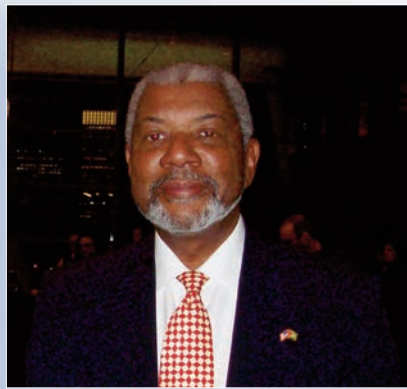




Celebrating Our Indigenous Heritage
- treasure the inheritance

GCA Awards Ceremony, 2017



Our indigenous heritage has revealed pronounced traits of creativity, distinctiveness, and excellence. These characteristics have been displayed in the activities and successes of Awardees.

Ronald H. Lammy
Chair, The GCA Awards Committee

This is an exceptional year for the GCA Awards. The profiles of the honorees include a panoramic display of who we are as Guyanese before that name came into being. It is an almost incomparable element of our reality. In 2017, we have recipients who had definitive roles in confirming our historical presence and how our ancestors communicated amongst themselves. The seminal work and accomplishments that define us come under classifications of archeology, visual artistry, and linguistics. Journalism and authorship have described the contemporary environment in which our indigenous folk live today.

On-going research into the early habitations and the preservation of the explorations and their revelations are continuous. Both the local independent Museum and the indigenous research center have international partnerships with notable institutions in academia. These relationships acknowledge the importance of the archival collections and their historical value. The collaborative work provides a bridge from colonial ignorance and falsehood to scientific confirmation of the truthfulness of our presence through our ancestors.

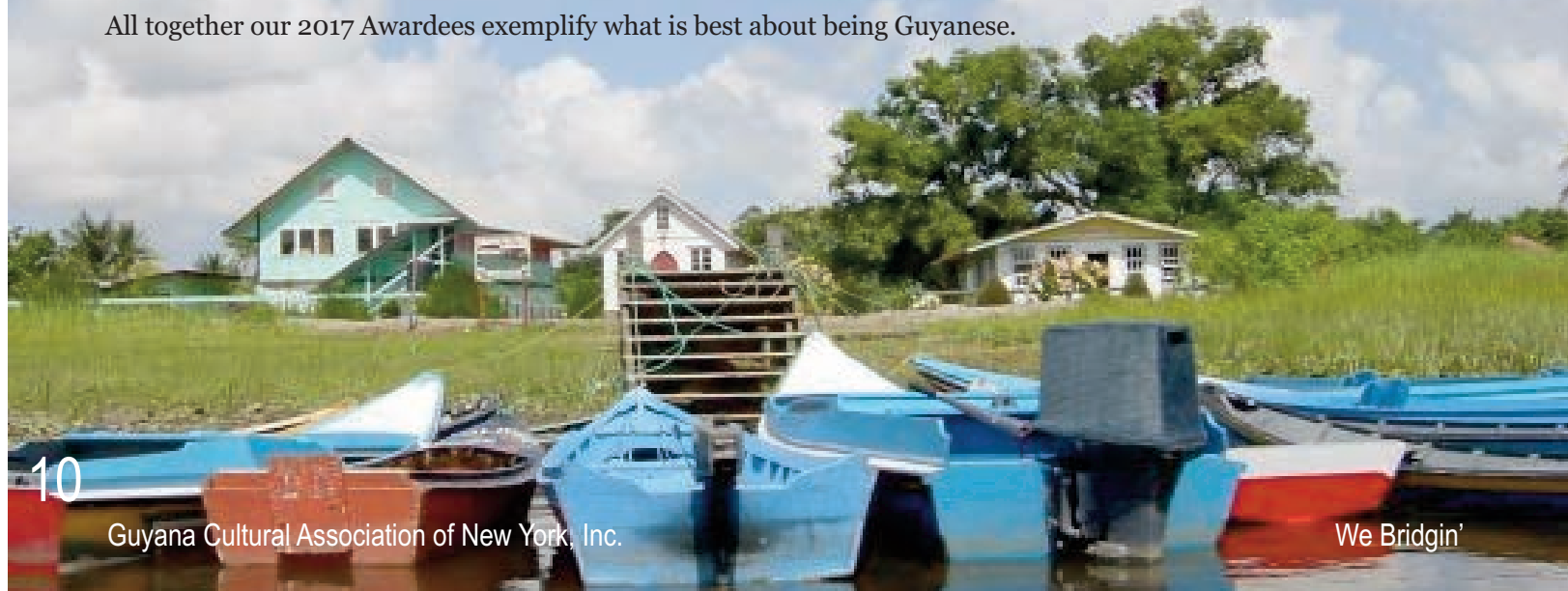
Our indigenous heritage has revealed pronounced traits of creativity, distinctiveness, and excellence. These characteristics have been displayed in the activities and successes of Awardees in the fields of education, medical care, community service and as cultural enablers. We see foundational, connecting human activity that enriches Guyanese lives.

