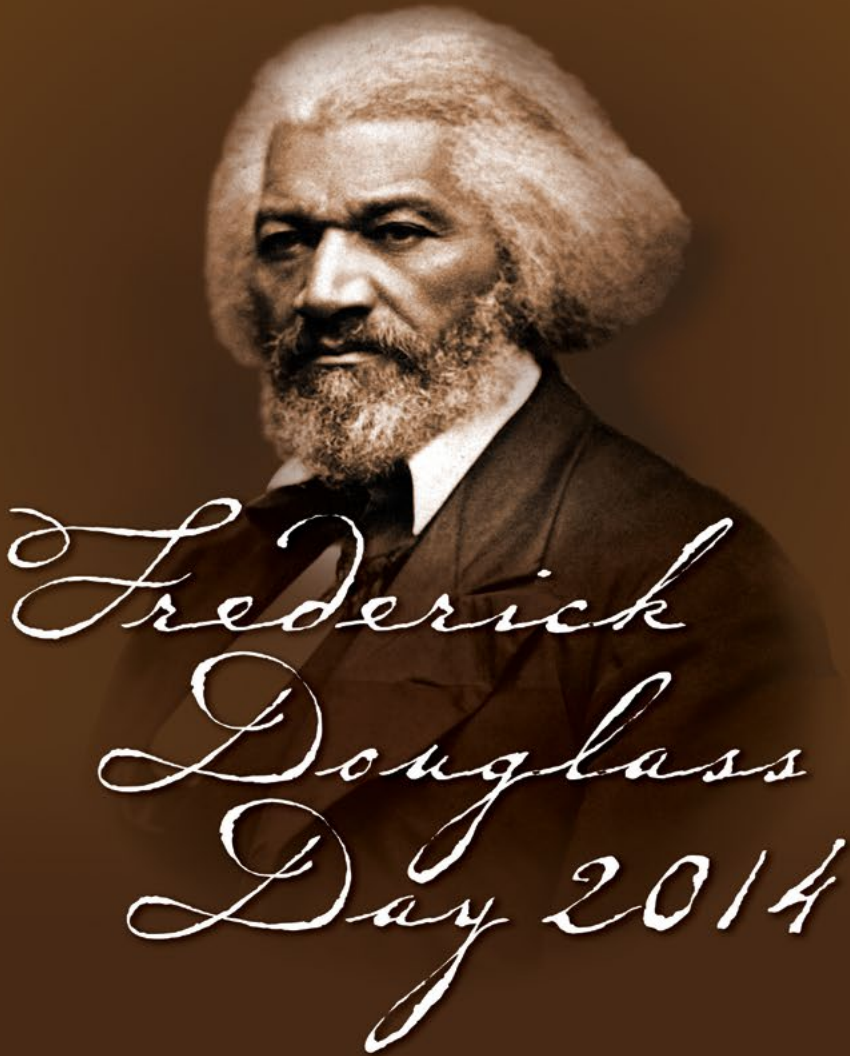


The Frederick Douglass Honor Society  
and the Town of Easton presents



Saturday, September 27, 2014

# Frederick Douglass Day

On behalf of the Town of Easton and the Frederick Douglass Honor Society, we welcome you to our annual Frederick Douglass Day. This is a proud day for the citizens of Easton, Talbot County and the Frederick Douglass Day Committee as they have long-labored to deliver this grand event filled with history, education, adventure, and entertainment.

Today, we honor Frederick Douglass, a man born into slavery in Talbot County. He had no formal education but taught himself to read and write. Indeed, ‘once you learn to read,’ he says, ‘you will forever be free.’ After his escape, Douglass soon became a powerful voice for freedom and equality, and a valued friend and advisor to President Abraham Lincoln. A U.S. Marshal, an Ambassador, and during the Republican National Convention in 1888, he was the first African-American to have his name placed into nomination for President of the United States.

Although he was born a slave, he died a statesman. His compassion for humanity, unyielding advocacy for justice, and intellectual prose writings continue to shape our nation today. “We have to do with the past as we can make it useful to the present and future” - Frederick Douglass.

