



## AMHERSTBURG FREEDOM MUSEUM

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# **Mac Simpson Award**

***A prize of up to \$1500 may be awarded annually by  
The Amherstburg Freedom Museum***

**\*\*Submission deadline is Thursday, JUNE 26, 2023\*\***

## **PURPOSE**

- To honour the memory of Melvin “Mac” Simpson, the founder of *the Amherstburg Freedom Museum* and to recognize his dedication to education and commitment to the community.
- To promote the valuable role of *the Amherstburg Freedom Museum* in the community.
- To support and encourage students as they pursue post-secondary studies.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

This award will be given annually to at least one student of African descent who is currently attending a secondary school in the Essex County area and will be commencing post-secondary studies in September 2023 on a full-time basis. Students will be required to provide proof of attendance.

## **Applicants are required to submit:**

- a completed application form (see attached)
- two letters of reference supporting school and community involvement
- transcript of academic record
- proof of post-secondary registration and offer of acceptance (due in September)
- completed essay, poster, or multi-media presentation

## **SELECTION**

Each secondary school in Essex County is encouraged to facilitate the application and recommend nominees.

- A selection committee appointed by the Museum’s Board of Directors will review all applications. The successful applicant(s) will receive the award(s).
- This award will be given to any student only once, and is not renewable.
- The selection committee reserves the right to withhold the award in any given year due to lack of suitable application quality or for non-compliance with any of the rules.
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed.
- Award recipient(s) will be notified by August 14, 2023

## **PRESENTATION**

The successful recipient(s) will be notified by August 14, 2023. Awards will be presented on Saturday September 23, 2023 as part of the Museum’s Freedom Achiever Guest Speaker Series featuring Hadiya Roderique. The successful recipient(s) will receive the award during the fall semester upon providing proof of admission.

# Melvin "Mac" Simpson Award Application

*Please complete the following information based on the current school year.*

First Name	Last Name	Age	Date of Birth
Home Address	Postal Code	Home Phone Number	
Email Address	Current School	Date of Graduation	
Post-secondary Institution	Program of Study	Career Interest(s)	

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**In point form, list your extracurricular involvement in school during the past two years. Please indicate activities, awards, recognitions and leadership positions. Please attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient.**

**In point form, list your community involvement during the past two years. Please attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient.**

## **Volunteer Student Ambassador**

The Museum is seeking volunteer Student Ambassadors to assist with short term projects and one-off events to engage with the community on behalf of The Museum. Qualities of a Student Ambassador include:

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Enthusiastic, friendly, and approachable
- Punctual, flexible, and reliable

Please check the box below if you're interested in being contacted to learn more.

Yes, I'd like to be contacted by The Museum to learn more about the role of Student Ambassador.

### **Select one option and complete the requirements below:**

*The selection committee will evaluate the submissions on the basis of their potential to have a positive impact on the educational aspirations of African Canadian youth and on the positive development of society in general. Submissions will be judged on the content, clarity, and coherence of the topic as it is expressed throughout the work.*

***\*\*Essays must include a title page which lists the title of the essay, school of attendance, and the student's contact information including address and telephone number. Essays must be typed, double-spaced, and free of grammatical and syntax errors.***

#### **Option 1: Black History Maker of Tomorrow**

- Write an essay containing between 1000 - 1500 words on how and why you plan to make a positive impact on Black history and in the community.

#### **Option 2: Illuminating the Past**

- Develop a poster which reflects significant individuals, locations and/or events in African Canadian history. Posters may be in colour or black and white. The poster must be accompanied by a brief description of the significance of each image on the poster.

#### **Option 3: Media Presentation (e.g., POWERPOINT, MOVIE MAKER)**

- Create a three to five-minute video or slideshow about (a) significant individual(s), location(s) and/or event(s) in African Canadian history. Descriptions must accompany all images used.

#### **Option 4: What does Black history in Canada mean to me?**

- Write an essay containing between 1000 - 1500 words describing what Black history in Canada means to you.

#### **Option 5: Sharing our stories**

- Conduct an oral history interview with a relative/relatives resulting in a record of roughly 1000 – 1500 words. Submission must be a transcript of the interview (the questions asked, and the answers provided). Topics can include family ancestors, your relative's childhood and/or career, how Essex County has changed over the years, how being a Black Canadian in Essex County has changed over the years, etc.

***\*\* All submissions become the property of the Amherstburg Freedom Museum.***

**Make sure all required items accompany this application:**

- Completed application form
- Two letters of reference supporting school and community involvement
- Transcript of your academic record
- Proof of post-secondary registration and acceptance
- Completed essay, poster or multi-media presentation

**Entries must be submitted by June 26, 2023 to the  
curator@amherstburgfreedom.org**

***\*\* Documents will not be returned to the applicant. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.***

***\*\*Chosen recipients will be required to provide an updated educational status report when requested by the Museum for use in promotional materials***