

Laureate *News*



About Us

The Anthony N Sabga Awards, Caribbean Excellence was established in 2005 to recognise and support excellence in human endeavour that uplifts the region.

Since then, we've awarded 66 laureates, presenting them with over TT\$32 million to further their careers.

The Awards' Laureate News is a regular publication – all about our laureates and the infrastructure that selects and supports them.

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The passing of a master sculptor

Justice Bulkan to CCJ Bench

Justice Arif Bulkan has been selected to join the six-judge bench of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ).

Mr Bulkan, our 2017 Public & Civic Contributions Laureate awarded for an extensive record of human rights advocacy, has practiced law in Guyana, sat on the Guyana Court of Appeal, and most recently served as a Judge of the Court of Appeal of Belize. He currently sits on the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

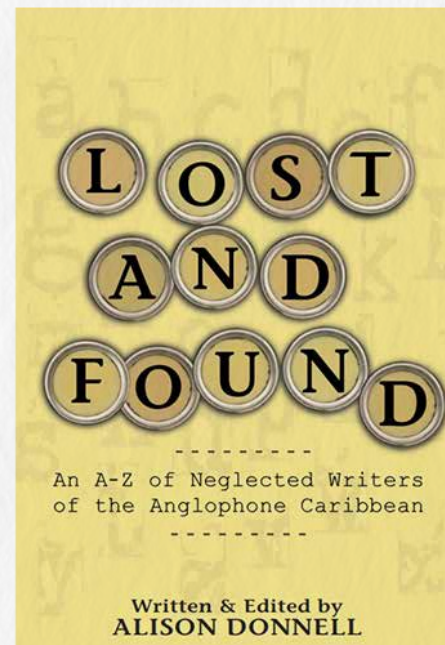
He was selected to the CCJ from a field of 26 judicial candidates from around the world and is expected to be sworn in this October. He is the third Guyanese national to be selected to the bench of the CCJ, which decides disputes in the 12-member Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) and serves as the final court of appeal for five Caribbean states, including Guyana.



Hillhouse finds lost Hall

Our 2023 Arts & Letters Laureate, Antiguan writer Joanne C. Hillhouse, has ‘rediscovered’ a lost Antiguan author of the 1930s. Ms Hillhouse recently researched and wrote a chapter on the poet and short story writer Eileen Hall, for *Lost and Found: An A-Z of Neglected Writers of the Caribbean* — published in May by Papillote Press, which specializes in books about Dominica and the wider Caribbean.

Hall was one of the first Antiguan poets to be published internationally, with a 1938 book *The Fountain and the Bough*. Ms Hillhouse wrote in her wadadli pen blog in 2017 that Hall’s 1938 poem “Lullaby” was ahead of its time “for many reasons,” including the use of Antiguan vernacular “when there are some who still think of our various creoles as nothing more than bad English.”



Dr Maingot meets the Pope

2013 Public & Civic Contributions

Laureate Dr Rhonda Maingot was among 48 members of the Living Water Community who visited the Vatican for a Jubilee pilgrimage in June.

Dr Maingot, co-foundress of the Living Water Community which provides a range of social services to vulnerable groups in Trinidad, said the T&T contingent found a prime location among the thousands gathered in St Peter's Square for an evening vigil. "We put up the Trini flag and the Holy

Father's vehicle stopped just in front of us," recounted Dr Maingot in an interview with The Catholic News. "We were handing over babies for him to bless and it was just a tremendous experience for everyone. The greatest privilege was later given to Rosemary Scott and myself, as leaders of the Community, to greet the Holy Father (Pope Leo XIV)."

To have a special blessing by Pope Leo is another added grace on a wonderful year of grace," Dr Maingot said. "Every day, my work, my labour, my joy is for the body of Christ, especially those who are in need, those who are suffering, those who are addicted, refugees - the broken body. Touching all of that in grace is something very very special.



And in news of the infrastructure that supports the Awards

New CNC Chairs

Immediately after our 20th anniversary ceremony, new Chairs of the five Country Nominating Committees (CNCs) were appointed to two-year terms. The committees of distinguished Caribbean citizens do the work of identifying and researching Caribbean talent for the Anthony N Sabga Awards.

The five new Chairs

Barbados – Ms Fiona Hinds-Lafond

Intellectual property lawyer Ms Fiona Hinds has been a partner at Barbados law firm Carrington & Sealy since 2001. She has significant expertise in trademarks and patents, and has lectured on Intellectual Property law at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill.

Guyana – Mr Vincent Alexander

Mr Alexander is a former Registrar of the University of Guyana. He has also served as the People's National Congress (PNC) representative on the Guyana Elections Commission.

