



Media Release

Kingston Frontenac Public Library
Kimberly Sutherland Mills
Director, Service Design and Delivery
613-549-8888 ext 3520
kmills@kfpl.ca

FOR RELEASE JANUARY 31, 2023

KFPL celebrates Black History Month with programs for all ages

The Kingston Frontenac Public Library celebrates Black History Month in February, inspired by and partnering with Black creators to offer valuable education, discussion and creative opportunities. From celebrating Black joy to learning about the legacy of the Black Lives Matter movement, there are events and resources for people of all ages.

Programming begins with Make Art: Just Like Vanessa!, an event for kids ages five and up. Taking inspiration from the joyful, vibrant art of Black illustrator Vanessa Brantley-Newton participants will make an image of themselves using crayons, pastels, and paper collage. Registration is required for the event, happening on February 4 at the Calvin Park Branch. Space is limited. Register at <https://calendar.kfpl.ca/event/7394443>.

Creativity continues with Graffiti Art - Design Your Own Tag! Kids ages five and up will join award-winning Ottawa muralist Jimmy Baptiste as he guides families to create graffiti pieces. This virtual event, happening February 16, is sponsored by The Friends of the Kingston Frontenac Public Library. Registration opens February 4 at <https://calendar.kfpl.ca/event/7889258>.

On February 23, people ages 13 and up are invited to drop into the Calvin Park Branch from 6-8 p.m. for a screening of *Whose Streets?* Sabaah Folyan and Damon Davis's documentary covers the 2014 Ferguson, Missouri uprising after Michael Brown's death. The fallout from his killing is explored through several people's perspectives as they navigate institutional and racial barriers in the journey for justice.

Throughout the month, KFPL branches will showcase collections featuring books, films, and music featuring Black voices, with online collections offering the same. Check the event calendar at calendar.kfpl.ca for more opportunities to celebrate.

"During Black History Month, we celebrate the joy and accomplishments of the Black community while acknowledging the ongoing struggle against racism and discrimination," said Kimberly Sutherland Mills, Director, Service Design and Delivery. "KFPL's programming and collections remind us that while we honour the past, we must also actively work towards a future where Black voices are not just heard, but valued and uplifted."

-30-