Haitian Heritage Month
New England - 2015

United We Stand, Stronger

KEY EVENTS
- 20th Flag Raising Ceremony, May 15
- Haitian Unity Parade, May 17
- Celebration at the State House, May 28

Coordinated in New England by HAU and Partner Organizations

Pierre Noel
Grand Marshall
Pierre Boursiquot is proud to support Haitian Americans United Inc Organization

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Dear friends of Haiti,

It is a special honor to invite you, Haitians, Haitian-Americans, and friends of Haiti to celebrate once again the Haitian Heritage Month in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Every year the community and its allies select the month of May to celebrate the rich culture of Haiti and the contributions of Haitians to the economic, social and cultural make-up of the Commonwealth. We are proud of our institutions that are working to cultivate community pride and community cohesion. Haitian churches, social organizations, Haitian businesses and Haitian professionals from all around Boston and vicinity testify of the strength of the Haitian-American presence in the entire Commonwealth.

It is with pride that we join the Haitian Consulate of Boston, our social and religious organizations to take this stand for a Haitian presence. We are particularly grateful for the Haitian media professionals who have taken the responsibility to promote this great celebration in Boston. We have taken the first step of a dialogue with our major institutions, we will continue this conversation moving forward in creating effective bridges to foster collaboration and understanding among us.

Thank you to the coordinators of this initiative who have volunteered months of planning to contribute to its success. We are particularly impressed by the active role played by the younger generation. We are still counting on many more of you to enhance this month of celebration.

We also want to thank the multiple city and state officials who have partnered with us to celebrate the Haitian Heritage Month. We are grateful for their collaboration and support. The Haitian community is a strong and engaged community, it’s with pleasure that we need to acknowledge it and give and show it to the world.

As we are approaching elections in the homeland, let us remember that our political differences and affiliations should not affect our commitment for Haitian Unity in the Diaspora. This year, and for the years to come, for us and for the next generation, the theme of the parade should stay alive: United we Stand, Stronger.

Thank you for your participation and have a Happy Haitian American Heritage Month.

Dr Nesly Metayer
H.A.U. Chairman
# 2015 Haitian Heritage Month Celebration Committee

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- State Senator Linda Dorceña Forry
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- Charlot Lucien
- Dr. Eno Mondesir
- Pastor Nicolas Homicile
- Dr. Eustache Jean-Louis

## Book Design:
- **Cover:** Charlot Lucien
- **Layout:** Hermelynda Latouche, Gerald Auguste
- **Pictures:** Beausejour Antoine, Idly Galette, Carlo Latouche Sr.
Chers Compatriotes de la Nouvelle Angleterre,

En ce 18 mai 2015, à l’occasion du deux cent douzième anniversaire de la création de notre bicolore national, c’est un énorme privilège pour moi de vous souhaiter au nom du Consulat Général d’Haïti à Boston, une bonne Fête du Drapeau.

En ce grand jour, nous devons nous rappeler sans cesse que le drapeau est le symbole le plus puissant d’un peuple. La fête de notre bicolore nous donne l’occasion de réfléchir au symbole de l’unité et à nos valeurs républicaines. La fête de notre drapeau nous offre aussi l’occasion de nous rappeler notre devoir de sacrifice afin que notre emblème soit, pour toujours, source de fierté et d’honneur pour tous les haïtiens et haïtiennes.

Le Drapeau haïtien est symbole de notre liberté. Il nous incombe donc de donner à la date du 18 mai toute sa dimension historique. A chaque fois que nous voyons flotter le Bicolore National, nous voyons les efforts et les sacrifices consentis par nos Ancêtres. Le 18 mai 1803, il y a eu à l’Arcahaïque un rassemblement extraordinaire au cours duquel, les Pères Fondateurs de la Nation se sont entendus sur la création du Drapeau devant, désormais, représenter la Nation Haïtienne.

Nous le savons tous déjà, c’est lorsque nous sommes unis que nous avons la force, la force de nous battre et la force de gagner. Oui, nous sommes forts, nous sommes grands quand nous sommes unis. « Pour le Pays pour nos ancêtres, marchons unis. »

Marie Westlyne Nicolas
Consul Responsable 21

545 Boylston St. Room 201 Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Tel. 617-266-3660 / 617-266-3707 - Fax. 617-778-6898 - Email: cg.boston@diplomatic.ht
A Proclamation

Whereas the month of May is an important time for members of the Haitian community because it marks the anniversaries of the birth of Toussaint Louverture, one of the leaders of the Haitian Revolution, and the historic congress that united black and mulatto officials for the Haitian Independence War and the creation of the flag of the Republic; and

Whereas two hundred and eleven years ago, the War of Independence between the people of Haiti and France came to a close and the Republic of Haiti was established; and

Whereas our vibrant Haitian American community has contributed tremendously to the vitality of the Commonwealth by enriching the lives of its citizens; and

Whereas throughout this month, the Haitian community will gather and celebrate their heritage through historical and cultural traditions and observances.

Now, therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 2015, to be

HAITIAN HERITAGE MONTH

...and urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this Twenty-Sixth day of April, in the year two thousand and fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-eighth.

