



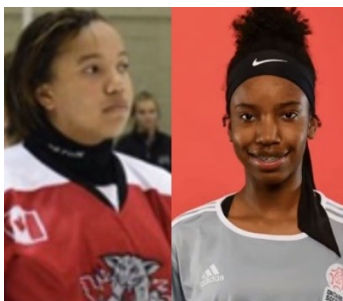
## Stories



**Amherstburg  
Freedom Museum  
Presents No. 2  
Construction  
Battalion photo to  
2 Legion Branches**



**Ribs & Ragtime!**



**Freedom  
Achievers  
Spotlight—  
Paikea &  
Thandiwe  
Baylis!**

## 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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**June 2022**



## No. 2 Construction Battalion Photo Presentation to Legions



In May, the Amherstburg Freedom Museum presented photographs of the No. 2 Construction Battalion to two local branches of the Royal Canadian Legion. On May 19th, AFM Board President Monty Logan presented Fort Malden Branch 157 with a photograph and on May 26th, AFM Board Vice President Barbara Porter presented Branch 255 (Windsor) with a photo. We are also grateful to Branch 255 for

generously donating \$1,000 to the Museum! This is the 2nd and 3rd photo presentation we've done. Can't wait for the next.

### Queen's Platinum Jubilee



On Saturday, May 21st, AFM Board President Monty Logan represented the Museum at a roundtable meeting at the Gordon House with

Lieutenant Governor of Ontario Elizabeth Dowdeswell. Monty had the opportunity to speak about the Museum.

### 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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Emily Weber





## Ribs & Ragtime

Happening Saturday, June 11th—Ribs and Ragtime! For tickets, go to

<http://www.randr2022.givesmart.com>

**RIBS AND RAGTIME**

HOSTED BY THE AMHERSTBURG  
FREEDOM MUSEUM

**4PM-8PM**

SATURDAY JUNE 11, 2022

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FEATURING  
**RENEE KING-JACKSON**

TICKETS  
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THIS YEAR WE ARE  
HONOURING THE NO. 2  
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REGIMENT

EACH GUEST IN  
ATTENDANCE WILL RECEIVE  
ONE REPLICIA CREST\*

\*WHILE SUPPLIES LAST, SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED

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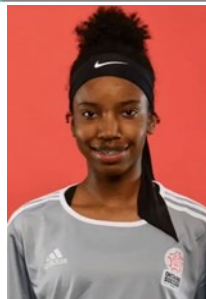
## Freedom Achievers Spotlight



Name: Paikea Baylis

Age: 17 years

Grade: 12



Name: Thandiwe Baylis

Age: 14 years

Grade: 9

**School:** Sandwich Secondary School

**Hometown:** LaSalle, ON

**Parents:** Patrick Baylis and Colleen Sterling

**Question to Paikea:** What are your hobbies or extra-curricular activities?

**Answer:** I like to go on bike rides and hang out with friends. I am on the soccer team at school. I also volunteer coach with Windsor Minor Hockey. It's fun to watch other players get better. Hockey was the sport that I played growing up. I played for the Windsor Wildcats.

**Question to Paikea:** What was it like being a Black girl playing hockey?

**Answer:** It was definitely challenging at times. The sport never really loved me back. I played forward. There were team members and players that would try to put me down and being the only Black girl of my age group in Essex County it was hard for me to find a safe space in the sport. I started playing at age of 5 years and kept playing because it was something I really loved to do outside of school. I really enjoyed playing with friends.

**Question to Paikea:** What advice do you have for young girls who want to play hockey?

**Answer:** No matter how hard someone tries to knock you down over the sport you love, keep your head up. The ideology of talent and success based on skin color is still in people's mind set. But don't let that get to you, push through the negative.

**Question to Paikea:** Tell me about your fondest memory on the ice rink.

**Answer:** Meeting Hayley Wickenheiser (former Captain of the Canadian Women's Olympic team) at the Olympic Center in Calgary. She was hosting an annual hockey tournament. During the tournament, I was awarded one of the game MVPs. Although my team lost that game, just meeting her and receiving the MVP award was awesome.



