

Sunday, October 22nd, 2023

# EDGEE

## Cotillion Ball

WEST



Hyatt Place Mississauga  
5787 Hurontario St, Mississauga, ON

The logo is a silver, metallic-looking hexagon with a beveled edge. Inside the hexagon, the text "EDGE West" is written in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. Below it, "Cotillion Ball" is written in a smaller, black sans-serif font. At the bottom, "2023" is written in a black sans-serif font, flanked by two horizontal lines. The hexagon is centered on a dark grey horizontal band that spans the width of the page.

# EDGE West

## Cotillion Ball

—2023—

### MESSAGE FROM THE 2023 **EDGE** PROGRAM PLANNING TEAM

The Planning Committee is pleased to welcome you to this prestigious event. Thank you so much for coming. A lot of devotion has been poured into making this night a success and we sincerely trust that you will enjoy every minute of this exciting evening.

Our mission is to provide a forum for Black youth to excel in their undertakings; to gain self-confidence, and to become amazing and independent individuals in the ever-changing world's landscape. Therefore, it is with this in mind that a program was devised to complement the general academic curriculum to which our youth are accustomed.

Offered courses such as Social Graces, Financial Planning, Public Speaking, Tools of Engagement, Ballroom Dancing, Navigating your Career Path have all contributed to the preparation of the participants' entry into a world of challenges with confidence and self-esteem. Supported by you, our program will continue to develop, grow and empower Black youth to strive for success in their chosen fields.

To our Debutantes, Beaux and Juniors: to give you a competitive EDGE as you venture out into the world of opportunities, we ask that you apply the learning experiences gained from The 2023 EDGE Program to your lives to help strengthen your resolve to be the best you can be in your future undertakings.

PAY IT FORWARD BY SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY.

EDGE Program Planning Team

EDGE WEST BALL 2023

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## MESSAGE FROM THE EDGE FOUNDER

The 2023 EDGE Youth Program planning committee is pleased to welcome you to our annual EDGE Ball. We thank you for being here and a special thank you to the parents whose children are in the program this evening. This is a unique experience whose benefits will continue to pay dividends now and in the future. As a community, we must explore opportunities that will provide our children with the tools that will help them develop and grow with confidence. Our dedicated committee gives of their time and expertise freely so that the program can continue to operate successfully.

The workshops are listed in this program book so please read about the many Black Professionals who were part of EDGE WEST 2023. Everything from a Career Panel workshop that allow the youth to explore their career goals to spending a weekend at the University of Waterloo where they spent time on campus meeting Black professionals who shared the wraparound program that the university has for black people. These additional experiences along with all the other workshops gives the participants the EDGE.

With the addition of the EDGE, West we now operate year round with the East from January to July and the West program from June to October.

In closing, I want to thank you all for coming and congratulate our senior and junior Debutantes and Beaux, our volunteers and especially our excellent planning team. Without you, this would not be possible.

*Patricia Glendon*



## MESSAGE FROM EDGE-WEST PROGRAM LEADER



Our goal is to support participants with leadership training as they make their transition from adolescent to adulthood. The workshops we offer establish a base for participants to develop resilience in a safe and nurturing environment. We empower, inspire and encourage youth to reach their full potential and break societal barriers. With tools such as art therapy that work to foster imagination and creativity while promoting self-expression, feelings and emotions. Art also builds confidence and increases awareness and orientation (i.e. persons, places, things and time). Overall, the goal behind the arts is to reduce and manage stress, fear and anxiety while improving cognition.

We strive to break through the stigma behind mental health, keep youth off the streets and in a safe space where they can express and grow their social engagement skills. As young leaders of tomorrow, our youth must work to build confidence in the areas of Public Speaking and Communication. Being PRESENT and having a PRESENCE in every room they enter while overcoming the fear behind sitting at a table where they may

feel apprehensive because they do not see someone of their own reflection staring back at them. They need to believe there is no journey or bar to high to achieve.

As Black professionals with real life experiences in the workplace and in post secondary studies it is our duty to share what we've learned with the next generation as a means of advancing their beliefs and creating a reinforced pipeline to success.

We celebrate their differences, develop leadership and address self-care through workshops. Self-care includes self-awareness, self-confidence, reflection and emotional well-being. Our goal is to equip our youth with the tools, techniques, and support needed to jump right in with confidence!

Cultivating true inclusion, fostering a sense of belonging and creating a pipeline to success.

