



Stories

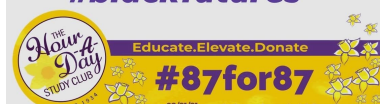
**2021 WINDSOR-ESSEX JOINT
BLACK HISTORY MONTH KICKOFF**
Friday, January 29th, 2021
7:00 P.M. EST on Zoom
(Register through Eventbrite to receive link.)
A free virtual event co-hosted by the
County Black Historical Research Society,
Amherstburg Freedom Museum, and
Windsor West Indian Association.

Windsor-Essex Joint Black History Month Activity Schedule



Say Hello to our Newest Board Director, Cari- Lynn!

**Honouring
#blackhistory
Celebrating
#blackfutures**



The Hour-A-Day Study Club Celebrates 87th Anniversary!

About Us

The Amherstburg Freedom Museum is a curated archive that preserves and shares Amherstburg's stories of the Underground Railroad, and the compassion and solidarity it took to make this network possible.

277 King Street,
Amherstburg, ON N9V 2C7
Phone: 519-736-5433
Email:
curator@amherstburgfreedom.org
www.amherstburgfreedom.org

February 2021



Windsor-Essex Joint Black History Month Activity Schedule

Essex County is rich in Black history. Canadians of African descent have played important roles in the cultural, political, social, and economic progress of our communities. Our region has been populated by people of African descent from the 18th century, when free Black Loyalists as well as enslaved Africans were among the area's early residents; to the 19th century when formerly enslaved African Americans and free people of colour streamed into this area by the thousands, fleeing either bondage or oppression; to the modern era when immigrants from the continent of Africa and the Caribbean made this region their new home.

Here are some of the Black History Month events happening around our region... mostly online this year.

January 29, 2021 - The annual Windsor-Essex Black History Month Kick-Off will be happening virtually at 7pm, featuring Black history highlights, poetry, dance, and music. This free event is hosted by the Essex County Black Historical Research Society, the Windsor West Indian Association, and the Amherstburg Freedom Museum. We will publicly recognize the importance of Black History Month as well as encourage the community to participate in the array of Black History Month events happening locally. Guest artists will include Teajai Travis, Florine Ndimubandi, Kionna Wilson, Brett Logan, Nadine Manroe, Hidaya Diaspora Junior Dance Group, and Black Kids in Action Performing Arts Group. Register at [2021 Windsor-Essex Joint Black History Month Kickoff Tickets, Fri, 29 Jan 2021 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](#).

January 31, 2021 - The Ontario Black History Society will host its annual Black History Month Kick-Off "History...Who Are We!" virtually at 1pm. The program will feature community recognition profiles, Black history, entertainment, museum tours and so much more. To register, please go to [2021 Black History Month Kick-Off - History...Who We Are! Tickets, Sun, 31 Jan 2021 at 1:00 PM | Eventbrite](#).

February 1, 2021 - The River Bookshop is happy to partner with Amherstburg Freedom Museum to bring together a display celebrating Black History Month in windows of the River Bookshop (located at 67 Richmond Street, Amherstburg). The window displays will feature Black authors and books that talk about racial equality. Look for the moving artifacts that the Museum has loaned us for our displays. The River Bookshop is open for curbside pickup 12-5pm daily, online and phone orders welcome! For more information, please visit www.riverbookshop.com

February 1, 2021 - The River Bookshop is happy to partner with Amherstburg Freedom Museum to feature a curated selection of books with a broad range of titles in celebration of Black History Month which can be purchased online at www.riverbookshop.com. Readers that purchase any of these books during the month of February will qualify for a draw to win one of three Amherstburg Freedom Museum t-shirts. The River Bookshop is open for curbside pickup 12-5pm daily, online and phone orders welcome! For more information, please visit www.riverbookshop.com. Follow Museum Windsor on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MuseumWindsor>.