The increasing attention we are paying to our indigenous heritage, and claiming it, is creating a greater awareness of our place in a worldwide experience. The United Nations hosts an annual Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and one of our honorees was an active participant for some time. The elements of commonness with our Guyanese conditions could, should, encourage greater effort to remove the fragmentations in our homeland. We are not alone and we are connected.

As we consider the present and look to the future we can be quite hopeful with the indicators from our 2017 Youth Awardees. All are under twenty-five years old this year. They demonstrate superior scholastic achievements; emerging performing and literary talent; youth leadership; and cultural community service.

Sports and academic brilliance have earned National Honor Society Scholar awards and separate substantial financial scholarships. Unusual specializations are noted in two areas. One is the development of teaching methods to encourage youths into dance performance. The other is the earning of a law degree with concentrations in trademark and copyright.

All together our 2017 Awardees exemplify what is best about being Guyanese.



Celebrating Our Indigenous Heritage
- treasure the inheritance



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Our Indigenous
Heritage”**

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• Fanoko Singers • T&T Roxborough Cultural Group

• GCA Kwe Kwe Ensemble • Joyce Ormela Harris

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SAT. URDAY SEPT. 2, 2017**

9.00 A.M. - 8.30 P.M.

ENUE FOR BOTH EVENTS

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DONATION: \$20.00 FOR BOTH DAYS

GATES OPEN AT NOON CHILDREN'S VILLAGE STARTS AT 1.00 P.M. POW WOW STARTS AT 3.00 P.M.

GATES CLOSE AT 6.00 P.M.



GUYANA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK INC. 2017 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



George Simon
ARTIST

ARCHEOLOGIST, EDUCATOR

George Simon is recognized for an outstanding career as an archeologist and an artist whose pioneering work has definitive elements with profound impact. He helped to identify Guyanese ancestry of over five thousand years. His pioneering archaeological work revealed the existence of indigenous ancestors with original characteristics. This disclosure and his artistic representation of these unique features have produced a new historical awareness and acknowledgement.

In an expression of his superior creative skills George Simon is a painter and muralist who presents the indigenous designs and styles in buildings in Guyana, and as an educator. As an exemplary contributor to the Guyanese society, and a cultural enabler, he teaches and nurtures young artists. His images display and promote the rich heritage and he expands his knowledge and imparts it through a merging of visual artistry and physical discovery of the living spaces of his native land. He founded the Lokono Arts Group and organized the "Moving Circle" art exhibitions which highlight indigenous artists and their creativity.

His depth of skill is highly regarded across continents as discerned by where he lives and works. The north of South America, Guyana, is his homeland and the primary place of major accomplishments in archeology, painting, and teaching. Countries such Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago and Spain have engaged him. He has presented his visual artistry in exhibitions in locations as disparate as Chad, France, New York, and Barbados.

In 1988 the Government of Guyana displayed a high level of appreciation of his work with an award of the Arrow of Achievement. The Anthony N. Sabga Caribbean Arts and Letters Award was presented in 2012.



GUYANA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK INC. 2017 EXEMPLARY AWARD

