottawa carnivals, continually building a reputation for spirited performances and crowd connection



Scan to learn more about The Band Destiny

## CCAH STEELPAN

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The CCAH Steelpan Ensemble showcases the vibrant rhythms and melodic traditions of Caribbean steelpan music. Rooted in community and cultural expression, the ensemble performs at celebrations and special events, bringing energy, joy, and a deep connection to Caribbean heritage through every performance.

## CCAH PARANG ENSEMBLE

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The CCAH Parang Ensemble celebrates the festive spirit of parang, a traditional Caribbean music style closely associated with storytelling, community, and celebration. Through lively performances at cultural gatherings and community events, the ensemble shares the warmth, rhythm, and shared joy that define this cherished musical tradition.

# Board of Directors

Honouring our history while building our future requires steadfast leadership. The following individuals volunteer their time and expertise to champion the CCAH mission, ensuring our 'One People' remains strong, vibrant, and connected.

**Sheldon Williams**, *President*

**Richards Pinnock**, *Vice President*

**Horace Saunders**, *Treasurer*

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

**Emmanuel Ibenye**, *Director*

**Olly Hughes**, *Director*

**Nerissa Farley**, *Director*

**Alicia Munian**, *Director*

**Antonie Aurelis**, *Director*

*United in our commitment to*  
**EDUCATION, CULTURE, COMMUNITY, AND HARMONY**

# Office staff

**Dionne Downer**, *Executive Director*

**Ashleigh Wint**, *Programs Coordinator*

**Enoch Oppong**, *Youth Outreach Coordinator*

**James Fraser**, *Youth Outreach Coordinator*



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**YOUR GENEROSITY CREATES**  
**NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR**  
**CHILDREN & YOUTH**



**SCAN TO SUPPORT CCAH**



# Greetings From Our Community Leaders



## ANITA ANAND

Member of  
Parliament  
Députée  
Oakville-East

[anita.anand@parl.gc.ca](mailto:anita.anand@parl.gc.ca)  
[mp.anitaanand.ca](https://mp.anitaanand.ca)

### Constituency

301 Robinson Street  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6J 1G7

Tel.: (905)-338-2008  
Fax: (905)-338-5432

### Ottawa

Room 407  
Confederation Building  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

Tél.: 613-995-4014  
Télé.: 613-992-0520



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

February 2026

Dear Oakville Friends and Neighbours,

During Black History Month, we honour and celebrate the profound contributions that Black Canadians have made to Canada's industries, communities, and cultural heritage throughout our history.

This year's theme, "*Out of Many Cultures, One People*," reflects how strong communities are built — by recognizing different histories and making space for everyone to belong. As the Member of Parliament for Oakville East, I see firsthand how inclusion, respect, and participation strengthen our community.

I would like to thank the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) for their leadership and continued work in bringing people together. Since 1977, the CCAH has played an important role in fostering connection, understanding, and celebration of Afro-Caribbean cultural heritage in Oakville and across Halton through its programs and community initiatives.

Our government continues to work toward building more inclusive communities and addressing systemic barriers faced by Black Canadians. Through sustained investments, we have supported Black-led organizations, entrepreneurs, and community initiatives nationwide. Budget 2025 builds on this work by reinforcing support for community-driven programs, economic participation, and mental health initiatives, recognizing that meaningful progress is achieved through partnerships rooted in local leadership.

As we celebrate Black History Month, we are reminded that creating a more equitable and united Canada is a shared responsibility. By honouring the contributions of Black Canadians and learning from our collective history, we are building Canada strong and working toward a future where everyone has the opportunity to belong and thrive.

As always, my constituency office is open Monday to Friday and can be reached by email at [anita.anand@parl.gc.ca](mailto:anita.anand@parl.gc.ca) or by phone at 905-338-2008 should you have any questions, concerns or issues to bring forward.

Yours truly,

# Greetings From Our Community Leaders



## Message from Regional Chair Gary Carr

On behalf of Regional Council, I extend my best wishes to the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) as you kick off celebrations for Black History Month, celebrating the theme "Out of Many Cultures, One People".

Every year, the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton brings our community together through powerful programs and educational initiatives that shine a light on the rich heritage and meaningful contributions, past and present, of Black people here in Halton and around the world.

