

GUYANA FOLK

And Culture

July 30
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Issue 7

GUYANA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK, INC.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2016 GCA AWARDS & WINNERS OF THE GODFREY CHIN PRIZE



CLAIRE ANN GORING



CYRIL BRYAN



CYRIL DABYDEEN



BERT CARTER



ALFRED KING



BEVERLEY DRAKE



DAVID L. LAMMY



DR. ANN WALLACE



BETSY KARIM



STEPHANIE BOWRY



MARLON FORRESTER



DR. TULSI SINGH



QUINCY LACON



GBTI BUXTON
STEEL ORCHESTRA



CARINYA SHARPLES



BRENT SULLIVAN



CYNTHIA NELSON



ALVA SOLOMON

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Celebrating Our Youth

The month of July marked the celebration of the 240th Independence anniversary of these United States. Notably, this year is surely a special one packed with historic jollifications mingled with the electoral process as the world faces emerging challenges all around us. The college students and the youth in our community are watching and making assessments.

Nonetheless, the Guyana Cultural Association of New York, cognizant of the problems ahead, continues to make the molding of youthful minds a priority, by making significant contributions, particularly in areas of education and cultural development in the Caribbean community in Brooklyn. For the past seven years, GCA under the guidance of Dr. Juliet Emanuel has coordinated literary workshop programs that are much needed. These workshops consist of creative activities to keep the 5 to 12 year old minds alert, which serves as a guiding light for the future as we celebrate the youth in the Diaspora.

Since its inception, the Guyana Cultural Association's Folk Festival has been at the forefront of promoting education and cultural activities motivating the youth in the community to strive for personal and academic excellence. Our principal aim is to preserve, promote and propagate the rich cultural heritage and folklore of Guyana. To realize this goal, GCA has placed emphasis on engaging and energizing young Guyanese immigrants, as well as Caribbean American youth through programs intended to enhance their knowledge of their multi-cultural heritage. GCA's Caribbean Summer Heritage Camp is a fitting example of how youth are given the opportunity to learn about their culture through various master classes. Enhanced by the products and paraphernalia from Materials for the Arts and with the support of New York Council Member Mathieu Eugene and Jumaane Williams, our young participants are exposed to a richly mixed curriculum coupled with a series of activities. These include poetry, and prose, media communications, dance, STEM, music theory and practice, steel pan instructions and playing, stagecraft, kite making – aerodynamics - and other exciting programs. They also learn the uniqueness of Guyanese/Caribbean cooking and folk games. We will continue to laud our youth, and encourage them to excel in whatever future path they desire.

GCA's Annual Awards Ceremony is slated for Borough Hall in Brooklyn, New York on August 31, (by invitation only). As we celebrate our 15th Anniversary, the Awards Ceremony committee accepted nominations from a cross section of individuals whose humanitarianism and community contributions are reflected in their work. The selection committee adopts an approach that is guided by transparency and balanced judgment. The goal is to nominate/select persons who have worked arduously in the cultural field promoting the fine arts in different fields of endeavor. This year the lifetime achievement awards goes to our hard working and energetic Cultural Director Claire Ann Goring. Congratulations to all the other honorees, and also to the awardees of the Godfrey Chin Prize for Heritage Journalism. At all our events this year, GCA will be recognizing the 'unsung heroes' yes... they are many under a new slogan entitled "Because Of You- We Bridge." – The wind beneath our wings.

In this issue the renowned Rudy Bishop celebrates the 50th anniversary of his Chronicle Atlantic Steel orchestra; Dr. Patricia Cambridge will be having her improvisational piano recital, Bert Carter his Gyaff and Breakfast; Eusi Kwayana his "The Legend" book launch and of course the grand occasion of GCA's 15th anniversary Gala slated for August 14th.

We hope that this edition of our newsletter will inspire you to support and become a part of GCA's colorful proceedings. The events mentioned will be followed by the Kwe Kwe Night; Family Fun Day; Children's Village; the Literary Hang and the Annual Symposium. The Masquerade Jamboree will be held in Guyana during the month of December. We hope that you will join us at these events as we continue to celebrate various dimensions of our cultural heritage in the Diaspora.

You are urged to secure a clipping of our calendar of events so that you don't miss any of the action! Join us on Face Book, and link to www.guyfolkfest.org for all of the scheduled activities.

As we forge forward, we need your support.

Thanking you in advance.

Edgar Henry, July Editor



“Because of You - We Bridge” OUR SEASON OF THANKSGIVING



2016 FOLK FESTIVAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2016 5.00 p.m.
“Because of You”

**Thank You to our supporters
15th Anniversary Gala**

St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church Auditorium
2806 Newkirk Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11226
(Cooling system will be in place)

**(Tickets available from GCA members”
\$100. - towards the work of GACC**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2016 - 10.00 a.m
**GYAFF & BREAKFAST WITH
BERT CARTER**

*“Have we progressed or retrogressed architectually?
Should we not strive to retain our wooden built heritage?”*
GACC - 2nd Floor, St. Stephen’s Church Conference Hall
2806 Newkirk Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11226
\$20.00 - Donation towards the work of GACC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2016 - 4.00 p.m.
**LAUNCH OF BOOK “Legacy”
By Eusi Kwayana**

GACC - 2nd Floor, St. Stephen’s Church Conference Hall
2806 Newkirk Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11226
(\$25. includes a copy of books)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2016 - 6.00 p.m.
GCA AWARDS CEREMONY
Brooklyn Borough Hall
209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201
(By invitation)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 - 7.00 p.m.
An Evening of Piano Improvisations
Dr. Patricia Cambridge in Recital
St. John’s Episcopal Church
139 St. John’s Place, Brooklyn, NY 11217
**\$20.00 - each member of the audience will
receive a copy of the album.**
Reception to follow.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 - 8.00 p.m.
KWE KWE NITE
St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church Auditorium
2806 Newkirk Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11226
\$20.00

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2016
12.00 noon.-7.00 p.m.**
FOLK FESTIVAL FAMILY FUN DAY
Old Boys High School Grounds
736 Rutland Road & Troy Avenue,
Brooklyn, NY 11203
- Children’s Village - Outdoor Literary Hang
- Photographic Exhibition
- Brooklyn Arts Council on show
- Guyana National Dance Company
GATES CLOSE AT 6.00 P.M. SHARP
Adults: \$10.00 Seniors & Kids: FREE
*This activity is not sponsored or endorsed by the New York
City Department of Education or the City of New York*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016 - 3.00 p.m.
NY LAUNCH OF BOOK
“From Seedtime to Harvest” by Carmen Jarvis
GACC - 2nd Floor, St. Stephen’s Church
Conference Hall
2806 Newkirk Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11226
**\$25. - each member of the audience
will receive a copy of the book.**
Reception to follow.

DECEMBER 18, 2016
GCA EXTRAVAGANZA & TOYS GIVE-AWAY
Show & Toys-give-away for our youth supporters
Details to follow.

DECEMBER 19 - 31, 2016
MASQUERADE JAMBOREE/JUBILEE
CHRISTMAS IN GUYANA DETAILS TO FOLLOW



2016 GCA AWARDS HONOREES

GCA LIFETIME AWARD GOES TO CLAIRE ANN GORING

The Guyana Cultural Association of New York (GCA) announces recipients of fifteen awards in celebration of its 15th Anniversary. The Award event is on August 31st, 2016. The Awards have four designations: Youth Award; GCA Award; Exemplary Award and Lifetime Achievement Award.

The honorees are spread across the Guyanese Diaspora. They reside in the United States of America, Canada, Guyana, United Kingdom, and Barbados where the recipients display their global, regional and national impact in various sectors. They achieved significant accomplishments in visual and performing arts, social media, literature, government administration, information technology education, community service, aviation, and as cultural enablers. Prominently evident in the dedication of each individual effort is a demonstration of noble features of Guyanese heritage.

Nominations for the Awards are provided by members of the public, anywhere, after an extensive multimedia call for submissions. Honorees are selected by a ten-member selection committee that evaluates each nomination. It considers the annual theme and seven criteria: originality, scope, impact / influence, integration, pioneering spirit, challenges and achievements. Votes are cast privately.

The Guyana Cultural Association Awards Results

United States: The 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award goes to **Claire Ann Goring** who is a co-founder of the Brooklyn based GCA. "Her work as the Cultural Director ... since its inception in 2001 can be characterized as tenacious." Interest and passion for the cultural expression grew from her young adult days. "For almost four decades she has unselfishly advanced Guyana's graphic and festival arts." Over that time, "she has demonstrated a consistently high level of commitment to managing creativity and promoting the celebration of Guyanese creativity."

Guyana: Quincy Lacon is an emerging, young performing artist with notable successes in the Caribbean. He is continuing his commendable secondary academic work as he pursues a pharmacology career. The Youth Award also acknowledges his leadership positions in youth organizations providing impactful community service in Linden, Guyana.