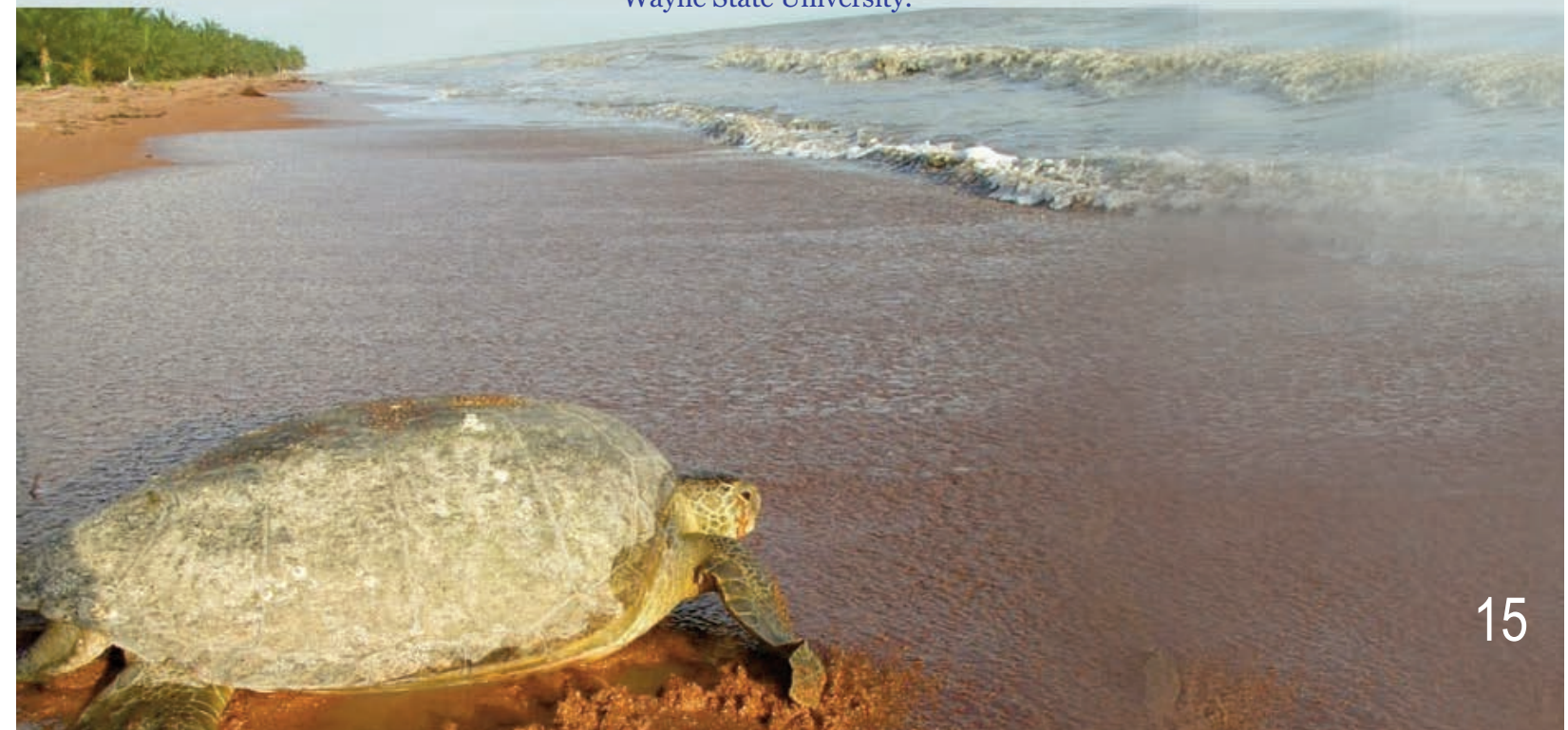


Dr. Walter Edwards
**HIGHER EDUCATION:
RESEARCHER AND
PIONEERING
ACADEMIC LEADER**

Dr. Walter F Edwards, Professor of Linguistics at Wayne State University, is recognized for his outstanding career in linguistics, especially his pioneering work on the languages of Guyana's indigenous people through the creation of the Amerindian Languages Project at the University of Guyana in 1976. His sterling accomplishments include *An Introduction to the Akawaio and Arekuna Peoples of Guyana*, published by the University of Guyana in 1977. Among the objectives of this publication was to facilitate a new era in Guyana development through harnessing the hydro-power resources of the Upper Mazaruni region by the Upper Mazaruni Development Authority (UMDA). Specifically, the publication aimed at filling gaps in knowledge about our indigenous peoples in the region providing teachers, administrators, and employers with the "kind of basic cultural and linguistic information" required for the dialogic communication expected in this major development project.

The Amerindian Languages Project launched in 1976 continues at the University of Guyana as the Amerindian Research Unit. It is recognized internationally as "the primary research institute for the study and dissemination of knowledge on the heritage and culture of Guyana's indigenous people."

Dr. Edwards has a successful academic career at Wayne State University, where he teaches several courses in linguistics. His research interests and publications include Guyanese Creole studies, African American vernacular English, as well as the sociolinguistics of rap lyrics and language and culture. He is currently Director of the Humanities Center at Wayne State University.





GUYANA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION 2017 EXEMPLARY AWARD



Godfrey Wray
JOURNALISM
WRITER

Godfrey Wray is recognized for an outstanding career in editing, journalism and publishing complemented by a period of international entrepreneurship. His successes also include a writing career as a novelist with excellence as a hallmark. His first novel 'Beyond Revenge' was republished on its ninth anniversary in March 2017. Life accomplishments were achieved by displaying discerning knowledge of the cultural, political, social, and geographic landscapes in which he operated. His superior writing skills describe the Indigenous Guyanese way of life, and the resident dwellings, graphically and accurately capturing the serene and captivating environment.

Mr. Wray's career in the print media ranks him among the best in Guyana for decades. Pursuit of his professional goals started with being a proof-reader and he moved up the management chain to editor at a contentious time in Guyana: 1963 to 1986. He was responsible for reporting political news events and contributing editorials at the Guyana Chronicle / Sunday Chronicle. A recent return to the newspaper's editing position brings his formidable talents and best practices expertise to the forefront of great need.

A life of on-going accomplishments also included sports. He was a talented table tennis player at the national level. His love of sports, with a special interest in West Indian cricket, motivated him to establish Sports Xpress for which he was the editor and publisher of a full-color monthly magazine. It reported on major events with cultural significance to Guyana and the Caribbean.

A proud son of Albouystown, Georgetown attended St. Stanislaus College for his secondary education. He obtained a Public Communications diploma from the University of Guyana; and a Journalism and Communications one from the Indiana University.



