

Stories



Dress For the Red Carpet— Emancipation Celebration 2019



Walter Perry Golf Classic



Freedom Achievers Program

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.

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September 2019



Dress For the Red Carpet—Emancipation Celebration 2019

Guests dressed for the red carpet at our Emancipation Celebration on August 2nd. Thank you to everyone who came out to support the museum including MP Tracey Ramsey, MP Cheryl Hardcastle, MPP Lisa Gretzky, MPP Percy Hatfield, and members of Amherstburg Town Council - Mike Prue, Patricia Simone and Don McArthur, in addition to the Windsor Police and the staff of Arbor Memorial. We are also grateful to **TD Bank** and **LiUNA!** 625 for their generous sponsorship. Additional thanks to all of our volunteers who made the evening a success!

The evening's program was led by our amazing MC and Board Director Dr. Brenda McCurdy and there were several highlights including a presentation and performance from ACT, the AFM Legacy Hero Award which was given to the late Alton C. Parker and accepted by his granddaughter Cherie Steele Sexton, and fantastic music from the band Sound Drive. We also had the pleasure of awarding our Mac Simpson Academic Scholarship to three amazing students - Hallee Kejick, Lyric Davis and Manar Kowa. What a fantastic night!







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

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Dress For the Red Carpet—Emancipation Celebration 2019

















Walter Perry Emancipation Golf Classic

























Photography Exhibit

Our Summer employees, Hallee and Erin, researched early photography and created this display for visitors to enjoy. Highlights include the different types of photography, Blackowned photography studios, and female photographers. Stop by to take a look! Attention subscribers! Free admission is included in



your subscription. Not yet a subscribers? Sign up today by filling out a subscription form included in the *Talking Drum*.

A Special Visit



On August 21st, we had some very special guests visit the museum. The grandchildren of Museum founders, Betty and Mac Simpson, Richard and Janisse, in addition to Janisse's son, Cyrus, stopped in to say hello. It was great to catch up and hear their memories of the Museum and Mac and Betty. Thanks for visiting!



Freedom Achievers Program—Donate Today!

BLACK HISTORY, UNIVERSAL INSPIRATION

Dear Freedom Achievers Supporter,



The town of Amherstburg has one of Southern Ontario's richest histories, especially when discussing its significance on the Underground Railroad. The Amherstburg Freedom Museum's Nazrey A.M.E. Church was a haven for countless African Americans fleeing enslavement and offered these newcomers the assistance they needed to start their new life in freedom. This Church remains a tribute to the bravery and perseverance of Black settlers.

It was Mac and Betty Simpson's dream to build a museum that preserved our heritage and shared Black history with the world. They believed that social, economic and educational problems could be addressed more effectively by people with a greater self-awareness and pride in their own history. Our goal is to share this impactful history with people of all ages, which is why we hosted The Amherstburg Freedom Summit that welcomed young persons of colour and asked them to discuss the challenges they face, but also solutions to create positive change.

A prevailing suggestion was a mentorship program and speaker series, which is why we have created the Freedom Achievers Program. Our initiative includes a mentoring program that will recruit successful achievers as mentors in professional fields such as First Responders, S.T.E.M., Arts & Entertainment, Education, Legal, Medical, Business & Finance. The mentoring sessions will provide insight into career options and actively engage with mentees. We will also host a High-Profile Speakers Series called "Achieving Freedom in the 21st Century" that welcomes at least four diverse high-profile community builders to discuss the challenges they faced and how they challenged issues such as racism, gender inequality and homophobia to create positive change.

We are partnering with the Amherstburg Community Foundation on this event and we are thrilled that Dwane Casey, Head Coach of the Detroit Pistons, will kick off our High-Profile Speakers Series, but we need your help to make this happen. Even the smallest donation can help us achieve our goal of \$39,000. To donate, go to amherstburgfreedom.org or call the Museum, 519-736-5433. Let's work together to create a path to success for the youth of Essex County.

Sincerely,

Monty Logan

President, Amherstburg Freedom Museum monty.logan@amherstburgfreedom.org



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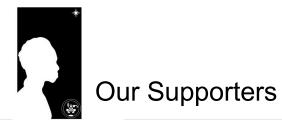
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