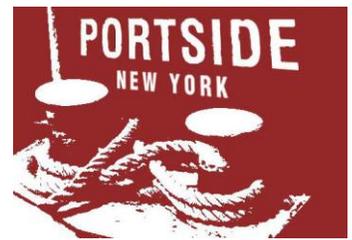


**Invitation to the 1st Annual
African American Maritime History Challenge
For Red Hook 5th and 6th graders**



**Here is your invitation to participate in the kick-off event of the
African American Maritime Heritage program of PortSide NewYork!**

Your 5th and 6th grade students are invited to participate in a History Challenge for students in Red Hook! PortSide NewYork is launching this program to grow awareness of this important and generally forgotten part of American history. The History Challenge will be one of our first events, and we hope it will grow neighborhood-wide Red Hook spirit while educating youth.

Each school can field one team of 3-5 students. Schools pick the teams. Students will make a short oral presentation with any presentation aides they see fit such as a poster, digital slideshow/Powerpoint.

**Learn about African American achievement, seafaring adventures,
struggles against racism, and daily life and work**

PortSide will provide an introduction to possible topics. We are creating a resource webpage (<http://portsidennyork.org/afam-maritime>) with a bibliography and links and are happy to lend books from our maritime library. Ideally, students will come to our location, the historic ship [MARY A. WHALEN](#) in Atlantic Basin (right near the NYC Ferry stop) to learn about and discuss their project ideas.

PortSide will provide judges and rewards. All participants will receive a reward which will be in the form of maritime experiences (sailing, kayaking, access to ship and maritime places that the public can't usually go). We will broadcast the event via Facebook live and live stream it if we can find a video partner. All exhibits (if permission is granted) will go into our e-museum redhookwaterstories.org.

This program is being developed via conversations with Natasha Campbell, the Founder and Executive Director of Summit Academy. We would like to have all schools in Red Hook participate in an event.

The final presentations will take place in the Summit Academy auditorium in May. Please RSVP by Friday, 4/16 to Peter@portsidennyork.org. Feel free to call or email us with any questions!

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