By His Excellency

[signature]

[signature]

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Dear Friends,

Congratulations Haitians American United (HAU) for organizing the 15th Annual Haitian Unity Parade. The dedication of HAU, throughout the years, has allowed us to come together as a community to celebrate and honor our culture.

I would like to wish you and your families a wonderful Haitian Heritage Month. As we, reflect this year has already been a productive time for many of our partners in the Haitian community. As you know, President Barack Obama approved the creation of the Haitian Family Reunification Program (HFRPP) in Fall 2014. This victory speaks to the strength displayed when we collaborated as a community.

I wish to thank all of you who took the time not only to sign onto the petition but to gather support from friends and neighbors as well. It is only through building such partnerships that we were able to attain progress on critical issues, like HFRPP. We must expand and continue our alliances if we wish to successfully advocate on behalf of the Haitian community both here in Massachusetts and Haiti. With that, I hope you will call my office to join our collective efforts in moving Haiti forward.

I wish you all a wonderful month celebrating our rich Haitian heritage and culture.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Pierre was born in Verrettes, Haiti and migrated to the United States at the age of 15 to join his parents in the Boston area. There he attended West Roxbury High and was selected as a Boston Scholar and earned a full academic scholarship to attend Boston University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. He holds a law degree from the University of the District of Columbia School of Law.

He was adjunct professor of Government at Middlesex Community College and served as a Legislative Aide to U.S. Congressman John Conyers. He also served as advocate with Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO).

Seeking a career change, he went back to school and obtained a Certificate in Development Project Management from the Monterrey School of International Studies and an Executive Certificate in Nonprofit Management and Leadership from Boston University School of Management.

Pierre is the Executive Director of the Haiti Fund at The Boston Foundation. The Fund was created after the devastating earthquake to provide relief and reconstruction support to Haitians both in Haiti and in the greater Boston area. Pierre returned to Haiti in 2008 as Country Director for FAMILY, Inc. where he led rural grassroots efforts in education, youth and economic development. He also served as Project Director for the Worldwide Vincentian Family on the Zafèn Project helping, spearheading small and medium enterprises in Haiti.

He serves as board member and/or volunteers with numerous organizations. Pierre believes deeply that private philanthropy can play a powerful and important role in sustainable local development. He is married and proud father of two beautiful girls.
Grand Marshall’s Message

My fellow compatriots, Friends of Haiti and Government Officials:

I am immensely grateful to the HAU Board and events Committee for selecting me as Grand Marshall of the 2015 Unity Parade celebrating the 212th anniversary of our unifying flag. Accepting this great honor provides me a distinct opportunity to serve and honor our glorious history. I am further thankful to the City of Boston for supporting and enabling such an important endeavor.

This noble exercise celebrates the very best of Haitian History and culture and embraces the unique duty to share this heritage with our children. It offers us a chance to remember, in spiritual communion with our brethren back home and to celebrate the legacy of our ancestors. This public manifestation symbolizes our permanent attachment to and love for our beloved Haiti and it is imperative that we share this with our children. I call on all of us to proudly teach our Haitian-American children to value both their heritages and share in the rights, responsibilities and pride of both cultures.

When the rest of the world thought otherwise, our ancestors believed deeply that their freedom meant something and enough to die for. They rose against the mightiest of their times, fought a revolution and defied insurmountable odds. That famous act in Arcahaie 212 years ago when Dessalines put together the Red and Blue and Catherine Flon created the flag. It created a nation and has united us ever since. We are forever proud to cling to this unique legacy. This is the blood flowing through us all, still today. Today, our beloved is seeing turbulent times with elections looming and the fate of our brothers and sisters yet unsettled in neighboring countries.

Antenor Firmin states, *En dernière analyse, notre destinée est notre propre ouvrage.* As daunting as it seems, today, I remind you that our ancestors have shown us the way to a new day. It is time that we bring together our energies and competences to serve the common good, a necessary turn for an inclusive, convivial and emerging Haiti. While a new Haiti rest in Haitian hands, let us be brave enough to make room for our friends and supporters who have shown willing to walk and fight alongside us.

For the past eight years I have dedicated my life to serve Haiti. I do so happily because I fervently believe in the power a unified Haitian people. Together we must take up the work of our ancestors and make their dream our own and build thriving and vibrant communities all over Haiti’s mountains with opportunities for all.

“Pour le Pays, pour les ancêtres, Marchons Unis” Bonne Fête du Drapeau!

God Bless.

Pierre-André Noel
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: The Haitian Community of Boston will be honoring during the month of May 2015, the anniversary of the birth of Toussaint Louverture, one of the leaders of the Haitian Revolution; AND

WHEREAS: The Haitian Community of Boston will be remembering during the month of May 2015 the great congress that united Haiti’s ancestors for the Independence War; AND

WHEREAS: The official ceremony to commemorate the 212th anniversary of the creation of the Haitian flag will be held at Boston City Hall Plaza on May 15th, 2015; AND

WHEREAS: The Haitian Community contributes greatly to the rich history, culture and diversity of the City of Boston; AND

WHEREAS: The Haitian Community of Boston has established and distinguished itself through the efforts of many community organizations, businesses, and community participation; AND

WHEREAS: My administration, the Office of New Bostonians and the Haitian Community share in the belief that the contributions and participation of all people from all cultures and backgrounds is what makes Boston a Great City; NOW

THEREFORE: I, Martin J. Walsh, Mayor of the City of Boston, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2015 to be

HAITIAN HERITAGE MONTH
and May 15th, 2015 as
HAITIAN FLAG DAY

In the City of Boston, and I urge all of my fellow Bostonians to join me in congratulating the Haitian Community in the City of Boston.

