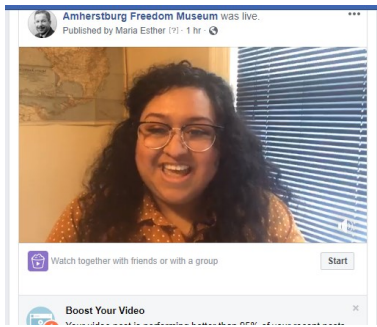




# The TALKING DRUM

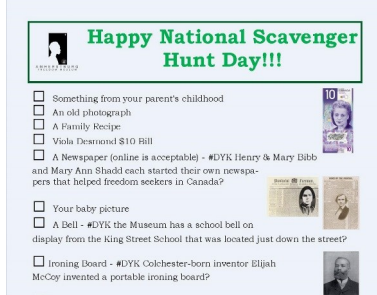
## Stories



### A Recap of “Borderlands & River Crossers”



### Amherstburg Food & Fellowship Mission in Need of Face Masks



### Black History Scavenger Hunt Activity

## 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:

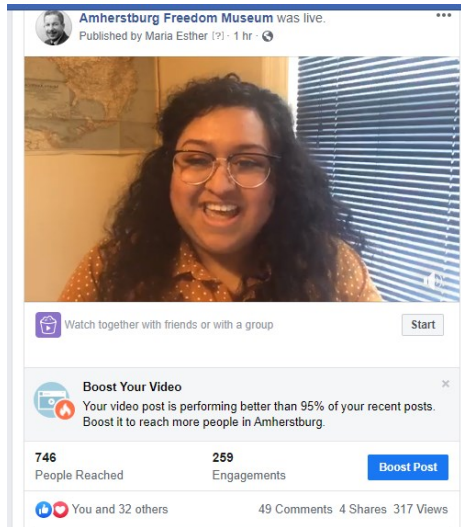
[curator@amherstburgfreedom.org](mailto:curator@amherstburgfreedom.org)

[www.amherstburgfreedom.org](http://www.amherstburgfreedom.org)

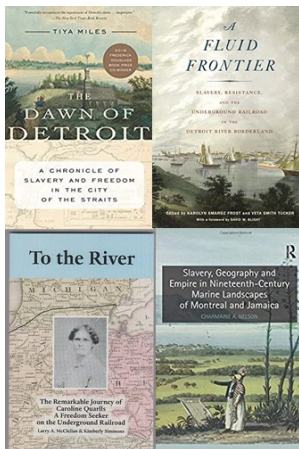


## A Recap of “Borderlands & River Crossers”

On Friday, May 8th the Amherstburg Freedom Museum was lucky enough to host a presentation from PhD Candidate and Fulbright Canada Researcher, Maria Esther Hammack, live on our Facebook page. She presented “Borderlands & River Crossers: Re-Examining Freedom & Safe Havens in Upper Canada” which included a discussion of slavery and its abolition in Upper Canada and comparisons to Mexico. Maria also shared narratives of Freedom Seekers to show how some found freedom in Canada, while others sadly did not. These narratives include a woman named Charlotte who crossed the Detroit River and arrived in Amherstburg in the Winter of 1840 and a man named Nelson Hackett who arrived in 1841, but was tragically returned to the United States.



If you missed Maria’s presentation, it can still be viewed on our Facebook page—<https://www.facebook.com/AmherstburgFreedom/videos/164782978290836/>



Maria also provided a list of books she recommends which includes:

- The Dawn of Detroit: A Chronicle of Slavery and Freedom in the City of the Straits*** by Tiya Miles
- A Fluid Frontier: Slavery, Resistance, and the Underground Railroad in the Detroit River Borderland*** edited by Karolyn Smardz Frost and Veta Smith Tucker
- To the River: The Remarkable Journey of Caroline Quarlls, an Underground Railroad Freedom Seeker*** by Larry McClellan and Kimberly Simmons
- Slavery, Geography and Empire in Nineteenth-Century Marine Landscapes of Montreal and Jamaica*** by Charmaine A. Nelson
- Our Own Two Hands, A History of Black Lives in Windsor from the 1700s Forward*** by Irene Moore Davis (forthcoming publication)
- Canadian Cultural Heritage*** by Rosemary Sadlier
- “Where Are the Black People: Teaching Black History in Ontario, Canada” by Natasha Henry (found in the book ***Perspectives of Black Histories in Schools***)

## 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](mailto:curator@amherstburgfreedom.org)

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Aanand Ayrá



## Annual General Meeting—June 20th

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Mark your calendars! The Amherstburg Freedom Museum is having its Annual General Meeting on **Saturday, June 20th** at 11-12pm? The meeting will happen online and all you have to do is go to the link provided below.

<https://bit.ly/2Xl4O80> Or join by phone:  
+1 647-749-7645 Conference ID: 772  
381 284# *We hope you can join us!*

### The Mask Challenge

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While looking on the website for the Amherstburg Food & Fellowship Mission, we noticed that they are in urgent need of certain items. In addition to bleach and Lysol disinfectant wipes, they are in need of face masks.



