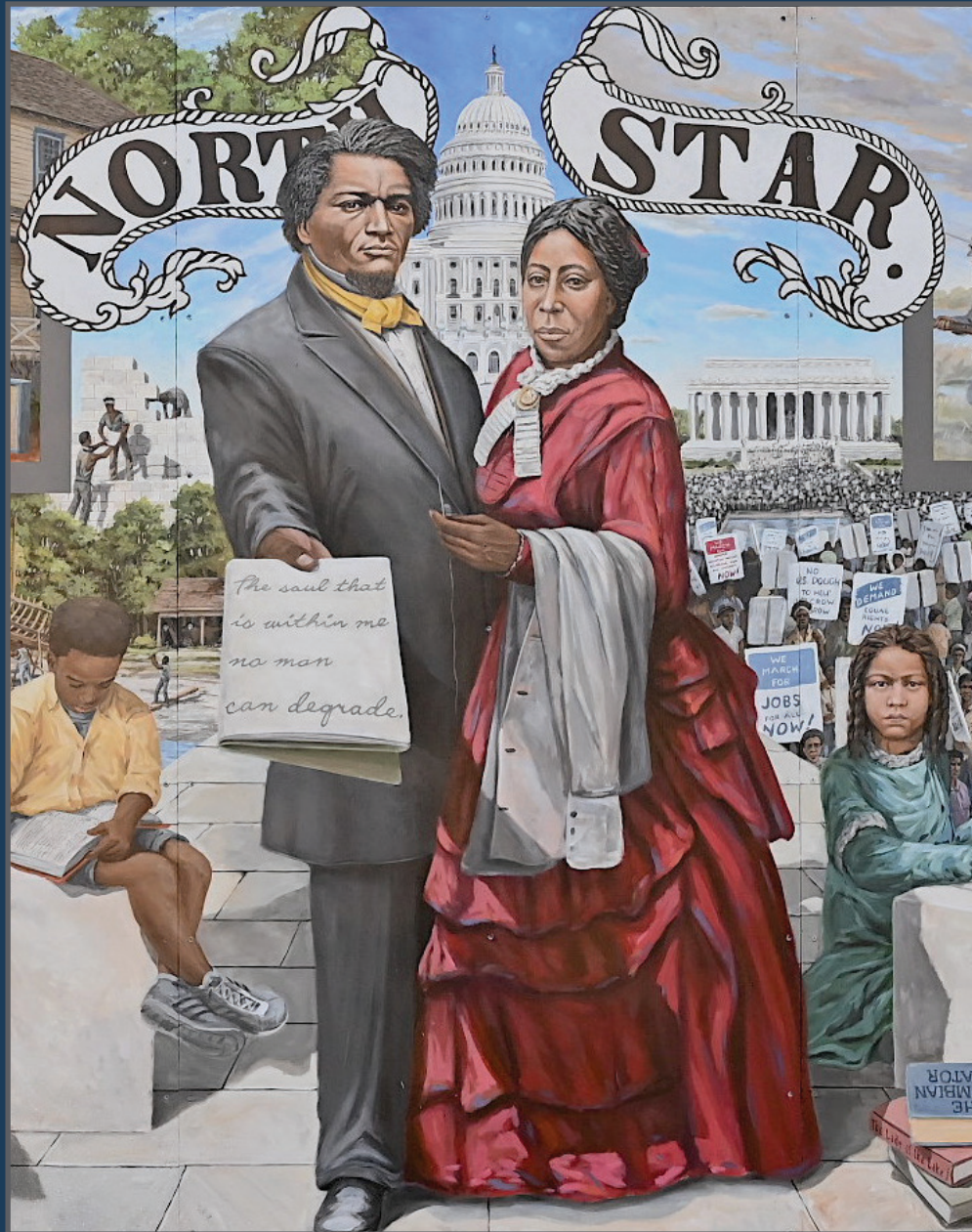


FREDERICK DOUGLASS MURAL



“The soul that is within me no man can degrade.”

