



Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)

Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre
2302 Bridge Road, Oakville, Ontario L6L 2G6
Tel: 905 815 6184
Email: Andrew@ccah.ca
Web: www.ccah.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 29, 2021 Oakville, Ontario, Canada

Free events to Celebrate Black History Month from the comfort of your home...

The Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) in partnership with the Oakville Museum, Oakville Community Foundation, Canadian Heritage, Sheridan College, and the support of TD Bank Group, will be hosting the 2021 Black History Month Kickoff Celebration on Sunday, January 31. The 2021 theme, "Our Legacy Guides our Future," is a demonstration of the fundamental relationship of Black history to the Halton Region community and a celebration of that Black culture. The Kickoff Celebration is a virtual ZOOM meeting and is open to the public.

The Kickoff Celebration features community leaders and award-winning contemporary Black entertainers, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of Caribbean-African people. This year, the Kickoff Celebration event will be rebroadcast on Cogeco during the month of February. The Kickoff Celebration will include:

- Remarks from His Worship Rob Burton, Mayor, Town of Oakville
- Remarks from the Honourable Anita Anand, Minister of Public Services and Procurement
- Remarks from the Premier of Ontario
- Special guest, The Honourable Jean Augustine
- Musical performance by JUNO Award winner Sonia Collymore
- Musical performance by JUNO Award winner Carlos Morgan
- Musical performance by the CCAH Steelpan Band
- Halton Regional Police Service Black Internal Support Network interview
- Discussion with our Halton District Catholic School Board partners, and much more

Event Location: ZOOM meeting. Registration required. Visit <https://www.ccah.ca/bhm2021> and click on the "Register for Kickoff" button.

Date: Sunday January 31, 2021

Time: 1:30-2:30 pm

Admission: Free

Media Contact: Event Coordinators, Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton
Nathalie de Caen ndecaen@hotmail.com, Andrew andrew@ccah.ca (905) 827.1752
Sheldon (in Milton) Sheldon@ccah.ca (647) 986.7489

CCAH is pleased to acknowledge the support of TD Bank Group with the 2021 Black History Month Kickoff Celebration. ***"This February is not just another Black History Month. We are coming together at a time in which Black communities and allies around the globe are questioning whether the protests of last summer inspired moments or movements," says Naki Osutei, Associate Vice President, Social Impact (Canada), TD Bank Group. "When we launched the TD Ready Commitment in 2018, our goal was to support the conditions necessary for a more equitable tomorrow. We are proud to support The Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton and this year's Black History Month Kick-Off Celebration, as we push progress forward for the Black colleagues, customers, and communities we serve."***



Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)

Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre
2302 Bridge Road, Oakville, Ontario L6L 2G6
Tel: 905 815 6184
Email: Andrew@ccah.ca
Web: www.ccah.ca

"Black History Month is a time when we honour the significant contributions Black Canadians make in our communities. I look forward to the extensive schedule of virtual events that the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton has put together in celebration of Black History Month." - Hon. Anita Anand, Member of Parliament, Oakville

"2021 represents the 25th year of Black History Month in Canada. Introduced by Jean Augustine, the first Black woman to be elected to the House of Commons, February is an opportunity to celebrate the many contributions, recognize the resilience and honour the strength of Black Canadians from coast to coast to coast. I want to offer my sincerest gratitude to the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton for their efforts in continuing to provide programming this year, despite COVID-19 and all the difficulties that come with it. The educational and interactive activities offered by the CCAH cultivate Halton's vibrant sense of community and will continue to showcase the excellence, strength and many achievements of Black communities throughout Canada." - Hon. Adam van Koeverden, Member of Parliament, Milton

"For nearly 45 years, the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton has been a community leader, promoting the unity in diversity and inclusion essential to the social, cultural, and economic growth of Halton Region. Every February, Canada celebrates the many remarkable achievements and contributions made by African-Canadians during Black History Month. This year, our nation has had to take a hard, painful look at the systemic racism inherent in our society. Ending it is a top priority for me personally, and for our government. Through education and events such as this one, the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton is leading the way forward and helping us all to celebrate and appreciate the vital cultural impacts of African-Canadians in the arts, economy, and society both locally and nationally." Hon. Pam Damoff, Member of Parliament, Oakville North-Burlington

About the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH):

The CCAH promotes awareness that unity in diversity, full and active participation, unbiased inclusion, and the capacity to value differences equally are essential to the social, cultural, and economic growth of Halton Region. The CCAH also provides outreach to schools in the region with programs based in Black history and culture.