Jamaica – Dr Deborah Hickling Gordon

Dr Deborah Hickling Gordon is a Cultural Economy Strategist for countries of the Global South. She lectures on Cultural and Creative Industries at UWI, Mona, and has been a member of the UNESCO Expert Facility on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions since 2023.

OECS – Mr Herbert Samuel

Energy consultant Mr Herbert Samuel sits on Grenada's Geothermal Energy Development Project, which is attempting to generate 15 MW of power for the island. He was our 2015 Entrepreneurship Laureate for founding a business that featured an app for tracking and reducing household electricity consumption.

T&T – Professor Emerita Patricia Mohammed

Professor Mohammed is a key thinker in Caribbean feminist theory and has been involved in feminist activism in the region since 1979. She has been Professor of Gender and Cultural Studies at UWI, St Augustine since 2005.



Ms Fiona Hinds-Lafond



Mr Vincent Alexander



Dr Deborah Hickling Gordon



Mr Herbert Samuel



Professor Emerita Patricia Mohammed

Key to the City

Bocas Lit Fest has been awarded the Key to the City of Port of Spain.

Trinidad and Tobago Country Nominating Committee (CNC) member Mrs Marina Salandy-Brown, founder and President of the literary festival, received the key from Mayor Chinua Alleyne at a ceremony at City Hall in June.

The award citation noted that the literary festival continues to celebrate and grow a new generation of writers from T&T and the wider Caribbean.

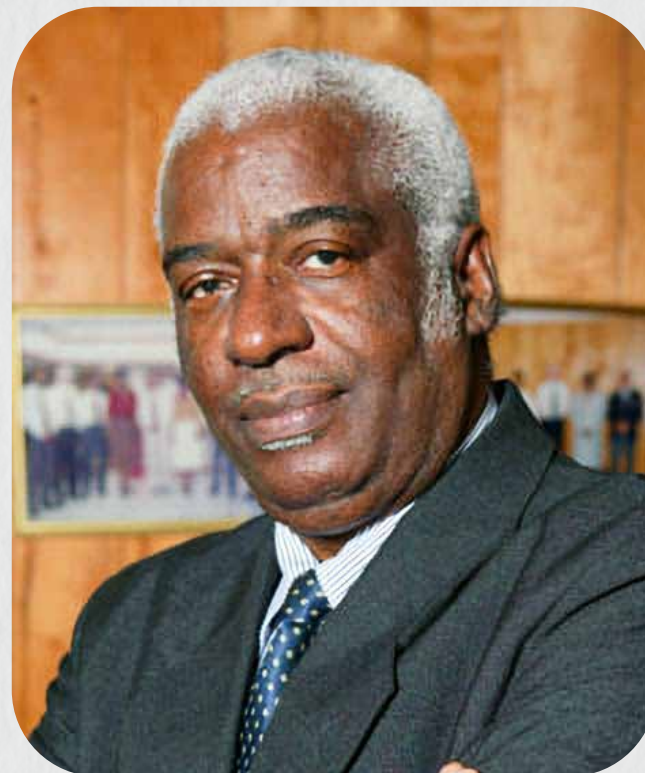
“Every year for the last 15 years, the downtown area and the beautiful National Library have been the home of the festival,” said Mrs Salandy-Brown in her remarks at the ceremony. “And now that we’ve got the Key to the City, we look forward to growing the Bocas family even more and to fulfilling our mission of celebrating, developing, and promoting Caribbean literature with love and passion.”



Our condolences

We would also like to extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Mr Marius St Rose, who passed away in August. Mr St Rose served as a member of the OECS CNC since the committee's establishment.

A media release from the Caribbean Development Bank, where he served as Vice-President, recognised him as a “pivotal architect” of the bank's operational and strategic foundation. He was also Managing Director of the National Commercial Bank of St Lucia, leading the privatization of the government-owned institution in 1999.



Our condolences

Our condolences go out to St Lucian sculptor Laureate Jallim Eudovic for the loss of his father Vincent Joseph Eudovic, widely regarded as St Lucia's master sculptor.

Eudovic (Senior) showed an aptitude for sculpture from an early age, participating in his first exhibition at just 12. He studied sculpture in Trinidad and Nigeria, and conducted workshops across the Caribbean. He exhibited internationally and his works are held in museums and private collections.

He also mentored his son Jallim, whose works are held in some of the world's most important private collections and have been commissioned as gifts for British royals such as then Prince Charles.

“I had an option to go to university or stay with my father. My father was approaching his 60s and he being such a brilliant artist, I decided to stay with him and learn from the master himself.”

Mr Jallim Eudovic, 2020 Laureate for Arts & Letters

