



**CO-AUTHORS: DR. DENISE O'NEIL GREEN, HON. DR. JEAN AUGUSTINE & DAUNA JONES-SIMMONDS**



## 100 ACCOMPLISHED BLACK CANADIAN (ABC) WOMEN

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH SPECIAL**

**FEBRUARY 2020**

"Black history is not just for  
Black people – Black history is  
Canadian history"

- Jean Augustine



**JEAN AUGUSTINE**

### In this Issue:

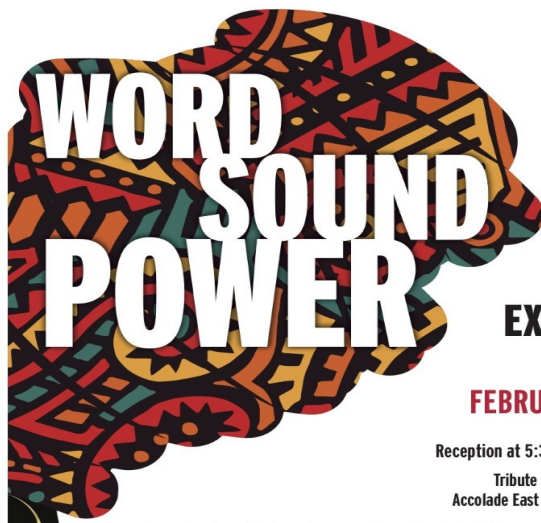
- ◆ Quote from Hon. Dr. Jean Augustine
- ◆ Black Artistic Expression
- ◆ Evelyn Myrie Has Not Stopped!!
- ◆ Former President Barack Obama at the Economic Club
- ◆ Shannon Price—Curator
- ◆ Celebrating Black History Month — Upcoming Events

### EVELYN MYRIE A 2016 HONOREE HAS NOT STOPPED

Since 2016, Evelyn has been involved in numerous community activities. She founded the annual "Women Who Rock Awards" a platform for celebrating Women's History Month in Canada. To date, over thirty women have been honoured for their tremendous achievements and contributions to their community.



Two years ago, she was elected President of the Afro Canadian Caribbean Association-Hamilton's longest serving Black community association. This past January (2020) she was presented with the inaugural "Order of Hamilton Award" for exceptional community leadership. We will definitely continue to hear about Evelyn, she doesn't stand still.



**BLACK  
ARTISTIC  
EXPRESSION**

**WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 12, 2020**

7:00pm – 9:30pm

Reception at 5:30pm (Martin Family Lounge)

Tribute Communities Recital Hall  
Accolade East Building, York University

An evening of spectacular performances showcasing Black artistic expression here at York University! Featuring musical performances including the R&B Ensemble under the direction of Mike Cado and the York University Gospel Choir under the direction of Karen Burke, as well as Spoken Word artists from Griots to Emcees.

The evening also features a presentation by  
**WENDY MOTION BRATHWAITE**  
on the legacy of Black oral & aural culture.

**SPACE IS LIMITED**  
RSVP at <http://bit.ly/2G21TrA>



This event is co-presented by the  
Departments of Humanities and  
Music at York University.  
Thanks to the Archives of Ontario,  
Griots to Emcees and the Nia Centre  
for the Arts for their support.



Jean Augustine Chair  
in Education,  
Community & Diaspora

school of the arts, media  
performance & design | **YORK U**

liberal arts &  
professional studies | **YORK U**

education | **YORK U**

**100 Accomplished Black**

**Canadian Women — 2018**



**WAYS TO GET YOUR BOOK NOW:**

⇒ **A Different Booklist— 779 Bathurst  
St., Toronto, Ontario**  
⇒ **[www.Amazon.ca](http://www.Amazon.ca)**  
**<https://www.100abcwomen.ca/how-to-get-your-book/>**

# President Barack Obama at the Economic Club in Toronto



On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 The Economic Club of Canadian hosted Future of Work & New Economy Series: Part 1. Over six thousand persons attended the event that featured U.S. president Barack Obama, as well as Mme. Sophie Gregoire Trudeau. Interestingly enough, however, when Mme Trudeau, gifted First Nations drummers and President Obama graced the stage...none of the intimacy between speaker and audience was lost. We felt a connection to them and what they shared with us. Each provided thoughtful, positive deposits into all in attendance. A lady at my table mentioned that she worked for the government. I casually asked if she was here as an agency representative, to which she responded, "the government doesn't know I'm here." Clearly this event was important enough to play adult hooky. Others agreed, as in a room of over six thousand, there were likely others at the event who had coughed on a call to their boss that morning.