*Paikea on the ice*



## Freedom Achievers Spotlight

**Question to Thandiwe:** What are your hobbies or extra-curricular activities?

**Answer:** I enjoy talking with my friends, and going on social media to see what's new. At school, I play on the soccer team and run track (1500m, 800m, & 3000m). Outside of school, I play with the Tecumseh soccer club.

**Question to Thandiwe:** What's it like being a Black girl playing soccer?

**Answer:** Pretty awesome! I'm proud to be "one of the only's" on the field. I have the ability and skill. I view it as my time to shine. I also enjoy having fun with my teammates. We work hard and it shows in the games that we play.



*Thandiwe on the soccer field*

**Question to Paikea:** What do you plan to study in University? Why?

**Answer:** Biochemistry and then do a post grad for Nurse Practitioner. I'm really into the sciences and I like to talk to people and get to know them so this seems like a good fit.

*Thandiwe was recently selected to join the Ontario Excel Provincial soccer team.*

**Thandiwe Question:** What happens next now that you've been selected to play for the provincial soccer team?

**Answer:** I'll travel to Toronto for practice with other players from across the province. After a couple practices, we play a game against the Quebec provincial team.

**Question to Thandiwe:** What's your favorite subject in school? Do you know what you want to do when you grow up?

**Answer:** Science. My teacher makes it easy to learn and the students in my class are fun. I want to play soccer at a University in the US and then go to medical school. Human anatomy is cool and how the different systems in the body are inter dependent. I like that.

**Question to Thandiwe:** Last year at your 8<sup>th</sup> Grade graduation, you delivered the senior valedictorian speech in French. What message did you want to give your fellow classmates? How was the experience?

**Answer:** Grade 8 is a time to remember and have fun. High school will give us an opportunity to learn and do the things we want to do. Speaking at graduation was nerve racking but at the same time a cool opportunity.





## Freedom Achievers Spotlight

**Question to Both:** If you could have a conversation with one historical Black figure, who would it be and what would you say or want to talk about?

**Paikea Answer:** Barack Obama. It would be nice to talk to him and understand what it was really like to be a minority leader of the US government.

**Thandiwe Answer:** Usain Bolt. He likes running track and I like running track. I'd like to know what it took to be the fastest man in the world. What drove him to get out of bed and train so that he was the best in his sport?

**Question to Both:** Who is more laid back?

**Answer:** Paikea

**Question to Both:** Who has the better sense of humor?

**Answer:** Thandiwe

**Question to Both:** Who is more likely to persuade their parents with an idea?

**Answer:** Thandiwe

## Volunteers Wanted! Earn Money For The Museum!

**The Amherstburg Freedom Museum is looking for Bingo volunteers!**

**How:** Give two hours of your time.

**When:** Once or twice a month on a pre-set assignment schedule.

**Contact:** Phil Alexander -  
[phil.alexander@amherstburgfreedom.org](mailto:phil.alexander@amherstburgfreedom.org)





## Mac Simpson Award

Attention Students! You can now apply for the Mac Simpson Scholarship! For more details, go to [amherstburgfreedom.org/scholarship](https://amherstburgfreedom.org/scholarship)

