



Dear Teachers and Students,

The #1792Project is an ongoing project bringing together students and community in education. All communities, urban and rural, continue to experience the consequences of the history of racism in this province and together we can learn and do better.

We invite your school to take this special opportunity to bring history to life. #1792Project celebrates the history of the largest single return of people of African Descent to the continent of Africa in 1792. 1,196 Black Loyalists left Halifax harbour on 15 Ships to Sierra Leone on January 15 and arrived in Freetown on March 11. The ships are - the Betsey, the Mary, the Eleanor, the Felicity, the Morning Star, the Venus, the Sierra Leone, the Beaver, the Brothers, the Prince William Fleury, the Prince William, the Catherine, the Lucretia, the Somerset and the Parr. Just as the Blue Nose and the Titanic, their names should be known by every Nova Scotian!

We celebrated the arrival of the ships at the Halifax Central Library, and this included a live stream by Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyers of Freetown. [Here is the link](#) to this event that also gives the background and more information about the [goals of the project](#).

Please join our journey to bring history to life. **Senior students are asked to write letters** from the present to the past and elementary students have a **variety of projects** available to them. (see attached). Our aim is to collect 1,196 letters - one for each of the Black loyalists who left our shores in 1792. The letters will be recorded in “The Book of Letters” to honour this important history.

Participating classes will:

- have their names entered into a draw for a class pizza party to celebrate their initiation in education! We welcome letters from staff and teachers as well.
- receive from the Maritime Museum of Nova Scotia a poster of the only image that remains of the fifteen ships - a watercolour that is on display at the museum,
- receive a copy of the proclamation that was made by your municipality in this historic year.

Connect with the stories of these seafarers to allow a deeper understanding of the causes and conditions that led to the exodus, and how those conditions of abject institutionalised racism must be examined and challenged to this day.

We invite you to send your letter to Auburn Drive High School at 300 Auburn Drive High, Cole Harbour, Nova Scotia, B2W 6E9.

Watch out for our student competition regarding a monument !

Sincerely,

#1792Project

Please contact #1792Project winkler.kathrin2@gmail.com for classroom presentations.