All three 100 ABC Women co-authors were in attendance, as well as some of its core team, such as social media director Valerie Augustine, Event Planners Kares Clarke-Glasgow, Floydeen Charles-Fridal Huggins, Nicole Waldron and Joan Pierre, and this author, director of communications, Alyson Renaldo.

Sitting wherever you were in the filled Metro Convention Centre, one still cannot explain how large the space actually was...until you realized that even with 20/20 vision, jumbo screens were required in order to see the speakers. At one point this author considered sourcing hydration and packing a lunch to go speak to a colleague who was sitting on the other end of the venue. You may wonder what all the fuss is about. I mean we've all heard president Obama share insights before. One can Google his brilliance, so why trek downtown to see him during the work week? 100 ABC 2020 honouree and associate described hearing him speak as, "just inspiring. [President Obama] touched on so many things that I believe in."

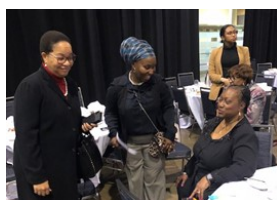
The ostensible fuss was that President Obama's insights were connected to his continual commitment to learning and personal growth, which he seemed happy to share with all within the sound of his voice. In that regard, we were exposed to new points of wisdom, which resonated with us all and for that time connected each and every one of us.

100 ABC co-author Dauna Jones Simmonds described her attendance as being a defining moment, "I never thought it would happen. It was a historic moment for me. He was spot on with his answers, very inspiring...good motivation for the some five hundred young people in the room to-day."

100 ABC co-author Dr. Denise O'Neil Green observed that, "the president...I still call him 'president', as far as I'm concerned he is still my president. His responses were brilliant. He recognized the importance of young people and how their work will change the way we do business and how we treat the earth." Regarding the event itself, Dr. O'Neil Green lauds, "[It's] very impressive that this event was organized in six weeks. The organizers are to be commended."

Co-author the Honourable Dr. Jean Augustine was sought out by Rhiannon Rosalind, CEO of The Economic Club of Canada to increase attendance. Wait a minute-help fill The Metro Convention Centre in six weeks?! "Quite a feat," I asserted, "No, no, no," the honourable corrects me, "[I was asked to do so] in a few days. It was my pleasure to assist in bringing young people like yourself to this important event.

Young people...such as...myself. Well, there is irrefutable proof of the honourable Jean Augustine's generosity, as this author boasts regrets older than the actual young people in attendance. Regardless of age, creed, or concern, many who were at the event would likely agree that it was a positive and memorable experience. Written By **Alyson Renaldo**



Contact Us—Check our website for more information:  
[www.100ABCWomen.ca](http://www.100ABCWomen.ca)

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thank  
you!

**Dauna Jones-Simmonds**  
&  
**Norma Wilson**

# February is Black History Month!



100 ABC spoke with one of our 2018 100 ABC honourees, Shannon Prince, curator of the *Buxton National Historic Site and Museum*, in North Buxton Ontario. We discussed the significance of Black History Month and taking a moment to learn something new about us, whenever possible. For instance, many of us have heard of the most famous conductor of *The Underground Railroad*, Harriet Tubman. However, fewer of us are familiar with some of the people who 'disembarked' from that 'train' and how they had to rebuild their lives in yet another strange, rugged (and often frigid) new land.

*The Underground Railroad* was a secret network of freed and enslaved people during the 19<sup>th</sup> century which led enslaved Black people from United States to Canada while human ownership was still legal in the U.S. (Canada also has a history of slavery, however, it was abolished throughout the British Empire-to which Canada then belonged-some thirty years before the United States).

