

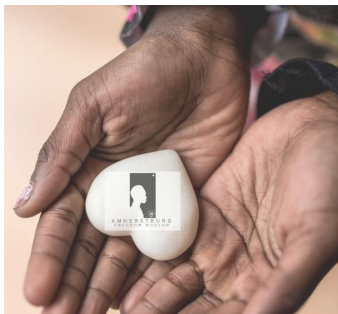


# The TALKING DRUM

## Stories



**Windsor-Essex  
Black History  
Month Schedule  
of Activities!**



**Amherstburg  
Freedom  
Museum Black  
History Month  
Appeal!**

## 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)

**February 2024**



## 2024 Windsor-Essex Black History Month Activity Schedule

Here are some of the Black History Month events happening around our region... a combination of in-person and virtual activities this year. Please visit <https://amherstburgfreedom.org/bhm/> for the most up-to-date schedule.

### Black History Month Event: "'But it is not a British feeling':

**Description:** Department of History, University of Windsor and Essex County Black Historical Research Society are hosting a presentation by Dr. Deirdre McCorkindale from University of Guelph on February 1st at 7pm. Dr. McCorkindale's presentation titled "'But it is not a British feeling': The Denial and Weaponization of Ontario's Underground Railroad" will happen at the Armories (353 Freedom Way in Windsor). For more information, please contact [history@uwindsor.ca](mailto:history@uwindsor.ca)

**When:** February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 7pm **Location:** Armories, 353 Freedom Way in Windsor

### Black History Month Flag-Raising

**Description:** Join students, faculty, staff, and administrators at the University of Windsor Main Campus for a flag raising in honour of Black History/ Black Futures Month 2024.

**Date:** Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 12:00pm

**Location:** Outside Chrysler Hall Tower, University of Windsor, 401 Sunset Avenue

### Book Launch: Amherstburg Book Launch for Black Activist, Black Scientist, Black Icon: The Autobiography of Dr. Howard D. McCurdy with Dr. George Elliott Clarke and Dr. Brenda McCurdy, with Moderator Sheila Barker

**Description:** In partnership with the River Bookshop, we are thrilled to present Black Activist, Black Scientist, Black Icon: The Autobiography of Dr. Howard D. McCurdy. Get ready to dive into the remarkable life story of Dr. Howard D. McCurdy, a true trailblazer. During this event, you will have the opportunity to meet the author Dr. George Elliott Clarke, purchase the book, get your copy signed, and engage in a discussion of the book with Dr. Brenda McCurdy and Dr. George Elliott Clarke, which will be moderated by Sheila Barker. This is a FREE event, more information can be found here [www.amherstburgfreedom.org](http://www.amherstburgfreedom.org)

**Date:** Thursday February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 5:30pm

**Location:** Amherstburg Freedom Museum, 277 King Street, Amherstburg

## 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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## 2024 Windsor-Essex Black History Month Activity Schedule

### **Celebrating Black History Month - Month long Art Exhibit - feature artist Lana Talbot**

**Description:** Celebrating Black History Month come to John Muir 363 Mill Street and view the work of local artist LANA TALBOT. "Lana Talbot was born in Windsor, Ontario, where she still resides. She is a community historian and activist as well as a longtime member of Sandwich First Baptist Church,...She can often be found conducting tours of the historic Underground Railroad-era building for visitors from all over North America and beyond. As a multitalented artist and Vice President of the Artists of Colour (Windsor-Essex County) Lana Talbot creates works of art under the pseudonym Enyale. She is respected for her singing, drawing, painting, and fashion design in addition to her gift for making one-of-a-kind African Diaspora-inspired dolls." from: <https://collections.uwindsor.ca/omeka-s/nwoc/interview-bios>. PLEASE NOTE: The display will be accessible everyday on February during library hours. CONTACT: JANET C. BROWN 519-255-6770 X 7700

[jbrown@windsorpubliclibrary.com](mailto:jbrown@windsorpubliclibrary.com)

**When:** The display will be accessible everyday on February during library hours (12-5pm)

**Location:** John Muir Main floor, 363 Mill Street, Windsor

### **CROSSROADS Historical Guide: Stories for Black History Month**

**Description:** Register for your free CROSSROADS digital pass to explore the historical significance of Windsor Essex. This pass will take you on a self guided tour where you can discover the rich and storied history of the area. Discover our place along the Underground Railroad, and for the month of February, read the featured stories for Black History Month. The CROSSROADS Historical Guide sheds light and provides an informative context to the settlements and advances that have played an integral role in shaping who we are. Call us at 519 255 6530 or email [info@tourismwindsorsex.com](mailto:info@tourismwindsorsex.com) for more information.