MAYOR OF BOSTON
City of Boston

IN

CITY COUNCIL

BOSTON CITY COUNCILLOR CHARLES C. YANCEY

HAITIAN HERITAGE MONTH
15TH ANNUAL HAITIAN-AMERICAN UNITY PARADE

WHEREAS: Haitians and Haitian Americans in the Greater Boston area have been celebrating the month of May as Haitian-American Heritage Month since 1998; and

WHEREAS: May has historical and cultural traditions that are honored and remembered by Haitians around the world, especially the Haitian Revolution, which was the forerunner of modern anti-colonial movements throughout the Third World; and

WHEREAS: General Toussaint L’Ouverture, one of the leaders of the Haitian Revolution, was born on May 20, 1743. Louverture was compared by some to George Washington and later to Napoleon Bonaparte; and

WHEREAS: May is also the month in which a historic pact signed by Black and Mulatto officers occurred, leading to the creation of the Haitian Flag on May 18, 1803, as well as Haiti’s independence on January 1st, 1804, when Haiti became the first Black independent country in the world; and

WHEREAS: May 1st in Haiti is also celebrated as Labor and Agricultural Day, a day when workers, peasants and artisans celebrate together; and

WHEREAS: Haitians honor their mothers on the last Sunday in May by wearing red flowers if their mothers are still alive and white or purple flowers if their mothers have died; and

WHEREAS: Many religious celebrations in Haiti occur during the month of May, known by Haitian Catholics as the month of Mary, the mother of Jesus; and

WHEREAS: The Annual Haitian American Unity Parade in Boston and the Annual Haitian Flag Raising on Boston City Hall Plaza are both held in May, featuring Haitian leaders, state and city officials, marching bands and many other organizations; Be It Therefore

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, proclaims the month of May 2015 as Haitian-American Heritage Month in the City of Boston.

By: [Signature]

President of the City Council

Attest: [Signature]

Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: [Signature]

Date: [April 29, 2015]
Congratulations

Haitian Americans United, Inc. on celebrating Haitian Heritage Month.

Thank you for your commitment

Linda Dorcena Forry
State Senator
1st Suffolk District
www.lindadorcenaforry.com
617-722-1150
IN MEMORIAM

Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino

Born: December 27, 1942, Died: October 30, 2014

Mayor Menino with members of H.A.U. and the Youth and Family Enrichment Services, Inc. (YOFES) music program, known as Open Access to Music Education for Children (OAMEC),
THE PALM BEACH COUNTY HAITIAN HERITAGE MONTH LOGO

The Palm Beach County Haitian Heritage Month Logo has been designed by Bito David in 2004. It includes: the Coat of Arms of the Republic of Haiti, Haiti’s Motto “L’union Fait La Force” (United We’re Strong), the pictures of the Unknown Maroon and Toussaint L’Ouverture, the proud title of First Black Republic in the World, the map of Haiti along with the globe, two shaking hands, and the word May to symbolize the month.
Florida House of Representatives Urging Congress to Recognize Haitian Heritage Month

F L O R I D A  H O U S E  O F  R E P R E S E N T A T I V E S

House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging Congress to recognize the month of May as "Haitian Heritage Month."

WHEREAS, Haitian Heritage Month is held to salute the Haitian and Haitian-American communities and to exhibit appreciation for their culture and heritage which have immeasurably enriched the lives of the people of this nation, and

WHEREAS, as educators, authors, community leaders, activists, athletes, artists, musicians, and politicians, Haitian Americans have made their mark in every facet of society and have contributed to the betterment and diversity of this nation, and

WHEREAS, the close proximity of Haiti to American shores, in conjunction with our common bond of mutual values and commitment to democracy, ensures lasting comity of nations and continued trade and diplomatic relations, and

WHEREAS, an estimated 1.5 million persons of Haitian descent now live throughout this nation, and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson and Congressman Kendrick B. Meek, having acknowledged the importance of Haitian Americans in this nation's history and diversity, have proposed resolutions in the United States House of Representatives to recognize the month of May as "Haitian-American Heritage Month" in the United States, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
That the Congress of the United States is urged to recognize the month of May as "Haitian Heritage Month" and to encourage the people of this nation to observe Haitian Heritage Month with appropriate ceremonies, celebrations, and activities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.
2014: An exceptional Year for Women in the Boston Haitian Community

From the grand-mother celebrating her centennial with her grand-daughter, the first female US senator of Haitian descent, to a Haitian American female writer named Boston Poet Laureate, the Haitian community in Massachusetts saw a number of “1st” in 2014, a year clearly marked by a strong female presence. This series of “firsts” seemed to be part of a pattern of distinct achievements in a community that has steadily increased its visibility in the state in a wide range of areas over the past 25 years: economic, cultural, socio-professional, policy-making, etc. This article offers a selective overview of some of these Haitian American women who made the news in 2014…