The tableau present in the body of the 2017 Guyana Cultural Association of New York Award recipients shows foundational, connecting human activity. The indigenous characteristics are multiple centuries old, and in modern-day light, dispel the colonial lies with their truthful substance. Guyanese have a magnificent cultural grounding. It is evident in the initiatives and accomplishments of the Awardees who demonstrate creativity and distinctiveness. We acknowledge and commend their successes in four designations: GCA Youth Award; GCA Award; GCA Exemplary Award and GCA Lifetime Achievement Award.

The 2017 honorees are spread across the Guyanese Diaspora. They reside in Paraguay, the United States of America, Canada, and Guyana. Their predominant areas of impact have positively enriched Guyanese in various forms and sectors. Our compatriots achieved significant achievements in visual arts, archaeology, linguistics, journalism, education, medical care, community service, and as cultural enablers.

In considering the diverse span of Guyanese cultural attributes and our close kinship to the Caribbean, we make a special award to a calypso icon.

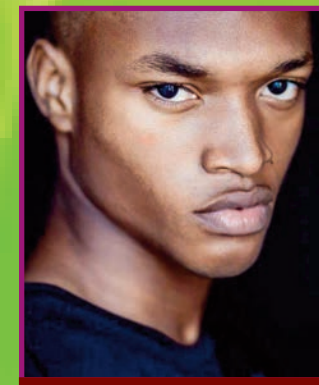
2017 GCA YOUTH AWARD CELEBRATING GUYANESE YOUTH WHO HAVE MADE ACHIEVEMENT AND POSITIVE LEADERSHIP THEIR CENTRAL GOAL

The GCA Awards salute the contributions by youth and especially, we acknowledge individuals from Guyana who enrich their communities and Guyanese society



Faith Parris

Faith Parris developed her academic abilities in the Center for the Intellectually Gifted program at IS 240 and was accepted in the Prep for Prep program where she graduated with Honors. Now a rising sophomore at St. Ann's High School, she is demonstrating that she is intellectually gifted and multi-talented as a writer, researcher, performing artist and poet. She has done signature research on the topics of "Suicide in Guyana" and "The Road to Nationalism in Guyana" and written two poems and composed two pieces of art-work published in her school's Literary Journal. She is also featured in the School's African Dance Concerts and choreographs as well as performs in a variety of Prayer Breakfast and other events for community organizations. In her spare time, she serves her community in the capacity of Youth Leader/Mentor and Peer Tutor for Math and Science. Faith is deeply rooted in her Guyanese Culture and this is expressed through her diverse talents.



Clinton Duncan

Clinton Duncan marked this year with an important academic milestone by earning his Bachelor's Degree in Law with a concentration in trademark and copyright laws. It is an accomplishment and a specialization that is linked to his passion for theater performing arts, costume design and stage management. He has been the principal makeup artist in more than 100 plays, written five of them and directed four in the National Drama Festival. Three of which have won second and third places. In recent years, he has also won awards for Best Lights; Best Sound; Best Costume; and Best Set Design. Mr. Duncan's impressive span of creative talent are expressed in two other dimensions. He was awarded Best Supporting Actor in a full-length production and is currently the reigning Champion of the National Poetry Slam Competition.



Dominic Alleyne

Dominic Alleyne is a Dancer with 10 years of experience and training in Classical Ballet, Modern, Jazz, African, Bollywood and Folk. Dominic has represented Guyana both locally and internationally. Dominic has a wealth of experience as a Dancer. Dominic received training and professional experience with Lets Dance Studio – Guyana where he studied Dance and Theatre Arts at The Guyana National School of Dance leading to the CXC Examination in Theatre Arts. Dominic attended the Inter Guiana Cultural Festival held in French Guiana. He is also a frequent participant at Carifesta where he participates and attends numerous workshops to enhance his Dance Techniques. As a competitive Dancer, he auditioned and was the first runner up for the GT&T Feel The Beat Dance Competition. When not dancing, Dominic lends his expertise in judging local dance competitions, collaborating with other Dancers and Choreographers to improve and modify Dance styles and Techniques, and sharing his love of Dance by volunteering his services in many of Guyana’s Schools. At present, Dominic is the Assistant Director and Dance Instructor at The Lets Dance Studio.



Kyle Igarta

Kyle Igarta, a well-rounded, versatile High School graduate is the recipient of a scholarship for a 2017 an honors college program. He has demonstrated excellence in academics and in the arts where he is considered an accomplished dancer. His leadership skills are similarly outstanding as seen in the various High School club positions he holds. He is his school’s president of the Martha Pemmington National Honor Society. Kyle is the Assistant Dance Teacher at the Dance Factory in Middletown N.J. Kyle has had the pleasure of studying Dance and Choreography at some of New York’s finest Dance institutions, among which are The Julliard School and The Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre. Kyle was also privileged to work with Master Teacher and Choreographer Tracie Stanfield, who is an award-winning dancer and internationally acclaimed. In addition to Kyle’s work with The Julliard School and Alvin Ailey, he has also performed with our own Wayne Daniel’s Choreography “Life in the Caribbean Community Diaspora.” These remarkable accomplishments give a perspective of his scope of capabilities.