Guyana: The **GBTI-Buxton Steel Orchestra** is an impressive, rising, "relatively 'young' band," of girls and boys. They are 11 to 15 years old and attend secondary schools in Buxton, Bladen Hall, and Annandale. The ensemble was formed as "an after-school program" and it is "staying the course" in positive social activity by playing pan for the last five years. In May 2016, they visited New York City and received much acclaim at the 50th Independence Anniversary Celebrations.

Canada: The Exemplary Award is presented to **Cyril Bryan** a writer and cultural enabler. He is leading a focus on enhancing and expanding the presentation of Guyana and Guyanese interests for a good life anywhere. His Guyanese On-Line Blog and Newsletter is the leading native social medium in the presentation of Guyana and Guyanese wellbeing globally. It stands out as the single, large publication that is neither self-opinionated nor intentionally hostile to anyone. Its viewership has increased by one million every year since 2014 to reach 4,000,000 in March 2016. This is a remarkable, verifiable accomplishment for its six years of existence.

Canada: Cyril Dabydeen receives the Exemplary Award for his status as a "world renowned Guyanese-Canadian writer: poet, short-story writer, novelist, anthologist, and essayist—as well as educator and race relations professional." Mr. Dabydeen was the Poet Laureate of the City of Ottawa, 1984-87. "Before age 20, he won Guyana's Sandbach Parker Gold Medal (1964), national poetry prize. His books reflect the Guyanese imaginative landscape and spirit especially his Imaginary Origins: Selected and New Poems." His recent books include My Multi-Ethnic Friends/Stories. He has published 20 books of fiction and poetry.

The Guyana Cultural Association Award has been accepted by the following persons with illustrious careers; and a long-standing New York cultural enabler.

Guyana: Egbert Carter is a community service archetype based on his engineering education and career in Guyana. He is highly regarded for his voluntary service and contribution to educational and cultural institutions of his country. The National Library, the David Rose Centre for boys, and the Theatre Guild are some that bear his imprint. He was the Chairman of the Voluntary Service Committee of the Guyana Association of Professional engineers (GAPE) for a number of years.

Guyana: Alfred R. King is an avid supporter of indigenous artforms and a highly effective public administrator. In his Permanent Secretary position, he



has managed the three intertwined portfolios of culture, youth and sport to meet the needs of Guyanese nationals. There have been notable improvements in program development across the nation. He is also an astute educator and recognized the immense value of the Pan In Education portfolio presented to the Ministry in 2010. It initiated the transformative period of steelpan musicianship that was acclaimed in the press in 2015 by an iconic Guyanese musician. This year he planned and managed the 50th Independence Anniversary Steel Pan program.

United States: *Beverley Drake* is one of Guyana's first female pilots. She has an accomplished career in Aviation as a USA Senior Aviation Accident Investigator/Analyst, Safety Advocate, and Industry Safety Spokesperson. A pioneer, Ms. Drake has surmounted the odds working alongside her male peers and she has been rewarded for her achievements. An employee of the National Transportation Safety Board, Ms. Drake is the first and only black woman to serve in her position. She is also an advocate of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) encouraging students in the US and in Guyana to pursue STEM as a career choice.

United Kingdom: *David L. Lammy* is a British born politician. First elected at age 28 he has served in ministerial positions and won reelection consecutively since 2000. His attainment of a Master of Laws from Harvard University gave him the distinction of being the first black Briton to reach that standing. Mr. Lammy's profile depicts a Guyanese immigrant story; a poverty story, overcome through the dedication of his single mother, and the pursuit of his aspirations. His professional work is a bridging story, too. Mr. Lammy has been active as "a conduit for successive Guyanese Prime Ministers with the UK government" for many years.

Barbados: *Dr. Ann Wallace* has a career of distinction in business and information technology education. The Cave Hill School of Business – (CHSB-UWI) was at a fledgling stage in 1991. Guyana-born Ann Wallace joined the Centre for Management Development, envisioned its redesign, and managed the implementation of the Online and Distance Learning (ODL) program across the institution. She spearheaded the migration of the academic programs from traditional class room teaching to a blended learning format. All programs are now delivered completely in ODL systems. Dr Wallace's 25 years tenure has been definitive and transformative with pioneering elements for a black woman in IT.

Guyana: *Betsy Karim* is a self-taught visual artist from childhood. "Since 1986, she has been exhibiting her art at a National level. Her work has highlighted historical portraits and ancient Civilizations." Ms Karim's "preoccupation with great historical personages, the diverse religions and cultures of the planet, testifies to her relentless search not only for roots, but a past heritage which gives pride and dignity to ALL in our multiracial/ multicultural society." She defines

her work as also a testimony to our 'ONE beating heart and universal soul'." Ms Karim's unique work "lies not only in the thematic content of her art but in her use of innovative materials ...which transform her canvas into a rich, exquisite piece of 'medieval' Eastern tapestry."

Guyana: *Stephanie Bowry* is "a talented writer, researcher, poet, story-teller and Performance Artist. She has done invaluable work in documenting our heritage: our oral 'true-true' stories of the supernatural, folklore, traditional rituals, even oral tales handed down from the days of slavery and Colonialism. She has written in an inimitable, lyrical folkloric style, capturing the idioms, proverbial wisdoms, historical drama, in a vivid, organic imagery. Ms Bowry's literary work has transcended racial and cultural boundaries. Her themes and characters cut across social classes and ethno-political lines. Her enduring presence, popularity and impact in the town of New Amsterdam also transcend race and culture. She is a rare and trusted, unifying, build-bridging, cultural personality."

United States: *Marlon Forrester* is a Guyana-born artist and educator raised in Boston, MA. He received his Bachelor's degree at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts and completed a Master's in Fine Arts at Yale in 2010. Mr. Forrester presents his social consciousness and cultural sensitivities through his paintings. He is proud of his immigrant heritage and pursues every opportunity to link it with his American socialization. He has expressed his concern with the corporate use of the black male body, or the body as logo. "His paintings, drawings, sculptures, and multimedia works reflect meditations on the exploitation implicit in the simultaneous apotheosis and fear of the muscular black figure in America."

United States: *Dr. Tulsi Singh*'s scope of work "is a critical statement of personal dedication. He is a patron of Guyanese art, artists and artefacts. He has collected the carvings and paintings of more than twenty Guyanese artists; assembled probably the most complete collection in the world of the first editions of the works of Edgar Mittelholzer; compiled most of the books written about British Guiana from its "discovery" to Independence; collected multiple complete sets of the coins used in Essequibo and Demerary - Demerara and Essequibo; British Guiana; British Caribbean Territories Eastern Group; and Guyana, dating from 1809 to the present." He "envisioned and executed a sister-city relationship between New Amsterdam, Guyana and Midland, Texas in 1996.

United States: *Brooklyn Printers* is a family-owned-and-operated company that has been providing service for over 50 years. It has shown its dedication to the community with its enabling support to GCA

Written by Ronald H. Lammy, Chair, GCA – NY Awards Committee

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THE 2016 GODFREY CHIN PRIZE FOR HERITAGE JOURNALISM



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FIRST PRIZE
CARINYA SHARPLES



SECOND PRIZE
BRENT SULLIVAN



THIRD PRIZE
CYNTHIA NELSON



THIRD PRIZE
ALVA SOLOMON

Guyana Cultural Association of New York, Inc. is pleased to announce the 2016 winners of the Godfrey Chin Prizes for Heritage Journalism.

The 2016 winners embody the spirit, intellect, and wit of Godfrey Chin as well as the core values that GCA considers when determining awards—originality, scope, impact/influence, contribution to harmony, innovation, and creative responses to challenges.

The winners represent qualities that Godfrey Chin admired and encouraged. He enjoyed doing research, especially collecting data—oral histories, photographs, songs, and “nylon.”

He was passionate about sharing. He used all available and accessible communication channels to tell the Guyanese story.

First Prize: *Carinya Sharples* for her Blog: “Humming of the Bird”): <https://hummingofthebird.wordpress.com/>)

Second Prize: *Brent Sullivan (Ta’Seti Efuntola Osunlade)* for his Facebook site: “Demerara Windows” A Portal to Guyanese Folk and Contemporary Culture.”): <https://www.face->

[book.com/groups/773168942810112/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/773168942810112/))

Third Prize: *Cynthia Nelson* ((for the Facebook site: “Culinary Treasures.”):

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1676257582632845/>)

Third Prize: *Alva Solomon* (for the newspaper article: “A Trip to Ariwa) in the series:

- a. <http://guyanachronicle.com/a-trip-to-ariwa/>
- b. <http://guyanachronicle.com/battling-the-dry-spell/>
- c. <http://guyanachronicle.com/rain-beats-down-on-dry-rupununi/>

Please join us in extending heartfelt “Congratulations” to the 2016 winners of the Godfrey Chin Prize for Heritage Journalism.

