



Stories



Black History Internship Exhibit Opening and Scholarship Presentation



Amherstburg Freedom Museum 49th Anniversary Celebration!



Dr. Howard D. McCurdy Award for Outstanding Service to Canadian Black Scientists

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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October 2024



Black History Internship Exhibit Opening

On Thursday, September 5th, the Amherstburg Freedom Museum



FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY
SOCIAL ORGANIZING IN
LATE-NINETEENTH
CENTURY AMHERSTBURG

hosted the exhibit opening for *For Friends and Family: Social Organizing in Late Nineteenth-Century Amherstburg* which was created by University of Windsor history student Max Bennett, under the supervision of Amherstburg Freedom Museum Assistant Curator Dr. Lorene Bridgen-Lennie and University of Windsor History Professor Dr. Gregg French. This exhibit was part of the Local Black History Internship Program which was created in partnership between the Amherstburg Freedom Museum and the University of Windsor's History Department.

Funding for this year's Internship Program was secured by Dr. Robert Nelson and Dr. Gregg French of the University of Windsor's History Department.

During Max's presentation, they talked about their exhibit, themes, and shared their experience in creating both



the in-person exhibit and digital network diagrams. To view Max's digital network diagrams, please go to <https://public.flourish.studio/visualisation/17897128/> OR <https://public.flourish.studio/visualisation/18175038/> You can also watch Max's virtual presentation here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yz7suTLY9II&list=PLmuPtDkNcJ5amH3q44NG7zvbS2WhL_8qv&index=51

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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Scholarship Presentation!

At the exhibit opening we also awarded the Mac Simpson Award and Maturine-Romaine Scholarship to



Romaine Scholarship to students of African descent who are commencing their post-secondary education this September. Congratulations to the winners of the Mac Simpson Award Malia Afonso, Deborah Oloyede (pictured centre), Elijah Scott (2nd from the left), Lily Mulder, and Abigail Yewande Muwanga (pictured left), and the

Maturine-Romaine Scholarship winners Abigail Yewande Muwanga, Elijah Scott, and Michael Ezeokoronkwo!

We are incredibly grateful to Guy Logan (2nd from right) and Dr. Bernice McKenzie for providing the funds for this year's scholarship awards. Additional thanks to AFM Board Director Cari-Lynn Ristic (pictured right) for presenting the scholarships and to the scholarship judging panel for determining the winners.

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 <https://charitablegaming.ca/>



49th Anniversary Celebration!

On September 21st, we hosted our 49th anniversary celebration! We are grateful to MPP Anthony Leardi, Curator Emeritus Elise Harding Davis, former MPP Remo Mancini, and MP Chris Lewis for saying a few words and sharing their memories. Mayor Michael Prue even got his face painted! We also really appreciate our emcee Dr. Brenda McCurdy and everyone who stopped by to enjoy some food, crafts and face painting with Ted Paints Faces. Visitors also enjoyed music from Jim Walls and Larry Johnson. We also could not have done this event without our amazing volunteers! Additional thanks to Don Armbrust for painting with the kids and to Marlene Crepp for donating the art supplies. The countdown to our 50th anniversary is on!





Dr. Howard D. McCurdy Award

Recently, the Canadian Black Scientists Network (CBSN) renamed its Career Award for Outstanding Service in honour of the late Howard D. McCurdy. All future awards will be known as the Dr. Howard D. McCurdy Award for Outstanding Service to Canadian Black Scientists. The award recognizes a person whose work has led to substantive, transformational, positive change for the development of the Canadian Black Scientists



Network (CBSN) or for Black Canadians in STEMM at a national level. The renaming of the award highlights the incredible contributions Dr. McCurdy made in fundamental research, his founding of the Canadian College of Microbiologists, and having become the first Canadian-born Black tenured professor in Canada. All of which speaks to the importance of Dr. McCurdy as a role model for generations of Black Canadians, particularly those in science.

The winner of the newly renamed award for 2024 is Dr. Kannin Osei-Tutu. Dr. Osei-Tutu is the inaugural Senior Associate Dean of Health Equity and Systems Transformation at the Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary. Dr. Osei-Tutu is shown with AFM Board Member, Dr. Brenda McCurdy, who was in Ottawa on August 1st for the festivities.



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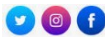
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