Much of the attention of one of the greatest civil rights movements in human history is often centred around the courageous journeys of people heading north, but less so upon their lives afterwards, which arguably required as much courage to create a life of freedom in yet another new world that did not have their success at the centre of its objectives. Towns such as Dresden, Chatham, Amherstburg and Buxton (formerly Elgin), were all founded by Black Pioneers.

Shannon Prince is sixth generation Black Canadian. 100 ABC asked her to provide us with a few lesser known Canadian Black History facts. Did you know that...

Canada's first Black doctor, Dr. Anderson Ruffin Abbott (educated in Buxton) became a surgeon during the US civil war and also practised medicine at the Freedman's Hospital in Washington...now Howard University

An art gallery in Chatham is featuring an exhibit entitled: *Legends Are The Rivers That Take Us Home*, which features a 30-minute film about Black pioneered towns of southern Ontario. Shannon Prince will be speaking there

Tony Dungy, whose roots are in Dresden ON became the first Black coach to win the Super Bowl in 2007

Maidstone, Saskatchewan is home to the province's first Black farming community, the Shiloh people, who settled there around 1910. The log church, the only remaining structure of the community was made into a provincial historical site in 2018

Shannon Prince explains that, "Celebrating Black History Month [a federal bill put forth by 100 ABC's very own Jean Augustine], allows us to pause, reflect, honour and remember all of the Black Canadian stories, so we can commemorate their achievements. It also creates awareness [so] we should feel inspired by their legacies...we are all standing on the shoulders of giants!"

Yes, agreed. Additionally, as history is made everyday, some of those 'giants' come in the form of a five foot tall woman, farming and actively preserving our legacy by curating a space like the Buxton Historical Site and Museum: a monument available to us, anytime we wish to connect with that part of our history. Thanks Shannon!

Happy Black History Month from 100 ABC...let's keep learning...throughout the year.

Written by: Alyson Renaldo



## How Are You Celebrating Black History Month?

Thanks to RBC for its 2020 Sponsorship of the Book Launch and Gala—2020



### Upcoming Events Calendar

#### SAVE THE DATE

2020 BOOK LAUNCH & GALA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

WOODBINE BANQUET HALL

30 VICE REGENT BLVD, TORONTO

Tickets will go on sale in February 2020

xxxxxx

### 2020 Honourees Unveiled!

<https://www.100abcwomen.ca/2020-honourees/>

xxxxxx

**Tropicana Canada Seeks Board Directors—Click on the Link below to get more information**

<https://www.100abcwomen.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Call-for-Board-Directors.pdf>



# Celebrating Black History Month!

## Upcoming Events!

The Kickoff: Èbène Makes Their Debut Appearance



**Èbène & Odin Quartet**  
present  
**Un Voyage Audacieux**  
THE CONCERT  
Classical Music & Bach's Piano Concertos  
TORONTO

**FEB 04 06 07**

A Different Bolder  
The Bolder  
7:45 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.

Chapel Of  
The Immaculate  
Conception  
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Laneway Park  
Community Church  
North York  
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Tickets: info: 416-593-7267  
events@ebene.ca | 416-593-7267 | ebenequartet@gmail.com

Children/Students  
\$15 \$20  
Early Bird At Door


Adults  
\$30 \$40  
Early Bird At Door

Corporate Premiums  
\$100

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AL GREEN THEATRE  
calishworks PRESENT

# FISH RUM

STUDIO PERFORMANCE AND LIVE TAPING  
Jamaicans and Newfoundlanders exchanging rum barrels for cod  
- during Prohibition. What could possibly go wrong?



February 14-16, 2020  
**AL GREEN Theatre**  
Inside the Miles Nadal JCC 750 Spadina Ave (at Bloor)  
For tickets and information, please visit [fishandrum.ca](http://fishandrum.ca)

ARTS COUNCIL

# BLACK LEADERSHIP, PARTISAN POLITICS & SOCIAL ACTIVISM

**FEBRUARY 8 & 9, 2019**  
The Black Leadership, Partisan Politics and Social Activism symposium will bring together community leaders, activists, academics and students to discuss the limitations and possibilities of political representation and social activism for advancing Black communities.