Dr. Vibert Cambridge

Chairperson, Godfrey Chin Prize for Heritage Journalism Committee



CHRONICLE ATLANTIC STEEL ORCHESTRA CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY



TRIBUTE:

RUDY BISHOP

A MUSICAL VISIONARY

Rudy Bishop, born on February 6, 1945, shares the same birthday with the greatest reggae legend in history, Jamaican Robert Nesta "Bob" Marley, is a musical visionary in his own right. When the Skylarks, a Kitty-based band managed by Bishop, split up after performing during the May 26, 1966 Independence celebrations, some members decided to form another band. Bishop says the band Skylarks broke up because his main aim was to play the classical music – the music of the masters. "The guys had a falling out and we said we wanted to do something more

sophisticated. Pan Am North Star had just collaborated with Winifred Atwell to produce Ivory and Steel, a mixture of piano and steel pan music. That is what I wanted to do to capture the atmosphere of blending classical music with the modern music". He noted that the steelpan has the distinction of being the only music invented in the 20th century. Bishop is credited with the new band's name. Since the band which practised on the seawall with the sound of the ocean in the background, was concentrating on playing symphonies he suggested that the band be named 'The Atlantic Symphony Orchestra'. The name stuck.



MOHAMED ALI PLAYS PAN IN GUYANA



Shortly after its formation, the young talent fought its way into the ranks of the top three orchestras of that era. In fact during the 1969 music festival, they were second to the now defunct Demtoco Silvertones. This however was only a foreshadowing of many future successes. After the 1971 competition, Carl Blackman, then Editor-in-Chief of the Guyana Chronicle, called Bishop to his office and offered his sponsorship through the newspaper's Crossword section. The band became known by the name that is most remembered by, The Chronicle Atlantic Symphony Steel Orchestra, or CASSO. Blackman sent two band members to Trinidad in 72 to learn to tune pans in preparation for Carifesta. Bishop noted that even though Guyana Chronicle halted sponsorship due to lack of funds, he promises Blackman that they would not drop the company name like hotcakes. So he kept on the name for as long as possible. In 1972, the band won a competition for best arrangement in the first Caribbean Festival of Arts (Carifesta) and was chosen to perform the winning piece for the documentary that was produced afterwards. In 1973, at the National Steel Band Competition, they were ranked second runner-up. Their talent and sheer determination propelled them forward into becoming the undefeated National Champions from 1975 to 1981. The then Brazilian ambassador saw CASSO perform and invited Bishop to carry the band to Brazil, funding the initial trip. Returning to Guyana, Bishop organized a contingent of 45 persons – CASSO musicians and members of the National School of Dance, which was led at the time by local dancing icon, Daphne Rogers and embarked, on a three-month tour of Brazil, playing major cities like Rio de Janeiro, Bella Horizonte and Sao Paulo. They captivated audiences at every performance including those at the world famous Coco Cabana beach. The decision not to take part in the 1980 National Steel band Competition was met with ridicule and claims that the band was afraid to participate by the rival bands like the Bidco Invaders who, in the absence of CASSO, stole that year's show. The band was more likely too busy though. In 1980, the Orchestra was invited to tour the USSR and participated in the Tchaikovsky Festival in Moscow.

They continued to dazzle audiences at other performances in Kiev, Lenin Grad and other cities before moving on to the New London Theatre in England where they played for a special function to honour the captain of the West Indies and Guyana's cricketing hero, Mr. Clive Lloyd with the Cacique Crown of Honour. To defend his band's name, Bishop carried CASSO's youth arm, The Young Entertainers, to the 1981 competition and, much to the embarrassment of the older more experienced bands, the newcomers walked away with first prize. In the same year, the orchestra embarked on its first North American tour

sponsored by Guy America Airlines, making special appearances at the United Nations General Assembly, the Beacon Theatre on Broadway and Gracie Mansion – the official residence of the Mayor of New York. The Orchestra also appeared in other cities in the USA including performances in Washington DC, Los Angeles, Los Vegas and Chicago to mention a few. Spending a day at the home of the legendary boxer, Muhammad Ali, they were filmed for a documentary chronicling a day in the life of the boxer. It was on this tour that the Orchestra made its first recording of two long playing albums entitled "On Tour", and "Christmas Festival". Three more dynamic albums followed – "Weekend Party", "Through the Ages" and a "Touch of Class" all of which can now be had on CD and Audio Cassette. The Orchestra, at the invitation of the then Mayor of Ottawa, Marian Dewar, left the United States to tour Canada. They made a special guest appearance at the Canadian House of Parliament. The band returned to Washington to play at a United Nations function before heading back home to Guyana. After a brief rest, it was back again to play at Carifesta IV in Barbados and then on to Belize to play at that country's independence ceremonies. Their success inspired Bishop to try to put together a Festival of the Guiana's. Originally conceived by himself and Rudy Buttse of Suriname, the idea was soon adopted by the French Guiana Department of Culture. The first Festival of the Guiana's held in Suriname in 1985, was so successful that by the time the second one was held in French Guiana, persons from Brazil and Venezuela had come on board. The third Festival was to have been held in Guyana, the Department of Culture complained that there was not enough money in the coffers to assist in such a project. The Festival of the Guiana's idea was subsequently abandoned. In 1989, Rudy Bishop entered CASSO into the National Steel band Championship for what was to be the final time, and they swept the prizes away, carting away the Best Performance, Road March, and Best Dressed Band Awards. In 1992, Bishop migrated to the United States. Having had some limited experience in electrical work, he successfully qualified himself to work first in cable television installation and then satellite television installation and repair. He maintained his association with the members of the band and in 1995 they were sent an invitation by the UN to perform at the organization's 50th Anniversary celebrations. This invitation would be the final stage of the band as because the band received part-sponsorship by Demerara Distiller's Limited, they were not allowed to access funds from the UN. The reason given being that sponsorship by an alcoholic beverage manufacturer is against UN policy. With costs incurred to pay for travelling, accommodation, and meals, CASSO suffered huge losses.



In another stroke of bad luck, the band's other part-sponsor, Guyana Airways; folded leaving the band holding return tickets in the name of an airline that no longer existed. Some of the members married and settled down in the US, while the others got help from family to return home. With the band gone, Bishop put together a steel band in Brooklyn called the Young Entertainers. When a Jamaican pastor, discovered the Young Entertainers online, he contacted Bishop to do something similar for his increasingly restless young church members and the Young Acolytes was born. The Acolytes made a name for themselves all across New York City and Bishop received two citations from the area assemblyman for his work in the community.

Bishop himself continues to train the young musicians for free even though pan lessons typically cost US\$80 an hour. He notes that most of those youths have gone on to further their studies at

university. Bishop holds a number of International, regional and local award for his services and they include the Medal of Service, Sunshine Award and Hero Award and the Guyana Cultural Association Award.

RUDY BISHOP CONTINUES TO TEACH WITH THE NEW CHRONICLE ATLANTIC STEEL ORCHESTRA



First published in the Guyana Chronicle



GCA WELCOMES NEWLY APPOINTED
CONSUL GENERAL TO NEW YORK

Barbara Atherly



GCA WELCOMES NEWLY APPOINTED CONSUL GENERAL TO NEW YORK

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Ave Brewster-Haynes

Newly appointed Consul General to New York, Mrs. Barbara Patterson Atherly, has taken up her posting at the Consulate General, 308 W38th Street, New York, NY10018. The Consul General looks forward to working closely with the Guyanese community “to promote Guyana’s economic interest and foster social cohesion in the Diaspora.”

Mrs. Barbara Patterson Atherly is a proud daughter of Guyana. She came from a humble, religious background – her mother a school teacher and her father an accountant. Both grandparents were ministers of the gospel. During Barbara’s early childhood in Georgetown she attended St. Stephen’s and St. Ambrose primary Schools. At the secondary Schools Common Entrance Examination, she won a scholarship to attend the Cambridge Academy High School where she was highly successful at both the College of Preceptors Examination and the University of London General Certificate of Examination Ordinary Level and later at the Advanced Level as well.

Barbara started her working career in the field of education. She provided yeoman service to the teaching profession in Guyana first as an untrained teacher at St. George’s Primary school. She then entered the Teacher’s College where she pursued a Trained Teachers Certificate. Following her graduation she was assigned to Christ Church Secondary School where she taught Social Studies and Physical Education for a number of years.

Barbara’s thirst for knowledge to upgrade her level of teaching led her unto the University of Guyana where she pursued her undergraduate studies in Sociology and Management, graduating as the best student in Sociology. She subsequently gained a Caribbean scholarship to the University of the West Indies (UWI) Consortium Graduate

School in Jamaica where she successfully completed her Masters in Applied Social Sciences.

Having returned to Guyana, Barbara crafted and implemented education reform programs for Guyana at the primary and tertiary levels in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the Inter-American Development Bank. This work was undertaken throughout all ten administrative regions in Guyana. Barbara served for four years at the Guyana Management Institute conducting programs to upgrade and further develop managers at the mid-management level. Simultaneously, she also lectured at the University of Guyana in the social science faculty. She subsequently served at the international level also in the field education doing so in several countries around the world including Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Mozambique and Syria.

Apart from her work in education practice, Barbara has contributed significantly at the community level. She was a member of the Guyana Hospital Management Committee and provided over 21 years of service with Lions International in various capacities including that of Past President and Treasurer; Barbara served on various church boards of the Anglican Dioceses in Guyana and Mozambique.