Keanna S. McGarrell

Keanna S. McGarrell is a recent graduate with a B.A. in Communications from the State University of New York at Albany. Keanna is also a member of Lambda Pi Eta. National Communication Honor Society. As a student, Keanna has worked on many volunteer initiatives and food drives helping the underserved and needy. She has worked with fellow students, and on behalf of professional networks in entrepreneurship, marketing and broadcasting. She has been an on-campus student leader assisting transfer students to assimilate and fit into life at the SUNY Albany Campus. Keanna also served as a Junior Executive on the Board of the Pan-African Association on campus. She has worked on establishing many cultural, ethnic, educational and social programs, live entertainment events, and the incorporation of the Caribbean influence in history using her Guyanese heritage.



Tevin Skeete

Tevin Skeete attended the North Ruimveldt Secondary School in Georgetown – Guyana where he demonstrated excellent academic ability. He then migrated to the United States of America and enrolled in New York City’s Benjamin N. Cardozo High School. There he took advantage of the many pre-college academic, leadership and sports programs. He not only excelled academically, he was also an outstanding athlete. With application and determination, he became the #1 ranked middle blocker and co-captain of his school’s volleyball team. He was the recipient of the \$20,000 Foot Locker Scholar of the year Scholarship. As part of Junior 100 he interned on Wall Street and began net working with members of 100 Black Men of America Organization. He was awarded a \$5000 Scholarship by the Organization. This aspiring Engineer is currently enrolled at the State University of New York where he continues to play Men’s Volley Ball. Tevin attributes his successes to his parents who supported him, his teachers who believed in him, and his Counselors who counseled and guided him.

*Editing of bios by
Ronald H. Lammy & Jacqueline Newton*

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2017 GCA AWARDS HONOREES IN CELEBRATION OF THE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH STRONG CREATIVE GIFTS, LEADERS AND CULTURAL ENABLERS IN THE GUYANESE SOCIETY



Mercedes Pierre

Mercedes Pierre is Guyanese of Arawak and French Huguenot heritage born in the North West District. As an Indigenous human rights activist, she has used her experience in international relations, diplomacy, and legal studies to promote and advance the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Through her volunteer work in the United States of America, Mercedes acquired extensive knowledge about indigenous concerns. Mercedes has participated in several annual sessions of the UN's Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. She was actively involved in the drafting of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This daughter of Guyana has worked tirelessly. Her sensitivities to the issues were ingrained from her Guyanese upbringing, education, early career, and artistic interests. She attended Bishops' High School, obtained a Diploma in Public Communication from the University of Guyana, and a Certificate in International Relations from the University of the West Indies. Mercedes worked in graphic design and advertising, library, and information services. Her professional experience includes a Foreign Service Officer in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mercedes is also a poet. In 1974, she was awarded a Certificate of Merit in Creative Writing for Poetry.



John Aaron

John L. Aaron has exemplary leadership accomplishments in youth development, business, academia, and sports. His young adult years were spent in the theater arts and youth development. In 1976, he was named Guyana's "Jaycee of the Year". His professional career started in graphic design. He climbed to the Executive Vice President level in the USA and was recognized by his peers with *The Printing House Craftsmen Guild of New York's Fellowship Award*. His cultural sensitivities and a desire to help others succeed, motivated a career change. He is currently a Higher Education Officer at Kingsborough Community College. His own scholastic successes inspired him. He holds a BA degree in Media Communications, Hunter College, CUNY; and a Master's degree in Management and Technology from New York University.

Mr. Aaron had a passion for sport from his early childhood. He later became actively involved in the administration of cricket in the USA, and in 2012 he was inducted into the Cricket Hall of Fame, Hartford, CT. His profound understanding of cultural, geographic, and ethnic differences was leveraged to help re-instate cricket in New York to its international standing. His leadership has impacted Caribbean individuals and entities, and many cricket membership organizations. In 2012, he was elected a Director and Secretary of the American Cricket Federation, where he continues to diligently work to unify cricket in the USA.



Desmond Ali

Desmond Ali a self-taught artist of Amerindian and Indian heritage is a renowned sculptor whose work gained notoriety during the 1980's with his carved relief pieces depicting the predicament of the world under Imperialistic/Fascist dictatorship. His unique Meso-American style distinguished his work from the current Euro/Afro/ Intuitive stylistic traditions. By the 1990's his work had expanded to include the Guyanese political struggle against dictatorship and racial disparity. Desmond hopes to improve inter-racial alliance through his use of Art and political activism. He founded the Guyana United Artists Association in 1997 – a broad platform for Main- Street and Rastafarian artists. Desmond's love of traveling, his artistic and political zest imbues his work with a conviction that cannot be ignored. Mr. Ali has also consistently drawn attention to the indigenous worldview of the 'amerindian' which sees our 'continental' destiny rather than narrow colonial borders, defining the 'homeland'. In 1987 Desmond won the Sculpture Award in the National Visual Arts Competition.



