

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Library hosts Black Film Watch Parties

ST. ALBERT, AB – This February, St. Albert Public Library celebrates Black History Month with another series of Black Film Watch parties in partnership with the Africans & African Descendants Friendship Club (AADFC) of St. Albert. We are pleased to host two compelling Alberta documentary films: *John Ware Reclaimed* and *The Caribbeans Go North* will be screened at the Downtown Library over two Friday nights in February.

John Ware Reclaimed follows filmmaker Cheryl Foggo on her quest to re-examine the mythology surrounding John Ware, the Black cowboy who settled in Alberta, Canada, before the turn of the 20th century. Foggo's research uncovers who this iconic figure might have been, and what his legacy means in terms of anti-Black racism, both past and present.

Through the documentary film *The Caribbeans Go North*, St. Albert resident Marilyn McGreer shares an engaging visual history that traces her father's journey from the Caribbean Island of Jamaica to Alberta in the late 1960s in search of better social, economic and spiritual opportunities for his young family. Learn about the obstacles he faced in answering the racial questions of "the colour of love?" and "who is my neighbour?"

After each screening, AADFC vice-president Toni Harrison will host an audience conversation about the film.

John Ware Reclaimed screens in Forsyth Hall at the Downtown Library on Friday, February 9, and *The Caribbeans Go North* screens on Friday, February 16. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the film screenings begin at 7 p.m. African snacks and refreshments are provided both evenings by the AADFC.

"The Library's watch parties for Black History Month are always popular, and we're excited about this year's film offerings. It's going to be two nights of learning, fun, and amazing food," says Geoff Manderscheid, Library Assistant at St. Albert Public Library. "With the support of community hosts from the AADFC, we cannot wait to connect viewers with these compelling films and discussions afterward about their place in Black history and how it helps us to better understand the present."

Register in advance at sapl.ca. The film watch parties are free and everyone is welcome.

For more Black History Month celebrations, check out February displays at the library and find staff-built materials lists at sapl.ca.

For more information, contact:

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