We hope you enjoy today’s celebration of the life and legacy of our native son Frederick Douglass,

**Robert Willey**

Mayor, Town of Easton

**Eric Lowery**

President, Frederick  
Douglass Honor Society



11am - 12:30pm ~ **Guided Tour of “The Hill”**

11am ~ **Parade**

From Glenwood Ave. to the Talbot County Courthouse

11:15 - 11:30am ~ **Welcome Ceremony**  
at the Talbot County Courthouse

11:30am - 1pm ~ **Kentavious Jones & Band**, Entertainment Stage

11:30am - 4pm ~ **Talbot County Free Library Children’s Village**  
storytelling, free coloring books, and more

11:30am - 4pm ~ Food and Retail Vendors  
located at the District Court Parking Lot on Dover Street

11:30am - 3pm ~ **Scavenger Hunt**  
prizes awarded - Talbot County Free Library

1 - 1:40pm ~ Keynote Address by renowned Douglass Scholar  
**David Blight** - Talbot County Free Library

1 - 4pm ~ Oral History Recordings/Interviews at the  
Talbot County Free Library

1:15 - 1:45 pm ~ **Bay Country Chorus**, Entertainment Stage

2 - 2:55pm ~ **Jazz For Jesus**, Entertainment Stage

3 - 3:45pm ~ **Professor Dale Green** presents update on “The Hill’s”  
archaeological dig - Talbot County Free Library

3 - 3:45pm ~ **Sankofa African Dance Troupe**, Entertainment Stage

3:45 - 4pm ~ Closing Remarks, Entertainment Stage

6:30pm ~ A free screening of “**Twelve Years a Slave**”  
at Easton Premier Cinemas - 210 Marlboro Ave, Easton

## The Early Years of Frederick Douglass

The man we know as Frederick Douglass was born Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey in Talbot County, MD, February 1818. His mother, a slave named Harriet Bailey, gave birth to him in the cabin of her mother Betsey Bailey, also a slave but whose husband Isaac was free. The cabin was in a small ravine on Tuckahoe Creek near what is now called the village of Cordova. Frederick's mother soon returned to the farm where she worked, and he only saw her a few times thereafter. She died when he was eight years old. His earliest years were spent with his grandparents Isaac and Betsey Bailey.

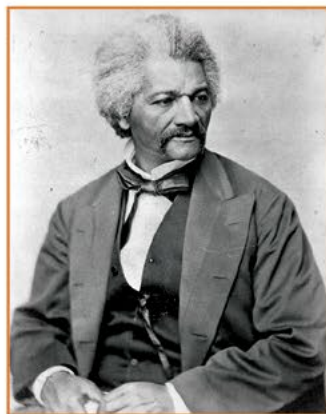


In 1824, at the age of six, Frederick and his grandmother walked twelve miles to Wye House plantation where his owner Aaron Anthony was employed as an overseer. Anthony died within two years and Frederick was transferred to the possession of Thomas Auld, Anthony's son-in-law. He was sent by Auld's wife to her sister-in-law Sophia Auld in Fells Point, Baltimore, to be a companion

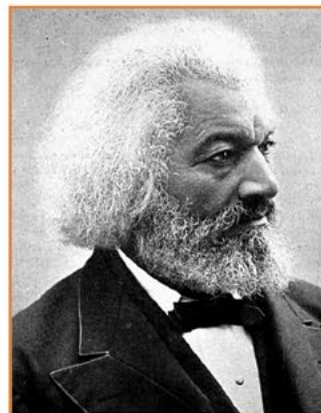
*"I had as well be killed running as die standing."*

to the son of Hugh and Sophia. Frederick was recognized as a gifted child, and Sophia began to teach him to read, although doing so was illegal. Her husband stopped the lessons, saying that if a slave was taught to read he would no longer be satisfied to remain a slave, words that Frederick overheard and took to heart. He continued to read in secret. He bought "The Columbian Orator," memorizing the speeches and practicing oratory.