Black History Month is more than a celebration; it's an opportunity to learn, reflect and connect with each other. When we understand and honour diverse lived experiences, we help build a community that is welcoming, inclusive, and stronger for everyone.

To the Board of Directors and volunteers at the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton, thank you for decades of leadership and the valuable work you do to promote equity, diversity and inclusion. Because of you, Halton is a place where people can live, grow and thrive!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Carr".

Gary Carr  
Regional Chair



## Regional Municipality of Halton

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



Office of the Mayor  
Town of Oakville  
1225 Trafalgar Road  
Oakville, Ontario L6H 3H3  
Tel: 905-338-4173  
Fax: 905-815-2001  
mayor@oakville.ca



## Greetings from Mayor Burton

I am pleased to support the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) in the kick-off to "Black History Month February 2026" on behalf of the Town of Oakville, my colleagues on Town Council and Oakville residents.

Our town takes pride in recognizing and celebrating the diverse contributions of our Black African and Caribbean community members. Their contributions have and continue to enrich Oakville's cultural fabric.

This year's theme of "Out of Many Cultures, One People" serves as a valuable opportunity to honour the many cultures that make up the Black African Caribbean diaspora. The CCAH programming planned strongly reflects our dedication to honouring and learning from the experiences and achievements of this diverse community.

We look forward to the performances, events and educational opportunities being offered during the 2026 Black History Month and throughout the year. I anticipate engaging and enlightening experiences for all.

Please accept my best wishes for a very successful and memorable Black History Month.

Yours very sincerely,

Rob Burton, Mayor  
TOWN OF OAKVILLE

# Greetings From Our Community Leaders



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF BURLINGTON

Dear Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton,

On behalf of the City of Burlington, I extend heartfelt appreciation to the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton for your leadership in celebrating **Black History Month** and promoting cultural awareness throughout our Region. Your commitment to education, community engagement, and advocacy for equity and inclusion reflects values that are essential to building a vibrant and welcoming Burlington.

One of my top priorities as Mayor is to promote community pride so everyone feels welcome and included. The work of CCAH—through programs that foster cultural understanding, youth empowerment, and social justice—aligns perfectly with this vision. By sharing stories of resilience, achievement, and heritage, you help strengthen the fabric of our Burlington and inspire future generations.

I am proud that Burlington continues to lead in recognizing Black history, including our proclamation of August as Emancipation Month and our annual raising of the Pan-African Flag at City Hall. These actions, along with partnerships with organizations like CCAH, demonstrate our shared commitment to equity and inclusion.

Together, we celebrate Black culture and history, and the many contributions of the Black community to Halton Region. Best wishes for a successful and inspiring Black History Month of 2026.

Sincerely,

Mayor Marianne Meed-Ward  
City of Burlington



Ottawa Office  
Room 1059, Valour Building  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6  
Tel: (613) 995-3440



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CANADA

**Kristina Tesser Derksen**  
Member of Parliament  
Milton East—Hilton Hills South

Georgetown Office  
Unit 206, 2324 Gough St.  
Georgetown, ON L7G 4B1  
Tel: (416) 341-4812

February 2026

**To the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)  
in Celebration of Black History Month 2026**

In December 1995, the House of Commons unanimously passed a motion to recognize February as Black History Month, following the leadership of Jean Augustine, the first Black woman elected to Parliament. In 2026, we mark 30 years of Black History Month at the federal level, building on an important tradition that began in Toronto in 1979.

It is my honour to join the Black community in Halton in celebrating the rich contributions of Black Canadians, and to support the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton and other community organizations across the region. I am especially pleased to recognize your lunch event on Monday, February 2 at 6:00 pm at the Oakville Centre for Performing Arts.

This year's theme, *Out of Many Cultures, One People* is reminiscent of the national motto of Jamaica and speaks powerfully to unity without uniformity, a recognition that while our stories and cultures are diverse, our shared history and future bind us together.

Our government remains committed to supporting and empowering Black communities across Canada. The Black Entrepreneurship Program, which has supported more than 24,000 entrepreneurs nationwide, was renewed in October 2025 with an investment of \$189 million. This work is complemented by initiatives such as Canada's 2024-2028 Anti-Racism Strategy and the Supporting Black Canadian Communities Initiative.

