

Dufferin-Peel schools mark Black History Month

Dufferin-Peel Catholic schools will host many engaging events and activities to celebrate Black History Month.

This will include It's Everyone's History ? Opening Doors, a board-wide Black History Student Conference Feb. 18 for secondary school students. This event will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the University of Toronto Mississauga Campus.

Now in its 12th year, the conference will highlight local community members who have achieved success and fulfillment of their ambitions and who are also role models for all students. More than 400 students are expected to attend the event which will include a panel discussion on Black Identity in 2016, followed by a series of workshops.

?In addition to a panel discussion, students will participate in workshops, led by a diverse range of presenters, who will share their own success and motivational stories,? Dufferin-Peel's Principal of Diversity, Equity and Inclusive Education Michelle Coutinho said. ?By learning about, and celebrating the contributions of African-Canadians, and, in particular, members of our own local community, students will be inspired to develop and share the diverse talents with which they have been blessed.?

The list of presenters will include TV producer and host Akil Augustine, marketing manager and leadership coach Chloe McKenzie, radio host and commentator Desmond Cole, TV producer and host Amanda Parris, author and journalist Dalton Higgins, sports writer Morgan Campbell, author Itah Sadu and dance educator Ijo Vudo.

University of Toronto Mississauga Campus is at 3359 Mississauga Rd., in Mississauga.

In addition to the board-wide conference, numerous schools have Black History Month events and activities planned. A detailed list of school events is available on the board's website.