The Talking Drum

The Talking Drum is published monthly by the Amherstburg Freedom Museum. Contributions, story ideas, suggestions and feedback are always welcome. Please contact Mary-Katherine Whelan at curator@amherstburgfreedom.org

277 King Street,
Amherstburg, ON N9V 2C7
519-736-5433 or
800-713-6336 toll free
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monty Logan, President

Barbara Porter,
Vice- President

Gary Jean, Treasurer

Philip H. Alexander,
Secretary

J. Trisha Bray, Director

Dr. Barbara Hughes Smith,
Director

Sheneese Johnson,
Director

Dr. Brenda McCurdy,
Director

Marcia Pivotte,
Director

David Van Dyke,
Director

STAFF

Dr. Lorene Bridgen-Lennie,
Assistant Curator

Mary-Katherine Whelan,
Curator/Manager of
Collections and Research

PART-TIME
Aanand Ayra
Fardovza Kusow



Windsor-Essex Joint Black History Month Activity Schedule

February 1-28, 2021 – Museum Windsor will feature a series of Facebook posts which will highlight various parts of their Black history-related collections throughout the month of February

February 1-28, 2021 – The Windsor Public Library, John Muir Library at 363 Mill Street is offering a calendar for the month of February featuring Windsor Public Library resources honouring Black history. The public can pick up the calendar and discover Black History Month resources for children, youth, and adults. For information contact Ms. Janet Brown, 519-255-6770 ext. 7700 or jbrown@windsorpubliclibrary.com.

February 1-28, 2021 – February 2021 marks the 87th anniversary of the Hour-A-Day Study Club, Canada's oldest African Canadian women's organization. The Club is launching an \$87 for 87 Scholarship Drive. Community members are encouraged to donate \$87 to commemorate the 87th anniversary of the Hour-A-Day Study Club. Donations help the Club in their efforts to help Black students pursue their post-secondary education goals. Donations at houradaystudyclub.donations@gmail.com are welcome. In addition, 2021 scholarship applications for Underground Railroad descendants are now available at www.houradaystudyclub.org or can be requested at the.hour.a.day.study.club@gmail.com.

February 2, 2021 – Join Mayor Drew Dilkens as the City of Windsor recognizes Black History Month with a virtual event, including a special announcement, 10:00am-11:00am. Featured guests include Teajai Travis, Irene Moore Davis, Poet Laureate Mary Ann Mulhern, John Elliott, Michelle Staadegaard, Elana Freeman, and Councillor Fabio Costante. Look for the link on the City of Windsor web site and social media pages.

February 2, 2021 - The Amherstburg Freedom Museum will host NSCAD University Canada Research Chair in Transatlantic Black Diasporic Art and Community Engagement, Dr. Charmaine A. Nelson, on their Facebook page. She will present "Enslaved and Free Black Presence, Experience and Representation in Quebec Winter." Happening Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 2pm. <https://www.facebook.com/AmherstburgFreedom>

February 4, 2021 – Dr. Ingrid Waldron, Director of the Environmental Noxiousness, Racial Inequities, and Community Health Project (ENRICH) at Dalhousie University will offer a virtual talk, "Mapping Racial Geographies of Violence on the Colonial Landscape," at 4:30pm February 4, 2021. Dr. Waldron has been Director of ENRICH for eight years, investigating the socio-economic, political, and health effects of environmental racism and other public infrastructure inequalities in Mi'kmaq and African Nova Scotian communities. Her work was the subject of the 2019 Netflix documentary, *There's Something in the Water*. The 2021 Distinguished Lecture of the Windsor Yearbook of Access to Justice is presented by the Cities and Climate Action Forum, Windsor Law, and the Windsor Law Centre for Cities. Register for this Zoom event by going to bit.ly/A2Jlecture.

February 4, 2021 – The Arts Council Windsor & Region presents a panel discussion, "When We Say It – How to Talk About Anti-Black Racism" at February 4, 2021 at 7pm, featuring participants Dr. Natalie Delia Deckard, Camisha Sibblis, and Josh Lamers along with moderator Talysha Bujold-Abu. "When We Say It" is a gathering of community and cultural leaders, an opportunity to hear feedback in how we (as BIPOC individuals and allies) define, approach, and continually challenge anti-Black racism. Register at [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#).