Senator Linda Dorcénia Forry: First Haitian-American senator in the US

In November 2014, Linda Dorcénia Forry, who had previously won the election against two other candidates to fill a Senate vacancy, won an easy victory, securing her seat as senator for the Suffolk 1st District, which features complex demographic mix of various backgrounds: Irish, Italian, Caribbean, Haitian, Asian and Latino, etc. She became not only the sole black woman in the Senate, but also the first political leader of Haitian descent to occupy such an office in the US. Previously, Marie St Fleur had held a similar distinction in the Lower Chamber. Linda Dorcénia Forry is known to have worked tirelessly on several major fronts after the Haiti earthquake of 2010: emergency assistance to newly arrived victims, extension of the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) program by President Obama, advocacy to Members of Congress for the UN to accept responsibility in the cholera epidemic in Haiti, championing the implementation of the 2014 Haitian Family Reunification Parole (HFRP) Program by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), etc.

In March 2014, following one of those unexpected political twists in Massachusetts politics, Linda found herself to be the emcee of the Irish breakfast, a more than half-a-century old political tradition known to be the prerogative of Irish politicians since its inception. As the first non-Irish, the first woman, the first black woman and first Haitian American woman to chair the event, Linda, joined on stage by the Massachusetts political establishment and the visiting Irish Prime Minister Stephen Harper, made the news from Boston to Ireland.

A mother of four, married to Bill Forry, an Irishman from a family deeply rooted in the Boston media and political sector, Linda Dorcénia Forry may represent to the national Democratic Party what recently elected US Congresswoman Mia Love, also of Haitian descent, represents to the Republican Party: a new brand of charisma, of multidimensional leadership and hope…

Géralde Gabeau: A Boston Celtics “Hero Among Us” Award recipient

Deputy Director at the Hyde Park-based YOFES (Youth and Family Enrichment Services) an organization founded by well-known pediatrician Nicole Prudent, Géralde Gabeau has made a name in the community through her long-term work with Haitian youth and children in the Boston area. Several musical festivals that allowed young Haitians to bond with famous Haitian musicians (Beethoven Obas, Julio Racine, Lionel Benjamin ...), on-going events to help the youth reconnect with their heritage, the annual celebration of the day of the ancestors are some of the multiple initiatives that have attracted the attention of the public and various stakeholders. The Berklee College of Music ultimately recommended Géralde to the Boston Celtics’ Charitable Foundation as a nominee of the Hero Among Us Award. On November 2014, Géralde found herself under the limelight on the TD Garden basketball court, in front of thousands of cheering sport fans and millions of viewers, to receive the "Hero Among Us" Award. The prestigious award that the Foundation started in 1997 honors the sustained efforts of leaders and advocates who make a powerful and lasting impact among the most disadvantaged in their communities. 

OAMEC (Open Access to Music Education for Children), one of YOFES’s lead programs reaches about 500 youth annually in Boston.
Professor Danielle Legros Georges, Boston Poet Laureate

Danielle Legros Georges was named by Boston Mayor Martin Walsh, Poet Laureate of Boston in December 2014, a four year honorary cultural position created by the City of Boston to promote the cultural heritage of the city through poetry, arts and various cultural initiatives. This was in addition of receiving early in 2014 the Massachusetts Cultural Fellowship in poetry.

Danielle has also been known through her contributions to multiple literary magazines, anthologies, her poetry readings tours in various states and her active involvement with the Boston and Cambridge poetry scene and her long standing collaboration with Haitian Americans poets and advocacy groups in the Haitian community.

She draws her inspiration from her migratory experiences and her evolution in the US straddling two cultures. Her first book "Maroons", published in 2001, illustrates such cultural duality, her migration experience during her childhood and a deep connection to family members who had shaped her personality. Sharing this experience with a publication, she recently explained: “America is best when it recognizes its inherent plurality. Americans are best when, embracing plurality, we move toward and seek to understand those around us. Americans are best when we are engaged and dialogic. Not presuming sameness paradoxically allows us to arrive at shared qualities. It allows us to see that, though different in many ways, the Crèvecoeur, Wheatley, and Lazarus, were each immigrants or the daughter of immigrants. They were bicultural, and bilingual, if not speakers of several languages.”