**When:** February 1<sup>st</sup> – February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Available online 24-7)

**Location:** This is a digital pass for a self guided tour that can be found online at <https://www.visitwindsorsex.com/black-history/>

### **The Blackbridge Commitment (November, 2022) by Carlyle J. Hutchinson. Available on Amazon. (Simply Google the title)**

**Description:** The Blackbridge Commitment is a Black history/cultural resource. It is a 400-page socio-political novel whose focus is primarily on migration from the Caribbean (Trinidad and Tobago) to North America (Canada) but also addresses the issues of slavery, colonialism and indentureship. The following is a sample of the feedback about the work by a Verified British purchaser/reader from Birmingham, United Kingdom. (Transmitted via email September 2023) "Personally, I see The Blackbridge Commitment as a textbook on neo-colonialism masquerading as a novel. But as the central character grew from an inquisitive student into a learned teacher, the reader is taken along a journey of enlightenment. This book needs to be on the curriculum." Contact [chutchinson63@sympatico.ca](mailto:chutchinson63@sympatico.ca) for more information.

**When:** The Blackbridge Commitment (November, 2022) by Carlyle J. Hutchinson. Available at Amazon Books.



## 2024 Windsor-Essex Black History Month Activity Schedule

### **Library Live Children's and Teen Clubs – BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM**

**Description:** Join as we share books, activities and games related to heroes and sheroes from the African diaspora. CONTACT: MS. JANET C. BROWN 519-255-6770EXT:7700

jbrown@windsorpubliclibrary.com—LOCATION: MUIR - MAIN FLOOR

**When:** Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 from 3-4:30pm

**Location:** John Muir Main floor, 363 Mill Street, Windsor

### **(WSO Concert) A Family Concert – Signing With Flo (Amherstburg)**

**Description:** In partnership with the River Bookshop we are pleased to present a concert event with the Windsor Symphony Orchestra, featuring vocalist Flo Ndimubandi, and the talented singers of the Windsor Essex Youth Choir for a concert that highlights the brilliance of black composers. With music from Scott Joplin, Joseph Bologne, and Oscar Peterson, the whole family will be captivated! Also, get ready to sing along to pieces like “This Little Light of Mine” and “Oh Happy Day.” \$5/Ticket in person or online at [windsorsymphony.com](http://windsorsymphony.com).

**Date:** Saturday February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 3pm

**Location:** Nazrey A.M.E. Church @ the Amherstburg Freedom Museum, 277 King Street, Amherstburg

### **Windsor Symphony Orchestra Presents: Family Concert: Singing with Flo**

**Description:** Join the WSO, vocalist Flo Ndimubandi, and the talented singers of the Windsor Essex Youth Choir for a concert that highlights the brilliance of black composers. With music from Scott Joplin, Joseph Bologne, and Oscar Peterson, the whole family will be captivated! Also, get ready to sing along to pieces like “This Little Light of Mine” and “Oh Happy Day.” A themed craft is included before the concert. Concerts are 45 minutes long. Francisco Hernández Bolaños, conductor, Jan Radford, co-host Featuring: Florine Ndimubandi, vocalist, The Windsor Essex Youth Choir and Select Musicians from the WSO. Tickets are \$5/each, please visit [www.windsorsymphony.com](http://www.windsorsymphony.com) to purchase tickets and for more information.