The Consul General is married to Major General (Retired) Michael Atherly. She is the mother of one son who has given her three grandsons.

As we celebrate fifteen years of documenting, showcasing and celebrating the multiple roots of Guyana’s cultural heritage, the Guyana Cultural Association of New York Inc. welcomes the Consul General. We also thank former Consul General Brentnol Evans for his service.



*The Officers & Members of
Chronicle Atlantic Symphony Steel & Brass
Orchestra & Troupe*

*Request the honor of your presence
To join us in Celebrating our*

50th
Anniversary Gala
“Black Tie Affair”

*Saturday, September 3rd, 2016
8:00 pm - 2:00 am*

*The St. Stephens
Lutheran Church Auditorium
2806 Newkirk Avenue
Brooklyn, New York*

*RSVP by August 20th, 2016
To Pauline @ 917-364-3639*

Cocktails 9 pm - 10 pm

Dinner 11 pm

Donation \$50 per person

AUGUST 14, 2016



*The Guyana Cultural Association, New York Inc.
requests the honor of your presence at*

"Because of You"

Fifteenth Anniversary Gala

*Join us as we thank and pay tribute to
supporters of GCA over the past 15 years*

*Anthony Alleyne Leroy Beresford Rosemarie Braithwaite
Ron Carlton Norma Clarke Roderick Daly
Fly Jamaica Airways - Roxanne & Ronald Reece
Romanee Kalicharran Alex Neptune Derek Noel Gail Nunes
Lorna Welshman-Neblett Pamela October
Allison Skeete Donna Walcott*

*Special Tribute to spouses of GCA
"The Wind Beneath Our Wings"
Charles Monah, Patrick George, Percy Haynes*

*Sunday, August 14, 2016
4.00 p.m.*

*St. Stephen's Church Auditorium
2806 Newkirk Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11226
(A.C. operational for the evening)*

*Donation \$100.00
Towards the programs of the Guyana Arts & Cultural Center*

Music by The Ninja Band

RSVP: 718 209 5207
Elegant Attire Required



SUPPORTERS OF GCA OVER THE PAST 15 YEARS TO BE HONORED AT "BECAUSE OF YOU" GALA, AUGUST 14

16

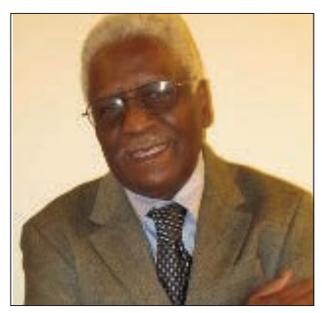


CHARLES MONAH

YOU ARE THE WIND BENEATH OUR WINGS



PATRICK GEORGE



PERCY HAYNES



ANTHONY ALLEYNE



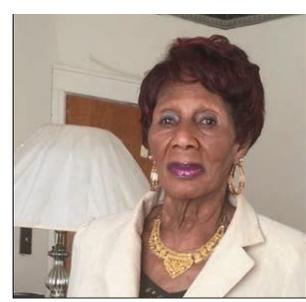
LEROY BERESFORD



ROSEMARIE BRAITHWAITE



RON CARLTON



NORMA CLARKE



RODRICK DALY



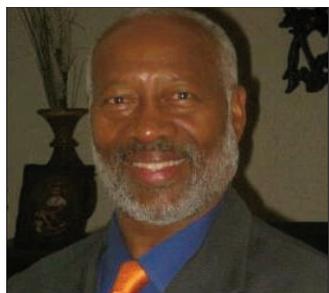
FLY JAMAICA



ROMANEE KALICHARRAN



ALEX NEPTUNE



DEREK NOEL



GAIL NUNES



LORNA WELSHMAN-NEBLETT



PAMELA OCTOBER



ALLISON SKEETE



DONNA WALCOTT



As we reflected on the trajectory followed by the fledging Guyana Cultural Association of New York, Inc., we the Board and members of a rather robust current GCA have had to acknowledge publicly the help given the organization in these past fifteen years.

That this help has been freely given but largely unseen by the community is the principal reason that in each of the events during our Season 2016, we have celebrated and paid homage to about 100 men and women of the world of letters, entertainment, business, education, entrepreneurship, technology and others. Within their busy schedules they have found the time to observe, assess and, having discussed the concern with us, quietly filled the holes and provided and oiled the links in the administration and programming of GCA events.

Their contributions have been numerous and as varied as the separate events of GCA yet in the round they amount to 100% of generosity. It is not too much to say that there have been early morning and late nights, an inordinate amount of fetching and carrying, because of "emergencies" pajamas and changes of clothes worn by "help" rushing to an event, brooms, brushes, pots, pans, gifts galore, ferrying of GCA personnel here there and everywhere, cooking and baking and bringing in endless donations of food, drink and ice, enduring of less than pristine warehouses, and so much more. The usual last remark by any of these helpers is one of these: "Is that all?" "Before I leave, you need anything else?" "You know where to find me" and "Call me when you're ready."

If GCA is a dish, then these individuals are the salt that brings out the flavor of our total endeavor. Without them, without these cogs in our wheels, we would falter.

And so, we present to the community the "Because of you Honorees" for the Fifteenth Anniversary Gala, August 14th, 2016

Juliet Emanuel

Anthony Alleyne is a young man blessed with an immeasurable musical talent that he uses to help inform and validate our identity. Anthony's exceptional voice quality brings audiences of all ages to their feet especially with his unique rendition of "My Way." His willingness to support the GCA in song gives quality support to all of our events. He calls us to offer his services when he learns of our schedule of events. And in each and every appearance his performance uplifts and entralls leaves our audiences leaving them wanting more.

Leroy Beresford answered the call to represent MetroPlus Health Plan marketing team at Folk festival events some years ago and, through the visibility of this outreach particularly at Family Fun Day, quickly became the community resource for Guyanese needing to apply for Health Insurance. In addition, Leroy is involved in the agenda of the Summer Workshop Series provides the much appreciated promotional items for end of season give aways.

In spite of his hectic schedule in the world of business and the cocurricular activity of coaching soccer coaches in the community he finds time to partner with GCA, is always willing to assist and just a phone call away.

Rosemarie Braithwaite is an integral part of the Guyana Cultural Association's fifteen year journey. At our very beginning, Rosemarie opened up her heart, family and home to the GCA, providing space, and more importantly sharing her late husband "Mo Braff" with us thus allowing us to further our mission and vision in the field of the creative arts and culture. She continues to be that dependable support that lends voice to most of our events with a smile that radiates warmth and welcome.

Ron Carlton has donated countless hours in the administration arm of GCA. Our legal guru he unhesitatingly answers our calls for advice on matters ranging from legal status to real estate. Invariably Ron drops what he is doing and fits our needs, often pro bono and always cheerfully into his schedule. His assistance extends to members of GCA and to the extended community served by the association.

Norma Clarke has been with GCA it seems like forever.

She has given quiet and dependable support to all events. If an assistant is needed for the Summer Workshop Series she is there, for Family Fun Day, she is there for the Film Festival she is there and so and so on. "What do you want me to do?" was her one question and then she placed her smile, quiet presence and many hours at the disposal of GCA.

Roderick (Rudy) F. Daly was a teacher and Coordinator of Student Affairs at Meyer Levin Junior HS IS 285 when we met him in 2006 after we exceeded the maximum capacity allowed on the rooftop of the Brooklyn Children's Museum, until then GCA's space for Family Fun Day. Rudy was instrumental not only in brokering space for the Fun Day but in forging a partnership with the parents and Performing Arts Program at Meyer Levin. As such the Festival of film, Performing Arts Festival, Kwe Kwe and Family Fun Day were all housed at Meyer Levin. The steelpan orchestra at that school appeared at out events. Again, as we outgrew space at Meyer Levin, he found space for us at his new place of work, Prospect Heights High School. He remains engaged in GCA as it evolves, willing and eager to help us smooth the path to successful events.

FLY JAMAICA Airways – Roxanne & Ronald Reece is new to the community and to us at GCA. Nevertheless, it seems as if the corporation and its owners have been with us always. Fly Jamaica is our go to when transportation is needed. The company provides and facilitates carriage to destinations in their hub easily, pleasantly and with, much to our appreciation and that of our extended family, very nice discounts. Their no fuss attitude and ability to go the extra mile bodes well for all whom they serve and for us at GCA specifically.

Romanee Kalicharran is always willing to support, through her chosen field of dance, the several events of the GCA season. From the Symposia, the Summer Workshop Series, the Award Ceremony and Family Fun Day to gentle words of encouragement, this unassuming internationally acclaimed virtuoso lends her artistry, knowledge and dramatic expression to her demonstration of the multi-ethnic under-pinning of the Guyanese cultural experience.



Alex Neptune is a man of his word, extolling the mission of GCA and helping strongly to further its vision. In public and in private he is a man of immeasurable service to the administration of GCA and every event that it conceives and implements. He has opened his home and provided his expertise to GCA members and the association is very grateful that it has him involved in its day to day experiences.