Rebecca Zama, 15, a young prodigy: movies, a CD in 2014

Rebecca Noelle Zama is already a young prodigy: a singing phenomenon since the age of 6, author of a collection of poems at the age of 12, and an impressive ease at communicating in all three languages (French, English, Haitian Creole) which makes her a darling of various media circuits. Rebecca, since childhood, has posed for food products, brilliantly interpreted the American national anthem for large crowds - including at the Fenway Park before the Red Sox team and at the Boston Symphony Orchestra company - when not in front of high-level dignitaries from governors, mayors to cardinals. Her first book "Optimum Me" published at the age of 12 was a tribute to victims of the 2010 Haiti earthquake. Beyond the cultural, she is also active in the humanitarian arena, co-leading an educational and philanthropic program for the youth launched by her mother, attorney Nunotte Zama in L’Azile, Haiti. Rebecca Zama lists several past and present singers as her idols, including Ella Fitzgerald, Beyoncé, Whitney Houston and Haiti’s one of most famous vocalists Carole Demesmin. Rebecca who has yet to hold her Grande premiere event in Haiti had completed a double achievement in 2014 with her first debut as an actress in director Patrick Jerome’s movie “Against the Jab, 2014” and the release of her first official CD "Brighter than the Sun" …

2014 was certainly a year of many remarkable achievements in the Haitian community. The appointment of MIT-based linguists Michel DeGraff and U-Mass-Based Marky Jean Pierre in the newly founded Haitian Creole Academy in October, the emergence of small but solid and vocal Republic group campaigning with now Governor Charles Baker (a departure from the traditional Democrat affiliation) or the inauguration of a professional Haitian television program in Randolph (MCTV) were some of these noticeable events. While these are impressive milestones that steadily move community forward, the convergence of four outstanding women emerging as overachievers in their respective domains in a single year remain an historical feast that we may have to wait for quite some time, before it repeats itself. Or maybe not…

Charlot Lucien, Boston

Adapted from “2014: une année au féminin à Boston – Visages de la Diaspora (Faces of the Diaspora Series) » that appeared in the Haitian daily « Le Nouvelliste »

reproduced from the Boston Haitian Reporter
Boston 1st Annual Haitian Flag Raising Ceremony, May 18, 1990
Boston First Haitian Flag Week Proclamation (May 1990)

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Haiti is the first Black Republic of the hemisphere established in 1804 after fierce battles between the revolted slaves and their French masters; AND

WHEREAS: Citizens of Haiti have fought alongside of American Patriots at Savannah during the American War of Independence; AND

WHEREAS: The Haitian community of Boston has been actively in the social and economic life of the City of Boston; AND

WHEREAS: May 18th, 1990 celebrates the 187th Anniversary of the day in 1803 when the Blue and Red Flag was proclaimed the standard flag of the Republic of Haiti; NOW,

THEREFORE, I, RAYMOND L. FLYNN, Mayor of the City of Boston do hereby proclaim the period of May 18th to May 25th of the year 1990 as

THE HAITIAN FLAG WEEK

and that the National Flag of Haiti be hoisted in front of Boston City Hall on the 18th day of May, 1990, where it shall float for eight consecutive days. I urge all my fellow Bostonians in recognizing this very historic occasion and its importance in the Haitian/American culture.

Raymond L. Flynn
Mayor
“Ye! Li nan Mwa Eritaj Ayisyen!” — It’s Haitian Heritage Month!

From The Piper
The official school newspaper for Somerville High School in Somerville, Massachusetts

Talya Sogoba, 2015

May is Haitian Heritage Month, a 31 day event dedicated to celebrating the culture, history, and pride of the first black country to gain its independence.

In 1998, Teye Kreyol, a Boston Haitian Television Program, first celebrated the month with programs highlighting Haitian culture and worldly contributions.

Every year since then, the Haitian community in the United States has come together to rejoice their roots.

May 1st is celebrated as the Haitian Labor and Agricultural Day, the 17th as Teacher’s Day and the 20th to honor the birthday of General Toussaint L’Ouverture, leader of the Haitian Revolution.

The heritage month has been centered around Haitian Flag Day, which is May 18th. Every year on that day, or around it, SHS celebrates this day by raising the Haitian Flag in the front lawn.

“I feel like it should be celebrated because we have a big Haitian population,” stated senior Rayoni Matos.

Here at SHS, not many know about this month and some students feel as if that should be changed.

“I don’t feel like the school or the news is paying enough attention to the heritage month. Most of the students don’t even know it’s an actual thing and that’s unfortunate,” senior Catello Battinelli agreed.

Members of the Haitian Club here at SHS, as well as the other Haitian-Americans in our community, are proud to know that they are able to express their love for their heritage while also informing others about their culture.

“I am proud to be Haitian because my country was the first black country to gain their independence,” junior Tahisha Louis agreed, adding that “we need this month to just inform people that we are more than just what the world thinks we are. We are a strong independent people who are proud.”

Many believe it is important to have these heritage months once in a while, whether Black heritage month, Italian heritage month, or Hispanic heritage month.