Frederick was returned to the Eastern Shore when his services were no longer needed in Baltimore. By then, Colonel Lloyd, owner of the Wye House plantation, owned Frederick. The young man organized a weekly Sunday school, teaching other slaves to read the New Testament. Within a short time, several slave owners



*"Once you learn to read, you will forever be free."*



discovered this forbidden activity and broke up the meetings. Frederick tried to escape his master several times and was severely punished. After one such attempt, the escape plot was discovered and Frederick was tied and led behind a team of horses to the county jail in Easton. Ultimately, his master returned him to Baltimore to learn the trade of ship caulking. In 1838, he managed his successful escape with help from friends. To avoid being discovered and returned to slavery, Frederick stopped using the last name Bailey and called himself Frederick Johnson. He later changed his last name again to Douglass, choosing to spell Douglass with a slight difference – a double "s".

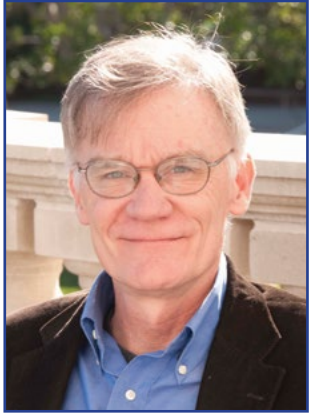
Frederick and his wife Anna had five children; three sons and two daughters. He became a licensed preacher in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, and he began to attend abolitionist meetings. Thus began the career of a great orator, editor, author, suffragist, reformer, statesman and advisor to Presidents. In 1878, in sharp contrast to his beginning in Talbot County, Douglass returned to Easton and spoke at the Courthouse, Asbury U. M. Church and Bethel A.M.E. Church as an accomplished and respected leader.

He died February 20, 1895, both nationally and internationally acclaimed as one of the most influential men of his century.

*"I know of no soil better adapted to the growth of reform than American soil. I know of no country where the conditions for affecting great changes in the settled order of things, for the development of right ideas of liberty and humanity, are more favorable than here in these United States."*

## SPEAKERS

**David W. Blight**, a professor of history at Yale University and director of the Gilder-Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, is one of the nation's foremost authorities in the United States Civil War and its legacy. In 2011-12, Blight was the Rogers Distinguished Fellow in 19th Century American History at the Huntington Library, San Marino, California. During the 2006-2007 academic year, he was a fellow at the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for



Writers and Scholars, New York Public Library. He works in numerous capacities in the public world of history, including boards of museums and historical societies, and as a member of a small team of advisors to the 9/11 Memorial and Museum team of curators. In 2012, Blight was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Book

As an author, Blight has been recognized for his well-known writings and has received eight book awards, including the Bancroft Prize, the Frederick Douglass Prize as well as four awards from the Organization of American Historians, including the Merle Curti prize for both intellectual and social history. He is a leading

expert in the life and writings of *Frederick Douglass and the Civil War* (1989), and his edition of *Douglass's Narrative* and *W.E.B. DuBois Souls of Black Folk* are widely taught in college courses.

Blight is also a frequent book reviewer for the *Washington Post* Book World, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Boston Globe* and other newspapers. He has also been a consultant to many documentary films including the PBS series *Africans in America, Lincoln* (2012), *Gettysburg Address* (2015), and the *American Experience*.

**Cameron McCoy** is a Junior in the Class of 2016 at Easton High School. He is involved in Easton High's Latin Club and NJROTC. He also loves to play basketball, soccer and enjoys writing poetry. Cameron and his family are members of Union Baptist Church and he participates in the youth program at the Presbyterian Church.



**Dale Glenwood Green** is Assistant Professor of Architecture and Chair of the Historic Preservation Program at Morgan State University, as well as a Partner at the architectural firm of Green and Tice. He earned his B.Sc in Architecture and Environmental Design from Morgan State University and M.A. in Architecture and Historic Preservation from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is distinguished for his contributions in preservation education that have transformed historic communities locally, nationally and internationally. He is currently documenting several historic African American places in Maryland, including helping to restore Asbury United Methodist Church and supervising the archeological dig at "The Hill" in Easton. Green was honored as the recipient of two 2012 Maryland Preservation Awards.



*"The Hill,"* located in the East End of Easton, is believed to be the oldest African American neighborhood in the United States – and the birthplace of African American Methodism on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

Morgan State University, in partnership with Historic Easton, Inc. the Frederick Douglass Honor Society, and University of Maryland at College Park, is embarking on a major archeological project to document the history and honor the architectural and cultural significance of this community.