*Tracy Grant*



## KEVIN CARRINGTON

EVENING HOST



### KEVIN CARRINGTON

Radio and TV Announcer | Event Host | Speaker | Voice Actor

#### Phone

416.320.6300

#### e-mail

IAmKevinCarrington@gmail.com

#### Website

www.KevinCarrington.ca

#### Instagram

@KevinCarringtonTheVoice

Born and raised in Toronto Canada, Kevin has over 20yrs experience as a radio and television announcer, event host and voice actor. Kevin has worked with some of the major media outlets in and around the Greater Toronto Area such as: CityTV, CP24, boom97.3FM, TheMOVE93.5FM, Classical96.3FM, MAGIC106.1 and cjoy1460AM. You can check in with Kevin reporting the **news and traffic** on CBC Radio.

When Kevin isn't hosting events with the Mayor of Toronto, he is very engaged in the community and is a regular and familiar face as host to numerous annual events including the Toronto Caribbean Carnival, the Black & Indigenous Virtual Graduation Ceremony and Mississauga's Black History Month Virtual Ceremony just to name a few.

Kevin also promotes health and wellness through his reggae-inspired, cardio-fitness program called ReggaeCise. As a registered partner with the Toronto District School Board (TDSB), Uncle Kev gets students up and moving using music to explore topics like Black History, Caribbean culture, Racism, Equity, Anti-Oppression and fitness.

Kevin with his smooth silky voice very easily connects with his audience and keeps them engaged with his up beat witty personality.



Contact us at: (416) 200-6997  
[taketheedge.peel@gmail.com](mailto:taketheedge.peel@gmail.com)  
<https://edgeprogram.net>

## STEFAN THOMAS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Stefan Thomas is an inspiring Motivational Speaker and Student Success & Retention Coach within the realm of higher education, who is committed to supporting students in their pursuit of success and personal growth; ultimately helping them transform from merely surviving school to truly thriving.

With over 5 years of dedicated experience in the higher education sector, Stefan has had the privilege of collaborating with dozens of organizations, companies, and postsecondary institutions, such as Durham District School Board, Jays Care Foundation, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto, and Humber College; as well as host engaging conversations with well-known media-personalities like Brandon Gonez, Blake Carter and more. His mission has been to empower students from diverse backgrounds with the essential skills needed to not just endure their academic journey, but to excel and realize their fullest potential.

Through compelling keynote speeches and interactive workshops, Stefan serves as a catalyst for high school, college, and university students. His engaging presentations focus on instilling crucial qualities such as leadership, personal development, and goal orientation. Stefan's approach is designed not only to foster student retention but also to guide individuals in uncovering their authentic selves and the profound impact they are destined to make in the professional world.

Stefan's message is clear: he helps students unlock their innate leadership potential, cultivate unwavering belief in their dreams and aspirations, and emboldens them to fearlessly pursue their goals. With Stefan's guidance, students are equipped to launch confidently into the future, armed with the tools and mindset needed to achieve remarkable success. Choose Stefan Thomas as your speaker, and let him inspire your audience to reach new heights and realize their dreams. #StopSurvivingStartThriving


## BLAIZE EXETER

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Blaize Exeter is a distinguished second-year journalism student at Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU). Beyond the academic sphere, she serves as the editor for "Révolutionnaire," a dedicated social network aimed at fostering meaningful change. At TMU, her focus is not just on mastering journalistic skills but also on understanding the role of media as a tool for community empowerment and ethical discourse.

Outside of the classroom, Blaize is deeply committed to facilitating community engagement through her work at Révolutionnaire. In this capacity, she has supported the development of a robust platform that unites grassroots organizers, community activists, and citizens committed to social change. Her editorial guidance ensures that the network remains a credible space for sharing resources and ideas geared toward impactful community initiatives. Moreover, her personal interests in reading, concerts, and cinema enrich her perspective on the inextricable links between media, culture, and community wellbeing.

 @blaize.exeter @revolutionnaire.co

# RÉVOLUTIONNAIRE



Contact us at: (416) 200-6997  
[taketheedge.peel@gmail.com](mailto:taketheedge.peel@gmail.com)  
<https://edgeprogram.net>

## JERMAL

### ARTIST



JERMAL is a R&B/Soul artist hailing from Ottawa, Canada but raised in the city of Toronto. His inspiration coming from artists across a range of genres in reggae, dancehall, R&B/Soul, funk and gospel.