Happy Black History Month!

Sincerely,

Kristina Tesser Derksen, M.P.  
Milton East—Hilton Hills South  
kristina.tessenderksen@parl.gc.ca



# Greetings From Our Community Leaders

Parliamentary Office / Bureau parlementaire  
House of Commons / Chambre des Communes  
Wellington Building, Room 123  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0A6



Constituency Office / Bureau de circonscription  
160 Hugh Lane  
Milton, ON  
L9T 2G6

**HON. ADAM VAN KOEYERDEN, P.C. M.P.**  
BURLINGTON NORTH—MILTON WEST

**To the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) in recognition of Black History Month 2026**

Black History Month is a time to celebrate the histories, achievements, and ongoing contributions of Black communities across Canada, while also reflecting on our shared responsibility to build a more just and inclusive society. For over 30 years, Canadians have marked this month as a national opportunity to honour Black Canadians' rich legacy and lasting impact on our country.

As the Member of Parliament for Burlington North—Milton West, I have personally witnessed the hard work, dedication, and commitment of the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton and its members across the region. I am proud to have a government that continues to listen to community leaders, including the CCAH, to enact meaningful changes and introduce programs for the betterment of our communities. Initiatives such as the Black Entrepreneurship Program, the Anti-Racism Action Program, the Supporting Black Canadian Communities Initiative, and strategies like Canada's Black Justice Strategy are helping to create opportunities, support leadership, and address systemic barriers.

This year's theme, *Out of Many Cultures, One People*, reminds us that our differences are what make us stronger, and that we are connected by the values we share. Black History Month is not just a time to celebrate, but a moment to reflect and take action whether it's speaking out against racism, supporting Black communities, or uplifting Black-led businesses and organizations. I am truly grateful for the work you do every day to make Halton a more inclusive and vibrant community. Thank you for your leadership, your dedication, and the example you set for all of us. Wishing everyone a happy and meaningful Black History Month!

Sincerely,

Hon. Adam van Koevorden, P.C. M.P.  
Burlington North—Milton West



*Sima Acan*  
Member of Parliament  
Oakville West

February 1st, 2026

**To the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CAAH) in Celebration of Black History Month 2026**

As we mark Black History Month, I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the organizers, volunteers, and community leaders behind the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton for creating space to recognize and celebrate Black history, culture, and achievements across Canada.

This year's national theme, "30 Years of Black History Month: Honouring Black Brilliance Across Generations — From Nation Builders to Tomorrow's Visionaries," invites us to reflect on the enduring legacy of Black Canadians and the many ways Black leadership, creativity, and resilience have helped shape our country. It is also a meaningful reminder that the work of building a more equitable and inclusive Canada continues, through education, community partnerships, and sustained action against anti-Black racism.

Black History Month is an opportunity not only to honour the stories and contributions of those who came before us, but also to uplift the innovators, artists, entrepreneurs, educators, and advocates who are shaping what comes next. In Oakville West and across Halton, community-led initiatives like yours help ensure these stories are shared, remembered, and celebrated, especially by the next generation.

Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to strengthening community through recognition, learning, and connection. Please accept my warmest wishes for a meaningful, inspiring, and impactful Black History Month.

Sincerely,

Sima Acan  
Member of Parliament for Oakville West

**Ottawa**  
Hart House Building, Suite 509  
Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5  
Tel: (416) 952-0100

**Constituency**  
100 Dundas Street West, Suite 906  
Oakville, ON L6K 3Y5  
Tel: (905) 467-4857



# Greetings From Our Community Leaders



**Greetings from Stephen Crawford, Member of the Provincial Parliament**

It is an honour to extend warm greetings to the CCAH and to everyone joining in the 2026 Black History Month celebrations.

This year's theme, "Out of Many Cultures, One People," beautifully reflects the strength, richness, and unity that diversity brings to our communities. The four pillars of education, culture, community, and harmony are values that truly resonate here in Oakville and across Halton Region, and they serve as a powerful reminder of the importance of inclusion, understanding, and shared respect.