**When:** Saturday February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 **Time:** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM & 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**Location:** The Capitol Theatre - 121 University Ave. W., Windsor

### **Windsor West Indian Association's Flavors of Freedom Annual Black History Brunch**

**Description:** Featuring delicious Caribbean cuisine, the Windsor West Indian Association's annual Black History Brunch is happening 12-4 p.m. Admission \$25 for adults, \$15 for children under 12. Tickets can be purchased by calling (519) 945-0213 or by e-mail to [secretary@wwia.club](mailto:secretary@wwia.club) or at the door.

**Date:** Sunday, February 4, 2024 from 12-4pm

**Location:** Caribbean Centre, 2410 Central Avenue, Windsor



## 2024 Windsor-Essex Black History Month Activity Schedule

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### Youth Art Class with Dennis K. Smith

**Description:** In partnership with the River Bookshop, the Amherstburg Freedom Museum and local artist Dennis K. Smith, we are pleased to offer a Youth Art Class. Artists Dennis K. Smith will open his studio and invite young people to create a beautiful work of art. Please contact the museum at 519-736-5433 to register, spaces are limited! Please RSVP to this FREE event by emailing [curator@amherstburgfreedom.org](mailto:curator@amherstburgfreedom.org) there are only 15 spaces available. More information can be found at [www.amherstburgfreedom.org](http://www.amherstburgfreedom.org)

**When:** Saturday, February 10th, 2024 from 1-3pm

**Location:** dKs Studio & Gallery, 1130 Minto Avenue, LaSalle

### A Blaze of Story, Featuring Erik E-Tomic Johnson

**Description:** Join poet Erik E-Tomic Johnson and City of Windsor Multicultural Storyteller Teajai Travis for a Blaze of Story. Erik E-Tomic Johnson is a local hip-hop inspired wordsmith from Windsor-Essex region, and a proud son of Sandwich Towne in Windsor's west end as well as a member of the afro indigenous community and a poet and advocate for artists with disabilities. Erik has lent his talents and voice to numerous events and causes in his community and abroad over his lengthy career as a wordsmith including, competing in the Windsor Slam Poetry competition and becoming the 2018 grand slam champion and going on to join the Windsor Poetry Slam team, where he then went on to represent Windsor at the Canadian Festival of Spoken Word, he then went on to be an interview on Talkin Real Melanin as well as being featured in the Across The River to Freedom documentary as well as numerous other events. More recently Erik has stepped into the world of self-publishing when he launched his first collection of poetry called Well Versed, and most recently he has tapped into his talent for storytelling by facilitating a charity event known as All Hallowed Reads Halloween event which will have its 3rd installment coming later this year and his second collection of poems. Stay tuned for more from this prolific poet as he brings his passion for storytelling from the page and the stage! Note that there is an open call for submissions: if you would like to be featured at a future event, send a brief synopsis of your ancestral story(ies) to [sacredstorystudio@gmail.com](mailto:sacredstorystudio@gmail.com).

**Date:** Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 6-7pm

**Location:** Café Amor & Art, 1464 Ottawa Street, Windsor

### Beauty Is Me Presents: BLACK is Beautiful: A Celebration of Strength, Resilience and Triumph

**Description:** You are invited to join us for a great evening celebrating black history. While much of our history is marred by oppression, discrimination, and prejudice, we celebrate the generations of people who led the march towards freedom that we continue to advocate for today. This celebration will honour prominent persons of the past and powerful activists in our community today who reflect and make up the creative, influential, educated, and brilliant emerging



## 2024 Windsor-Essex Black History Month Activity Schedule

generation of black people. We are excited to welcome for the first time as our keynote speaker, Candies Kotchapaw (Founder of DYLOTT) from our native city of Windsor, ON. This event is FREE, meal provided. Doors open at 4:30pm. You don't want to miss this celebration of our Black History! More information and to register at <https://beautyisme.ca/events> Sponsored by: @ontrillium.