Derek Noel is considered a community enthusiast. If one did not know that he was born in Grenada, one would think that he is from whichever island's celebration in which he finds himself immersed. Derek has been so giving to GCA in terms of assisting with networking opportunities; promoting GCA's events and, most importantly, providing a space for our meetings and rehearsals when we did not have our own Guyana Arts & Cultural Center that most people think he is Guyanese. And he continues the journey with us of GCA.

Gail Nunes found her niche, or part of it, in the Committee for the GCA Awards focusing for weeks on this signature event. In addition, she has written for and edited the online magazine, has donated time without measure to the various other events such as Kwe Kwe night and Family Fun Day, has joined meetings, thanks to our advancing technology, from overseas. Disciplined and very pleasant, Gail is another of the quiet and heretofore unheralded wheels in the GCA train.

GCA is lucky in the support of **Lorna Welshman-Neblett**. In spite all of her intense involvement in the business world, GCA has been fortunate to be one of the recipients of her well known and acknowledged generosity to groups in communities in the Diaspora and in Guyana. Over the years and while employed in the Fragrance Industry, Lorna was very instrumental in providing fragrances for the GCA Awardee gift bags and has been an all round supporter of all their events. Recently and after her retirement, she embarked on a new endeavor, producing "Lorna's Lip Smacking Pepper Sauce, Guyanese Style." This has now become a favorite product feature under the GCA tent at the Annual Family Fun Day.

Pamela October's hobby since childhood days in Guyana has been the culinary arts, and, as such, she revels in volunteering her services to GCA, most of the time unsolicited. She has been in the background of GCA and, for many years, prepared and donated tasty foods and beverages for annual events. She is an independent individual and is always available when GCA calls. Admirably, Pamela does not expect remuneration. She is an ardent supporter of the arts and sees GCA as a trailblazer in promoting Guyana's culture, thus the reason for her involvement. Pamela is so keenly interested in all things GCA that she donated and maintains all the plants for the Guyana Arts and Cultural Center.

Allison Skeete answered the call to be a member of the Awards Committee and was well qualified to do so. For years her blog featured essays about GCA primarily its sig-

nature event Family Fun Day. She has kept a running list aimed at GCA's SWS initiative on opportunities for the youth in the field of work and advanced studies in the academy. Also, of her own volition without any expectation of reward, she attends most if not all of GCA's events, such as Kwe Kwe Night, the Literary Hang.

Donna Walcott has exemplified herself in these ways and more: as part of the STEM module in the Summer Workshop Series, giving lessons of a professional quality in the chemical processes of food preparation, the elements of food and diet and more; as the caterer on call for GCA's growing number of events; as a most generous donor of time and expertise and as a integral part of the Board of GCA of NY, Inc. Her presence is that sweet one of quiet kindness and hard work.

Over the years **Charles Monah** has assumed many roles in support of GCA including numerous trips to Suite2 (Claire Goring), security and gate duty at family fun day, trips to the bank, shopping and delivery of summer camp snacks, proof reading, as well as voice from the customer perspective for Folk Festival advertising, and the list goes on. Indeed the "Honey, do this" and "Please do that for GCA" spans the entire 15 years of his marriage. In addition, he has freed up his wife to serve GCA at the immersion level that she has done. And he has done all this within his 22 years of successful advancement in the world of technology.

Patrick E. George was born in Guyana, South America. Although during his adulthood he traveled widely as part of his career, he generally returned to the place of his birth, upbringing and education up to the University level. When some years later he immigrated to the United States of America he recast his life in many ways. One of the unheralded ways was as an assistant, unseen, to the work of Guyana Cultural Association of New York, Inc. In support of this work he has donated funds, energy and time to each and every event sponsored by GCA. These include the signature events as well as the special celebrations hosted and sponsored by the organization.

Mr. Percy Haynes enjoyed a storied professional life in the service to the country of his birth, upbringing and education, Guyana. Indeed, he has been highly visible during much of this successful service.

Upon his emigrating to the United States of America, he found that he was encouraged to serve his country, not in the field of polity but as a supporter of the mission of Guyana Cultural Association of New York, Inc. and to do so without fanfare.

Mr. Haynes has given his quiet assistance to the work of GCA as exemplified by his spouse. And he has done so willingly and cheerfully, almost in her shadow.

His gentle, pleasant presence at GCA events has been welcomed at all times. His participation in event agendas has been inclusive to the point where he has been named Writer in Residence of the Summer Workshop Series.

GCA recognizes and is very grateful for the decades plus support of Mr. Percy Haynes.

IS SUH IT GO*by T. Eric Matthews***REFLECTIONS****Read, Reflect, Enjoy!**

As far back as I can remember many (Guyanese) boys, and some girls, were given three or four names before their surname. Was it simply a fashion statement of the times, a fad, social aspirations, a form of social snobbery, keeping up with the “Joneses” or a form of poetic aspiration in such name giving? Was it a “colonial” thing, or a kind of parental expression of pride and joy in the new arrival, or maybe a case of fallah pattun jumbie?

Here is a short list (with due respect): LRD Ainsworth, SRR Alsopp, PAD Alsopp, WHL Alsopp, HOE Barker, HAM Beckles, AFR Bishop, DCG Bobb (Rev), OER Britton (Ms), LFS Burnham, FEW Case, HAD Chesney, KWE Denny, JWC Douglas, GHR Glough, RBO Hart, BRS Haynes, JOF Haynes, AOHR Holder, DTS Hodge (Mrs.), RS Stanley Hugh, CLR James, LEB Johnson, CML John, WOR Kendall, KIR Kirkpatrick, TEE Matthews, GET Moore, HAR Paul, GSL Payne, CRL Payne, WHL Payne, BAT Phillips, DWH Pollard, (Rev.), BIN Pollard, KED Potter, ANR Robinson, DAB Trotman, HMS Wharton, EMG Wilson, KMG Wishart.

During their high school days, the Payne brothers were often referred to as Payne primus (the eldest), Payne secundus, and Payne tertius (the youngest).

On a personal note: two of my siblings are KGG and PEW Matthews. My own children are: EMT, GON, KAS, and EBS Matthews. One of my two grandsons is CAT Schwiers.

Does anyone out there have a comparable list of such “romantic sounding appellations”?

Keeping the Sports tradition alive: 2016 Joint Services Dominoes Tournament



Mr. Carl Whatley, XGDF Dominoes Team Capt. receiving trophy from Ms. Loraine Glasglow, VP, XGDF

In many and sundry ways, the Guyanese Diaspora maintains its customs of homeland practices including Sports such as cricket, football (soccer) and dominoes. Case in point, on Saturday June 25th 2016 the members of the Ex- Guyana Defense Force (XGDF) Association of New York hosted a Joint Services dominoes competition in commemoration of its 30th anniversary at the headquarters in Queens, New York. The Joint Services comprise of former members of the Guyana Defense Force (GDF), Guyana Police Force (GPF), Guyana Prison Officers (GPO), Guyana National Service (GNS), and the Presidential Guards.

Such sponsored Sports events and other cultural activities allow those who shared workspace and other institutions in the South American country of Guyana to sustain “a sense of community and cultural identity as members adjust to life in their adopted home” (See Lear Matthews, 2014). In addition, these hometown associations provide significant support in kind and cash to families, communities and institutions in Guyana. The inter-organization dominoes tournament exemplifies the collaboration of Diaspora groups in fund- raising and other social activities, to ‘give back’ to the home country.

These organizations represent the best in rank and file of Guyana’s former military and paramilitary personnel, who gallantly served and protected the nation in the ‘good ol’ days’. We salute them!

We are proud to announce the winners of this year’s tournament – the Guyana Ex-Prison Officers Association of America (see picture above). The competition was quite keen and intense, with participants still demonstrating much of the form, skills and acuity as when they were back in the home country.

GUYANA TRI-STATE ALLIANCE CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF SERVICE



Honored by The City of
New York and The
Brooklyn Borough
President for
25 years of Service



The Guyana Tri State Alliance, Inc. celebrates 25 years of Service

Always mindful of our motto "In Unity there is strength"

Patricia Jordon-Langford

Celebrating a quarter of a century of service, for our Country Guyana we participate in our shared commitment to create a "more perfect union." "Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others or strikes out against injustice he send forth a ripple of hope"

"The dedication and selfless work of the Guyana Tri-State Alliance, headed by Patricia Jordon-Langford, received honorable recognition for its 25 years of service during a colorful presentation at Brooklyn Borough Hall on July 22.