JERMAL has opened for other established artists (and Toronto natives) like 2 time Grammy award winner Melanie Fiona and Kim Davis to name a few. JERMAL's aim continues to be the delivery of smooth and versatile sounding R&B. Currently, JERMAL has 2 EPs entitled Rhythm & Hues (Vol.1) and Rhythm & Hues (Vol.2) which are available on all streaming platforms with more music slated for release later this year.

 @jermalmusic



## PROGRAM

Host Introduction of Program Manager	Kevin Carrington, The Voice
Welcome	Tracy Grant – on behalf of the EDGE West Team
Anthems – O Canada and Lift Ev'ry Voice Grace	JERMAL

## DINNER AND DESSERT SERVICE

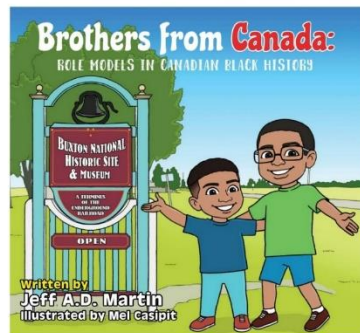
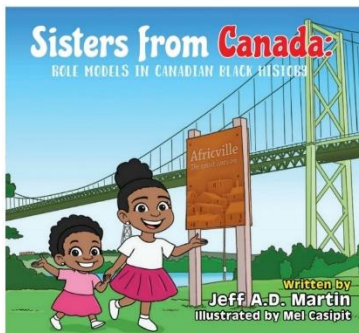
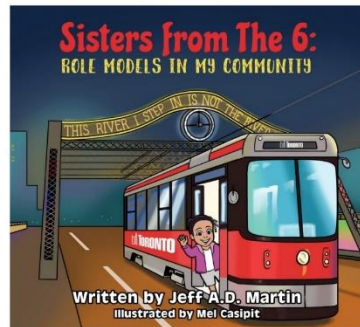
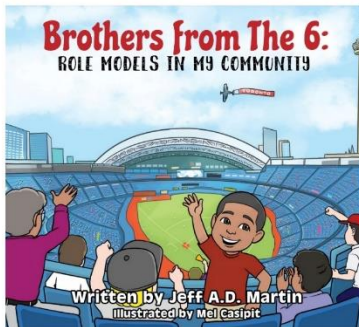
Musical Interlude	Mosaxx Music
Official Greetings	Kevin Carrington
"The Growth"	Kerry-Ann O'Brien, Parent
Rise Up	Mosaxx Music
"Becoming"	Colin McClean, Parent
Keynote Address	Stefan Thomas
Hymm to Freedom	Mosaxx Music
Juniors Welcome Presentation	Junior Participants 2023
Official Presentation and Introduction	Debutantes, Beaux and Junior Participants 2023
Grand Entrance March	Debutantes, Beaux and Junior Participants 2023
Keynote Address	Blaize Exeter
Song Presentation	JERMAL
Commencement Speech	Adijah Graham
Commencement Speech	Nicholas McClean
Presentation of Trophies and Certificates	Stefan Thomas, Blaize Dash
Acknowledgements	Tracy Grant
Announcement of Debutante and Beau of the Year	Rosa Berdejo-Williams assisted by Patricia Gloudon
Dance Presentation	Debutantes, Beaux and Junior Participants 2023
Dancing	



## MAURICE EKJ, “MOSAXX MUSIC”

### FEATURE SAXOPHONIST

I am is a self-taught musician who learned how to play the saxophone because I failed French. Music just really made sense to me without the theory portion. I do not understand theory but I always tell the story of me failing French because it shows that even though I failed the class It didn't mean I was a failure. Even though classmates made it look that way. I had another path to follow that led me to perform for great people like Luciano, Kerwin Dubois, Choclaire, sincerely Tobi, perform on the Junos and much more. I do not know when it is going to happen but I do know I will eventually become a well-known saxophonist!



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#1 Canadian motivational speaker Jeff A.D.Martin at:

# JEFFADMARTIN.COM

# The EDGE

## West Ball

— 2023 —

### MARLEE YOUNG

LEAD CHOREOGRAPHER

Actor, Dancer



“Train insane or remain the same.” - JILLIAN MICHAELS

Marlee Young is a passionate and creative performer in the arts, born and raised in Mississauga, Ontario. She began dancing at The Dance Corps located in Mississauga at the age of 2, and has not stopped since. At the age of seven, Marlee started in her studio's competitive dance program and is trained in Acrobatics, Tumbling, Ballet, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Jazz, Modern, Lyrical, Improv, Ballroom, Partner work, and more. She shadowed as a dance teacher at her home studio to allow young children to find the same passion in dance as she did at a young age.