**DAY TWO | Saturday, Feb 9th | 10:00am - 4:00pm**  
Founders Assembly Hall | 152 Founders College, York University

**PANEL 1: BLACK LEADERSHIP AND PARTISAN POLITICS**  
10:45am - 12:45pm

**PANEL 2: BLACK LEADERSHIP AND SOCIAL ACTIVISM**  
1:45pm - 3:45pm

**DAY ONE | Friday, Feb 8th | 5:30pm - 9:00pm**

A CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSORS DAVID AUSTIN AND AMOORA SCODEN  
FACILITATED BY PROFESSOR TAMARI KITOSSA

Reception: 5:30pm - 7:00pm  
Mortimer Family Lounge  
Conversation: 7:00pm - 9:00pm  
Toronto Communications Board Hall  
\*Mortimer East Building, York University (near Campus)

SPACE IS LIMITED RSVP at <https://bit.ly/2Hve2c0>

David Austin, Amoorah Scoden, Tamari Kitossa

TIFFANY GOOCH, Public Affairs Consultant and Public Opinion Columnist  
YAFET TSEWELDE, Community Organizer and PhD Candidate, York University  
WENDY VINCENT, Director Communications, Operation Black Vote Canada  
ADAROMA PATTERSON, President, American Canadian Association  
MODERATOR: YOLANDE DAVIDSON, Director, American Canadian Association

ANTHONY MORGAN, Lawyer and Activist  
VALERIE STEELE, Activist, Black Action Defence Committee  
DEBORAH COLE, Activist and Freelance Journalist  
SANDRA HUDSON, Founder, Black Lives Matter Toronto  
HUBERTON, SANTIAGO, P.D. Candidate, Sociology, York University

unifor Jean Augustine Chair in Education, Community & Diaspora Department of Humanities education YORK UNIVERSITY

**HUMBER**  
THE CENTRE FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
EQUITY & DIVERSITY  
HR SERVICES



**HUMBER COLLEGE**  
**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FORUM**

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2020  
8:30 AM TO 1:00 PM  
LIGHT BREAKFAST AT 8:00 AM



Keynote Speaker  
Joyce Shabazz

**Address:**  
Barrett Centre for  
Technology Innovation  
205 Humber College Boulevard  
Toronto, Ontario M9W 5L7

To register:  
[HumberIWDForum.eventbrite.ca](http://HumberIWDForum.eventbrite.ca)

### Women & Leadership: Equity as an Imperative

**FIRESIDE CHATS WITH:**  
Dr. Laurie Rancourt; Njeri Damali Sojourner-Campbell, JD, MEd;  
Dr. Haesun Moon; Rita Kohli, MA, MEd

#### FORUM DETAILS:

- There is no charge for this event.
- Registration is required: [HumberIWDForum.eventbrite.ca](http://HumberIWDForum.eventbrite.ca)
- Light breakfast & lunch provided
- Childcare available: Ages 3 - 12 years from 8:00 am to 1:30 pm.  
**MUST PROVIDE DETAILS WHEN REGISTERING**
- Free parking in Lot 3 and the Parking Garage



[hrs.humber.ca/diversity](http://hrs.humber.ca/diversity)

This document is available in an alternate format upon request

PRESENTED BY THE OBHS & FORT YORK:

# Exploring Our Culinary History: African-Canadian Cuisine Then and Now

February 29  
3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
<https://fortyork.streamintickets.com>

**CHEF WARREN FORD**

**CHEF JAMIE BEESTON**

**100ABCWomen is committed to recognizing and documenting the accomplishments of Black Canadian Women. All Honourees are encouraged to share their accomplishments so that our readers can appreciate the difference they are making in their respective communities**

**Check Out our Special Black History Month Special in February 2020—Great Stories to Share!!!!**