For this, members of the non-profit received Proclamations, Community Service Awards and Citations from Borough President Eric Adams, Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke and Councilmember Mathieu Eugene, respectively"

Every year we recognize, honor and bring to the forefront our Ambassadors at large who have carried our Flag with honor and dignity by their accomplishments and also without hesitation do whatever they can to make lives better. Our youth especially are encouraged to excel in their endeavors; we shine a light on them, "Leaders in the Making" and also provide assistance along the way. Our awards are The Guyana Tri-State Golden Arrowhead Award of Achievement and Distinction"

Some of our laundry list that we undertake is education, health, social services--women, men and children, scholarships, literacy, celebrating and highlighting Guyana, flying our flag proudly, highlighting our sectors to the Diaspora, emphasizing and the celebration of our varied r cultures etc. . We are humbled and honored by the trust that our brothers and sisters have placed upon us over the past quarter of a century to be their stewards in times of need. It is a responsibility we have never taken lightly, as we always felt a deep sense of duty to Guyana and in our own community. There are plenty of enthusiasm, strength, resources and passion to propel us into the future with the spirit of innovation, creativity, accountability and civic pride that has always driven us to succeed on behalf of all those that we serve. So here is to the next quarter of a century for The Guyana Tri-State Alliance, and to the brilliant future of Guyana's next 50 years of Freedom Today we give thanks for God's guidance and protection and his blessings on our country Guyana and it is in His name we wish you Love Peace and Brotherhood.



Real-real coconut water at Last Lap Lime 2016

Vibert C. Cambridge, A.A., Ph.D.

All photographs courtesy of Vibert Cambridge)



Coconut water has a durable and visible place in Guyanese culture. Over the years I have tried to satisfy the thirst for the real-real thing by tasting the numerous beverages that seek to approximate the flavor of coconut water. Some of the current supermarket coconut water packages come close... but it is difficult to match the real thing—direct from the nut.

I had a couple of the real things at Fresh Cut Coconuts at this year's Last Lap Lime in Toronto.



Fresh Cut Coconut connected Last Lap Lime with the global coconut water business. The coconuts came from Costa Rica. There was a constant line at Fresh Cut Coconut. The vendor showed traditional dexterity when using the cleaver to prepare the green nuts for the hand-powered mechanical borer.



Cleaver #1 ...



Cleaver # 2



Cleaver # 3: Ready for the borer.



Hand-operated corer # 1 ...



Cleaver # 3: Ready for the borer.



ready for the first sip ...



Fascination with the “appropriate” technology.



After the water from a fresh cut ... is the jelly # 1

After the water from a fresh cut – the jelly # 2

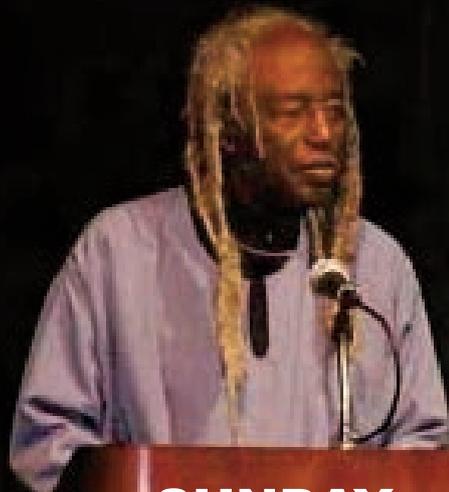


... savoring the flavor and texture of the real-real ting!

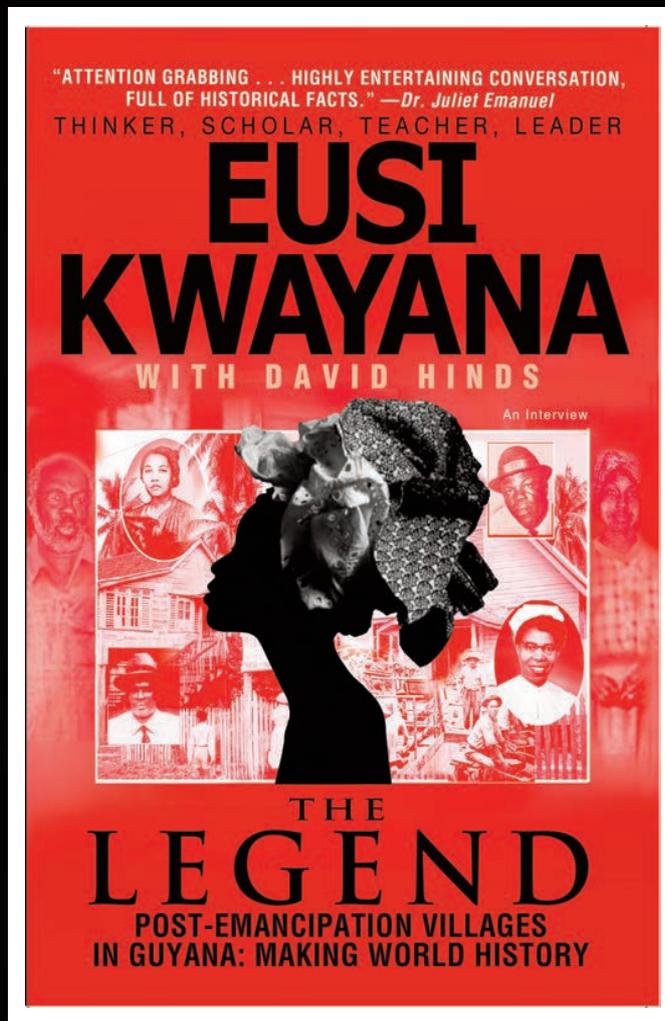
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LAUNCH OF NEW BOOK BY EUSI KWAYANA

ON POST-EMANCIPATION VILLAGES IN GUYANA:



**SUNDAY,
AUGUST 21,
2016
4.00 P.M.**



GUYANA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER -GACC

SECOND FLOOR

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH CONFERENCE HALL

2806 NEWKIRK AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11226

\$25.00 INCLUDES A COPY OF THE BOOK & RECEPTION

FOR INFORMATION: 718 209 5207

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2016: 4.00 P.M.

JOIN US FOR THE LAUNCH OF A NEW BOOK BY

EUSI KWAYANA

“The Legend”

POST-EMANCIPATION VILLAGES
IN GUYANA: MAKING WORLD HISTORY

“An historical tribute to Guyanese most successful post-emancipation unsung heroes”
— *GuyFolk Magazine*

This book was spun like a silk thread into existence, linking ‘our then’ with ‘our now’, linking our dawn with our dusk. This book was spoken, a real audio book, by Eusi Kwayana interviewed by David Hinds. Eusi is a legend in his own time. He is a consummate educator, a thinker, a teacher, a leader, a giant of a man!, a “village man,” an elder at ninety-one . . . a griot at best.

It is a rare and long awaited historical interview. It is a conversation of how former enslaved Africans in Guyana collectively bought villages. They pioneered human living, civic rights and social change. The conversation outlines the general course of change going forward, winning and losing, but enduring. Being their own lawgivers, Africans created rights they previously didn't have.

Hard facts, glimpses of culture, custom, and opinions of scholars are included in this book. Many important persons, unknown as villagers, infused with life again, leap off the pages. This book celebrates the celebrated with many pages of a black-and-white photo insert. It's a chronicle of the effect of African people on Guyana's socio-economic history against the back-drop of the Caribbean world stage.

The interview took many years from 2004 to 2011, the UN International Year for People of African Descent. The conversation starts from the year 1839. “We give thanks for the ancestors who sent forth ‘Dada’ Eusi to teach us.”



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SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

You're Invited

AN EVENING OF PIANO IMPROVISATIONS

**DR. PATRICIA CAMBRIDGE
IN RECITAL**

THURSDAY, SEPT. 1, 2016

7.00 P.M.

**ST, JOHN'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

139 ST. JOHN'S PLACE,
BROOKLYN, NY 11217

\$20.00

EACH MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE
WILL RECEIVE A COPY OF THE ALBUM

RESERVATIONS:

718 209 5207

OR FROM MEMBERS OF GCA



A GCA 15TH ANNIVERSARY
PRESENTATION



SEPTEMBER 3, 2016

19TH CENTURY
OLDE GEORGETOWNE
A GYAFF & BREAKFAST
WITH
**BERT
CARTER**



31

*“Have we progressed or retrogressed architectually?
Should we not strive to retain our wooden built heritage?”*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2016
10.00 A.M.

\$20.00
Donation towards the
work of GACC

GUYANA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER

Second Floor,
**ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH
CONFERENCE HALL**
2806 Newkirk Avenue,
Brooklyn, NY 11226



KWE-KWE NITE

32



WITH JEGGAE,
AKOYAH, HILTON,
ROSE, VERNA,
SAXIE & OTHER
GUEST
ARTISTES

*Woman lie down
and de man
caan function,
Wah kinda man, is dat;
Tek yuh calabash,
wash yuh bembe,
Na me shame,
a yuh Mama shame.*

WE COMIN' DOWN, WE COMIN' DOWN!

**\$20.00
ENTRANCE**

FRI. SEPT. 2, 2016

**ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH AUDITORIUM
2806 NEWKIRK AVE. & E.28 ST., BROOKLYN, NY 11226**

8.00 P.M. SHARP



GUYANA FOLK FESTIVAL

FAMILY FUN DAY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2010

We dare you to stand still during this program that highlights the Indian and African origins in Guyanese culture. Rhythm Tolee will reach and showcase bhangra, a lively form of music and dance that originated in the Punjab region of India and Pakistan.

Guyanese cultural leaders Claire Goring and Rose October Edun will discuss the significance of Guyana's 50th anniversary of independence. Winston "Jeggae" Hoppie will share Guyanese folktales and poetry, then demonstrate a colorful pre-wedding Kwe Kwe ritual with Rose October Edun & Verna Walcott White.