Throughout Marlee's competitive dance career, she was able to accumulate many awards that highlight her accomplishments. Marlee has won regional titles, such as Teen Miss Starpower 2019 and 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up at Starpower Nationals in 2016 and 2018. Marlee furthered her dance career by attending the National Ballet School of Canada's summer intensive, which led to her acceptance into their institution (2013), and Alvin Ailey's summer intensive in

New York City (2019).

Marlee has been featured on numerous television shows for her dancing/acting, including “Rookie Blue” (2015) and “The Next Step”. She has starred as a hand model for Plan Canada (2017), Volvo commercial (2017), and an “American Express” commercial with world-renown choreographer Tanisha Scott (2018).

She also had the privilege of performing as a dancer in the Teddy Bear Affair Gala hosted in Toronto, Ontario, in 2018 – a children's aid fundraiser.

Marlee graduated from her studio in 2020 and continued to train at Carleton University where she was recruited to their dance program to broaden her horizons as a captain, choreographer, and dancer in a different setting. Currently, Marlee dances with the Toronto Raptors Dance Team, “North Side Crew”.

As an artist, Marlee strives to be the very best version of herself and is always thrilled to reach new goals and gain more experiences as an artist.

 @\_marleeyoung



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[TakeTheEdge.peel@gmail.com](mailto:TakeTheEdge.peel@gmail.com)  
<https://edgeprogram.net>

## JASMINE RENEE

JUNIOR CHOREOGRAPHER

Dancer



Jasmine Grant is a passionate 15-year old dancer who trains at The Dance Corps in Mississauga since the age of 2. Jasmine trains in all forms of dance, but especially enjoys lyrical, jazz, ballet and acrobatics. In 2019, Jasmine attended the prestigious summer intensive program at the American Ballet Theatre in New York City. In addition to ABT, Jasmine has also attended Intensives and summer conventions at Move Dance, On the Floor, Chemistry Dance, Jump Dance and Nuvo! Jasmine has completed her Royal Academy of Dance Grade 5 syllabus with distinction and is currently preparing for her Grade 6 Intermediate Foundation exam.

Jasmine was the 2019 title winner, Junior Miss Starpower Toronto Canada, 2022 Revolutionnaire.co scholarship recipient, 2023 title winner, Teen Miss Starpower, Toronto Canada and 2023 Candance Nationals top 10 winner.

Jasmine's dance journey has landed her prestigious recognition with CIBC with a featured story on VICE, a billboard spread with YYZ Pearson airport and most recently a spotlight performance at the 2023 Black Legacy awards.

As Jasmine continues to grow as a performer, she embraces every opportunity to teach aspiring young dancers. Jasmines dedication to her craft is uniquely profound as she continues to train rigorously, and strives to elevate her skills, technique, and creativity!

 @jasminerenee\_official

*"We are tired of jumping through windows of opportunity. Let's open doors and walk right in."*

Cecil Henry  
Cell-416.779.3744  
Office-416.266.0945



**BACEL** Black African and  
Caribbean  
Entrepreneurship  
Leadership  
Training Program

## MENU

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Assorted bread rolls  
With butter

\*\*\*

Baby mixed organic greens w/ balsamic vinaigrette

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Roasted chicken in an au jus sauce

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Grilled salmon in a dill caper sauce

\*\*\*

Oven baked eggplant parmigiana (Vegetarian)

NOTE: All entrees are served with herb-roasted potatoes and market fresh seasonal vegetables

\*\*\*

Dessert cheesecake

\*\*\*

Soft drinks, coffee and tea





DEBUTANTES, BEAUX



JUNIORS

## THE 2023 GRADUATES



### ABIJAH GRAHAM

<b>PARENTS</b>	Christine Graham and Patrick Stoute
<b>SCHOOL</b>	Jean Augustine Secondary School
<b>HOBBIES</b>	Golfing, tennis
<b>CAREER GOALS</b>	Pediatrics

#### PERSONAL COMMENTS

I am excited to share my thoughts on the EDGE Program. The program's authentic celebration of black excellence, with accomplished black figures as role models, has truly inspired me. I am honoured to be one of EDGE Wests 2023 Valedictorians. One of my personal highlights in 2023 is being one out of the 20 staff and students across Peel Region awarded the Excellence in Education award and The Award of Distinction. I tribute my success to the grace of God and my parents. I have also built meaningful friendships within the program, creating a strong sense of community. In conclusion, my journey in the EDGE Program has been nothing short of extraordinary.