Every February, the CCAH host activities related to Black History Month. They partner with other community 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 please visit www.ccah.ca

Sponsored by:

Funded by the Government of Canada



**TD READY
COMMITMENT**





Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)
 Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre
 2302 Bridge Road, Oakville, Ontario L6L 2G6
 Tel: 905 815 6184
 Email: Andrew@ccah.ca
 Web: www.ccah.ca

A complete list of CCAH 2021 Black History Month events is provided below and is accessible on our dedicated BHM2021 webpage: [BHM2021 - Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton \(ccah.ca\)](https://www.ccah.ca/BHM2021)

BHM Flag and Logo

In 2020, our Black History Month logo was designed by Charlene Pura, a Sheridan College student as part of a CCAH-sponsored initiative with Sheridan. We then had it developed into a flag that was present at event venues and schools. The Oakville Town Hall and Halton Regional Police Service flew the flag throughout February. We look forward to raising the flag for 2021.



CHARLENE PURA

*Junior Designer, Sheridan Student Union
 Second Year, York/Sheridan Design Program*

WHAT WAS YOUR INSPIRATION FOR THE BLACK HISTORY MONTH IDENTITY?

"My goal for creating the BHM identity was to commemorate black history in a vibrant way. I wanted to be able to create something that is timeless and relevant as black history month should continue to be. BHM is about celebrating a very dynamic past and present, and so I wanted to depict that through a more dynamic design."



**Black
 History
 Month**

Charlene is one of our Junior Designers here at Sheridan Student Union and is a second year student in the York/Sheridan Design Program.

January 31: Black History Month Kickoff | 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

This virtual event will include: Guest speaker the Honourable Jean Augustine; musical performances by Sonia Collymore, Carlos Morgan and the CCAH Steelpan Band; an overview of the Black Internal Network Support program through the Halton Regional Police Service; and an overview of the CCAH food and school programs.

February 1-28: The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Freedom & Legacy Voices | Oakville Museum |

Through virtual tours, digitized artifacts, hands-on activities, stories, and a live interactive video presentation, this inquiry-based education program helps students immerse themselves into historical experiences that offer unique opportunities to experience our shared living heritage. Students will explore Oakville's relationship with the United States in the context of the Underground Railroad. They will learn about how Oakville Harbour played a significant role in the journey to Canada for many freedom seekers. Key figures in the Oakville Underground Railroad story are introduced through the exhibition *Freedom, Opportunity and Family: Oakville's Black History*, and excerpts from the multimedia presentation *The Underground Railroad: Next Stop Freedom* as well as more contemporary stories from the documentary *Legacy Voices*. Please contact julian.kingston@oakville.ca to register.



Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)

Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre

2302 Bridge Road, Oakville, Ontario L6L 2G6

Tel: 905 815 6184

Email: Andrew@ccah.ca

Web: www.ccah.ca

February 1-28: Oakville Early Black History. Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre, Oakville | First Ontario Arts Centre, Milton | Halton Schools
Traveling exhibition created by the Oakville Museum; displays with pictures and cultural information. Exhibit will be installed once lockdown is lifted. Please contact andrew@ccah.ca to book the installation at your school or facility.

February 1-28: Student Projects | Sheridan College | Sheridan Student Union
Projects include displays of posters, short stories, and films. Activities to be broadcasted by the Sheridan College Fine Arts, Media and Design Department.