February 9, 2021 - Amherstburg Freedom Museum Assistant Curator, Dr. Lorene Bridgen-Lennie, will present "From the Outside Looking In: Paying Tribute to Essex County's Black Canadian Families" to the Essex County Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society. Happening at 7pm. To register for this event, click [here](#).

February 10-28, 2021 – The Coalition for Justice Unity Equity "Youth in Action Club" presents a virtual showcase on the Coalition for Justice Unity Equity Facebook page and on the www.cjue.org web site, "2nd Annual Wall of Fame with a Twist!" Each day the page will feature posters created by youth, inspired by their favourite historical figures.



Windsor-Essex Joint Black History Month Activity Schedule

February 16, 2021—The River Bookshop is happy to partner with Amherstburg Freedom Museum in hosting a presentation by Bernice Carnegie, the daughter of hockey hero Herb Carnegie and author of the book, *A Fly in the Pail of Milk*.

February 18, 2021 - Amherstburg Freedom Museum Curator/Administrator, Mary-Katherine Whelan and Assistant Curator, Dr. Lorene Bridgen-Lennie will join a panel discussion hosted by the Ontario Black History Society, along with representatives from the Guelph Black Heritage Society, North Buxton Museum, and Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site. They will discuss topics such as the existence of Black heritage, the history of each Museum, the work that they do, and the importance of supporting them and working together to preserve Black history. Happening at 7pm. Link can be found on Amherstburg Freedom Museum social media pages.

February 18, 2021 – Join the Essex County Black Historical Research Society online as we welcome special guest presenter Lisa Lee, all the way from Madagascar! Originally a Detroit, Ms. Lee is a descendant of the Lee family of Windsor-Essex County. She will present a talk on the lives of the Lees in slavery and freedom. Happening at 7pm. To register for this event, please e-mail ecbhrs@gmail.com.

February 21, 2021 – The Windsor West Indian Association's annual Black History Tea is happening virtually at 1pm. For information, call (519) 945-0213 or e-mail wwiavp@bellnet.ca.

February 22, 2021—The Amherstburg Freedom Museum will host a virtual art auction. See their social media pages for more details.

February 25, 2021 – Join the Ontario Heritage Trust for a free virtual event, *Heritage Matters* with Esi Edugyan, 5pm. Bestselling author and two-time Scotiabank Giller Prize winner Esi Edugyan will offer an exclusive talk on her internationally acclaimed novel *Washington Black*, touching on the themes of Black heritage, identity, belonging, and displacement. The broadcast will include a virtual visit to Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site and a question-and-answer segment with Edugyan that features questions from youth and leaders from Ontario's Black heritage community. Space is limited so pre-registration is required. Register at [Heritage Matters Live with Esi Edugyan - Ontario Heritage Trust](#).

February 26, 2021 - Black Kids in Action Performing Arts Group will perform a monologue titled "How did we get here?" on their [YouTube Page](#).

February 27, 2021 – Nigerian Canadians for Cultural, Educational and Economic Progress (NCCEEP) will host a free virtual event, 6-7:30pm, focused on The Principles of Omoluabi, including courage, hard work, humility, goodwill, communication skills, and respect. Join in a virtual celebration of the past as well as the history being created today for future generations, with history highlights as well as arts and cultural performances. For information and registration please contact NCCEEP at ncceepwindsor@gmail.com.

February 28, 2021 – The young people of the Windsor West Indian Association, Black Boys Code, and the Youth Connection Association will offer a virtual presentation titled "The Best Way to Predict the Future Is to Create It," 11am-1pm. For information, call (519) 945-0213 or e-mail wwiavp@bellnet.ca.

Note: This activity schedule is a living document.



Say Hello to our Newest Board Director, Cari-Lynn!