Black History Month provides an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the invaluable contributions of Black Canadians, past and present, whose leadership, resilience, creativity, and innovation continue to shape our province and our country. It is also a time to recommit ourselves to building stronger, more inclusive communities where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

I commend the CCAH and its partners for your dedication and leadership in organizing these meaningful celebrations, and for your ongoing work to bring people together through education, culture, and community engagement.

Wishing you every success with your 2026 launch celebration and the many events to follow. May this year's Black History Month be one of inspiration, reflection, and unity for all.

Stephen Crawford,  
Member of Provincial Parliament  
Oakville





Hon. Zee Hamid

Member of Provincial Parliament - Milton

**RE: Letter of Greetings to CCAH** January 12th, 2025 The Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton is an organization that continues to do important and influential work in Milton and the greater Halton Region. I am incredibly proud of CCAH's achievements and the impact they have had on our community, especially our Black community members. This year's theme, "Out of Many Cultures, One People," is very significant. It is a powerful reminder of how Black Canadians are united by a shared heritage, one of resilience, strength and determination. As allies, it is our job to ensure that we educate ourselves and those around us on the history of Black Canadians in order to understand why we observe Black History Month each year. I am wishing CCAH a successful Black History Month event and I am so honoured to join in on such an important event. Thank you for your work in and around our community. I am always excited to see what you have planned next. Happy Black History Month!

Sincerely,

The Honourable Zee Hamid, MPP

zee.hamid@pc.ola.org  
<https://zeehamid.com>



# Greetings From Our Community Leaders



February, 2026.

Happy Black History Month!

The Oakville Community Foundation extends our greetings and well wishes to the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCA) as you launch Black History Month 2026! Your dedication to local celebrations and community education is a vital part of what makes Oakville such a special place.

This year's theme, "Out of Many Cultures, One People," unites us all across diverse places and languages as we appreciate our shared identity and foster mutual respect for each other's cultural roots.

The Foundation is proud to have partnered with CCAH for many years on a wide array of projects. We are thrilled to again be a part of bringing the CCAH Steel Pan Band to Oakville's publicly funded elementary schools, as part of our Community Classroom program.

Our organizations have a strong history of collaboration on many projects, and we are continuously grateful for the leadership, thoughtfulness and important work that CCAH brings to encourage learning and generosity in our community.

Congratulations and thank you for all that you do!

All the best,

Michael Salem  
Director, Communications  
Oakville Community Foundation

110 North Service Rd. East  
Suite 200, Oakville, Ontario  
L6N 3R2

T: 905.844.3562  
F: 905.845.1395  
[info@theofo.org](mailto:info@theofo.org)

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# Thank You To Our Sponsors



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NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR  
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SCAN TO SUPPORT CCAH

# Thank You To Our Community Partners



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**Oakville Piano Studio**



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**CHILDREN & YOUTH**



SCAN TO SUPPORT CCAH

# With Thanks To Our Volunteers And Committee

## Black History Month Committee

Sheldon Williams

Ashleigh Wint

Keisha Smith

Sheldon Samlall

Nerissa Farley

Paula Simmons-Wint

Pamela Chase

Horace Saunders

## With Appreciation to Our Volunteers and Supporters



*Thank you for your time, commitment, and dedication  
to Black History Month 2026.*

# Featured Art Exhibition

## *Out of Many Cultures, One People: An Afro-Caribbean Collective*

The exhibit brings together artists whose works explore culture, memory, and connection across the Afro-Caribbean diaspora. Through diverse visual expressions, the exhibition invites reflection on shared humanity, belonging, and the ways stories converge through art.

### Featured Artists

Adetona Omokanye

Kayla Cowan

Funmilola Adeseun

Segun Caezar

Kemmy Walker

Hammed Babatunde

Charles Awelewa

Kristen Allicock

Karen Siyanbola

Chauncey Downer-Hincks

Miles Clarke

Veronica Dorsett

Ehiko Odeh

Nicole Alexander

Paul Dias

Enoch Oppong

Queen Kukoyi

Segun Aiyesan

Sheryl Keen

Dionne Simpson

Kamorudeen Aruna



### Francesca Durham

*Curator*

**Francesca** is a curator and cultural strategist whose community-engaged exhibitions amplify African and Caribbean voices, bridging Canadian-born artists with the global Black diaspora.