—Frederick Douglass

A FAMILY OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS

Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey, better known today as Frederick Douglass, was born enslaved in Talbot County in February 1818. After self-liberating in 1838, he became a leading abolitionist, fighting for an end to slavery.

Douglass was not alone in this fight.

He escaped from slavery wearing a sailor's uniform sewn by **Anna Murray**, a young woman he met in Baltimore. Born free in Caroline County to parents recently manumitted from slavery, Anna worked as a seamstress and chef. Having risked her own freedom for his, Anna followed Frederick to New York after he sent word of his safe arrival. They married and moved to New Bedford, Mass., taking on the surname Douglass there, and later settled in Rochester, N.Y.

Anna anchored their home, while Frederick found increasing fame. He lectured most of the year in the northern states and abroad. She managed finances and aided others in their self-emancipation.

The couple had five children — Rosetta, Lewis Henry, Frederick Jr., Charles Remond, and Annie — all pictured in this mural. Fighting for the cause of freedom was the family business.

Ode to Education

Douglass learned early that education and liberty go hand in hand. His enslaver

was furious when he discovered his wife teaching Douglass to read, saying it would “forever unfit him to be a slave.”

Determined to seize what was denied, a young Frederick taught himself to read and write, trading food for reading material. Education opened his eyes to the cruelty of slavery. By age 27, Douglass had published the first of three autobiographies. With money he made speaking, he began publishing *The North Star*, an antislavery newspaper, in December 1847.

The Power of Military Service

During the Civil War, Douglass advocated for military service as a pathway to citizenship for African Americans. The Emancipation Proclamation not only freed all enslaved people in the Confederate states, it made it possible for Black soldiers to enlist in the Union Army.

Frederick Douglass Jr. joined his father as a recruiter. Charles was the first African American from New York to enlist, volunteering for the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment. He was followed by Lewis, who became a sergeant major in the same unit. Many Douglass and Bailey descendants have served in the military, including great-great-grandson Kevin Greene, a retired Army recruiter, and five times great-nephew Tarence Bailey Sr., who grew up in The Hill Community and fought in Afghanistan.

Great-great-grandson **Kevin Greene** is a retired Army recruiter.

Nettie's son **Kenneth B. Morris Jr.** co-founded Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives with her in 2007. The Douglass family launched the One Million Abolitionists project to distribute one million copies of a special bicentennial edition of *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave* to young people worldwide in 2018.

On the Mural



Kevin Douglass Greene

Nettie Washington Douglass

Kenneth B. Morris Jr.

Frederick Douglass

Anna Murray Douglass

From Slavery to the White House

The bottom half of the mural illustrates 400 years of African American history. It begins in the lower left corner with the arrival of the first enslaved Africans in 1619 and ends with Barack Obama, the first Black president, and Kamala Harris, the first woman vice president, in from the White House.

Frederick Douglass and his wife Anna Murray Douglass stand in the center, pivotal figures in the course of this history. Their family mission expanded equality and justice for all Americans.

