



February 3, 2020

You are invited to join Mayor Lovely A. Warren at **11 am on Friday, February 14, 2020, at 271 Hamilton Street** to celebrate Frederick Douglass' birthday with the dedication of a historic marker at the site of the only home owned and occupied by Douglass that is still standing in Rochester today.

Douglass lived in the Hamilton Street property with his daughter, Rosetta Douglass Sprague, son-in-law, Nathan Sprague, and their family from 1873 to 1874. Though he occupied the house only briefly, Douglass maintained ownership of the building for several decades, which allowed him to continue to vote in federal elections following his relocation from Rochester to Washington, D.C., in 1872.

Thanks to a grant from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation, this long-overlooked site will be recognized with a historic marker that will serve to educate the public about the life of one of the city's most celebrated citizens. The Pomeroy Foundation has funded more than 850 historic markers throughout New York State since 2006.

Mayor Warren will be joined in unveiling the marker by Sherri Dukes, owner and occupant of the former Douglass home; Deryn Pomeroy, the Pomeroy Foundation's Director of Strategic Initiatives; and Robert J. Benz, Co-Founder and Executive Vice President of the Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives.

The dedication ceremony is open to the public. Feel free to share this invitation with anyone who would be interested in attending.

Sincerely,

Christine L. Ridarsky  
City Historian &  
Historical Services Consultant, Rochester Public Library