**February 1-28**

QEPCCC Main Gallery  
Holcim Gallery, FirstOntario Arts Centre  
Free Admission | Open to the Public



# Artists Highlights

## *Out of Many Cultures, One People: An Afro-Caribbean Collective*

### A preview of selected pieces on view

A selection of works is highlighted here, with additional artists featured throughout the exhibition.



*Dear Black Child*  
By: Charles Awelewa



*Echoe (Triptych)*  
By: Kayla Cowan



*Communal Harmony*  
By: Segun Aiyesan



*Mother*  
By: Kemmy Walker



*Aro Metta*  
By: Segun Caezar



*What We Carry Forward*  
By: Enoch Oppong

### Art Gallery Hours

#### QEPCCC Main Gallery:

Monday - Friday: 12 - 7pm  
Saturday - Sunday: 12 - 5pm

#### Holcim Gallery:

Monday: 11am - 5pm  
Tuesday - Thursday: 11am - 8pm  
Friday: 11am - 5pm  
Saturday: 9am - 4pm  
Sunday: Closed

# Explore Black History Month 2026 Events

A listing of CCAH-hosted and community partner events taking place throughout the month. Learn more at [ccah.ca/BHM2026](http://ccah.ca/BHM2026).

**February 1-February 28: Out of Many Cultures, One People: An Afro-Caribbean Collective**  
QEPPCC Main Gallery | Holcim Gallery | The FirstOntario Arts Centre  
Curated by Francesca Durham

Out of Many Cultures, One People is a curated exhibition exploring heritage, memory, migration, and resilience through diverse Afro-Caribbean artistic expressions. The exhibition reflects shared identity and belonging, presenting art as a unifying force across cultures and stories. Exhibits at QEPPCC and Holcim Gallery are self-guided; private tours may be requested at [info@ccah.ca](mailto:info@ccah.ca)

**February 1-February 28: The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Freedom & Legacy Voices | At Oakville Museum | 8 Navy St, Oakville | Contact [preeya.nayee@oakville.ca](mailto:preeya.nayee@oakville.ca) if you have questions**  
Through virtual tours, digitized artifacts, hands-on activities, and interactive storytelling, this inquiry-based education program immerses students in shared historical experiences. Students explore Oakville's role in the Underground Railroad, including the significance of Oakville Harbour and key figures connected to the journey to freedom. Learning is supported through the exhibition Freedom, Opportunity and Family: Oakville's Black History, excerpts from The Underground Railroad: Next Stop Freedom, and contemporary stories from the CCAH documentaries Legacy Voices and Legacy Voices 2.

**February 2-February 27: Community and Harmony CCAH Steel Band | Halton Catholic District School Board and Halton District School Board**

As part of Oakville Community Foundation's Community Classroom initiative and the generous support of the Burlington Community Foundation, the CCAH Steel Band will be performing at participating Oakville elementary schools and Burlington all grades schools as part of the Black History Month and the 2026 school term. Community and Harmony Classrooms will continue until June for schools not able to participate during Black History Month.

**February 7: Museum Walking Tour: Oakville and the Underground Railroad | Oakville Museum | 8 Navy Street | Ages 13 and older | Register at [www.oakville.ca](http://www.oakville.ca)**

Offered by the Oakville Museum, this unique indoor/outdoor tour offers a fascinating glimpse into the history of the Underground Railroad in Oakville. First, see the exhibit "Freedom, Opportunity, and Family: Oakville's Black History." Then, watch the exciting multimedia presentation "The Underground Railroad: Next Stop Freedom," which tells a true story about escaping from slavery. The tour ends with an outdoor walk highlighting the local history of Oakville and the Underground Railroad.

**February 14: CCAH Reading Corner | In Partnership with Milton Public Library | Holcim Gallery, FirstOntario Arts Centre**

Join the CCAH and MPL as we celebrate children's books written by Black authors that have been featured as part of our partnership Reading Corner program with MPL since 2021. This year, we will feature Nadia Hohn. Engage with authors and participate in craft activities. This parented family-friendly program is geared towards children under 10 years old.