# Looking For Financial Help For College or University?



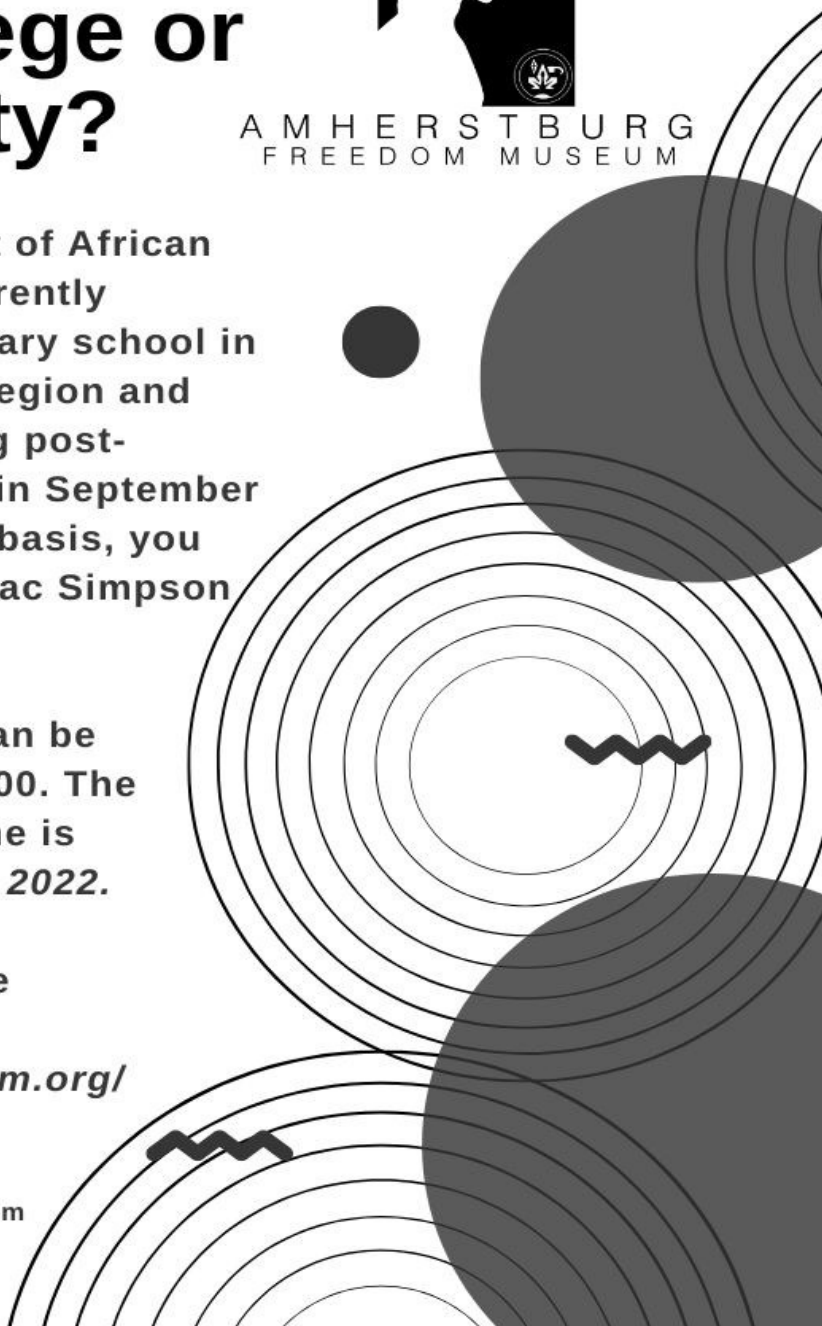
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If you are a student of African descent who is currently attending a secondary school in the Essex County region and will be commencing post-secondary studies in September 2022 on a full-time basis, you can apply for the Mac Simpson Award!

Eligible students can be awarded up to \$1,500. The submission deadline is *Thursday, June 30, 2022.*

Applications can be downloaded at [amherstburgfreedom.org/scholarships](https://amherstburgfreedom.org/scholarships)

Amherstburg Freedom Museum  
519-736-5433  
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## Detroit River Project

### AMHERSTBURG FREEDOM MUSEUM HOSTS DETROIT RIVER PROJECT: THE JOURNEY TO A WORLD CLASS DESTINATION

A PRESENTATION BY  
DETROIT RIVER PROJECT FOUNDER  
KIMBERLY SIMMONS



On Thursday, June 23rd at 2pm Detroit River Project Founder, Kimberly Simmons will present "Detroit River Project: The Journey to a World Class Destination" as part of our monthly Black History Series. To join on June 23rd, please go to the following link <http://ow.ly/BuzG50J7McO>



HAPPENING JUNE 23 AT 2PM  
TO JOIN - [HTTP://OW.LY/BUZG50J7MCO](http://ow.ly/BuzG50J7McO)



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## Thank you Charitable Gaming Windsor and Paradise Gaming Centre

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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!



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