In addition, the CCAH and Sheridan Alumni will award up to 10 students with prizes varying from \$100 - \$500 in value for their submissions to the CREATE Contest. Students may submit any piece of work that shares their experience and reflection on what Black History Month means to them. Submit your art here: www.ssu.ca/blackhistorymonth

Tuesday, February 2: Interview | Marc Carr's "The Issue" | Local COGECO TV
Host Marc Carr will interview CCAH President, Andrew Tyrrell; CEO of Oakville Community Foundation, Wendy Rinella; and Supervisor of the Oakville Museum, Julian Kingston about Black History.

Thursday, February 4: Interview | Oakville Mayor Burton's "Oakville Matters" | Local COGECO TV
Oakville Mayor Rob Burton will interview CCAH President, Andrew Tyrrell about Oakville Black History and 2021 Black History Month Events.

Saturday, February 6: No One Goes Hungry in Oakville on a Saturday | QEPCCC, 2302 Bridge Road, Oakville | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm | Chef Melani Bastians will create a special African-themed meal | 200 free meals via curbside pick-up or delivery | For delivery please contact andrew@ccah.ca or NOGHhaltonON@gmail.com

Sunday, February 7: No One Goes Hungry in Milton on a Sunday | Caribbean Vibes restaurant, 171 Main Street East, Milton | 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Chef Melani Bastians will create a special African-themed meal | 350 free meals via curbside pick-up or delivery | For delivery please contact Chefmelanibastians@gmail.com or NOGHhaltonON@gmail.com

Wednesday, February 10: The Skin We're In | 1:00 – 2:30 pm | Presented by Sheridan College | An afternoon with an activist, radio host, and award-winning journalist, Desmond Cole, to talk about his work documenting social justice in Toronto and guide us in a discussion about the black experience in this city. Cole will also be sharing from his book, "The Skin We're In," where Cole chronicles just one year—2017—in the struggle against racism in this country. Register here: [The Skin We're In with Desmond Cole — Sheridan Student Union \(thessu.ca\)](http://TheSkinWe'reInwithDesmondCole—SheridanStudentUnion(thessu.ca))

Monday, February 15: CCAH presents Black History Month | The Village of Tansley Woods and Long-term Care, Burlington | 1:00 pm | Caribbean-influenced food and virtual entertainment for staff and residents.



Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)

Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre

2302 Bridge Road, Oakville, Ontario L6L 2G6

Tel: 905 815 6184

Email: Andrew@ccah.ca

Web: www.ccah.ca

Wednesday, February 17: Issues of Race in Education: Supporting Black Families | Presented by Roots Community Service and Halton Children's Aid Society | 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | Virtual ZOOM session | It is a fundamental value of our society that every child should be treated with fairness and dignity within our schools. But are Black boys and girls being treated as such? Systemic anti-Black racism permeates the structures of our society, including the education system, often having unintended consequences on the outcomes for Black children and their families. Join community leaders for a discussion of steps which are being taken to address issues impacting Black families and their children in Halton Region. Please register here: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMpduCvrD0uE9c6h12xNpONSx80JGCrBZXT>

Wednesday, February 17: In conversation with Cherie Jones | Presented by the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts in association with Oakville Public Library and Different Drummer Books | 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm | Please register here: <https://www.oakvillecentre.ca/cherie-jones.html>

Thursday, February 18: Ignited to Inspire: Black Women Thriving During a Pandemic | 7:00 – 8:00 pm | Virtual ZOOM session | There is nothing more powerful than the collective voices of women who authentically share heartfelt personal accounts of their lived experience. This is what a group of women from the Greater Toronto Area have done in the new book "21 Resilient Women: Stories of Courage, Growth and Transformation." The book was written and published during the heights of the COVID-19 pandemic. Join a group of Black co-authors who will share not only lessons of courage, growth, and transformation but they will provide insights and suggestions about career, health and wellness, retirement and much more. All are invited and encouraged to join this event to build awareness and understanding about the resilience and success of Black women within our communities. Those who register, share the link and attend this event, will have a chance to win a FREE copy of this book - 30 copies of the book will be given away! Link to book information: [21 Resilient Women: Stories of Courage, Growth, and Transformation: Wright, Daisy, Bode, Christine: 9780981310473: Books - Amazon.ca](https://www.amazon.ca/dp/B0981310473) Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/ignited-to-inspire-black-women-thriving-during-a-pandemic-tickets-138448714833>