Senior Steven Lamisere commented: “SHS is about being multicultural, so yes, we should celebrate it, but other nationalities should celebrate their months as well…This will lead to equality and understanding.”
Celebration of the 2015 Haitian Heritage Month in Massachusetts
Calendar of Events

2015 Haitian Heritage Month Celebration in Boston
Main Events:

8th Annual Haitian Heritage Month kick-off Ceremony
Thursday, April 30, 2015, 5:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M., Sant Belvi, Dorchester

4th Annual Conference on Haitian Mental Health
Saturday, May 2, 2015, 9:00 A.M., Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology

Concert: The Redemption Baptist Church Choir of Florida
Saturday, May 2, 2015, 2:00 P.M., Boston Symphony Hall

Tribute to Haitian Heritage Month
Thursday, April 30, 2015, 6:00 P.M., Hyde Park Branch of Boston Library

Flag Day Breakfast at Boston City Hall, sponsored by several Boston City Councilors
Friday, May 15, 2015, 10:30 A.M., Boston City Hall 5th Floor

20th Annual Haitian Flag Raising Ceremony
Friday, May 15, 2015, from 12 noon to 2 p.m., Boston City Hall Plaza

Haitian Exhibit Opening at Ayeda Gallery
Saturday, May 16, 2015, from 6:00 P.M., 391 Dudley Street, Roxbury

Haitian Flag Conference
Saturday, May 16, 2015, from 5:00 P.M., Sant Belvi

15th Annual Haitian American Unity Parade
Sunday, May 17, 2015, Departure 1pm, Mattapan Square/ Blue Hill Ave, Boston

Special Community Meeting With Boston Mayor Walsh
Monday, May 18, 2015, 6 P.M., Sant Belvi

Housing Forum Sponsored by H.A.U.
with Bob Consalvo, Deputy Director of Boston Home Center
Thursday, May 21, 2015, 6:00 pm, Sant Belvi

10th Annual Haitian Heritage Month Celebration at Mass State House
Sponsored by State Senator Linda Dorcena Forry
Thursday, May 28, 2015, 1pm - 2:30 p.m., Massachusetts State House

Haitian Heritage Month Celebration
Sponsored by the Irish International Immigrant Center
Thursday, May 28, 2015, 5:30 --7:30, Irish International Immigrant Center

YOFEStIVAL
Sunday, May 31, 2015, 5:30 to 7:30 P.M., Roxbury Community College

For more information, contact Haitian-Americans United, Inc. H.A.U.: E-mail: unity@hauinc.org, Tel: (617) 417-8421 or (617) 298-2976
Haitian-Americans United, Inc. (H.A.U.)

The Haitian-Americans United, Inc. (H.A.U.) is a non-profit organization founded in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to improve the quality of life for Haitians and Haitian-Americans through education, Community Empowerment and cultural development, using an approach where participation and unity are strongly favored.

Haitian-Americans United, Inc. (H.A.U.)
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 260440, Mattapan, MA 02126
Telephone: (617) 298-2976 | E-mail: unity@hauinc.org
https://www.facebook.com/pages/May-is-Haitian-Heritage-Month/316348348466472
Twitter: https://twitter.com/#!/HAUBoston
Flick: http://www.flickr.com/photos/hau-boston/
BlogSpot: http://hauboston.blogspot.com/

Haitian-Americans United, Inc. (H.A.U.)

2016 Haitian Patriotic Events

17th Annual Haitian Independence Day Gala
Saturday, January 9, 2016, 7-11 P.M.
Lombardo's in Randolph, Massachusetts

21st Annual Haitian Flag Raising Ceremony
Friday, May 13, 2016 12:00 to 2:00 P.M.
City Hall Plaza

16th Annual Haitian-American Unity Parade
Sunday, May 15, 2016, Departure 1:00 P.M.
Mattapan Square/ Blue Hill Ave

11th Annual Haitian Heritage Month at The Massachusetts State House
Sponsored by State Senator Linda Dorcena Forry
Thursday, May 26, 2016, 1:30 to 3:00 P.M.
Massachusetts State House
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Best Wishes for Haitian Heritage Month</th>
<th>Happy Haitian Heritage Month</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Cullinane State Representative</td>
<td>Michael Flaherty Boston City Councilor</td>
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<tr>
<th>Happy Haitian Heritage Month</th>
<th>CONGRATULATIONS On another Year of Successful Haitian Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steven Murphy Boston City Councilor</td>
<td>Tim P. McCarthy Boston City Councilor</td>
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</table>
16th Annual Haitian Independence Day Gala at Lombardo’s
19th Annual Haitian Flag Raising Ceremony at Boston City Hall Plaza
14th Annual Haitian - American Unity Parade
14th Annual Haitian - American Unity Parade
### 2015 Parade Participants