Rosetta Douglass-Sprague

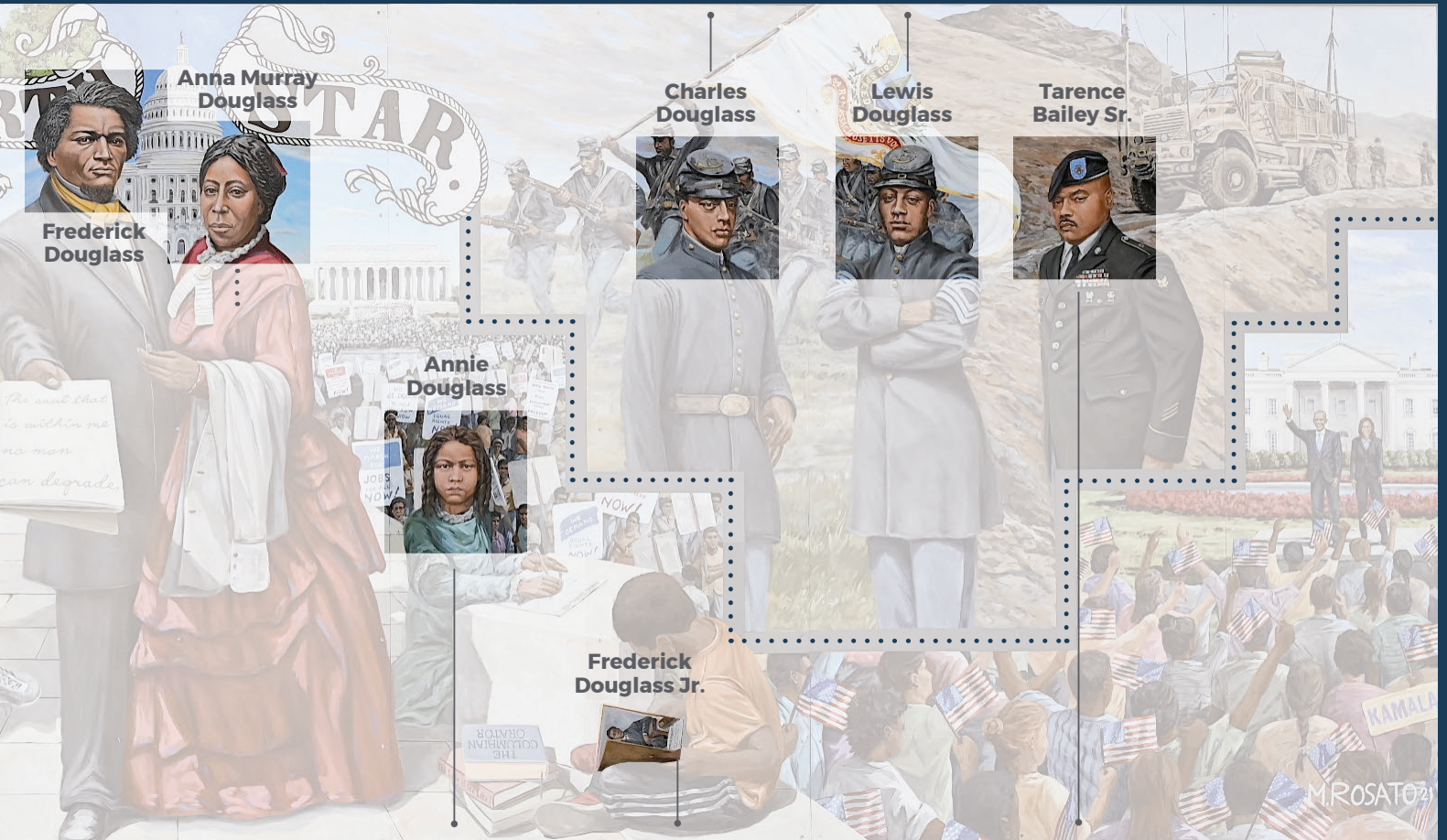
Nettie Washington Douglass is both the great-granddaughter of Booker T. Washington and the great-great-granddaughter of Frederick and Anna.

The oldest of five, **Rosetta Douglass-Sprague**, is shown on the back cover of the book this child is holding. She worked with her father on *The North Star* newspaper and became a teacher, writer, and activist in her own right.

Charles Remond Douglass was the first African American from New York to enlist, volunteering for the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment.

Lewis Henry Douglass followed Charles and became a sergeant major in the same unit.

Mural by Michael Rosato



Annie Douglass, the youngest of Anna and Frederick's five children, died just a few days before her 11th birthday. In her obituary, Annie is called the idol of her mother and pride of her father.

Frederick Douglass Jr. joined his father as a Recruiting Sergeant attached to the U.S. 25th Colored Infantry.

Tarence Bailey Sr., the five times great-nephew of Frederick Douglass, grew up in The Hill Community and fought in Afghanistan.

The Frederick Douglass family offers a heartfelt thank you to the many people and organizations that donated time and money to support the development and installation of this mural.



Frederick Douglass on The Hill Mural
Located at 505 South Street
on Easton's Rail Trail
Easton, Maryland

Easton parks and trails are open
dawn to dusk.

FrederickDouglassMural.org