Tuesday, February 23: Navigating, Challenging, and Confronting Anti-Black Racism: Global Perspectives in Canadian Context | 4:00 – 5:30 pm | Presented by Sheridan College | In this facilitated keynote, Dr. Christopher Taylor will review the roots of Black identity and Black history. Dr. Taylor will lead us on a journey of the histories of enslavement and colonization, engage in conversation on Black Canadian history, and leave us with some 'food for thought' on the present-day realities of Blackness for newcomers and Blacks in Canada. Review his book *Flying Fish in the Great White North: The Autonomous Migration of Black Barbadians*. [Flying Fish in the Great White North – Fernwood Publishing](https://www.fernwoodpublishing.com/) Review Dr. Taylor's bio: <https://uwaterloo.ca/history/people-profiles/christopher-taylor> . Please register at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/navigating-challenging-confronting-anti-black-racism-tickets-137308091197>



Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)

Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre

2302 Bridge Road, Oakville, Ontario L6L 2G6

Tel: 905 815 6184

Email: Andrew@ccah.ca

Web: www.ccah.ca

Tuesday, February 23: HERO film screening and CCAH multi-media & written word contest winners | 6:30 pm | Sheridan Faculty of Human Arts and Social Services (and Women Filmmakers), Screenwriting course in Creative Writing & Publishing program | Contest winners announced followed by a CCAH and Sheridan presentation | Screening of the full-length feature film "*HERO: Inspired By The Extraordinary Life And Times Of Mr. Ulric Cross.*"

Inspired by the life Ulric Cross whose has experienced key moments of the 20th Century like WW2, African independence, Black Power, the rise of a new brand of Black leadership around the world - all events that have shaped the world today. Hosted on the platform CaribbeanTales-TV followed by Q&A with Director and Producer Frances-Anne Solomon. General public encouraged to attend. Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/hero-with-director-frances-anne-solomon-tickets-137839867755?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>

Wednesday, February 24: So you want to talk about race | Presented by CCAH and Milton Public Library with community partners | 10:30 am | National Broadcast |

Join this important discussion, led by New York Times Best Selling Author, Ijeoma Oluo. Learn how to have open and honest conversations about race and racism, how to be an ally, and why anti-racism is essential to creating connected and empathetic communities. Interpreting services provided. Please register at Ijeoma Oluo: So You Want to Talk About Race - Crowdcast

Saturday, February 27: Clef Notes to Canvas | Milton Public Library | 1:00 pm – 3:30pm | Hosted in partnership with the CCAH and Milton Public Library and facilitated by local artist Omar "Oms" Hopkinson | Free supplies (canvas and paints) to be picked up from Milton Public Library. Ages 14 – 17 years | Contact Lisa.Portelli@beinspired.ca for additional questions.

This interactive art session, where creativity, music and awareness meet, will be virtual.

Join us for a creative afternoon of music and visual art. The first part of the program focuses on "The Struggle" whereby participants allow the mood of the background music to evoke feelings that are translated onto the canvas. The second part focuses on the "Freedom" of creativity whereby participants allow music to influence exploration and expand upon the initial artwork created. All supplies provided; no experience necessary. Please register here:

[https://mplca.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=9468&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2021/02/01\[1\]](https://mplca.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=9468&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2021/02/01[1])

Saturday, February 27: No One Goes Hungry in Oakville on a Saturday | QEPCCC, 2302 Bridge Road, Oakville | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm | Chef Melani Bastians will create a special Caribbean-themed meal | 200 free meals via curbside pick-up or delivery | For delivery please contact andrew@ccah.ca or NOGHaltonON@gmail.com