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<th>Religious Organizations</th>
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<td>Boston Fire Department Trucks</td>
<td>Eglise du Nazareen des Amis de la Sagesse</td>
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<td>Boston Police Motorcycles</td>
<td>New Covenant Missionary Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston Police Cruises</td>
<td>Haitian Baptist Church of Cambridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honor Guards Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>St. Angela’s Church</td>
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<td>Cruisers Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>GBIO Greater Boston Interfaith Organization</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Muhammad’s Mosque # 11 N.O.I. Nation of Islam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parade Grand Marshal</td>
<td>American Organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. Pierre-Andre Noel</td>
<td>Bay Cove Human Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Consulate of Haiti in Boston</td>
<td>Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti (IJDH)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council Marie Westlyne Nicolas</td>
<td>Global Neurology Team</td>
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<td>Staff of the General Consulate of Haiti in Boston</td>
<td>City Life</td>
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<td>Haitian-Americans United, (H.A.U.)</td>
<td>Gilbert Albert Community Center</td>
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<td>Dr. Nesly Metayer, Chairman</td>
<td>Boston 2024 Olympics, Co.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pastor Dieufort Fleurissaint, Vice Chair</td>
<td>Saint Rock Haiti Foundation</td>
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<td>Gertrude Delsoin, Board Member</td>
<td>Mattapan Square Main Street</td>
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<td>Officials:</td>
<td>Tufts</td>
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<td>Mayor Martin J. Walsh</td>
<td>One Life Events</td>
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<td>State Rep. Dan Cullinane</td>
<td>United Steel Workers Boston Taxi Drivers Association (USWBTDA)</td>
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<td>Former State Rep. Marie St. Fleur</td>
<td>United Steel Workers USW 8751</td>
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<td>Boston City Councilor–At-Large Stephen J.Murphy</td>
<td>CVC UNIDO</td>
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<td>Boston City Council Tito Jackson</td>
<td>Minority Business Expo</td>
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<td>Boston City Councilor Charles Yancey</td>
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<td>Boston City Councilor–At-Large Ayanna</td>
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<td>Boston City Councilor–At-Large Michael Flaherty</td>
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<td>Schools:</td>
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<td>Kenney Elementary School</td>
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<td>Marie Claire La Ronde</td>
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<td>Youth Groups:</td>
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<td>Haiti Support Team</td>
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<td>Kenney School Marching Band</td>
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The 2015 Haitian American Unity Parade Committee and the Haitian-Americans United, Inc. would like to acknowledge the following media for their wonderful support and their dedication in promoting the 2014 Haitian American Unity Parade and the Flag Raising Ceremony.

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>Tele Galaxie</td>
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<td>Caribbean Forum</td>
<td>ABCI Entertainment TV</td>
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<td>Christ est le Chemin</td>
<td>Camera Mosaique</td>
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<td>Echo d’Haiti</td>
<td>Ecran Marabou</td>
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<td>Echo Evangelique de Boston</td>
<td>Tele Diaspora</td>
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<td>Gallerie Haitienne</td>
<td>Tele Kreyol</td>
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<td>Haiti Diaspo Inter</td>
<td>Festival Kreyol</td>
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<td>Horizon de l'Avenir</td>
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<td>Radio Haiti Focus</td>
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<td>Boston Haitian Reporter</td>
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| Radios:                                 |                                       |
| Planet Compas                           |                                       |
| Radio Nouveaute                         |                                       |
| Radio Energie                           |                                       |
| Radio Concorde                          |                                       |
| Bel Mizik FM                            |                                       |
| Choice 102.9 FM                         |                                       |
| Radio Voix Divine                       |                                       |
| Radio Verite                            |                                       |
| Radio Bel Top                           |                                       |
| Radio Tele Boston                       |                                       |
| Radyo Vwa Lakay                         |                                       |

Faut-il Garder Cet Enfant ?

Théâtre

6hpm

Dimanche 9 Août 2015
John Hancock Hall
180 Berkeley St, Boston

Admission
Adulte: $40
Enfant -12 ans: $15

Info, Echo Evangélique: 617-296-8649
Email: gooneecho@yahoo.com

Free parking

6hpm

Admission
Adulte: $40
Enfant -12 ans: $15
This past year has been an exciting one for the fight for justice for the victims of the UN cholera in Haiti. Although there is still much work to be done, a network of people and organizations - in Haiti and abroad - joined their hands together to make historic progress towards forcing the UN to install water and sanitation infrastructure in Haiti, compensate the victims and apologize to all Haitians. The next year has the potential for even more progress, but to realize that potential even more people will need to join in.

**Background: UN Responsibility for Cholera in Haiti**

Cholera appeared in Haiti in October 2010, and has since killed over 8,900 Haitians and sickened over 737,000 others. Even the UN’s own Panel of Experts concluded that the disease was introduced to Haiti through reckless disposal of human waste from a UN peacekeeping base. Despite overwhelming evidence, and a legal obligation to compensate people harmed by its operations, the UN refuses to take responsibility for the epidemic. Meanwhile, the cholera keeps on killing: in the first three months of 2015, the Haitian Government recorded 10,000 new cases, triple the number of cases during the same period last year.

**A Network for Justice**

The UN is powerful, but in the last year it was matched by a broad network of people outraged by the damage caused by cholera and the UN’s refusal to take responsibility. The network includes grassroots activists, civic organizations (such H.A.U), political leaders (such as Senator Linda Dorcena Forry), lawyers, scientists, healthcare professionals, filmmakers, journalists and human rights experts, even many people affiliated with the UN.