"The Hill" was first settled prior to 1790 as a neighborhood comprising free blacks and slaves. It is documented that the first African American church congregation began on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and on "The Hill" officially in 1818 (Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church). Free blacks and slaves were already living there well before 1818 and arguably thriving and well-settled, as "The Hill" was chosen by the African Methodist Episcopal Baltimore Conference of 1816 to found the first African American Church organization on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

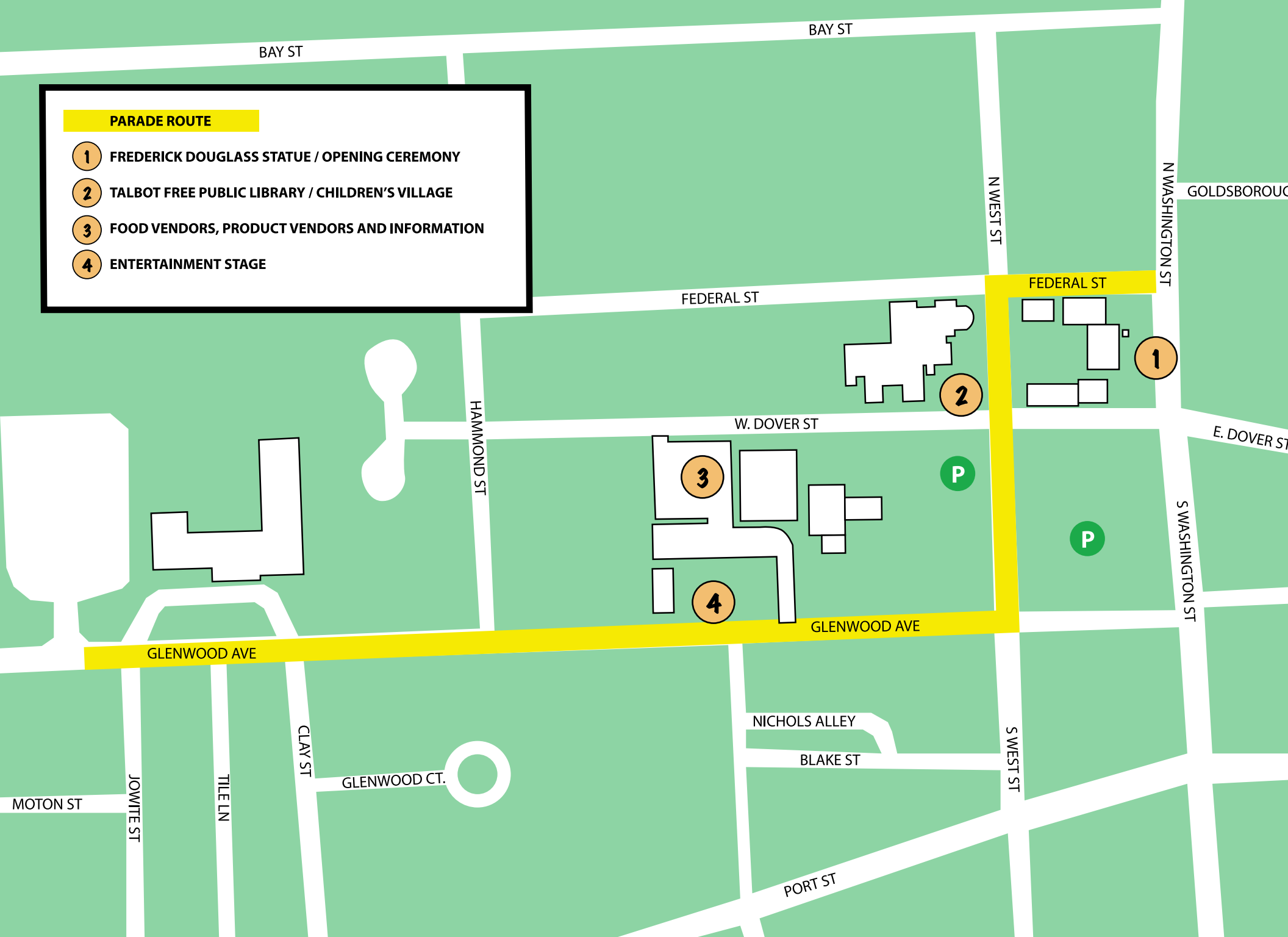
While "Treme" located in New Orleans is currently documented as the oldest African American neighborhood in the U.S., the Easton research program is expected to document that "The Hill" is older.

