



AMHERSTBURG FREEDOM MUSEUM

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Mac Simpson Award

***A prize of up to \$1500 may be awarded annually by
The Amherstburg Freedom Museum***

****Submission deadline is MAY 15, 2016****

PURPOSE

- To honour the memory of Melvin “Mac” Simpson, the founder of *the Amherstburg Freedom Museum* and to recognize his dedication to education and commitment to the community.
- To promote the valuable role of *the Amherstburg Freedom Museum* in the community.
- To support and encourage students as they pursue post-secondary studies.

ELIGIBILITY

This award will be given annually to at least one student of African descent who is currently attending a secondary school in the Essex County area and will be commencing post-secondary studies in September, 2016 on a full-time basis. Students will be required to provide proof of attendance.

Applicants are required to submit:

- a completed application form (see attached)
- two letters of reference supporting school and community involvement
- transcript of academic record
- proof of post-secondary registration and offer of acceptance (due in September)
- completed essay, poster, or multi-media presentation

SELECTION

Each secondary school in Essex County is encouraged to facilitate the application and recommend nominees.

- A selection committee appointed by the Museum’s Board of Directors will review all applications. The successful applicant(s) will receive the award(s).
- This award will be given to any student only once, and is not renewable.
- The selection committee reserves the right to withhold the award in any given year due to lack of suitable application quality or for non-compliance with any of the rules.
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed.

PRESENTATION

The successful recipient(s) will be notified by telephone or mail within six weeks of the deadline and will be invited to an award celebration in September, 2016 at which they will be acknowledged during. The successful recipient(s) will receive the award during the fall semester upon providing proof of admission.

Melvin "Mac" Simpson Award Application

Please complete the following information based on the current school year.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| First Name | Last Name | Age | Date of Birth |
| Home Address | Postal Code | Home Phone Number | |
| Email Address | Current School | Date of Graduation | |
| Post-secondary Institution | Program of Study | Career Interest(s) | |

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

In point form, list your extracurricular involvement in school during the past two years. Please indicate activities, awards, recognitions and leadership positions. Please attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient.

In point form, list your community involvement during the past two years. Please attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient.

Select one option and complete the requirements below:

The selection committee will evaluate the submissions on the basis of their potential to have a positive impact on the educational aspirations of African Canadian youth and on the positive development of society in general. Submissions will be judged on the content, clarity, and coherence of the topic as it is expressed throughout the work.

*****Essays must include a title page which lists the title of the essay, school of attendance, and the student's contact information including address and telephone number. Essays must be typed, double-spaced, and free of grammatical and syntax errors.***

Option 1: Black History Maker of Tomorrow

- Write an essay containing between 1000 - 1500 words on how and why you plan to make a positive impact on Black history and in the community.

Option 2: Illuminating the Past

- Develop a poster which reflects significant individuals, locations and/or events in African Canadian history. Posters may be in colour or black and white. The poster must be accompanied by a brief description of the significance of each image on the poster.

Option 3: Media Presentation (e.g., POWERPOINT, MOVIEMAKER)

- Create a three to five-minute video or slideshow about (a) significant individual(s), location(s) and/or event(s) in African Canadian history. Descriptions must accompany all images used.

Option 4: What does Black history in Canada mean to me?

- Write an essay containing between 1000 - 1500 words describing what Black history in Canada means to you.

Option 5: Sharing our stories

- Conduct an oral history interview with a relative/relatives resulting in a record of roughly 1000 – 1500 words. Submission must be a transcript of the interview (the questions asked and the answers provided). Topics can include family ancestors, your relative's childhood and/or career, how Essex County has changed over the years, how being a Black Canadian in Essex County has changed over the years, etc.

***** All submissions become the property of the Amherstburg Freedom Museum.***

Make sure all required items accompany this application:

- Completed application form
- Two letters of reference supporting school and community involvement
- Transcript of your academic record
- Proof of post-secondary registration and acceptance
- Completed essay, poster or multi-media presentation

Entries must be submitted by May 15, 2016 to the Amherstburg Freedom Museum or by email to: curator@amherstburgfreedom.org

***** Documents will not be returned to the applicant. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.***

*****Chosen recipients will be required to provide an updated educational status report when requested by the Museum for use in promotional materials***