**Amerindian
Research Unit
University of Guyana**

Amerindian Research Unit (ARU) conducts ongoing research, preservation, and propagation of the anthropological assets of the Indigenous Peoples of Guyana in an academic institution. It is noteworthy that this facility at the University of Guyana is in long term collaborations with similar international entities to disseminate invaluable anthropological information. ARU publishes monographs in anthropology and collaborates with the Walter Roth Museum and Boise State University in the circulation of the journal *Archaeology and Anthropology*. It has organized conferences such as the "Arawak in Guyana (1987)" and "Carib Studies in the Guianas: Ethnobotany, Language and Society" (1998). The ARU evolved from the Amerindian Languages Project of the University of Guyana, which began in the 1970s under Guyanese Linguist Dr. Walter Edwards. Its development had a multidisciplinary focus and staff. Researchers were involved in its expansion and included the late Dr. Desrey Fox. The ARU is now a division of the Faculty of Education and Humanities within the Department of Language and Cultural Studies at the University of Guyana.



**Anything Guyanese First
Lloyd Phillips Founder**



Anything Guyanese First is a Facebook group that was founded by a son of Guyana's soil – **Lloyd Phillips**.

Lloyd was born in Mahaicony a village on the East Cost of Demerara and grew up in Kitty–Greater Georgetown. After migrating to the United States of America, Lloyd decided to

further his education. He enrolled at Brooklyn College where he earned his B.A. in Economics. He later obtained his Master's Degree in Finance from Long Island University. Since the conception of Anything Guyanese First, membership has grown immensely. Lloyd has now extended Anything Guyanese First to form other branches of this network. Lloyd recently created another Face Book Group called APNU+AFC North America. These Face Book Groups are not only networking and chatting channels; they serve to Educate, Inform and Enlighten all Guyanese in the diaspora. Members of Anything Guyanese First are also actively involved in Guyana lending their support to many charitable groups and organizations. Lloyd is a dedicated man with his varied interest in what's happening in Guyana.



**Canada Guyana
Outreach Mission**

The Canada-Guyana Outreach Mission delivers Health Care for Guyana which is a simple statement that truly describes the depth and extent of the medical services it provides. The range of amenities offered to a cross-section of beneficiaries in the wide geographic span of Guyana is governmental in scope. Physicians visit several remote interior villages to attend to conditions such as respiratory tract infections, diabetes, hypertension, skin rashes, tuberculosis, back pain, worms, asthma, abdominal pain, diarrhea, vaginitis, seizures, STDs, typhoid, and conjunctivitis. Hundreds of patients are treated during the annual site visits. A notable feature of the organization's focus on the wellness of villagers is its attention to developmental/mental health as well. In coordination with the local health centers, nursing and midwife staff, patients of all ages get care, as needed. In 2016 the availability of loan equipment allowed audiology testing to be conducted on children and adults. Other initiatives have included cervical cancer testing of women and distribution feminine hygiene kits to school girls. The organization was founded by Yvonne Triesman who is supported by dedicated medical and community volunteers.

DR.
Mighty

Dr. Slinger Francisco
"The Mighty Sparrow"

The Mighty Sparrow's many decades of an outstanding career as a calypsonian have earned him the moniker of icon. At the end of the 20th century, a compelling profile was prominently published by the independent Trinidad Express newspaper which crowned him the Calypsonian of the Century. Vaneisa Baksh, a highly respected Trinidadian female journalist wrote the tribute. "His career started in 1954 as the Little Sparrow singing "The Parrot and the Monkey" which he followed the next year with the "High Cost of Living," but it was in 1956, after he had toured Guyana extensively and had an intensive training experience, that he jammed his way to public acclaim with "Jean and Dinah" which won the twenty-year-old his first Calypso King crown." Dr. Slinger Francisco's recognition of the Guyanese influence on his emerging performance skills through its wide geographic span, and the role of Guyanese cultural enablers, is noteworthy. They promoted his extraordinary talent and for the next fifty years he excelled in his creativity globally. In the article's salute to him it stated that "No calypsonian has so dominated his period as the Mighty Sparrow has done."



Guyana Christian Charities

The Guyana Christian Charities Canada (GCCC) has been dedicated to providing assistance to Guyanese for the last 30 years. GCCC collects, packs and ships containers of donated articles to Guyana. The items include medical supplies; computers; new and clean used non-winter clothing for children and adults; toys; books; cooking utensils; and other household items that are in good condition. The GCCC assists over 100 organizations in a wide geographic and demographic span. Some of the recipient organizations include the Amerindian Hospice Care; Berbice Anjuman Orphanage; Charlotte Street GCC; Canadaslyan Church; Dharam Shala; Hosororo Mission; Mercy Boys Home; The Palms, Georgetown; Ruimveldt Children's Aid Centre; St. Ann's Girls Orphanage; Saxacally Presbyterian Mission; St. John Bosco Boys Orphanage; Uncle Eddie's Home; and Public Hospitals throughout the country.

