

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### February 2020

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- WHEREAS:** throughout its history, Bradford West Gwillimbury has been characterized and strengthened by its diverse and distinctive cultures; and
- WHEREAS:** people of African descent have made significant contributions to the betterment of our society, and play a vital role within our social and cultural mosaic; and
- WHEREAS:** Black History Month was first recognized in Ontario in February 1993, marking the 200th anniversary of the passage of legislation prohibiting the importation of slaves into Upper Canada; and
- WHEREAS:** John Graves Simcoe, Upper Canada's first lieutenant governor, initiated the abolishment of slavery in Canada; and
- WHEREAS:** Black people – both free people and slaves seeking their freedom via the Underground Railroad – traversed this area to settle in Simcoe County; and
- WHEREAS:** Black History Month continues to provide the opportunity to remember and celebrate the contributions of African Canadians.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

that His Worship Mayor Rob Keffer and Members of Council proclaim February 2020 as BLACK HISTORY MONTH in the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury.

### PLEASE TAKE PART IN OUR SPECIAL EVENTS

The BWG Public Library at 425 Holland St. W. is offering several special events in honour of Black History Month, celebrating art, music and dance. See the attached page for details.

Black History Month is an opportunity to recognize the past and present contributions that African Canadians make to our communities. The Town of BWG will be celebrating these contributions including art, music, stories and culture throughout February with events at the BWG Public Library and Cultural Centre.

For more details on any of these events, visit the Library at 425 Holland St. West, online at [bradford.library.on.ca](http://bradford.library.on.ca) or call 905-775-3328.

### **Art Display**

**Monday, February 3 through Friday, February 28**

Stop by the Library any time this month to explore a wide range of paintings by local artist Stanley Thomas being displayed on the upstairs and main level art walls.

### **A Tribute to Jimi Hendrix: Jimi Hendrix Unplugged**

**Sunday, February 2 at 2:00 p.m.**

One of the most exciting and technically extraordinary guitar-slingers in Canada, the inimitable Toney "Wild T" Springer Portrayed Jimi Hendrix in the movie "Daydream Believer". Experience Wild T's show, based on an intimate approach to the legendary creations of the iconic rock-blues guitar innovator.

### **Black History Month Book Club and Movie: The Hate U Give**

**Wednesday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m.**

Discuss the acclaimed book and watch the movie adaptation about a young woman who finds her voice after witnessing her best friend getting shot by police. Registration preferred but not mandatory.

### **Teen Many Cultures Celebration**

**Thursday, February 13 at 4:00 p.m.**

Join the Centre for Youths and Culture in this event, featuring Youth Elevation Dance Troupe and Prince Jay the rapper.

### **MysticDrumz**

**Saturday, February 29 at 11:00 a.m.**

Travel back in time with Mystic Drumz and learn about some of the very first African instruments on the planet. In this interactive show, children explore percussion instruments and their rhythms. Explore different drums and much more, with crafts after the show! This program is being run in partnership with the BWG Diversity Action Group.

### **"I Have a Dream" Black History Celebration**

**Saturday, February 29 at 1:00 p.m.**

This all-ages social event will include performances and refreshments, and is being run in partnership with the Centre for Youths and Culture.