Archaeologists launched their first dig in the summer of 2012 in the yard of a South Street home that was owned by a relative of Buffalo Soldier William Gardner.

To learn more about "The Hill" and support the archeological and preservation work, visit <http://www.historiceastoninc.net/>.

**PARADE ROUTE**

- 1 FREDERICK DOUGLASS STATUE / OPENING CEREMONY
- 2 TALBOT FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY / CHILDREN'S VILLAGE
- 3 FOOD VENDORS, PRODUCT VENDORS AND INFORMATION
- 4 ENTERTAINMENT STAGE



BAY ST

BAY ST

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GOLDSBOROUGH ST

N WASHINGTON ST

N WEST ST

FEDERAL ST

FEDERAL ST

1

2

3

4

P

P

W. DOVER ST

E. DOVER ST

S WASHINGTON ST

GLENWOOD AVE

GLENWOOD AVE

HAMMOND ST

NICHOLS ALLEY

BLAKE ST

S WEST ST

CLAY ST

GLENWOOD CT.

TILE LN

JOWITE ST

MOTON ST

PORT ST

## PERFORMERS

**Kentavius Jones**, a native of Easton and a 2004 graduate of Washington College, will bring his unique brand of soulful rock to the Frederick Douglass Day stage. He currently resides in Los Angeles, where he is writing, recording and playing shows – and continues to perform on the East Coast and play locally in Easton, Annapolis, and Baltimore.



**Sankofa Dance Theater**, founded in 1989, is a national non-profit arts organization devoted to presenting world-class, authentic African art in the form of dance, music, and folkways. The word “sankofa” means to learn from the past in an effort to

build for the future. Sankofa reaches back into the rich legacy of African culture and history to move forward into greater intercultural awareness for the global community. In addition to annual concerts, classes, workshops, residencies, and youth programs, Sankofa has performed throughout the country and internationally – from Japan to West Africa.



The **Bay Country Chorus** was chartered in 1996 and currently has 25 members. Its members come from a wide variety of backgrounds, with singing experience ranging from none at all (unless one counts singing in the shower) to current or past participation in a choral group or choir. The common denominator that binds the chorus members together is the shared enjoyment of



singing barbershop harmony in a wide variety of songs. The BCC repertoire includes everything from classic old standards from the first half of the 1900’s to patriotic songs and songs from the 1960’s that range from doo wop to the Beatles.

The BCC sings all of its songs without musical accompaniment in the traditional barbershop style. The BCC is directed by Eric Cheezum, an accomplished musician and vocal soloist with a strong background in choral music. Eric has been the BCC Director since January 2011.

Membership in the BCC is open to men of all ages and experience. The Chorus is always looking for new members.

**Gene Svehla’s** musical career started in Baltimore after he served in the Navy and created his first band “The Gene Edwards Review”. He played everything from Frank Sinatra to The Temptations for approximately eight years. After accepting Christ as his personal Lord and Savior, he began playing Gospel music.

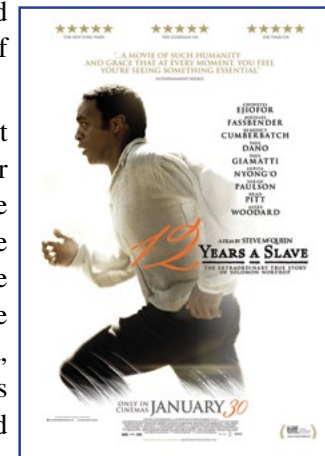
After serving as a church organist for twelve years, Gene felt a need for a musical change, which led to Jazz for Jesus. Using his musical jazz music roots, he combined Gospel and praise God. The combination continues to work after 15 years.



## FREE MOVIE SCREENING

**12 Years a Slave** is a 2013 film adaptation of the 1853 memoir *Twelve Years a Slave* by Solomon Northup, a New York State-born free African-American man who was kidnapped in Washington, D.C., in 1841 and sold into slavery. Northup worked on plantations in the state of Louisiana for twelve years before his release.