GCCC raises funds in Ontario through their many activities. It operates on a strictly voluntary basis. There are no paid employees and over 90% of the funds collected go directly to organizations and hospitals in Guyana. The organization takes care of all shipping expenses related to transportation to Guyana and the local recipient hospitals and organizations. Recipient organizations are only required to confirm receipt of the items shipped to them.



Aileen Hintzen

Miss **Aileen Hintzen** is a Guyanese of Arawak heritage, who has given long and dedicated service to the youths of Guyana, serving in the capacity of teacher and Scout Leader. Miss Hintzen was born at Mabaruma in the North-West Region. She migrated to Georgetown at an early age, and gave her services as a Catechist Teacher in the Roman Catholic Church for fifty-five years, and forty-four of those years as a School Teacher. As a young woman, Aileen joined the Scouting movement and spent forty-seven years in it. During this time, she attended many conferences in the Caribbean representing Guyana. In 2007, Aileen served with distinction at the World Scout Jamboree in the United Kingdom. She also attended and served as a leader at the National and International Scout Camps held in Antigua, Brazil, and Trinidad & Tobago. On a visit to Ghana in 2013, she shared her Guyanese experience with her fellow Ghanaian Scout Leaders. Miss Hintzen has given over 40 years of service to the Theatre Guild in Guyana.



Ruel Johnson

Ruel Johnson has been a pioneering author and cultural activist in Guyana over the past two decades. He is also the recipient of many Literary Awards. At 19, he secured a place as the youngest participant in the inaugural Cropper Foundation Writer's Workshop held in Trinidad. At 22 he was the youngest person to win a Guyana Prize for literature. In 2008, he won the GT&T CARIFESTA X publication award. In 2013, he placed in both categories of the small Axe Literary competition, winning the Guyana Prize for Fiction. In 2016, Johnson won a place in Commonwealth Caribbean Fiction Editors' Workshop, and later in the year was the first Guyanese to have won a place at the prestigious Iowa International Writers' Residency. Despite political pressure, Ruel did not give up his love of writing and literature and in recognition of his effort and perseverance; he was awarded the Prince Claus Fund for Culture in Development under the theme "Culture in Defiance." To date he is the only known Guyanese to have won a Prince Claus Fund Grant Award. This outstanding son of Guyana has represented Guyana in many countries around the world presenting Guyanese literature and culture.



Romola Lucas

In 2012 Executive Director **Romola Lucas** co-founded the Caribbean Film Academy, along with Justen Blaize. Through the organization, Romola and Justen have been working to support Caribbean filmmakers to make films more accessible to audiences both in the Region and the Diaspora. They are currently running two curated screening series in Brooklyn, the Caribbean Film Series at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), a quarterly screening series showcasing the best in film coming out of the Region, and CAFA Cinema Nights, which is a community-style screening series at various venues. Through these programs, they have shared over 100 Caribbean films with Brooklyn audiences. They have created two Caribbean film festivals – the Third Horizon Film Festival, in Miami and the Timehri Film Festival in Guyana, where they showcase the work of Guyanese filmmakers in Guyana and the Diaspora, Romola and Justen have also developed an online platform for viewing Caribbean films. They currently have about 65 titles on the site and 2 new films are added every month. They show films from just about every Caribbean country, including those from French, Spanish, and the Dutch Caribbean.



Clive Prowell

Clive Prowell is an entrepreneurial creationist who specializes in dance and costume design. His leadership of Classique Dance Company has shown its unique ability to equally attract and retain male and female dancers. Most dance schools and companies find this a challenge. Overcoming it is attributed to Clive's range of abilities along with marketing skills that attract males. The scope of his artistry is presented through costume design, interior decoration, and pageants. His productions include Guyana Miss Universe. Classique's distinction was also earned through Clive's choreographies. The dance presentations included theatrical elements and set designs that were unusual but riveting. These details conveyed a pioneering spirit as well. Another dimension of his presentation of Guyanese features has been through collaborations with other dance enterprises. Classique participated in a cultural exchange with New York's Keen Dance Theater which provided enriching experiences. Clive has received several awards. He is proud of the 2012 Best Dance Production/Dance Company in the Caribbean award at the West Indian Music Award Ceremony. Clive is the Youth Director of the Guyana Cultural Association and Dance Instructor of the Guyana Arts & Cultural Center and at the GCA Caribbean Heritage Workshop Series.