The Amherstburg Freedom Museum is excited to introduce its newest Board Director, Cari-Lynn Ristic. Here are some things that Cari-Lynn would like you to know about her. She and her husband of nineteen years, Goran, are blessed with two children, Isabella, 17 years old and Matteo, 15 years old. They live in Windsor, Ontario.

Cari-Lynn has worked for Ford Motor Company, Dearborn Michigan, for 22 years and has held positions in Manufacturing, Engineering, and Quality. She is currently a Launch Manager for the Ford Edge and Lincoln Nautilus vehicle lines.

Cari-Lynn has a Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering from GMI Engineering and Management Institute and a Master of Science, Engineering Management from the University of Michigan. She is also a member of Alpha Gamma Delta. Very impressive!

In College, she learned the importance of “Each One, Teach One” and therefore dedicates time to mentoring and participating in S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics) programs sponsored through Ford and the Detroit Public School System.

Cari-Lynn enjoys spending time with her family including their weekly “Family Cook-in” where they choose a new recipe and cook together. She loves music and in the warm months can be spotted, with AirPods on, biking around the neighbourhood or singing to her favorite tune while tending to her garden.

She is excited to join the Amherstburg Freedom Museum Board and contribute to the local community, and we are thrilled to have Cari-Lynn as a member of the Board of Directors. Welcome!



The Perfect Gift



Are you looking for the perfect gift for friends and family? We're here to help. The Amherstburg Freedom Museum is offering this embossed bag tag that features the Amherstburg Freedom Museum logo. Put it on your luggage, golf bag, backpack or purse. The possibilities are endless!

All you have to do is **give a donation of \$35** and this bag tag will be yours, along with a \$15 tax receipt. The tag has a brown leather strap and a nickel medallion with Amherstburg Freedom Museum logo surrounded by a border of leather. The medallion with surrounding leather (not including the strap) measures 88.9mm x 77.6mm. To order, please call **519-736-5433**. Quantities are limited. Happy



The Hour-A-Day Study Club Celebrates 87th Anniversary!

The African proverb “it takes a village to raise a child” is a widely known and powerful belief system that is the foundation of many communities worldwide. For the Hour-A-Day Study Club women, this proverb still rings true over eight decades after the establishment of the organization. The Hour-A-Day Study Club, founded in February of 1934 by 15* Black women from the Windsor-Essex county community, were descendants of the Underground Railroad. These hardworking, dedicated, and modest women were faithful matriarchs in their homes, churches, and community. The dedicated efforts of these women were passed down generation after generation. It is imperative to recognize their contributions and place in Canadian history.

When first established, the Hour-A-Day Study Club was known as the Mother's Club. The women spent much of their time nurturing the youth in the community and advocating with families on issues such as equitable access to education and working against segregation in Ontario schools. The Club's name eventually changed to The Hour-A-Day Study Club to convey the notion that if you spend at least one hour a day on something that is of interest to you, you will soon be able to master that skill over time. The Hour-A-Day Study Club proudly recognizes that it is the oldest Black women's organization in Canada. Former Club President, Mrs. Gloria Hidi, created the acronym D.O.T.U.R (Daughters Of The Underground Railroad) to describe who the Club members are and what they represent. The membership legacy continues as there are third and even fourth-generation members that are part of the Club today. Many of the members can trace their Underground Railroad heritage back at least six or seven generations.

Exploring the Hour-A-Day Study Club's documented history is like stepping into a time capsule that reveals our world almost nine decades ago. We are fortunate enough to have the Amherstburg Freedom Museum house many of our archives. An extraordinary piece of information included in the Club's meeting minutes taken April 4, 1968, reveals the precise moment the women stopped the meeting and said a prayer in recognition of live news broadcast reports of the assassination of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, jr. The Club would send a telegram to the King family to offer condolences.

