



Dear Teachers and Students,

#1792Project invites you to participate in a unique educational opportunity - bringing history to life!

January 15, 2023 marks the 231st anniversary of 15 Ships departing from Halifax Harbour to Sierra Leone. This anniversary date of the 15 Ships to Sierra Leone is shared with Black Excellence Day and marks the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Educating and learning about our histories builds better communities. Our goal, as #1792Project is to connect the commemoration of the 15 Ships to Sierra Leone to education and reparations.

We invite your students to participate on this learning journey. Students at Auburn D. H. S. continue to **gather letters** for the “Book of Letters”. These letters reflect on the students’ lives and how they connect to a Black Loyalist and their experiences leaving for the unknown. As one student said, “ This important part of history is not being taught in our schools.” To date over 800 letters and art work have been entered in the ‘ledger’ and the goal is to have 1,196 letters in total - one for each of the Black Loyalists that left for Sierra Leone.

The Maritime Museum of the Atlantic is supporting the #1792Project through various public events. The Museum will also be hosting a #1792Project workshop on March 10th featuring our former poet laureate, Dr. El Jones. 15 schools will be invited to bring a team of students ( Grades 5 and up) with their teachers to participate in learning more about the Black Loyalist’s journey and to respond to this learning creatively. . Their work will be shared and showcased at the museum.

Please contact Principal [Karen Hudson](#), Auburn Drive H.S. or [kathrin winkler](#) if you are interested in attending. Hopefully a monument will one day grace our Halifax Harbour commemorating 15 ships that held so many stories yet to be told. Thank you once again for your interest and your amplification of #1792Project.

Sincerely, #1792Project Team Members Karen Hudson, Principal, Megan Meaves, Teacher, Kathrin Winkler, (retired teacher) Carol Millett, (florist)

As a maritime province, ships and the ocean stir our imagination - 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 have their stories. Let’s listen to them.

