Harry Potter and Alexandria Black History Online Scavenger Hunt

For entry drawing:
NAME: __________________________ EMAIL: ____________________________

Fill in the answers and turn in these sheets of paper to the Alexandria History Museum at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, by August 9, 2020 (check museum hours). You will be entered into a drawing with five random winners selected by August 14.

All local history trivia answers can be found online with relevant keyword searches in your preferred search engine.

1. Quidditch is the most beloved sport in Harry Potter’s wizarding world. While it is often compared to soccer and basketball, its popularity best mirrors American football. When the three Alexandria high schools were consolidated in 1971 (after they had been desegregated in 1963), the champion football team helped to bring together the community.

   a. What movie from 2000 portrays football at T.C. Williams after integration? ____________________________

   b. Name one professional Quidditch team. ____________________________

2. The ages of witches and wizards attending magical school span a muggles’ middle and high years, combining all ages at one school. Until Parker-Gray High School was built on Madison Street, African American Alexandrians attended school in the same building for all grade levels. They were not allowed to attend the whites-only schools until desegregation and the integration of public schools happened in the 1970s.

   a. In what year was Parker-Gray High School on Madison Street built? __________

   b. What is the name of the wizarding school in the United States? ____________________________

3. School names often have meaning. At Hogwarts, each House is named after a founding member of the school. In the 1950s and 60s, young African American students in Alexandria attended Charles Houston School on Wythe Street, named after a civil rights lawyer and Howard University Law School Dean.

   a. What civic building of the same name is now on the site of the Charles Houston School? ____________________________

   b. Name all four Hogwarts Houses/founding members. ____________________________

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4. Parker-Gray School was named for principals of the first two Alexandria public schools for African American children. Sarah A. Gray ran the Hallowell School for Girls and John Parker ran the Snowden School for Boys. Like Headmaster Albus Dumbledore, they were leaders in their community as well as educators.
   a. In what city did Sarah A. Gray attend school as a child in the 1850s? _________________
   b. What is Albus Dumbledore’s full name? ____________________________________________

5. In *Harry Potter*, the Great Hall serves as a center of life at Hogwarts where students and teachers gather regularly. Churches often serve as community gathering places like the Great Hall. Some churches built in the 1800s even look like the Great Hall because they were built in the Gothic Revival architectural style. Even the old pharmacy that is now the Apothecary Museum was decorated on the inside in the Gothic Revival style in the 1850s. Hogwarts was built over 1,000 years ago, when the original Gothic style was new.
   a. In what century was Hogwarts Castle built? ________________
   b. Name one church in Alexandria built in the Gothic Revival style? ____________________

6. In *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, when Hermione realizes enslaved labor is used to provide the food, cleaning, etc., at Hogwarts, she protests by refusing to eat the food the house elves had prepared at her first night back at Hogwarts. Peaceful protests have been used throughout history to change the way things are done. In 1939, five young Black men walked into the newly built Alexandria Library on Queen Street as part of a planned, peaceful protest. They were denied library cards, then sat down to read books. They were arrested because the library was segregated, and only white people were allowed to use it. The nearest library these men were allowed to use was in DC. This led to building a separate (but not equal) public library for the Black community a few years later (now the Alexandria Black History Museum).
   a. What was the name of the society Hermione created to tell people about the enslavement of house elves? ________________________________
   b. What was the name of the library built in 1940 for Black residents of Alexandria? ____________________________
7. Significant events occur in cemeteries in the *Harry Potter* series. Alexandria has many cemeteries that were once segregated, meaning African Americans were not allowed to be buried in the same cemeteries as white people. The Contraband Burial Ground (now the Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery Memorial) was founded in 1864 during the Civil War due to the great increase of African American refugees escaping enslavement.
   a. Name one street on which this cemetery is located. __________________________
   b. Name one person whose grave Harry Potter visits during the *Harry Potter* series. __________________________

8. Hogsmeade is the only village in Britain where everyone is a member of the wizarding community. This community provided magical people the ability to live fully as themselves. In Alexandria, different neighborhoods were founded by African Americans, such as Uptown, The Fort, and Hayti, where residents established businesses, churches, and social clubs. In 1818, the first African American religious congregation built their first church building in Alexandria.
   a. What is the name of this church? ______________________________________
   b. Name one other village in the U.K. with many magical residents. ______________

9. In the muggle world castles like Hogwarts were actually built as forts to protect people from invading armies. During the Civil War, 68 major forts were built around Washington D.C. to protect the capital city. One of these was Fort Ward in Alexandria. After the war, the army no longer had use for many of the forts and the land was abandoned. At Fort Ward, a vibrant African American community took up residence, which became known as The Fort.
   a. Name the surname of one family that lived at The Fort. ______________________
   b. In what region of the UK is Hogwarts Castle located? ________________________

10. Healers in the wizarding world are highly trained experts in repairing the body. Dr. Albert Johnson, Alexandria’s first licensed African American physician, graduated from medical school in the 19th century. Just like a muggle’s first aid kit, the average witch or wizard would know a few basic healing charms and potions, but more difficult healing magic could easily go wrong.
    a. Who poorly performs a charm on Harry causing his arm bones to vanish? ______________________
    b. From which medical school did Dr. Johnson graduate? ________________
11. Throughout Alexandria’s history, taverns and hotels were places for people to eat a meal and spend the night, as well as for public events. John Wesley Jackson owned a hotel in the early 20th century, one of the few places African American travelers could stay when travelling through Alexandria due to segregation. Mr. Jackson hosted political debates and an annual emancipation celebration.

   a. On what street was Mr. Jackson’s hotel located?

   b. Harry Potter also stayed in a pub (tavern) that served as the entrance to Diagon Alley. What is the name of this pub?

12. Social clubs like the Elks or the Oddfellows were popular places for people to hang out. These clubs have been especially important to African American communities, as they were once barred from entering other restaurants and clubs. Like the Great Hall at Hogwarts, social clubs held many functions like community meetings, but mostly dinners and parties. Famous musicians Ray Charles and James Brown performed at the historic Elks Lodge #48 in Old Town.

   a. In what year was Elks Lodge #48 built?

   b. What band performed in the Hogwarts Great Hall at the Yule Ball in Goblet of Fire?

13. In the court case Loving v. Virginia, the US Supreme Court ruled that laws against interracial marriage were unconstitutional and therefore illegal. Mr. and Mrs. Loving’s lawyers’ office was in Alexandria, across the street from City Hall.

   a. In what year did the U.S. Supreme Court make the decision in the Loving v. Virginia case?

   b. In Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, it is illegal for a magical person to marry a non-magical person in some countries. In which country was it illegal in Fantastic Beasts?

14. The City of Alexandria is governed by a city council of seven elected officials, one of whom is the mayor. William Euille was the first African American mayor of Alexandria from 2003-2016.

   a. In what building does the Alexandria City Council have their public meetings?

   b. What is the name of the group of witches and wizards who officially govern the British magical community, much like a city council?