Sunday, February 28: No One Goes Hungry in Milton on a Sunday | Caribbean Vibes restaurant, 171 Main Street East, Milton | 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Chef Melani Bastians will create a special Caribbean-themed meal | 350 free meals via curbside pick-up or delivery | For delivery please contact Chefmelanibastians@gmail.com or NOGHaltonON@gmail.com



Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)

Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre

2302 Bridge Road, Oakville, Ontario L6L 2G6

Tel: 905 815 6184

Email: Andrew@ccah.ca

Web: www.ccah.ca

HALTON REGION SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The four school programs listed below can be offered for remote class learning. All programs are in English. If your school is interested in offering one of these programs, please contact andrew@ccah.ca

1. Diana Braithwaite and Chris Whiteley

Pre-recorded musical performance featuring jazz songs, and the spoken word created by multiple Maple Blues award winning artists Diana Braithwaite and Chris Whiteley. During the performance, they educate and entertain audiences with a musical journey through history to discover the early origins of jazz and the current music they performed. This presentation is educational while entertaining. Please contact andrew@ccah.ca to book.

2. Steelpan Music Demonstration (15 mins) and Mini-concert (15 mins)

Pre-recorded performance and workshop to be securely broadcast via the Ministry of Education portals. Programs funded by Oakville Community Foundation's Community Classrooms project.

Dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion, supporting cultural development, and encouraging civic engagement, the CCAH brings Caribbean music and education to Community Classroom participants. This vibrant and informative session about Steelpan has been designed with the young online learner in mind.

[Community Classroom Online – Oakville Community Foundation \(theocf.org\)](http://theocf.org)

3. Caribbean Cooking Sessions

Sessions are designed for English Secondary students but are also an excellent opportunity for ESL students and participants in social justice or hospitality programs. These are 30-45-minute pre-recorded sessions followed by a live-feed discussion with Chef Delvon Greene or Chef Melani Bastians regarding food and cooking styles unique to the Caribbean. Foods prepared are Jerk Chicken and Mango Salsa, and Caribbean-style Red Snapper with Rice and Peas. Sessions are broadcast via the Ministry of Education portals. Please contact andrew@ccah.ca to book.

4. Issues of Race

This 3-part workshop is designed in English for Secondary students | Format may be virtual through Zoom to allow for student interaction or timed broadcasts via the Ministry of Education portals. Three-part workshop includes the following presenters:

Akil McKenzie, CEO of media production company, Falling Motion. He oversees 50 talented team members that work on commercials, music videos, films and weddings. Akil is a director, producer, cinematographer, editor, public speaker, and poetic artist. As a creative, Akil is always looking for new artforms to express thought and emotion. (15 mins)

Jasmine Als, Conflict Communication and Resolution. Jasmine is a Durham College Campus Conflict Resolution Services Student Practitioner. She is currently focused on mediation and alternate dispute resolution. Before going to Durham College, she received her degree in Conflict Resolution Studies from the University of Winnipeg. (15 mins)

Kara Morgan, Disarming Racism Through a Shared Vision. Kara will focus on the meaning of systemic anti-Black racism and the challenges to finding an appropriate solution. Businesses and organizations



Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH)

Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre

2302 Bridge Road, Oakville, Ontario L6L 2G6

Tel: 905 815 6184

Email: Andrew@ccah.ca

Web: www.ccah.ca

are looking to be more inclusive as they review internal policies and practices. Join Kara as she clarifies some confusion around common, misunderstood terms and unravels some reasons why anti-Black racism continues. (30mins) Please contact andrew@ccah.ca to book.

For more information, please contact Nathalie de Caen ndecaen@hotmail.com Event Coordinator or Andrew 905.827.1752 andrew@ccah.ca or Sheldon (in Milton) 647.986.7489 Sheldon@ccah.ca

Visit www.ccah.ca for more details about the CCAH.