The film won three Academy Awards: Best Picture, Best Supporting Actress for Lupito Nyong’o, and the Oscar for Best Adapted Screenplay for Ridley. The Best Picture win made McQueen the first black producer ever to have received the award and the first black director to have directed a Best Picture winner. The film was awarded the Golden Globe Award for Best Motion Picture – Drama, and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts recognized it with the Best Film and the Best Actor award for Chiwetel Ejiofor.



## CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

The Frederick Douglass Day Children's Village will host fun and educational activities for children 12 and under. From free coloring books to face painting, dress-up, story telling and mapping activities at the Talbot County Library, the Children's Village will encourage imagination, pique curiosity, and foster creativity.

### **11:30 am- 12:30 pm - Performing Frederick Douglass's Escape.**

Children will read passages about Douglass's escape, dress in period clothing, and learn to speak like an "old salt". Cameras are encouraged to snap a life-long memory of children portraying a seaman/seawoman.

**11:30 am - 4:00 pm - Learn by Doing!** Free Coloring Books in the Courtyard; crayons available

**11:30 am - 4 pm - Face Painting in the Courtyard**

**12:30 - 4:00 pm - Story Time in the Children's Wing**

**2:30 - 4 pm - "Mapping Black Life in Talbot County"** is a story-telling and mapping activity designed by Applezack Productions to stimulate memories and encourage conversation about places, people and events growing up in Talbot County.

*Children learn best when they are having fun.*



## SCAVENGER HUNT

Sleuths are invited to journey through downtown Easton while solving clues based on Frederick Douglass and Historic Easton trivia. Participants can enter the hunt on Saturday, September 27 at the Talbot County Free Library, 100 West Dover Street. The registration booth opens at 11:30 am.

Rules and requirements for this photographic scavenger hunt are simple:

- (1) Entire Team must take a group photo and list all members at registration. No more than five people per team. At least 1/2 of the team members must appear in the photograph taken.
- (2) Participants must be at least 12 years old to participate.
- (3) The Scavenger Hunt begins at 11:30 am and all entries must be completed by 3:00 pm.
- (4) Participants must use a Smart Phone or any phone with a camera to take pictures of places visited.
- (5) Landmark photos must be visible and all judges' decisions are FINAL.
- (6) Winners will be announced at the close of the Frederick Douglass Day Festival. First, second and third place prizes will be awarded to the team(s) with the most correct photos taken. To collect a prize, a team member must be present when winners are announced.

## ORAL HISTORY RECORDINGS

### **Oral History Recordings/Interviews at the Talbot County Free Library from 1-4 pm**

We want to hear your stories about life in Easton, Trappe, Cordova, Tilghman, St. Michaels, Oxford, and the 22 Villages of Talbot County over the years! We plan to have a "griot booth" in front of the Talbot County Free Library, where a large number of residents can share their "two minute story" on a key issue (as opposed to the more in-depth oral history interviews). The interviews will be conducted with Dr. Dale Glenwood Green and his students from Morgan State University along with Don Rush from National Public Radio.

## VENDORS

### Food Vendors

Asbury & Green Chappel, Inc - Bar-b-cue Chicken  
Danielle Emory's Memorial Sports Scholarship Fund - Fish, Chicken Wings, Crab Cakes & Fries  
Chubbs Ribbs - Ribs, Pulled pork  
Old Towne Creamery - Ice Cream  
Subcils Tasty Treats - Ice Cream and Snow Cones

### Retail Vendors

Traci Lynn Jewelry - Jewelry  
Brodie's Unlimited - T-shirts  
Mama Girl - Folk-Art & 3-D Pictures made from newspaper  
Stefanie Johnson - Mary Kay Products  
Faith Bernard - Jewlery, Clothes, Scrubs  
C J Designs - Jewelry  
Erin Fluharty - Photography  
Omosobi Jewelry Designs - Jewlery  
Comfort Keepers - In-home Care Agency

