

*Contact:*

Rob Daves, Co-chair  
Hidden Brookline,  
a committee of the Town of Brookline's  
Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Community Relations  
Phone (617) 566-7334  
robdaves@rcn.com

# HIDDEN BROOKLINE

**BROOKLINE, MA May 17, 2016:**

# Press Release

**BROOKLINE TO HONOR WORLD-RENOWNED AFRICAN  
AMERICAN TENOR AND TRAILBLAZER  
ROLAND HAYES  
WITH THE DEDICATION OF A PLAQUE AND A  
CEREMONY IN FRONT OF THE HOME WHERE HE LIVED  
FOR ALMOST 50 YEARS**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 2016 AT 3 TO 4 PM (rain or shine)**

In the street in front of 58 ALLERTON STREET, BROOKLINE  
(between High Street and Pond Avenue)

*Free and open to all.*

Roland Hayes grew up on a farm where his mother had been enslaved, yet he rose up to become one of the world's greatest tenors, breaking racial barriers across the United States and throughout the world, a trailblazer for others like Marian Anderson and Paul Robeson. In 1923 he became the first African American to solo with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Proud of his heritage, he always included African American Spirituals in his concerts. He was a giant in the history of American music, yet here in the town where he made his home and was once revered, there is no permanent memorial to honor him.

This will change on June 12<sup>th</sup>, when we dedicate a bronze plaque in front of his home and honor a man with a voice that enlightened, brightened and changed the world.

- **Music, story and Brookline connections will be the heart of the program.**
- **Members of the Hayes family will unveil the plaque, which features an image of Hayes, carved by the renowned sculptor Robert Shure.**
- **Berklee Professor and vocalist Donna McElroy, children from Voices Boston and Hayes' great-grandson, a classical baritone, will perform.**
- **Governor and Ms. Kitty Dukakis will share their stories of Roland Hayes in Brookline.**
- **Christopher Brooks, co-author of the recent biography "Roland Hayes, Legacy of An American Tenor," will speak about Hayes' place in history.**
- **The always-engaging Reverend Liz Walker will emcee.**

Refreshments. Seating provided for those in need. Interpreters for the hearing impaired.

BROOKLINE HONORS  
ROLAND HAYES



*....Roland Hayes rose up to be one of the world's  
great singers and carried his melodious voice into the  
palaces and mansions of kings and queens.*

*-MLK, Jr*

BROOKLINE HONORS ROLAND HAYES AT HIS HOME FOR 50 YEARS  
WITH A PLAQUE DEDICATION & CELEBRATION IN SONG

**Sunday, June 12, 2016 at 3pm • Allerton St. (off High St) • Brookline**

*Presented by Hidden Brookline • [www.hiddenbrookline.org](http://www.hiddenbrookline.org) • for more information: 617-566-7334*