### KALYCE GRANT-HACKETT

<b>PARENTS</b>	Johanna Grant and David Hackett
<b>SCHOOL</b>	St. Roch Secondary School
<b>HOBBIES</b>	Playing basketball
<b>CAREER GOALS</b>	Cosmetic Nurse

#### PERSONAL COMMENTS

The edge program was a great experience for me it made me less shy and be able to be open up about getting to know new people



## HANNAH GYAN

<b>PARENTS</b>	Nancy Gyan
<b>SCHOOL</b>	King City Secondary School
<b>HOBBIES</b>	Dance, fashion
<b>CAREER GOALS</b>	To become a professional dancer, open my own dance studio while becoming a bigtime Lawyer

### PERSONAL COMMENTS

So far, the Edge program has been an amazing experience, I was able to be in a room with fun people who were learning new things with me. We have been in rehearsals, in a university dorm, and presentations together. I cannot think of any bad or regretful experiences within this Program. It has been fun and friendly all the way! An accomplishment that I would walk away with is being apart of the program itself. I love this program and the people apart of it!



## AUDRINA STEWART

<b>PARENTS</b>	Nicole Hanson
<b>SCHOOL</b>	Cawthra Park Secondary School
<b>HOBBIES</b>	Visual arts
<b>CAREER GOALS</b>	Lawyer or Engineer

### PERSONAL COMMENTS

The EDGE program has shown me how much potential I have to achieve anything, as long as I work hard for it.



## NERE UGHARA

<b>PARENTS</b>	Uwawoli Ughara
<b>SCHOOL</b>	Cardinal Ambrozic Secondary School
<b>HOBBIES</b>	Reading and cooking
<b>CAREER GOALS</b>	Criminal Lawyer and Runway Model

### PERSONAL COMMENTS

Learned how to dance and what steps may be needed for my career path.



## JAYLIN CHRISTIE

### PARENTS

Dawn and Mark Christie

### SCHOOL

David Suzuki Secondary School

### HOBBIES

Painting, listening to music, board games, swimming, piano and traveling

### CAREER GOALS

Working in an industry I am passionate about.  
Earning recognition as an expert in my field.

### PERSONAL COMMENTS

This EDGE experience has allowed me to be able to meet new people with similar interests and learn things along the way. Throughout this program, I have been able to begin networking and build genuine relationships with others.



## NICHOLAS McCLEAN

### PARENTS

Gillian and Colin McClean

### SCHOOL

Mayfield Secondary Public School

### HOBBIES

Designing, painting, sculpting, long boarding, filmmaking, and hanging out with close friends

### CAREER GOALS

Architect, professor of African Studies or an acclaimed visual artist

### PERSONAL COMMENTS

Starting out in this program I was nervous, but knew if I went in with an open mind, that I'd be destined for greatness. Now, here I am as Co-Valedictorian and I couldn't be more honoured to represent this program. A lot of black youth today are in need of encouragement and guidance from those who look like them and that is exactly what the Edge program has brought forth for me and the friends I've made along the journey. The end was bittersweet having to part from seeing my new found friends turned family, but I feel joyful knowing that there are others who look just like me who have risen above the stereotypes and have truly made a goal and name for themselves. - sincerely Nicholas M



## GABE SINCLAIR

### GUARDIAN

Kerry-Ann O'Brien

### SCHOOL

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Secondary School

### HOBBIES

Journaling, model railway building, editing and video creation

### CAREER GOALS

Computer Engineer

### PERSONAL COMMENTS

I've loved the edge program ever since I've joined everyone in the program that has helped us practice our skills and teach us new things and for just getting me out the house and meeting new people who I'm very fond of. The Only thing I would changed about the edge program for me would to have started it soon! - Gabe



# The EDGE Ball

Empower. Develop. Grow. Engage  
— 2023 —



## JEYLIN STEPHENSON

<b>PARENTS</b>	Kayla Stephenson
<b>SCHOOL</b>	St. Aloysius Gonzaga
<b>HOBBIES</b>	Basketball, reading and sleeping
<b>CAREER GOALS</b>	To become a Psychologist

### PERSONAL COMMENTS

The edge journey has impacted me in ways I didn't expect, at first I wasn't so sure on joining but it was definitely worth while because of the experiences I've had. Furthermore, I am glad for the people I have met and to have been involved with during this program. I appreciate what I have learned and still learning about the people in it.