The meetings also served as an opportunity for the women to meet and discuss topics important to the local community and larger global issues that would impact the Black population in Canada and the United States. Books, art, and travel were also popular topics of discussion. Meetings were about culture and “uplifting the race.” These women lived in an era where anti-Black racism was arguably perceived as more overt than today. Black people in the United States still did not have the right to vote, and Black people in Windsor were victims of housing and job discrimination and endured many more of the indignities that continue to plague our modern society.

The women hosted annual cultural programming events featuring various local and internationally known entertainers. Additionally, they organized High-Tea events for prominent Black women, such as education pioneer Mary McLeod Bethune and, the first Black woman to run for President of the United States, Ms. Shirley Chisholm. These women also lent their voices to the civil rights movement at home and abroad during the 1950' and 60's. However, promoting and advocating for the cause of education was and remained at the forefront of the Club's efforts.





The Hour-A-Day Study Club Celebrates 87th Anniversary!

Dismantling anti-Black racism is at the core of the Hour-A-Day Study Club's work. The efforts made to raise funds for scholarships and bursaries help eliminate potential barriers Black youth face in pursuit of post-secondary education. This work is vital to the cultural preservation and legacy of trailblazing women; D.O.T.U.R.'s, whose strength, resilience, and perseverance, is revered and shall endure for another 87 years.

To find out more about The Hour-A-Day Study Club, please email at the.hour.a.day.study.club@gmail.com or visit us online via our social media channels.

Marium Tolson-Murttty

President

The Hour-A-Day Study Club

Raquel Hurst

Vice-President

The Hour-A-Day Study Club

houradaystudyclub.org

Houradaystudyclub.donations@gmail.com

The.hour.a.day.study.club@gmail.com

#87for87

***Founding Members:**

Mrs. Samuel Bishop

Mrs. Joseph (Gladys) Browning

Mrs. Minnie Chickee

Mrs. Thomas Christian

Mrs. Daisy Craven

Mrs. Rachel Harding

Mrs. James (Ardella) Jacobs

Mrs. George Lucas

Mrs. Charles G. (Vivian) Nall

Mrs. Alton Parker

Mrs. F.O. (Verna) Stewart

Mrs. Lloyd J. (Elizabeth) Washington

Mrs. Forest S. Watkins

Mrs. Homer Watkins

Mrs. George White

Charitable Gaming.



Community Good.

Amherstburg Freedom Museum would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to **Charitable Gaming Windsor** and **Paradise Gaming Centre** for their continued support. Throughout the years, they have helped us keep the Museum open and running, and allowed for us to continue to offer our programming throughout the pandemic. Thank you!



A Presentation by Dr. Charmaine Nelson

Happening live on our Facebook page **/AmherstburgFreedom/** on February 2nd at 2pm —
“Enslaved and Free Black Presence, Experience, and Representation in the Quebec Winter”

Amherstburg Freedom Museum Hosts

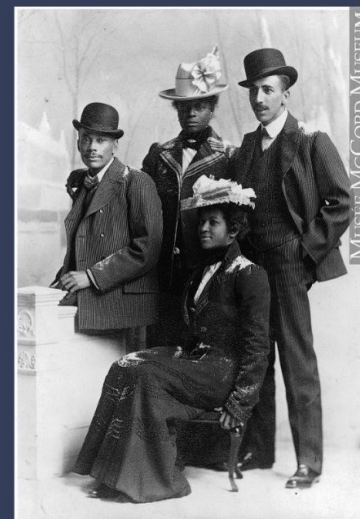
Enslaved and Free Black Presence, Experience, and Representation in the Quebec Winter

A Presentation by NSCAD University Canada
Research Chair in Transatlantic Black Diasporic
Art and Community Engagement,
Dr. Charmaine A. Nelson



Photo Credit: Charles Michael

Tuesday,
February 2nd
at 2pm



LIVE on our Facebook Page
/AmherstburgFreedom/

Subscribe Today!



Give a Gift, and Preserve History!

Donate to help us to preserve, protect, and display historic treasures. Every gift is tax-deductible in Canada or the United States.