Highlights of the last year include:

- In July 2014, faced with protests and tough questions from journalists during his visit to Haiti, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon conceded that the UN had “a moral responsibility for Haiti’s cholera;”

- In September, *Haiti in the Time of Cholera*, (available online) won a Documentary Emmy Award, and a protest led by Haitian-American organizations was held outside the UN General Assembly in New York;

- In October, Haitian-Americans, human rights experts, students and journalists filled the largest federal courtroom in New York to capacity for a hearing on *Georges v. United Nations*, the cholera lawsuit against the UN. Compelling arguments were made by lawyers for the cholera victims, Haitian-American Organizations, International Law Scholars and European Law Scholars, leading to extensive press coverage;

- In December, 77 Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, including Representatives Stephen Lynch, Bill Keating and Jim McGovern from Massachusetts, wrote a strong, critical letter to the UN, insisting on a better response to the cholera epidemic;

- In February 2015- following a low point in when the judge in the New York case ruled that immunity protected the UN -- the lawyers for the victims filed an appeal, bringing the case before the Second Circuit Court of Appeals;

- In March, an “Allegation Letter” – a formal complaint written by four high-level UN human rights experts, accusing the organization of violating Haitians’ human rights by failing to respond to the cholera victims’ complaints, was released;

Throughout the year, the network kept the cholera issue alive in the Haitian and Haitian-American media, and in news reports throughout the world through press conferences, call-in shows, interviews, demonstrations, conferences and analysis.

There are many promising initiatives being prepared for the next year. Haitians United for Development and Education (HUDE) is circulating a letter to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon from the Haitian-American Community that has already been signed by over 80 organizations and prominent individuals. Haitian-American groups will join international law scholars and lawyers for the cholera victims in filing legal briefs to the appeals court in the U.S. case. Groups in Haiti are planning to insert the cholera issue into the election campaigns. There will be more demonstrations, conferences and media coverage.

There is much work to do to maximize the opportunities for justice over the next year, and there is room in the network for everyone. To see how you or your organization might best fit in, contact the Boston-based Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti (IJDH) at info@ijdh.org, or 617-652-0876.

The Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti and its sister organization the Bureau des Avocats Internationaux (BAI), represent the victims of cholera in Haiti in *Georges v. United Nations*. 
Our program goals for Haitian Seniors:

- Stay healthy and independent
- Minimize hospitalizations
- Live at home and not in nursing centers
- Live a happy and joyful life
- Feel supported and treated well
- Reminded of their unique and rich culture

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- Counseling Services
- Case Management
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- Group Outing/Excursion
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www.blanchardlawoffice.com

Haiti for Nepal – May 17 2015, Boston
Haitian Unity Parade 1pm-2:30pm
Blue Hills Ave, Boston MA

Standing in Solidarity

Joseph Cheru Art
The Haiti Fund at the Boston Foundation is an expression of the greater Boston community’s concern for the people of Haiti, and their local Boston friends and relatives. After the earthquake of January 2010, this 5-year fund was created to provide relief and reconstruction support to communities in Haiti and Haitian-Americans in the greater Boston area. We stand in solidarity and join in celebrating the rich Haitian culture during Haitian Heritage Month.

The Boston Foundation
75 Arlington St, 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02116 Tel: 617-338-2676
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THE WORD

950 AM WROL
The Spirit of Boston

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Please go to www.bmc.org/NeurologyGlobalHealth For More Information and to Support Our Cause
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Happy Haitian Heritage Month

Please contact AFAB at:
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Tel. (617) 287-0096
Website: http://www.afab-kafanm.org
Email: cdesire@afab-kafanm.org

The GBNCC was founded by Pastor Pierre-Louis Zephir in 1996 as a voluntary ministry of the Haitian Church of the Nazarene Friends of the Humble to respond to the spiritual and socio-economic needs of its community and particularly of the Haitians residing in Boston. GBNCC offers adult education, teen programs, health services and volunteers opportunities.

For more information, visit us at
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Mattapan, MA 02126

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Auto-Home-Life -Health- Business

Notary Public

1637 Blue Hill Ave
Mattapan, MA 02126

Ph: (617) 296-1000
Fax: (617) 296-6077
Bob Germain
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Tax Preparation, Financial Services

J.R. Germain, RTRP, EA
Investment Advisor Representative

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Hyde Park, MA 02136
www.cityglobetax.com
germainj@ndvest.net
Tel. (617) 910-4727
Fax: (857) 342-7301
Suivez l'Église Baptiste Haitienne de Cambridge
Chaque Lundi, 7:00 P.M. sur CCTV Canal 8 et le Web @
www.cctvCambridge/episodes, et cliquez sur le lien CCTVcambridge/episodes/go
Jour et d'heure: lundi 7:00 P.M.
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For A Better Dorchester & Mattapan
Vote September 8, 2015 and November 3, 2015

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On July 1st, 2015, Dr. Georgette Jeanty will continue to work exclusively as Civil surgeon for the US department of Immigration. She is leaving her practice as a primary care physician.

For all you medical exams related to immigration go to:
1525 blue Hill Avenue. Mattapan, ma. 02126
Phone: 6617-298-0156
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The healthcare workers of 1199SEIU are proud to partner with Haitian-Americans United in its celebration of Haitian Heritage Month.

1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East is the largest healthcare union in Massachusetts. From Cape Cod to the Berkshires, more than 47,000 healthcare and home care workers are united in 1199SEIU. We provide quality care in hospitals, nursing homes, home care programs, clinics, and community health centers throughout the Commonwealth. 1199SEIU is the fastest growing union in the Bay State. Together with the 370,000 members of 1199SEIU across the East Coast, our mission is to ensure quality, affordable healthcare for all. 1199SEIU is proud to be part of the 2.1 million member Service Employees International Union.
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