



Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)
Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre
2302 Bridge Road (South of QEW --between 3rd Line and Bronte)
Oakville, Ontario L6L 2G6
Tel: 647.986.7489
Email: info @hotmail.com
Web: www. ccah.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 28, 2019 - Oakville, Ontario, Canada

2019 Halton Black History Month Free Events Hosted by Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) will warm up even the coldest days in February!

To celebrate 2019 Black History Month, the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) will provide a series of activities on the legacy and heritage of Black history across Halton to help increase awareness and understanding through community participation. **The Black History Month Official Kick-off event will be at the QEP Community & Cultural Centre, 2302 Bridge Rd, Oakville (6:30 pm – 8:30 pm).** See complete listing of our events below.

Our Black History Month activities and events feature an amazing array of visual, music, and performing arts –with exhibitions, public performances, education, and in-school programs. Community members from Oakville and Halton Region (and from outside the region) including adults, youth and students of all levels, seniors, long-time residents and newcomers, are welcome to join in the festivities.

Through the generous sponsorship of Canadian Heritage and TD Bank all events are free of charge! TD Bank and Canadian Heritage are proud to promote our rich cultural diversity, as well as our country's arts and heritage sectors. They wish to help programs such as this, which share our stories and continue to build a strong and inclusive Canada.

Complete Listing of Halton Black History Month Free Events:

February 1- 28 (excluding Mondays): The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Freedom!
Oakville Museum | 8 Navy St, Oakville | 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

-In this exciting and moving multi-media presentation, the ghost of Deborah Brown tells the true story of her heroic flight from a life of slavery in Maryland to her new life of freedom in 19th-century Toronto.

February 1- 28 (excluding Weekends): African Canadian Art Exhibition – “Beyond the Journey”. Oakville Town Hall | 1225 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville | 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

-Exhibit includes 50 artworks at the Oakville Town Hall by contemporary African Canadian artists; facilitated tours of the exhibit available.



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February 7: Official Black History Month Kick-Off Event. QEP Community & Cultural Centre | 2302 Bridge Rd, Oakville

6:30 pm to 7:00 pm (reception) 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm (kick-off)

* Includes the invocation and opening ceremony by master drummer, **Njacko Backo**.

* **Diana Braithwaite, Chris Whiteley**, and Band "Round Midnight" Jazz Show. This entertaining tribute show by award winning performers Diana Braithwaite and Chris Whiteley features some of the best loved jazz songs made famous by legends like Louis Armstrong, Dinah Washington, and Sarah Vaughan and includes the renowned jazz standard composed by Thelonius Monk – "Round Midnight". (25-30 minutes)

* **Oakville Early Black History Traveling Exhibition** provided by the Oakville Museum; displays with pictures and text will be exhibited at the QEP Community & Cultural Centre until to the end of February.

* **Poster and Art Exhibition Display** of Sheridan College students' research project and exhibition – "The Life and Times of Ira Junius Johnson" exhibition – posters, artwork and text – by Humanities & Social Sciences Department, Sheridan College; hosted and facilitated by students and faculty members. Exhibit then re-located to Trafalgar Park Community Centre for duration of BHM. 133 Rebecca St, Oakville, ON L6K 1J5

February 9: Art Hive Open Studio. Iroquois Ridge Community Centre |1051 Glenashton Drive, Oakville | 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Join us for this new and innovative Black History Month offering inspired by the Art Hive project. Facilitated by accomplished visual artist **Camille King, MA, UWI**, participants will create art in a relaxed and informal setting. Offered in partnership between CCAH, The Hive and the Oakville Museum, these open-studio style workshops will offer a unique, inclusive blend of art-making, African-Canadian experience, and connections to Oakville's seniors and growing newcomer communities. At its heart, an Art Hive is about inclusion, respect and learning. Participating allows individuals to connect with others, make art and build communities in a welcoming place.

February 17: West African and Afro-Caribbean Drumming. Milton Public Library | 1010 Main St E, Milton | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Interactive performances with **Njacko Backo and World Drummers**. Audience will participate in a drumming circle demonstration.

February 18: Family Day with CCAH. QEP Community & Cultural Centre | 2302 Bridge Rd, Oakville | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

* Steelpan music by CCAH Steel Band from 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

* Roger Gibbs and CCAH Seniors: Parang/Creole music performance 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm



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February 19 (private event): All About the Blues with Diana Braithwaite and Chris Whiteley. Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School | 2420 Sixth Line, Oakville
Diana Braithwaite and Chris Whiteley are award winning musicians. All About the Blues: The Story of the Underground Railroad. Their programs are highly interactive and demonstrate the history and heritage and links to Canada. Live music and slides presented to grades 9 to 12 students. Program is 50 minutes in length.

