



## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

**Friday, January 31, 2025**

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

### **Celebrate Black History Month in Barrie**

(Barrie, ON) – February is Black History Month, and the City of Barrie is proud to promote events and programming that bring awareness to the significant contributions that Black Canadians have made and continue to make to the cultural landscape of our country and our community. The City of Barrie encourages the community to recognize Black History Month as an opportunity to embrace diversity and foster a sense of belonging and inclusion.

Programming hosted or supported by the City of Barrie:

- **January & February** - The Outline of Black Freedom, an exhibition of Black artists' works in the [First Floor Gallery](#) at City Hall, (70 Collier Street), Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Monday, February 3 at 2:30 p.m.** - [Flag Raising](#) at the City Hall courtyard (70 Collier Street). Raising of the Pan-African Flag at City Hall and Proclamation of Black History Month in the City of Barrie.
- **Thursday, February 6, 12 to 1 p.m.** - [Black History Month Virtual Lecture - Laura LaChappelle](#)
- **Friday, February 7, 6:30 to 9 p.m.** - [MacLaren Art Centre - Winter Opening Reception](#), featuring a Black History Month Exhibition – Canvas for Change: Black Youth Art Celebration.
- **Saturday, February 8, 10 to 10:45 a.m.** - [Black History Month Celebration with Local Author Tricia Khan](#) at the Painswick Library (48 Dean Avenue). Join Tricia Khan, a local author, as she reads from her books and leads children in crafts and activities to celebrate Black History Month.
- **Saturday, February 15, 7:30 to 11:30 p.m.** - [Black History Month: A Tribute to Maria Makeba](#) at the Five Points Theatre (1 Dunlop Street). Featuring Waleed Kush Afro-Jazz blends African rhythms with American jazz harmonies, embracing exploration and inclusivity. Tickets are \$40.
- **Thursday, February 20, 12 to 1 p.m.** - [Black History Month Virtual Lecture - Peter Meyler](#)

The MacLaren Art Centre is hosting a variety of [Black History Month](#) programming including Canvas For Change: Black Youth Art Celebration, [Sound Canvas](#) (All Ages), [Making our Mark: Artworks from Forest Hill Public School](#), and [Lunch & Learn: A Canadian Black History Story \(That You Probably Never Heard About!\)](#)

The Barrie Public Library, in collaboration with UPlift Black, hosts [Black History 365](#), which provides resources, readings, interviews and presentations that allow users to learn about Black history all year long.

Visit [barrie.ca/BlackHistoryMonth](http://barrie.ca/BlackHistoryMonth) for additional details on programs and events.

- 30 -

***For more information, please contact:***

Scott LaMantia  
Manager of Marketing & Communications  
Scott.lamantia@barrie.ca  
705-794-0517