## MICHAJ-JEREMY WILLIAMS

<b>PARENTS</b>	Michelle Williams
<b>SCHOOL</b>	Applewood Heights Secondary School
<b>HOBBIES</b>	Basketball, music, animals and reading
<b>CAREER GOALS</b>	Wildlife Rehabilitation

### PERSONAL COMMENTS

I just want to give the first thanks to my mom for always supporting me, guiding me and shaping me into the man I am today. Gabe you are my day one homeboy. I want to say thank you to EDGE for giving me this opportunity and make connections that will help me on my journey towards success. I also want to give a special thanks to Pat for all the wonderful conversations we shared together.





## KIRA FORRESTER-STEPHENSON

**PARENTS** Kayla Stephenson and David Forrester

**HOBBIES** Kira is an A student who excels in Math and Reading. She loves to dance and loves animals. She likes gymnastics, swimming and thanks to the Edge program, now Taekwondo. Kira also likes watching movies and hanging out with her friends. Kira has learned and shared a lot in this program and has many memories that will last her a lifetime.



## SARAH BARTON

**PARENTS** Stephanie and Alphonso Barton

**HOBBIES** Sarah Hilda Barton affectionately known as, Siri by her family, is a caring, enthusiastic and passionate fifth grader. Sarah enjoys drawing, painting, reading books, baking cookies and playing with her baby sister. Sarah has a passion for the Arts, including dancing, visual arts and drama and hopes to pursue her dreams of becoming an Actress.



## NYLA ANOZIE

**PARENTS** Nathalie and Valentine Anozie

**HOBBIES** Reading, dancing, playing tennis. She also enjoys baking with her sister and playing soccer with her brother.



## NETER EL JACKSON

**PARENTS** Keon Bruney

**HOBBIES** Reading, Singing, Dancing, Drawing, Exploring Outdoors.



## The EDGE Ball

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### JONATHAN HOPE

**PARENTS**

Celine Hope

**HOBBIES**

Enjoys doing art projects and building with Lego's. Jonathan has a creative mind and it shows through his art.



### JEREMIAH RHODEN

**PARENTS**

Stephanie and Omari Rhoden

**HOBBIES**

Jeremiah is a bright and witty young man who is full of life, laughter, and always makes his presence known. He will always have an answer for you and manages to put a smile on your face. He enjoys soccer, learning to swim, and plays on a basketball league within the city of Brampton. He has participated in youth community organizations such as Roots Community Services summer camp, and One Voice One Team, an organization focusing on youth leadership development. At school, Jeremiah is a leader among his peers and will often be the one seeking out justice for all and willing to give a helping hand. He has big dreams of being a pilot one-day and has already began his travels by visiting places such as Cuba, Jamaica, Las Vegas and Florida! Recently he has taken up the craft of making ninja stars and has begun to formulate a business plan to sell them to his friends.



### NAHEAM-ISREAL MACAULAY

**PARENTS**

Kenroy Rubin and Ronke Macaulay

**HOBBIES**

Football, soccer, basketball reading and watching Anime



### MATTEO STEWART

**PARENTS**

Siobhan Bent and Neil Stewart

**HOBBIES**

Soccer and playing Roblox and dancing aka 'getting sturdy'! 😊



## MEET THE ORGANIZERS

# The EDGE Ball

Empower. Develop. Grow. Engage

— 2023 —

The **EDGE** Program Planning Committee is a group of dedicated volunteers who share in the vision of the **EDGE** philosophy: **Empower. Develop. Grow & engage** our young people.



## TRACY GRANT

**Organization Role:** Peel-West, Operations Planning & Program Lead

**Career:** Senior Vendor Manager, Client Care & Business Analyst, Bell Canada, 25 years

**Personal Comments:** As a community, we need to bond together to build up our children so they feel empowered to go after their dreams because we are here supporting and encouraging them to shine. The EDGE is their extended family and we remain connected offering assistance in any way we can.



## ROSA BERDEJO-WILLIAMS

**Organization Role:** Peel-West & Scarborough-East Workshop Coordinator

**Career:** Academic Advisor York University, 20 years

**Personal Comments:** Community Service is an opportunity for me to share my knowledge and experiences to help the young people from our community navigate their education or learn about networking.



## MARTINA CAMPBELL

**Organization Role:** Peel-West Cotillion Ball Ticket Sales Lead

**Career:** Registered Practical Nurse at Trillium Health Partners, 15 years

**Personal Comments:** Community service means giving of yourself, your time and resources for the betterment of others. Paying it forward in hopes someone's life is changed for the better.



