

# 2015 GCA HONOREES

WE RECOGNIZE THE CREATIVE GIFTS OF INDIVIDUALS AND INFLUENCERS IN A SHOWCASE OF LITERARY, PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTISES ALONG WITH COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS AND CULTURAL ENABLERS

*Ronald H. Lammy, Chair, GCA of NY Awards Committee*

Celebrating our Guyanese heritage is an acknowledgement of its influence on our present condition. Its attributes can be discerned in the trajectory from the past. We can map where we are, what we are doing, and envisage a future, or not. These elements are profoundly visible in the profiles of the 2015 GCA Awardees. In them, we recognize the creative gifts of individuals and influencers in a showcase of literary, performing and visual artistes along with community activists and cultural enablers. They present a panoply of creativity evoking distinct Guyanese sensitivities. Their individual craftsmanship is physical and intellectual. Concepts are transformed into impactful reality. The substance of their contributions to society is evident by notable accomplishments.

The Youth Honorees represent stage and movie acting and award winning youth leadership; fashion designing and choreography “intertwined”, dramatist; Maypole dancing; and academic excellence, authorship and community service.. These four progeny give every indication of very bright lives ahead.

The millennial and the mature Honorees display a cumulative, encyclopedic level of work. Video-performance is story telling that expresses personal and community feelings; communal leadership enables effective education and increases village pride; dance and choreography are taught based on modern techniques and music influences including Jazz and Caribbean genre; arts journalism is presented from a balanced, independent stance on the arts and literature giving voice to the underrepresented; sculpting creativity is

demonstrated through ancestral images and present-day metaphors; photographic visual artistry is used as a bridge to connect cultural identity; sensitivity to dissimilar musical ambiance in a shared space enabled a collaboration for mutual inter-ethnic satisfaction.

Noel Denny, Exemplary Awardee has demonstrated visionary leadership and action by forging consensus with fellow Guyanese from five High School Alumni organizations. Active in various Toronto Caribbean groups he was motivated to support homeland schools, too. “This gave rise to the Last Lap concept” explains Mr. Denny. The Lime has become a desired destination for celebrating Guyana’s traditions as envisioned by culturalist Noel Denny. It is perhaps the largest such event of Guyanese diversity.

Ron Robinson is the Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. He has the unique distinction of serving more years in Guyanese broadcasting and theatre than anyone else: half a century, unmatched and counting. He is an actor, a writer, a producer and a director. Mr. Robinson is a performing artiste who is a talker and a doer extraordinaire.

Ron Robinson has pursued and lived his interests. His multi-faceted life is revelatory as I describe his accomplishments in the profile. He is a Mason – a lodge man; a scout master; a racing car driver; a youth organization leader; and an independent businessman. His successes in these areas add to his distinction as an arts and culture man whose imprint is much greater than his unassuming demeanor conveys.

Our Awards Committee is honored to have played a role in recognizing this illustrious group.

2015 FOLK FESTIVAL SEASON: ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2015 GCA HONOREES



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT  
Ron Robinson



EXEMPLARY ACHIEVEMENT  
Noel Denny



GCA AWARD  
Damali Abrams



GCA AWARD  
Lorna P. Campbell



GCA AWARD  
Ameena Gafoor



GCA AWARD  
Nadia Jagan



GCA AWARD  
Jonathan Locke



GCA AWARD  
Deo Persaud



GCA AWARD  
Keisha Scarville



GCA AWARD  
Main Street Art Group



BUSINESS ENABLER  
Star Party Rental