



Call for Research Interns

Living History: 100 Years of Black History, Culture and Heritage

Black immigrants have made significant cultural, artistic, and social contributions to present-day Montréal; however, this history is often overlooked and rarely told. By collecting and sharing the memories of our oldest community members, the *Living History* project seeks to preserve Montréal's Black anglophone history by highlighting the voices of those individuals who helped to create it.

Project Goals

Beginning in the early 1900s with the burgeoning Saint Antoine district, *Living History* will trace the development of Montreal's Black community through significant institutions, like the Negro Community Centre, and artistic innovations, such as jazz. The project then turns to the increased immigration of the later 20th century, exploring its political and cultural ramifications in events such as the Sir George Williams Affair and celebrations like Caribbean Carnival. Ultimately, *Living History* will celebrate the diversity of Montreal's Black English-speaking community, while also emphasizing the cooperative work of our predecessors in creating the Montréal we see today.

With the support of Heritage Canada, *Living History* will create 15 memoryscapes of sites, organizations, and landmarks of cultural and historical significance to Montréal's Black anglophone community. These oral histories will enable listeners to experience the hidden history of a place by listening to the memories of its past and present inhabitants. We are currently seeking 15 Black youth to be responsible for the creation of these memoryscapes. *Living History* is an opportunity to learn about our past while leaving a documented history for future generations.

Term: December 2018-June 2019

Qualifications

- Black youth (age 16-35)
- English speaking (necessary)
- French speaking (an asset)



BCRC

Requirements

- Time commitment of 2 to 10 hours per month of the internship
- Attendance at 8 *Living History* workshops (included in monthly time commitment)
- Conducting 2 oral interviews with community members
- Creation of an audio-recorded memoryscape

Skills and Experience Gained from Internship

Participants cannot receive financial remuneration for their internship. However, they will develop a transferable set of skills valuable for future academic and professional endeavors.

These skills include:

- Research Experience
Interns will be guided through in-depth research of their chosen topic. They will build familiarity with the resources offered in libraries, while also developing the skills to understand both primary and secondary historical sources.
- Archival Expertise
Interns will receive specialized training in archival research and archival practice. One workshop will be dedicated to an understanding of the archival process and the development of necessary skills for the location and interpretation of archival sources.
- Oral Interviewing
Interns will receive specialized training in oral history and oral interviewing. Multiple workshops will be dedicated to the ethical considerations and interviewing techniques used by oral historians. Interns will build familiarity with the tenants of oral history, while also developing the skills of cross-generational communication.
- Audio Production
Interns will receive specialized training regarding the digital production of MP3 files. Multiple workshops will be dedicated to the creation and editing of these audio files, focusing both on the technical expertise of production and on vocal training for effective narration.
- Networking and Outreach
Interns will become familiar with tools used in community outreach and organization. Additionally, interns will build relationships with community members, participating institutions and academic professionals.

If you are interested in participating in the project please email us at livinghistory@bcrcmontreal.com