**Walter Roth Museum
of Anthropology**

The Walter Roth Museum of Anthropology was established in Guyana in 1974. It serves a noble mission: “to collect, exhibit and conserve artifacts relating to the ancient cultures of Guyana, to conduct anthropological research and disseminate knowledge of the Indigenous Peoples of Guyana through its in-house and out-reach programmes.” It is the first institution of its type in the English-speaking Caribbean and was founded by preeminent Guyanese archaeologist and anthropologist. He was honoring Walter Roth whom he considered the foremost scholar of ancient Guyana in the early 20th century. Their combined legacies have been sustained through the Museum. The preservation of the anthropological knowledge of the Indigenous Peoples of Guyana and its dissemination has earned the Museum international acclaim. Guyanese native history is published in its annual journal *Archaeology and Anthropology*, a leading one in its field. The significance of its content has gained it subscribers who include leading global universities and libraries.

GCA CULTURAL ENABLER



Healthfirst is a provider-sponsored health insurance company that serves more than 1.2 million New Yorkers, providing affordable health care with the best quality and experience of care in a way that sustains both the company and the regional delivery system and offers top-quality Medicaid, Medicare Advantage, Child Health Plus, and Managed Long Term Care plans, Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO) plans for small-business owners and their employees, and Healthfirst Total, an EPO for individuals.

A core Value “Integrity and transparency” is exemplified in their collaboration with the community working at the highest level of openness, integrity, and compliance, honoring commitments and keeping promises. Transparency fosters trust.!

Guyana Cultural Association of New York Inc. wishes to thank George Hulse Vice President of Community Engagement at Healthfirst, who oversees community engagement, events and public relations strategies to enhance Healthfirst’s community goals, for facilitating collaborations with community partners including GCA. and for your sponsorship of the GCA Awards Ceremony reception.



WINNERS OF THE 2017 GODFREY CHIN PRIZE FOR HERITAGE JOURNALISM

*Dr. Vibert Cambridge, A.A.,
Chair, The Godfrey Chin Prize Committee*



The 2017 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.”

First Prize: Neil Marks For the article “Pakaraima Bound.” The article showcased the vast and relatively unknown Pakaraima mountains in Guyana and offered a glimpse into the alluring world of the people of the mountains. The Patamona culture is still relatively unknown and undocumented, and hence the article embodies Godfrey’s quest to research and tell the stories of Guyana’s cultural diversity. The article also enlightened others on how to get to the Pakaraimas, thus opening this world to others. It’s publication in *Caribbean Beat*, exposed it to both a local, Caribbean, and international audience. The article is available at: <http://caribbean-beat.com/issue-144/pakaraima-bound#axzz4h9qEhGwo>

Second Prize: Lear Matthews and Ted Eric Matthews For the video *Dis Time Nah Lang Time*. *Dis Time Nah Lang Time* is a video presentation that clearly reflects the core values of Guyanese cultural heritage. In their unique style of delivery through the spoken word, the Matthews brothers captured the attention and praise of thousands of Guyanese viewers at home and in the Diaspora, including cultural icons such as Francis Farrier, Ken Cosby, Mark Matthews and Eusi Kwayana. The presentation takes us on a nostalgic joy ride that invokes the cultural roots and Creole parlance, reminiscent of the soul of Godfrey Chin’s literary genius. The language and diction profoundly connects with the Guyanese of all backgrounds. The places, people and situations of “lang time” were vividly portrayed. The video is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgZh64gLBZi3glvvBzQz-Sg>

Third Prize: Amanda Richards: Amanda Richards was nominated for a Godfrey Chin Prize for Heritage in recognition of five photographic curations on contemporary cultural life in Guyana during the period July 2016 to June 2017). These include: African Holocaust Day 2016, Mashramani 2017, Rupununi Rodeo 2017, Easter 2017, and Phagwah 2017. Godfrey Chin recognized the power of photographs and spent much time and treasure collecting them. Godfrey Chin recognized



FIRST PRIZE
Neil Marks
“Pakaraima Bound.”



SECOND PRIZE
Lear Matthews
he video “Dis Time Nah Lang Time”



SECOND PRIZE
T. Eric Matthews
he video “Dis Time Nah Lang Time”



THIRD PRIZE
Amanda Richards
Photographic curations on contemporary cultural life in Guyana.

that photographs are important artifacts in telling the Guyanese story. They provide “historical and cultural contextualization.” In addition, they can trigger “affect—the experience of emotion.” Ms. Amanda Richards is an award-winning amateur photographer based in Guyana. She is a Getty contributor and CNN iReporter. Her photographs have been featured in calendars, magazines, text books, websites, and several international exhibitions.

The collections are available at Flickr: African Holocaust Day 2016: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/arichards-gallery/albums/72157673961599430>; Mashramani 2017: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/arichards-gallery/albums/72157679077560350>; Rupununi Rodeo (2017): <https://www.flickr.com/photos/arichards-gallery/albums/72157679533424583>; Easter (2017): <https://www.flickr.com/photos/arichards-gallery/albums/72157681953100316>; and Phagwah (2017): <https://www.flickr.com/photos/arichards-gallery/albums/72157679031120992>