General subscriber benefits include:

Unlimited 1 year free admissions, Invitation to preview exhibition openings, 10% off all items in museum store and name listed in monthly newsletter (with permission), introduction to genealogy research library.

\$20 Seniors (age 65+)

\$25 Students (age 5-22)

\$35 Adults (age 23-64)

\$120 Family (family of 5)

\$100 to \$499 SUPPORTER

All the above plus a beautiful Certificate of subscription, suitable for framing, that recognizes your participation as a Member.

\$500 to \$999 CONTRIBUTOR

All the above plus an invitation to one special event, one exhibition opening or subscriber-only event.

\$10,000+ Legacy

All the above plus recognition on Museum's Donor Wall. Plus two tickets to all events and recognition on our social media pages.



A registered charitable organization in Canada and the United States.

It all starts with a subscription...

Become a subscriber today!

Primary member name:

Mr. Ms. Miss. Dr.

Birthday

Second member name:

Mr. Ms. Miss. Dr.

Birthday

Mailing address:

City: _____ Province/State _____

Postal code: _____

Home phone: _____

Cell/business phone: _____

Email address: _____

Payment information

Total subscriber dues \$ _____

Annual Fund donation: \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Check # _____ Check date _____

Payable to Amherstburg Freedom Museum



Card # _____

Expiration date _____ Security code _____

Signature _____

Thank you for your support!



Our Supporters

Gerard Aching
Nancy Allen
Gayle Allinotte
Kit Andres
Elsie Bishop
Charlie Bray
Joan (Trisha) Bray
Janisse Browning-Miller
Terryll Chase
Marlene Crepp
Irene Moore-Davis
Lloyd Dean
Leroy Gray
Locketa Gray
Donald Harris
Janice Harris
Edith Helm
Paul Hertel
Ute Hertel
Raquel Hurst
Hallee Hurst
Ivy Johnson
Milo Johnson
Sheila Johnson
Thomas Karle
Carol Laforet
Dileana Larkin
Lois Larkin
Brian Lennie
Richard B. Leveque
Florence Logan
Linda Logan
Wayne Logan
Hazel MacDonald
Connie Mathieson
Tim McAllister
Violet McAllister
Cleata Morris
Reuben Munday
Colleen Peddie
Richard Peddie
Shirley Pulley
Colleen Reid
Joyce Robbins
Carolynne Rourke
Donna Scott
Claudia Shreve Allen
Frank Simone
Allen Simpson
Frieda Steele
Norma Sutherland
Marilyn Sutton

Mable Thomas
Harlis Thompson
Sharon Thompson Anderson
Anastasia Timakis
Rebecca Underwood
Glendora Watkins
Janet Willoughby
Debora Wynn

Group Subscriptions:

Caesars Windsor
Distinguished Women of International Services
Hour-A-Day Study Club
James H. Sutton Funeral Home
Meloche's No Frills
Past Masters in Hair

Family Subscriptions:

Bridgen, Ruth and Sam
Dipasquale Family
Gbadamosi Family:
Babatunde, Mojisola, Oiuwadamilola,
Goldin Family:
Harold, Shirley, Ephraim, Malique, Phyllis Oppen
Hurst Family:
Maynard, Marva and Monique Hurst
Taylor Family:
Ronald Taylor, Judith Taylor, Andrea Taylor-Butts, Tim Taylor,
Ristic Family:
Cari-Lynn, Goran, Isabella, and Matteo
White Family:
Gary, Leticia, Karen, Janet, Christopher, Steffanie

In Memoriam

Anna Louella (Talbot) White - In Loving Memory - Your Son, Gary L. White (\$250 donation)

**To
renew your subscription or to make a donation, please call
the Museum at 519-736-5433. Subscription dues and
donations support exhibitions and the daily expenses of
operating the Museum. Whether you visit once a month or a
few times over the year, you enjoy the benefits of
subscription and your support helps to ensure that this
incredible Museum will remain a vital source of history,**