**When:** February 15, 2024 from 5:30-9pm

**Location:** WWIA Caribbean Centre - 2410 Central Avenue Windsor, ON N8W 4J3

### **The Windsor Public Library Presents - Adult and Senior - Black History Month Peaceful Place to Paint**

**Description:** Adults and seniors, join us on the 3rd Thursday of the month from February - June. All supplies will be provided. We are using acrylic paint. Each week a different artist style will be featured to help you improve your painting skills or inspire you to learn how to paint. This is a program for all skill levels. If you have your own paintings, please bring them in to show us. We ask that you only bring one art piece per session. This month we will be inspired by the works of artists Jacob Lawrence, Jean-Michel Basquiat and more talent artists from the African Diaspora. Space is limited to 10 participants each session. For more information please contact Janet C. Brown at 5192556770 or [jbrown@windsorpubliclibrary.com](mailto:jbrown@windsorpubliclibrary.com)

**When:** Thursday February 15, 2024 from 3:30-5pm

**Location:** John Muir Branch, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor (glass enclosed activity room), 363 Mill Street, Windsor

### **The Artists of Colour Presents - The Never-Ending Quest for Inclusion**

**Description:** The Never-Ending Quest for Inclusion is the second portion of The Artists of Colour "Journeys" Project. This special presentation is a fine arts-based project featuring original paintings that are accompanied with historical information fact-filled panels that lead visitors on their quest to learn more. QR codes on each sectional panel create a seamless way to further engage and increase the learning experience. This informative exhibit will educate visitors to the strength, determination, and fortitude Blacks exemplified to overcome obstacles, achieve inclusion into the fabric of Canadian society, and establish their culture and livelihood. *Supported by the City of Windsor's Arts, Culture & Heritage Fund (ACHF) [achfwindsor.ca](http://achfwindsor.ca).* For further info. go to <http://www.theartistsofcolour.com/> or Contact: Dennis K Smith - [dksonoriginals@gmail.com](mailto:dksonoriginals@gmail.com)

**Date:** Feb 17th - Feb 24th from 11 am – 4:30 pm

**Location:** Mackenzie Hall Cultural Centre, 3277 Sandwich St. W., Windsor

### **Panel Discussion: A Conversation about Women's Empowerment and Community Engagement**

**Description:** In partnership with the River Bookshop, we are thrilled to have as panelists Executive Director of [Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc.](http://Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc.) Rose Anguiano Hurst, Award Winning educator and Curriculum Developer Shantelle Browning-Morgan, Black Student Support Co-



## 2024 Windsor-Essex Black History Month Activity Schedule

Ordinator [University of Windsor](#) Kaitlyn Ellsworth, Actor, Playwright, Choreographer and President of [The Black Council of Windsor-Essex](#) Leslie McCurdy and Author, Educator, Historian and President of [Essex County Black Historical Research Society](#) Irene Moore Davis. The panel will also be moderated by Global Launch Process, Planning, and Strategy Manager at Ford, and Amherstburg Freedom Museum Board Director, Cari-Lynn Ristic. We hope you will join us! Please RSVP on Facebook, more information can be found at [www.amherstburgfreedom.org](http://www.amherstburgfreedom.org)

**When:** Saturday February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 2pm

**Location:** The Amherstburg Freedom Museum, 277 King Street, Amherstburg

### **Celebrating the Next Generation of Black Youth Excellence**

**Description:** Windsor Essex Community Health Centre Free admission. Guest Speakers, performances, games, food, prizes and much more! Visit [www.wechc.org](http://www.wechc.org) or contact. Contact Olu Ogunde, Case Worker for more information at (519)253-8481 ext.290.

**When:** February 21, 2024 from 4-7pm

**Location:** 1361 Ouellette Ave Windsor Ontario, Windsor Essex Community Health Centre - Teen Health Site

### **The Windsor Public Library Presents - Adult and Senior - Celebrating Black History Month - Photographers, Writers, and Poets**

**Description:** Pictures say 1000 words and so do books and the occasional poem. Today we will be discussing our favourite authors, photographers, poets and non-fiction writers from the African Diaspora. Do you have a favourite? Join us and share. For more information please contact Janet C. Brown at 5192556770 or [jbrown@windsorpubliclibrary.com](mailto:jbrown@windsorpubliclibrary.com)

**When:** Thursday February 22, 2024 from 3:30-5pm

**Location:** John Muir Branch, Stable Local History Room, 363 Mill Street, Windsor

### **Black Kids in Action Present "By lifting others, We Rise"**

**Description:** Join Black Kids in Action Performing Arts Group as they perform their Black History Month Production "By lifting others, We rise." Tickets \$30.00 until Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>, \$35.00 afterward, or \$40.00 at the door. For information: Marcia, 519-566-8791, Malcom, 236-971-5112, Daniel Akinbinu, 226-246-6532 or e-mail [bkiayouths2019@gmail.com](mailto:bkiayouths2019@gmail.com).