Indo-Caribbean dancer Romanee Kalicharran will teach and perform Indian and Guyanese dance traditions in Kathak dance, the foundation of Indo-Caribbean dance.

**Celebrating Guyana's Independence through
Afro and Indo-Guyanese folk and traditional arts.**

**BROOKLYN ARTS COUNCIL
SECOND STAGE
PERFORMANCES**

**DANCING,
SINGING
& GYAFFING**



INTRODUCING

AMY'S POMEROON COFFEE

PREMIUM GRADE



Available nationwide in 250g and 500g packets.

It's quality comes from:



Its Arabica Varietal origins (Typica) introduced by Dutch planters almost three centuries ago.



Controlling time (processing starts no later than 24 hours after reaping), and content (no more than 5% green cherries in mix) to maximize taste.



Utilizing costly 5-step cherry-processing routine of washing, pulping, fermenting, drying and hulling to produce the highest quality green beans. Many Coffee producing countries cut costs and compromise quality by simply drying and hulling.



Roasting in Turkish-made, state-of-the-art computerized equipment that provide consistency every batch.



Hand-picking Coffee Cherries by Farmers.



Hand-examining for black or sour beans missed in the process.



Consulting with coffee expert, Boot Coffee, California, on appropriate roast profiles.



Packing in triple-layered bags (PET/PE/AL) with one-way air valves to maintain freshness.

This is all designed to give you the finest quality you can buy supporting the company's motto: "When fineness is you" it means it is for you who demand the highest quality in life!

Further, The Company recognizes the contributions of farmers and Compensates them at a rate higher than it can import beans from neighboring Countries such as Brazil.

For more information and history of coffee from Pomeroon, Please visit us at www.pomeroonfoods.com

Guyana Cultural Association of New York Inc. on-line Magazine

Distributed By:



Committed to Excellence

COFFEE FROM GUYANA

HITS FOREIGN & INTERNATIONAL MARKETS



35



Coffee trees in Pomeroun

When one thinks of fine coffee, the Countries of Brazil, Columbia, Ethiopia, Guatemala and other Central American Countries among others, come to mind. For such coffee of the *Coffea Arabica* species, the fineness comes from its aroma and taste. However, if we were to time-travel back to the early 19th Century, the Country British Guiana would have been associated with fine coffee. Then, British Guiana was one of the largest exporters of coffee in the world. For example, in 1810, British Guiana exported over 22 million pounds of coffee. By comparison, Brazil in 1800 exported only 1,720 pounds and even twenty years later in 1820 its coffee exports at 12.9 million pounds could not match the peak level of British Guiana's coffee exports. Amy's Pomeroun Foods Inc. wants to recapture some of those glory days with its copyrighted brand Amy's Pomeroun Coffee ("APC").

So what happened to Guyana's coffee industry? Due to low yields from planting this variety on low-elevation plains (it better adapts to higher elevations as the mountain sides of Ethiopia, where it was discovered), high labor costs in British Guiana and low coffee world prices, coffee estates switched to sugar cultivation, a much more rewarding crop for the Planters. Coffee production was relegated to the Pomeroun River where sugar was never an option given the small-sized Grants there. Almost three centuries after it was introduced to the Country, Pomeroun remains the only bastion of coffee production in Guyana. In 2008, the last year surveys were done, the production of coffee cherries in the Pomeroun stood at 590 metric tons.

But that wasn't always the case. Coffee was introduced to the Colonies of Berbice, Demerara and Essequibo in 1721 from Dutch Guiana, as the Dutch were the Colonial Administrators of all of these Colonies. The variety was Typica from *Coffea Arabica* species. Arabica varieties are preferred for taste and aroma and occupy 70% of the world market. The introductory time-frame makes it the oldest coffee variety in the New World. But the Colonies didn't start exporting until 1753 when Berbice exported 66,067 pounds. Production and exports grew rapidly until early 19th Century after which they gradually declined as crop switching took place. Demerara was a major producer and the Village of Mocha, located on the East Bank of the Demerara River, was a coffee estate which got its name from the Yemeni port of Mocha on the Red Sea, a major marketplace for coffee during the fifteenth to eighteenth Centuries.

As is expected with any plant, growing in a different environment to what it's accustomed, it adapts to this new environment. Pomeroun coffee no longer resembles Typica. It produces a much larger cherry and bean than it originated with, similar to what happened to Typica in Maragogipe, Brazil. In Maragogipe, Typica evolved into a large bean and scientists determined that these changes were significant enough to form a new varietal. It was renamed Maragogipe, and when combined with another varietal, Pacas, formed the varietal Pacamara, one of the most desirable varieties in Central America. Pomeroun varietal had a similar evolution as Maragogipe.



COFFEE FROM GUYANA

But by 2010, Pomeroon farmers were beginning to cut down their coffee trees for lack of demand and low prices. There are some cottage processors in the River with rudimentary processes dating several generations who could not afford the price increases needed to keep the farmer attention which costs had increased due to the short-supply of pickers. Most young farmers had gravitated to the gold mines which offered a much better income. In stepped Amy's Pomeroon Foods Inc. and through price increases, guarantees to maintain that pricing level and commitment to taking all supplies, coffee production is back on a solid footing.

Now how is APC processed? The least costly is the "dry" method used by many countries of drying the cherries and hulling (removing the dried covering shell consisting the exocarp, mesocarp and endocarp). This method compromises superior taste for lower costs. Since APC is a premium coffee, it uses the "wet" method comprising washing at which stage defective cherries are discarded as they float in the water, pulping (removing the thick exocarp and mesocarp), fermenting to remove the mucilage covering the parchment, drying, and finally hulling which removes endocarp or shell. It is costly but is necessary for great taste and aroma.

The resulting green beans from the wet process is then roasted to a Full City level in a computer controlled roaster, ground and packaged in three-layered (PET/PE/AL) air-tight sachets with one-way air valves and with tin-ties for proper storage after opening. This is how a premium coffee is born, processed and stored. If you are one who likes fine things in life, and want to try a fine, premium coffee brew, visit APFI on pomeroonfoods.com.





HONORING ANOTHER GUYANESE CENTENARIAN

MRS. BERYL R. GRIFFITH

SHE LIVED TO BE 100 YEARS

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Beryl Rita Griffith was born March 31, 1916 and died on April 5, 2016. She lived to be 100 years and 5 days and died peacefully surrounded by loved ones.

Beryl grew up with her maternal grandmother after her biological mother died when she was 9 years old. In 1935 she married Orman Edgar Griffith. That marriage produced 7 children: Rev. Herman Griffith who was a Minister of Religion, died in 1993; Milroy aka Roy lived in England until his death in 2011; Richard who is also a Minister of Religion now lives in England; Charles and Maple who live in the USA and Orman and Pearl who live in England. She also had 15 grand children and 20 great grand children. Her grandchildren that grew up in Guyana are Dr. Sharon Griffith, David Griffith, Herman, Phillip and Kim Griffith.

Her husband, Orman Edgar Griffith was the Superintendent of The Demerara Tobacco Company in Guyana. By trade he was also a cutter smith and plumber and by hard, self-motivated work he amassed several properties. Through his successes and position, Beryl Griffith was able to live a very privileged life and travelled to the West Indies and England while enjoying and mingling among many visiting dignitaries. Yet mom remained very grounded.

Mrs. Griffith spent over 30 years living at 8 Norton

Street, Georgetown as a devoted mother and wife. She was a very strict, but loving parent who tempered her strictness with the warmest kind of love. She was very religious and was most interested in instilling great values and morals in her children and often quoted many parables and vignettes to get her message across. She was most fond of reminding us frequently of “The Golden Rule”. She was an avid reader who enjoyed knitting, sewing, gardening and especially cooking. She grew most of the poultry, vegetables and fruit the family consumed because she believed in the purity of what she was eating.

Around 1970 mom moved with her husband and Maple - who worked at The Guyana Electricity Corporation - to 122 Sparendam, East Coast Demerara and resided there until her husband, Orman died in 1986. She then left the following year to live with her daughter, Pearl in England. In 1988 she moved to the USA to live with Maple where she remained until her death.

Throughout her life until a few days before her death she remained actively involved in decisions about her health care needs. She established daily routines which we believe contributed to her longevity and quality of life. She never allowed her mind to be inactive. She was playing (word puzzles) until just one month before her passing. (Word puzzles) and watching tennis were some of her most enjoyable pastimes in recent years.

Mom was always a giver, a doer and helping those in need. She had the most unselfish spirit and perpetually gives of herself to others. In her later years, her son Orman introduced her to the “Guyana UK Spirits Association” (GUSADA) through which she made donations to their charity based in Guyana, sending wheel chairs and sporting equipment to those in need. This gesture taught us important lessons on how to live a good life and do right by others.

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GUYANA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK, INC.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Ave Brewster-Haynes

Supporters of the Guyana Cultural Association, New York Inc. joined with members of the Association in a Thanksgiving Service to launch the celebrations to mark the fifteenth anniversary of the Folk Festival Season. The service was held at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, on July 17, 2016.