# Black History Month Events

**February 15: Roots, Rhythm and Resilience: A Tribute to Black Music | In Partnership with the Burlington Concert Band | At The Holiday Inn Burlington. Get your tickets at <https://ccah.ca/bhm2026/>**

The CCAH Steelpan and Parang bands will be performing as special guests at Burlington Concert Band's upcoming concert celebrating Black History Month with music composed by and performed by Black Musicians. Join the BCB and CCAH for an exciting musical evening as we recognize the rich history and talent that Black musicians have brought to the world.

**February 16: CCAH Reading Corner: Discovering Art Through Storytelling | In Partnership with the Town of Oakville | At Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre (QEPPCC) Main Gallery | Drop-in Event @ 10:00am**

Join us on Family Day in the Out of Many Cultures, One People: An Afro-Caribbean Collective Art Exhibit for a family-friendly, drop-in event to explore creativity and expression through storytelling and art. Throughout the day, participants will engage with authors, poets, spoken word artists, and visual artists, discovering various new ways to express themselves creatively. The activities will be interactive, featuring readings, presentations, and hands-on workshops. A self-guided art gallery activity will also be available to participants for some casual discovery and fun!

**February 18: Brother Film Screening | In Partnership with OFFA & Film.ca | At Film.ca Cinemas | @ 7:30pm**

Join us for a screening of Clement Virgo's film Brother, an adaptation of the acclaimed novel by Trinidadian-Canadian author David Chariandy, presented in partnership with the Oakville Festivals of Film & Art and Film.ca Cinemas.



SCAN TO GET YOUR TICKETS  
TO THE FILM SCREENING



# Black History Month Events

**February 21: Burnet Park Memorial Unveiling – 76 Burnet Street, Oakville | Town of Oakville | Free | @1:00pm**

Join the Town of Oakville on Saturday, February 21 at 1 p.m. at Burnet Park, 76 Burnet Street (between Kerr and Wilson streets), for the unveiling of a new commemorative sculpture. The installation serves as a tribute to Samuel and Martha (Hill) Adams, free people of colour from Maryland, as well as their son Jeremiah, their families, and the contributions Oakville's Black community have made to the growth and prosperity of this area.

**February 21: Out of Many Cultures, One People: An Afro-Caribbean Collective, Artist Reception | At Holcim Gallery, The FirstOntario Arts Centre | @ 2:00pm**

**Register at <https://ccah.ca/bhm2026/>**

Join us for a second art exhibit reception to continue celebrating art and culture. This reception invites visitors to connect more deeply with the exhibition through conversation, community, and shared reflection.

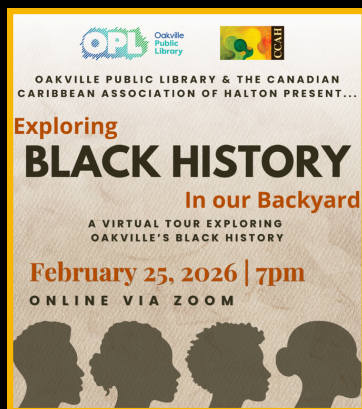
Attendees will have the opportunity to meet several of the featured artists and learn more about their creative practices, inspirations, and the cultural stories reflected in their work.

**February 25: Exploring Black History in our Backyard | In Partnership with Oakville Public Library | At OPL Virtual Branch | Ages 13 and older | @ 7:00pm**

Discover the rich stories, voices and heritage of Black communities in Oakville and area. Join Oakville Public Library and the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton for an engaging virtual session that brings local Black history to life. Together, we'll explore community perspectives and lived experiences that highlight the longstanding presence, contributions and resilience of Black residents.



SCAN TO REGISTER FOR  
BLACK HISTORY IN OUR  
BACK YARD



# BLACK HISTORY CONTINUES BEYOND FEBRUARY

Mark your calendar for April 11 Interfaith event

CCAH & Shaarei-Beth El Congregation  
Presents a

*Multicultural*  
**MUSIC**  
*Event*



Creating Harmony: Sharing Our Stories & Folktales

Join us for an afternoon of cultural fusion  
Two musical traditions. Two styles. One shared experience.

FEATURING CCAH STEEL BAND  
AND THE KLEZMER GROUP.