**Date:** Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 from 7-9pm

**Location:** Capitol Theatre, 121 University Ave. W., Windsor

### **WSO Concert - Korin Thomas-Smith Sings Mozart (Amherstburg)**

**Description:** In partnership with the River Bookshop we are pleased to present a concert event with the Windsor Symphony Orchestra, *Korin Thomas-Smith Sings Mozart*. Jean-Philippe Rameau's *Platée* was one of the most highly regarded of Rameau's operas during his lifetime. Ballet was a huge part of 18th century French opera. Jean-Joseph Cassanéa de Mondonville rounds out the program with a concert of pre-revolutionary court music and you'll hear music from the *Marriage of Figaro*.



## 2024 Windsor-Essex Black History Month Activity Schedule

Figaro by their contemporary Mozart sung by Korin Thomas-Smith. Tickets are \$35 each and can be purchased online at [www.windsorsymphony.com](http://www.windsorsymphony.com).

**When:** Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 7:30pm

**Location:** Nazrey A.M.E. Church @ the Amherstburg Freedom Museum, 277 King Street, Amherstburg

### Ford City Funnies – Live Stand-Up Comedy Show

**Description:** Join us for our February edition of "Ford City Funnies" hosted by Shawn Townsend and featuring Bella Hugley and our headliner T.Barb! Our headliner is known to give you the latest what's happenings with her "Only in Detroit" videos, the hilarious and multi-talented Comedian T.Barb! Flying in from the southern U.S., she will leave you captivated with her charm and one-liners, the one and only Bella Hugley! And hosted by the man who can claim both the 313 and the 519, Shawn Townsend! A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Amherstburg Freedom Museum for the great work they do in the community! Tickets are available for purchase on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com). Tickets are \$20 in advance (online), \$25 at the door (cash only). 19+ older Show / Bar.

**When:** Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 **Time:** 8:00 p.m. (Doors open at 7:00 p.m.) to 10:00 p.m.

**Location:** Club 9, 1457 Drouillard Rd, Windsor

### The Windsor Public Library Presents - Adult and Senior - Celebrating Black History Month LOCAL HISTORY

**Description:** This week we will focus on individuals in the Essex County area that have had a significant impact on the way we live. If you have a story to share PLEASE JOIN US and share. For more information please contact Janet C. Brown at 5192556770 or [jbrown@windsorpubliclibrary.com](mailto:jbrown@windsorpubliclibrary.com)

**When:** Thursday February 29, 2024 from 3:30-5pm

**Location:** John Muir Branch, Stable Local History Room, 363 Mill Street, Windsor

## Thank you Charitable Gaming Windsor & Paradise Gaming Centre



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 programming that shares the significant history of Freedom Seekers and Black settlers in this region. Thank you! For more information and how Charitable Gaming supports non-profits and local communities across Ontario, please go to [charitablegaming.ca](http://charitablegaming.ca)





## 2024 Black History Month Appeal Subscription Bundle

To donate, please go <https://amherstburgfreedom.org/donate/>



AMHERSTBURG  
FREEDOM MUSEUM

BLACK HISTORY  
universal inspiration.

## 2024 Black History Month Appeal Subscription Bundle

During the month of February, if you make a donation of \$100 or more you can opt to select our Black History Month subscription bundle.

The Black History Month subscription bundle includes:

- 1 Year free admission to the museum and exhibits
- 10% off gift shop items
- Access to genealogy research library

If selecting the bundle, please include "Black History Month Subscription bundle" in the comment section when making your donation. Please also include your email address.

\*Note: With the subscription bundle, the value of the subscription level will be deducted from the tax receipt total. This applies to individual subscription purchases. Not applicable for a family subscription.

[amherstburgfreedom.org](https://amherstburgfreedom.org) | 519-736-5433 | 277 King St.



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