February 20 (private event): Lunch & Learn with John Campbell. Halton Regional Police Headquarters | 2485 North Service Rd W, Oakville | 11:30 am – 12:30 pm
Featuring an educational African History Musical Performance for Halton Regional Police Service member (see www.johncampbellmusic.ca)

February 20 (private event) Multi-Cultural Night In-School Program. Sunningdale Public School 1434 Oxford Ave, Oakville, 10:40 am – 11:50 am
CCAH Steel Band will provide a musical backdrop to enhance the overall experience of Multicultural Food Night which will showcase a delectable array of culinary delights from around the world.

February 21: Public Black History Special Film Screenings. Hosted by Sheridan College
Sheridan College | 1430 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville | Room B125 | 7:00 pm
Please join us for a film. Screening will feature fiction and non-fiction film content supporting Black History Month. Activities also include a facilitated discussion led by Sheridan faculty and speakers from the local Black Community to share perspectives and experiences. Traditional Caribbean snacks will be served free of charge to filmgoers.

February 22 (private event): Pop-Up Music Event. Hosted by Sheridan Student Union (SSU) Sheridan College | 1430 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville | SSU Atrium | 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
The SSU will be holding a pop-up interactive musical performance by **John Campbell** in the SSU Atrium as part of BHM. Traditional Caribbean food such as roti and Jamaican patty will be served.

February 23: Art Hive Open Studio. Oakville Museum | 8 Navy St, Oakville | 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Join us for this new and innovative Black History Month offering inspired by the Art Hive project. Facilitated by accomplished visual artist **Camille King, MA, UWI**, participants will create art in a relaxed and informal setting. Offered in partnership between CCAH, The Hive and the Oakville Museum, these open-studio style workshops will offer a unique, inclusive blend of art-making, African-Canadian experience, and connections to Oakville's seniors and growing newcomer communities. At its heart, an Art Hive is about inclusion, respect and learning. Participating allows individuals to connect with others, make art and build communities in a welcoming place.



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February 26 (private event): In-School Program. Munn's Public School | 1511 Sixth Line, Oakville | 10:40 am – 11:50 am

Calypsonian singer **Roger Gibbs** together with steelpan player **Pat McNeilly** will perform Caribbean folk music. This is an interactive performance with traditional Caribbean folk songs and stories. (Grades 3 and 4 at 10:40 am – 11:15 am; Grades 5 and 6 at 11:15 am – 11:50 am)

February 27 (private event): Passing It On: Seniors Black Oral Traditions, History, and Music

Acclaim Health - Sheridan College (K-Wing) | 1430 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville | 11:00 am – 12:00 pm AND the Village of Tansley Woods | 4100 Upper Middle Rd, Burlington | 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Calypsonian singer **Roger Gibbs** together with steelpan player **Pat McNeilly** will perform Caribbean folk music. This is an interactive performance by, and for seniors, with traditional Caribbean folk songs and stories. Participants will be encouraged to sing and will have opportunities to play percussion instruments and share their own stories.

February 27 (private event): Black History Educational Music Performance. Ontario Correctional Institute | 109 McLaughlin Rd S, Brampton | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

John Campbell will present an interactive/educational performance to the inmates. Accompanying each musical performance will be a description of the song and how it is historically relevant to Black history. While John performs the music, a projector will scroll through a series of images to enhance the cultural and historical significance. Oakville Steelpan Duo will also be performing a variety of melodies.

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About the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH):

The CCAH combines arts, culture and heritage activities to enhance the community's knowledge of diverse cultures and strengthen appreciation of all cultures that make up the diversity of Oakville and Halton. The CCAH also provides outreach to schools in the region with programs based in history of African heritage and culture. Every February, they produce activities related to Black History Month. The CCAH partners with several organizations to provide a wide range of youth leadership and seniors programs. For information about the organization and programs provided to youth, adults, and seniors throughout the year.

For more information please contact Natalie De Caen at 416 318 9200 or Pam Chase at 905.827.4673 or Sheldon Williams (in Milton) at 647.986.7489. Please visit www.ccah.ca for more details.