If you know how to sew face masks, we ask that you consider donating them to the Amherstburg Food & Fellowship Mission. They have continued to serve meals and run their food bank for those in need throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and this is a simple way that you can give back.

To donate or to learn about more ways that you can assist the Amherstburg Food & Fellowship Mission, go to their website <https://aburgmission.ca/> or call 519-736-9140.

Thank you!



## Reminder: Ribs and Ragtime Cancelled

Dear Amherstburg Museum Supporters and Friends,

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Amherstburg Freedom Museum Board of Directors has decided to **cancel** *Ribs and Ragtime* this year.

*Ribs and Ragtime* is one of the Museum's signature fundraising events. An outdoor garden party featuring a delicious meal of ribs and chicken accompanied by live music and good company hosted on the Museum grounds.

This signature fundraising event helps keep the Museum doors open to the public, keeps the lights on and employs staff to facilitate and educate visitors on the importance of the underground railroad in this region and the legacy of those freedom seekers who made the perilous journey to freedom in Canada.

As the future is still uncertain, we ask that if you were planning on purchasing tickets for our *Ribs and Ragtime* event, to please consider donating to the Amherstburg Freedom Museum. Donations over \$10 will receive a tax receipt.

Everyone please stay safe!

Donations can be made online at [amherstburgfreedom.org/donate](https://amherstburgfreedom.org/donate) or can be sent by mail to;

Amherstburg Freedom Museum  
277 King Street  
Amherstburg, ON  
N9V 2C7

We thank you for your understanding and continued support.

With Sincere Thanks,

*Barbara Porter*

Vice-President and Fundraising Chair  
Amherstburg Freedom Museum









## May 24th - National Scavenger Hunt Day

May 24th was **National Scavenger Hunt Day** and we created this scavenger hunt that you can do at home. Enjoy!



# Happy National Scavenger Hunt Day!!!

- Something from your parent's childhood
- An old photograph
- A Family Recipe
- Viola Desmond \$10 Bill 
- A Newspaper (online is acceptable) - #DYK Henry & Mary Bibb and Mary Ann Shadd each started their own newspapers that helped freedom seekers in Canada? 
- Your baby picture
- A Bell - #DYK the Museum has a school bell on display from the King Street School that was located just down the street?
- Ironing Board - #DYK Colchester-born inventor Elijah McCoy invented a portable ironing board? 
- A Tea Pot (tea kettle is acceptable) - #DYK Freedom Seeker William Hope established a pottery plant, called Potterville, in Colchester South for the manufacture of fine china?
- A Baseball Card (other sports cards are acceptable)- #DYK Chatham-born Fergie Jenkins was the National League strikeout leader in 1969?
- A Map - #DYK Freedom Seekers traveled from the United States and crossed the Detroit River into places like Amherstburg to find freedom?
- An Instrument - #DYK Amherstburg-born Shelton Brooks was a famous piano player, composer and entertainer? 





## Donate to any charity in Canada this June and automatically give them a chance to WIN \$20,000 during the Great Canadian Giving Challenge #GivingChallengeCA



### Every \$1\* donated in June is a chance to WIN!

Donate to any charity in Canada this June and automatically give them a chance to WIN \$20,000 during the Great Canadian Giving Challenge.

As charities continue to support our most vulnerable community members affected by COVID-19, food banks, mental health crisis lines, homeless shelters, and other frontline charities need urgent support. Plus, the cancellation of in-person fundraising events and activities are putting some charities such as art galleries, festivals, and others at risk of permanently closing their doors. Now more than ever, your favourite charity needs your support.

### You can support your favourite charity today by joining the challenge! Here's how to get started:

- 1 Search**  
Find a charity you want to help win.
- 2 Donate**  
Every \$1 donated on CanadaHelps.org is a chance to win!
- 3 Celebrate**  
The winner will be announced on July 1st, 2020!

You can support the museum by clicking this [link](#) or by visiting <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/north-american-black-historical-museum-incorporated/>

## Mac Simpson Award Application — Attention All Students!



The submission deadline for eligible students to apply for the Mac Simpson Award is Monday June 10, 2020. The Mac Simpson Award is given annually to at least one student of African descent who is currently attending a secondary school in the Essex County region and will be commencing post-secondary studies in September 2020 on a full-time basis. If eligible and would like to apply click here for more information - [amherstburgfreedom.org/mac-simpson-award/](http://amherstburgfreedom.org/mac-simpson-award/).

To donate to this important scholarship, please go to our website at [amherstburgfreedom.org](http://amherstburgfreedom.org) or call us at 519-736-5433.

# 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+)**

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### **\$10,000+ Legacy**

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Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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**Thank you for your support!**



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### 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, culture and inspiration for generations to come.**