Reaffirming the belief of the GCA, the Association's President, Dr. Vibert Cambridge, in his message said "it is in our folk heritage we will find the commonalities that connect the Guyanese people. Our experience has shown us that the recognition and celebration of these commonalities contribute to the building of interethnic trust."

In expressing thanks for support over the years, Dr. Cambridge added "We the members of the Guyana Cultural Association of New York, Inc. are happy that you are here for this special moment in our fifteenth anniversary celebrations. We the volunteers of GCA thank you for your generous support over the past 15 years. Your unselfish support has encouraged and supported our efforts to document, showcase and celebrate the multiple roots of Guyana's cultural heritage."

Recognizing that the GCA could not succeed on its own he further asserted, "we have, with your help achieved much over the past 15 years. We will not rest on our laurels. There is still much work to be done. We extend sincere thanks to members of our community who have given generously of their time, talent and treasure to the GCA over the past 15 years. Because of You ... We Bridge."

Continuing our fifteen years of service to Guyanese, fifteen years of sharing, celebrating and spotlighting the radiance of Guyanese culture, God sent a word. The word was brought by, our Chaplin of the day, Pastor Kwesi Oginga of New Life Ministries in Maryland.

The Word taken from the book of Habakkuk, provided a message that coined this as the ORGANIZATION'S "year of rest." Rest after fifteen years of running. Rest for reflection so that the progress of the last fifteen years can be analyzed and assessed and initiatives reviewed and tweaked.

The message continued: rest not to sit on our laurels, but to re-visit the purpose and vision of the organization so that the next fifteen years can outshine the first

fifteen years. Reflections that cause the organization to be restored to a level that exceeds current plans and expectations.

The word also reflected on the influence the organization has had throughout the United States and in Guyana, as well as on other organizations and the sense of unity and inclusiveness that is always present at every gathering held. Pastor Oginga expressed the sentiment of a job well done, so far, but the best is yet to come. He added, as GCA moves forward, take this time to rest and reflect so that the next fifteen years will supersede these celebrated fifteen years.

The honorees are:

1. CASWA-Caribbean American Social Workers
2. Tutorial Support Group
3. BHS Alumni Association NY Tri-State Chapter
4. Guyana Tri-State Alliance
5. St. Stephen's Church
6. St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church
7. St. John's Episcopal Church
8. Victor Davson, Pritha Singh, Valerie Coddett
9. Dr. Aubrey Bonnett
10. Dr. Rose - Department of Culture Guyana
11. Dr. Dawn Arno and
Mr. Wayne McWatt
12. Symposium Supporters: Margaret Barrow, Tajpertab Rajkumar, Matie Singh, Carole Beaubien Gregory
13. Guyana On-Linen,
14. Brentnold Evans, former Guyana Consul General of NY
15. QC Alumni Association
16. Flatlands Reformed Church
17. Gloria Grosvenor Hall



UNIVERSITY of GUYANA JUBILEE SONG COMPETITION

The University of Guyana invites entries for its UNIVERSITY SONG competition. The winning song will become one of the identifying symbols of the university and it will be performed at university functions including the convocation ceremony, installation of officers, and so on. The song will help to rally, unite and inspire all Guyanese, and promote awareness of the university and its place in our country.

1. OBJECTIVES

- a. To celebrate the university of Guyana as the only national university of independent Guyana and to commemorate its place in the Golden Jubilee of the nation.
- b. To evoke a sense of pride and appreciation for the contribution made to the development of the university by all, from the humblest employee to the highest executive, and including all the families in the community and overseas who have upheld the name of the University of Guyana.
- c. To reflect the high aspirations of the University.

2. PARTICULARS

- a. All entries must be the entrant/s' original work.
- b. This competition is for lyrics and music combined, NOT separate lyrics and music.
- c. The duration of the composition should be between 3-4 minutes.
- d. All songs submitted should be composed in a form that allows them to be played by instruments (solo or orchestra).
- e. Composers may utilise any of the musical genres that make up local music traditions, or the traditions of the Caribbean.
- f. The songs should be up-beat rhythmically so as to represent a positive if not catchy style/content while at the same time, befitting the dignity of a university.
- g. The songs should be uplifting, celebratory and aspirational in intent so as to inspire members of the community.
- h. Composers may enter up to 3 songs
- i. The competition is open to individuals, groups or organisations.

3. ELIGIBILITY

- a. The competition is open to all Guyanese and all persons of Guyanese descent at home and abroad.
- b. Groups and organisations are also eligible to submit entries.

4. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

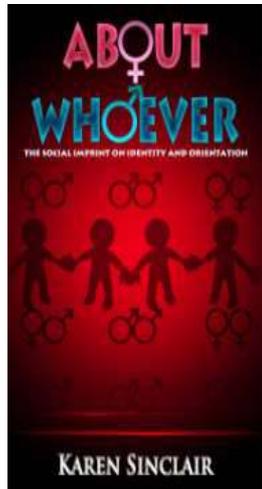
- a. Entries must be submitted to The University of Guyana Jubilee Song Competition at ugsong@uog.edu.gy

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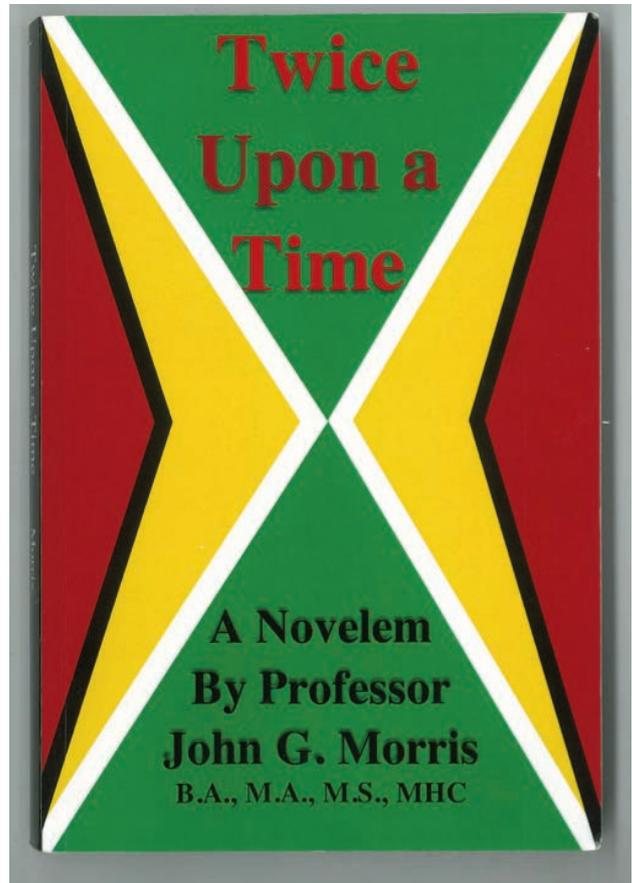
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Author Karen Sinclair earned her Master of Science degree from The City University in London, England, Bachelor of Social Sciences degree from the University of Guyana and Certificate in Lay Ministry from the United Methodist Church in America. Karen lives in New Jersey, USA.

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TWICE UPON A TIME

Written in commemoration and celebration of Guyana's 50th independence anniversary, Author John G. Morris, released his third book of life experience and pros, "Twice Upon a Time", which masterfully captures life and living in Guyana, his home country and beyond, with intrigue, suspense, humor and gripping nostalgia. His other books are: "Ichabod" and "Jubalax Pay".

DEMERARA GOLD

A ONE-WOMAN PLAY

A CARIBBEAN TALE

By: *Ingrid Griffith*

"A one woman tour de force that brings the pride and passion of the Caribbean to the global village."

- *The West Indian*

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- *New York Daily News*

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TIME: 8:00pm

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South Oxford Space is convenient to all trains:
B, C, D, G, N, R, Q, 2, 3, 4, 5 and the LIRR



Demerara Gold is a coming-of-age story of a spirited **7-year old girl** left to survive in her two **grandmothers' worlds** in the **Caribbean** after her **parents** suddenly get **VISAS** to the U.S. Ingrid cherishes her **gold ring** which was given to her as a token of her parents' promise that they will soon be together again. The all-important visa finally arrives and **Ingrid** rejoins her parents in **America** only to find a whole lot more than she bargained for.



www.DemeraraGoldTheShow.com

Ticket Price:

\$30 online

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Students: \$15
(at the door w/ valid id)

Purchase tickets online at
DemGoldAug13.Eventbrite.com

**THE GUYANA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION
OF MONTREAL**

Cordially invites you to its

Anniversary 49th
Gala



Saturday, September 10th, 2016

Eveagreen Reception Hall

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\$75.00 Per Person

\$40.00 Dance Only

Entertainment:

**(Actors) ANDRE WILTSHIRE
HOWARD LORRIMER**

Cocktails: 6:00 P.M.

Dinner: 7:00 P.M.

Open Bar Open Bar

Dress Formal

Music: D.J. Toney

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