## SERENA THOMPSON

**EDGE Organization Role:** Peel-West Community Outreach Coordinator

**Career:** Patient Advocate, 14 years

**Personal Comments:** Community Service means everything to me. I always wanted to find a way to give back to the community because I loved working with kids while I was in grade school. From a young adult to now, I enjoy volunteering for youth programs such as The EDGE Program where impact and change is embraced.



## JAMEEKA MURDOCK

**EDGE Organization Role:** Peel-West Retreat/Event chaperon, 2014 Alumni

**Personal Comments:** It means that's I've since started putting myself out in a community where I'd have to present myself in a more public matter. Learning how to do so through the people I have met and have had conversations with is always an asset to knowing your doing the right thing in the moment for your community.



## TYREKE SMALL

**EDGE Organization Role:** Peel-West Retreat/Event chaperon, 2014 Alumni

**Career:** Mixer Operator, 3 years

**Personal Comments:** Community service in itself is the act of being selfless while offering personal time and resources to those in need.



## JOAN SMITH

Treasurer



## MAUREEN SIMPSON

Venue Lead Coordinator

## Special thanks to our dedicated program volunteers

Ronke MacAuley & family  
Brianna Hylton & family  
Leonie Falconer



## Social Impact - DEI (Diversity Equity & Inclusion) EDGE benefit:

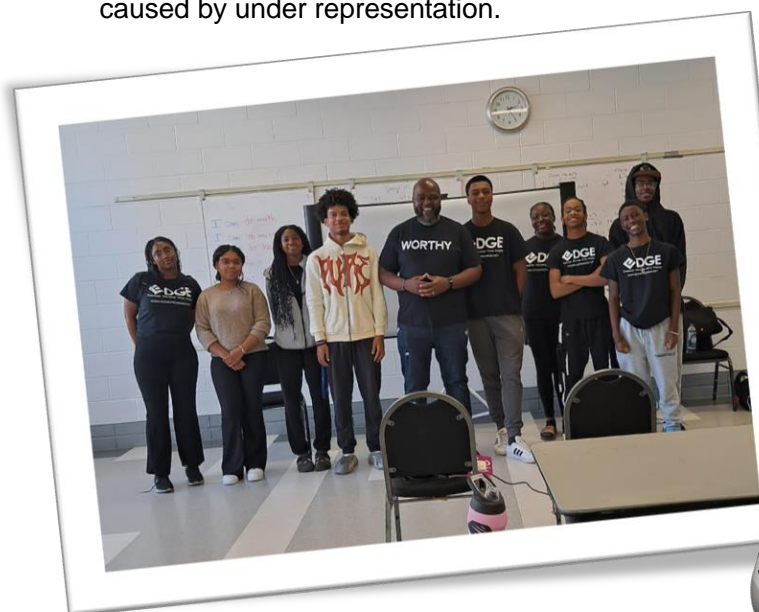
**Feedback1:** The Edge allows children and young adults from OUR community to flourish and grow in safe environments amongst their peers. The Edge gives them the opportunity to be on an even playing field so that everyone can thrive to their full potential.

**Feedback2:** The EDGE Program provides references and resources through interactive workshops and mentorship connections, tailored to the diverse needs of black youth.

**Feedback3:** What I have always taken from the Edge program is that it really does give you the opportunity to open your mind more to what is out there for us. Friendship is definitely one but a guide on how to be better for yourself for your near future of real life decisions that you will feel good about.

**Feedback4:** The EDGE program offers opportunity to those who may not have the resources available. This program also gives exposure to youth, allowing them to see the many opportunities the world has to offer.

**Feedback5:** The EDGE Program provides access to intentionally curated workshops facilitated by Black Professionals, who share their knowledge and help EDGE participants envision their possible educational/and or career paths. The program allows participants access places and events that they may normally not have access to, presented by individuals who look like them. EDGE strives to fill the gap caused by under representation.



## TESTIMONIALS

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*"The edge program is fun because we get to do so much fun experiments while having fun and learning things at the same time. the most recent experiment we've done is bubble slime which uses science, and we do some team building activities using cups etc. The dance teachers are so nice, food is amazing too! And that's why I love the edge program.." – K. Forrester-Stephenson, 10 years*

\*\*\*

*"Thank you EDGE and to all the chaperones for a wonderful retreat." – O. Cohen*

\*\*\*

*"Thank you for taking care of the young people. Friends were made and seems more relaxed with this peer group. Thanks again" – D. Sergent*

\*\*\*

*"Thank you for offering great programming for our young adults." - L. Rivers*

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## WORKSHOPS AND FACILITATORS