### Non-Profit Vendors

Asbury & Green Chappel, Inc • Brookletts Place Talbot County Senior Center  
CASA of the Mid-Shore • Society of St. Vincent DePaul • YMCA  
Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center • Dorcas Mission Society  
Country School • Historic Easton • Critchlow Adkins Children's Centers  
Hugh Gregory Gallagher Motivational Theatre  
Talbot County Branch NAACP • Democratic Women's Club  
St. Michaels Museum • Midshore Pancreatic Cancer Foundation  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Kappa Theta Omega Chapter  
Bethel A.M.E. Church • Scott's U. M. Church  
Vietnam Veterans of America #648  
Charles W. Wongus, Sr. Museum/Harriet Tubman Museum  
Imagination Library • Nanticoke Historic Preservation Alliance

## FREDERICK DOUGLASS DAY PLANNING COMMITTEE

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Rick Scobey, Fundraising Chair	Brenda Wooden, Finance & Volunteer Chair		
Childlene Brooks, Vendor Co-Chair	Pam Limberry, Vendor Co-Chair		
Annie Mewborn, Scavenger Hunt Chair	Elizabeth North, Children's Activities		
Vickie J. Wilson	Forest Hansen	Walt Johnson	Walter Thomas
Doreen Getsinger	Clairdean Black	Walter Black	Jacqueline Wheatley
Patrick Rogan	Doug Sadler	Marie Uren	Barbara Sauers
Richard Potter	Councilwoman Megan Cook	Avalon Theatre Staff	
Robert Karge and the Town of Easton Staff	Easton Premier Theatre Staff		
Robbin Hill, Mid-Shore Community Foundation	Tim Young, Graphic Design		

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Artistic Insights Fund of Mid-Shore Community Foundation  
Easton Rotary's Youth and Community Fund  
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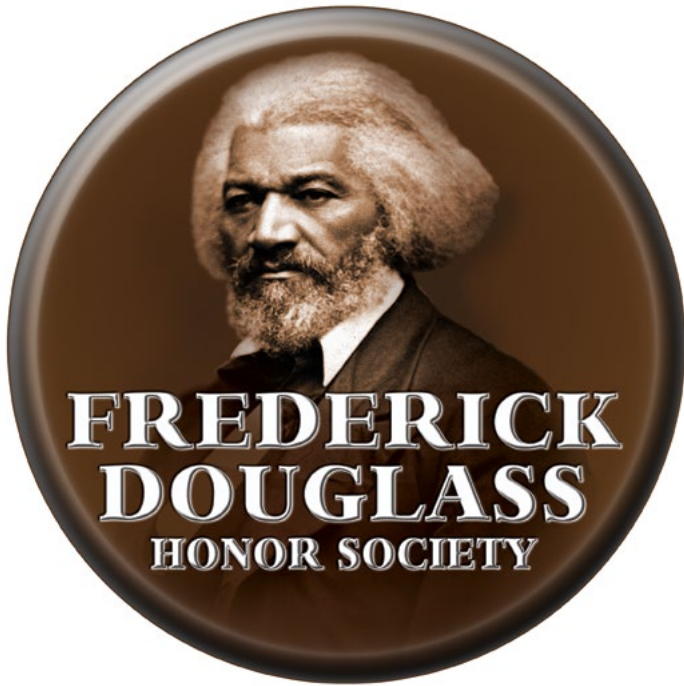
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Star Democrat	Applezacks Productions
Avalon Theatre	Avant-Garde Associates
Comcast Spotlight	Eclectic Graphics
Easton Premier Cinema	Easton Cable Velocity
Easton Utilities	The Pocket Media Group
The Inn at 202 Dover	Talbot County Government
Talbot County Library	Town of Easton
MCTV	Delmarva Public Radio







**The Frederick Douglass Honor Society  
Mission Statement:**

*“The Frederick Douglass Honor Society is dedicated to developing programs that continue the Douglass legacy of human rights, education, personal growth, and involvement of citizens.”*

Our goal is to honor Frederick Douglass here in his birthplace, Talbot County, Maryland, where his experiences in his youth – both positive and negative – helped form his character, intellect and determination. It became Frederick Douglass’s life goal to bring black people, and America, away from the ancient institution of slavery.

It is our hope that Frederick Douglass will be seen as a true leader by all Americans. His brilliant oratory and his influence both here and abroad helped black people and our country through one of the most difficult and painful struggles in our history. He is known, honored and respected around the world; we believe he should be considered among the foremost of our many American heroes. A statue of him in his birthplace is a beginning...

For more info: <http://www.frederickdouglasshonorsociety.org>