**APRIL 11, 2026 | PERFORMANCE 1 PM**

All are welcome to attend  
worship service at 10:30 AM

• Light Lunch & Refreshments: 12:30 PM

📍 Shaarei-Beth El Congregation  
186 Morrison Road, Oakville, ON

SHAAREI-BETH EL  
CONGREGATION



CCAH



## Why We Celebrate

Black History Month is a time to reflect on the many histories, cultures, and traditions that have shaped our community. From Africa to the Caribbean and across the diaspora, these stories speak to resilience, creativity, and connection. As we honour the past, we also recognize that this history continues to live through culture, community, and shared experiences today.

# Oakville Piano Studio



INNOVATIVE  
PIANO  
LESSONS

Daniel Fernandez - Piano Instructor

JAZZ - BLUES - POP - CLASSICAL

Tel: 289-644-0055

[www.oakvillepianostudio.com](http://www.oakvillepianostudio.com)

email: [oakvillepianostudio@yahoo.com](mailto:oakvillepianostudio@yahoo.com)





# SIZZLIN' HALTON

## COOKING LESSONS

PRESENTED BY THE  
THE CANADIAN CARIBBEAN  
ASSOCIATION OF HALTON

Get ready to turn up the heat!

Experience the vibrant flavors of the Caribbean with local chefs as they cook up authentic island dishes that will make your taste buds dance.



## COMING SOON !

*Follow us for updates & event date*



# CCAH 2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

*Celebrating 48 years of cultural impact in Halton*

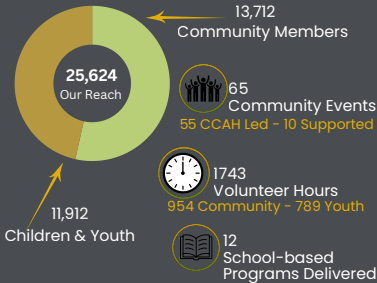
**Message from Sheldon D. Williams,**  
**President, Board of Directors**



As we reflect on the past year, CCAH is filled with gratitude for the support of our staff, volunteers, members, community partners, and funders. We believe arts and culture are an integral component of community well-being and we remain committed to enriching Halton through programs and services that celebrate and promote Canadian Caribbean heritage and culture.



## IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS



## LOOKING AHEAD

2025 marked a year of transition as we celebrated the retirement of long-serving board members Pam Chase and Saud Juman, and welcomed new board members Emmanuel Ibenye, Nerissa Farley, Antoine Aurelis, Olly Hughes, and Alicia Munian. We are grateful to our supporters, volunteers, partners, and the Halton community for a year of growth, inclusion, and impact, and we look ahead to an exciting and impactful 2026.



**Message from Dionne Downer,**  
**Executive Director**



I am proud of what we accomplished in 2025 and the meaningful impact it had on our community. Through accessible programming, we brought people together across generations through film, music, education, summer camp, and Black History Month programming. We look forward to continuing to serve the Halton community with high-quality cultural heritage programming.

## 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

### Black History Month: Creating Harmony

CCAH brought the Halton community together through culturally enriching events celebrating Caribbean and Black heritage. Programming included a high-energy kickoff, live music performances, art exhibits, film screenings, and opportunities to share stories, food, and cultural traditions.

### Music & Cultural Performances

Throughout the year, CCAH delivered intergenerational Steelpan and Parang programs, culminating in vibrant performances for students in classrooms, seniors in residences and long-term care facilities, and community audiences at public events across Halton, including Oakville's Bronte Heritage Waterfront Park.

### Education, Children & Youth

CCAH engaged 35+ schools across Halton, delivering cultural education through music performances, art exhibit tours, film screenings, culinary workshops, and youth empowerment programming. In 2025, 150 youth participated in the Youth Leadership Summer Program, supported by Halton Regional Police Services and Sheridan College. Our fourth annual Summer Day Camp welcomed 280 children over seven weeks, while 20 youth gained hands-on leadership experience through our Leaders in Training program.

### For More Information

Email: [Info@CCAH.ca](mailto:Info@CCAH.ca)

Phone: 905.815.6184

**Mailing Address:**  
2302 Bridge Road  
Oakville, ON L6L 2G6

[www.CCAH.ca](http://www.CCAH.ca)

BN:  
887892446RR0001



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ASSOCIATIONOFHALTON



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Canadian Caribbean  
Association  
of Halton