WORKSHOPS	PARTNERS
Fire safety & being home alone	Michelle John, Peel Fire <a href="mailto:michelle.john@brampton.ca">michelle.john@brampton.ca</a>
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Kidnetix	<a href="https://gamesover.ca/">https://gamesover.ca/</a>
Art Therapy	<a href="https://trayarts.ca/">https://trayarts.ca/</a>



## BLACK AND FREE (BAF) UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

[www.blackandfree.ca](http://www.blackandfree.ca)

### WORKSHOPS

Office of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion  
& Anti-racism

Engineering Outreach Team

Office of Student Success

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 @blackandfree\_

Black And Free + The EDGE in Aug. 2023

### Youth Campus Visit



Black And Free + The EDGE in Aug. 2023

### Youth Campus Visit



Black And Free + The EDGE in Aug. 2023

### Youth Campus Visit



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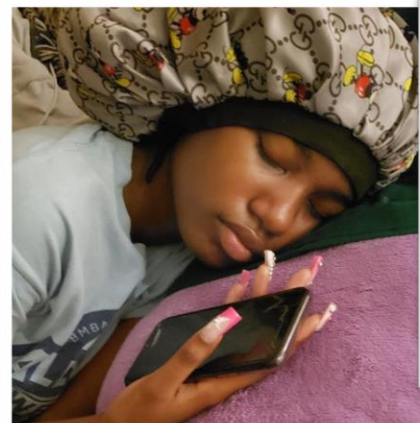
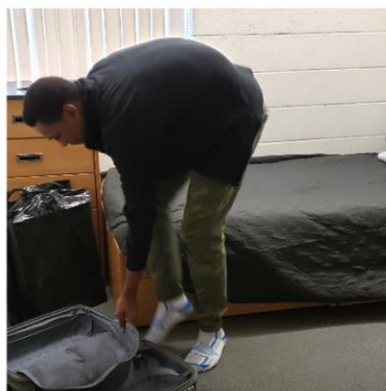
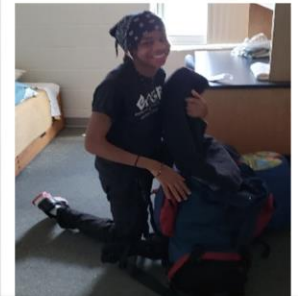
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# The EDGE Ball

Empower. Develop. Grow. Engage

2023

## RETREAT





## WORKSHOPS





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## JUNIORS







## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### SPONSORSHIPS/DONATIONS:

Patricia Gloudon

Gregory Holness

Liza Keizer; Up North Naturals

TD Bank Program Sponsorship

*Thank you*

Lambda Mu Mu of Omega Psi Psi Fraternity,  
Alpha Alpha Delta Omega Fraternity,  
Toronto Deltas Sigma Theta Sorority and  
Sigma Epsilon Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity  
for your continued commitment to community service!



## PATRICIA GLOUDON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

### Helping Black Youth Ensure Post-Secondary Education is Possible

Patricia Gloudon is shaping a brighter future by assisting Black Youth access the power of higher education!

The Patricia Gloudon Scholarship Program was designed to support Black Youth pursuing post-secondary education. The Gloudon scholarship fund is open to Black Youth who are enrolled in a full-time undergraduate or graduate program at a Canadian college or University. Applicants must demonstrate academic excellence, financial need, and community involvement.

The Gloudon fund offers several scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,500. In addition to financial support, the Gloudon fund offers recipients opportunities for mentorship and networking with Canadian professionals via The EDGE Program.

The Gloudon selection process assesses applicants based on their academic achievements, financial need, community involvement, personal statement, and recommendation letters. A panel committee reviews each application and selects based on the eligibility criteria and the strength of their application.

The Gloudon fund aims to empower Black Youth to achieve their academic and professional goals, by reducing their financial burden.

### SCHOLARSHIPS AWARD CATEGORY:

The Patricia Gloudon Scholarship is funded directly by Pat Gloudon and Black Canadians who generously donate in an effort to enrich the lives of Black Canadians. The Gloudon fund is awarded to outstanding Black students with academic excellence and community service. The main eligibility requirements to consider include:

1. Educational level: high school, trade school, undergraduate, or graduate school
2. Demographic information: race, ethnicity, location, first-generation students, etc.
3. Academic information: GPA, field of study, career of interest, and volunteering history
4. Submission requirements: Essay, video essay, and application





THANK YOU

*for coming*



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WWW.EDGEPROGRAM.NET  
TAKETHEEDGE.PEEL@GMAIL.COM