

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.

[Learn More](#)



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Gold for Dr Sirjusingh

2023 Public & Civic Contributions Laureate, Dr Adesh Sirjusingh, has been awarded T&T's Chaconia Medal (Gold) for his transformative work in women's and neonatal health.

In thanking his family, the Ministry of Health colleagues, and the community where he grew up, Dr Sirjusingh wrote in a Facebook post: "Awards are a by-product of nation-building and never the intention of the service we do. It is a privilege. I thank our nation for making me what I am today."



Making mas in St Lucia

St Lucian theatre producer and playwright, Laureate Dr Adrian Augier, recently supported a mas-making workshop in St Lucia that blended St Lucian spirit with Taiwanese craftsmanship.

Dr Augier, our 2010 Arts & Letters laureate, is a member of the Cultural Development Foundation (CDF) of St Lucia, which hosted a workshop led by renowned Taiwanese lantern designer, Hsienyu Chuang.

CDF Executive Director Ramona Henry-Wynne told workshop participants: “I encourage you to think beyond the familiar. Embrace experimentation and let your creativity shine, because when vision and craft come together, that is when the true magic of mas happens.”



Joanne C. awarded for her culture coverage

Writer Joanne C. Hillhouse won a Caribbean Broadcasting Union (CBU) award in August for her media coverage of Caribbean Arts & Culture. Joanne, our 2023 Laureate for Arts & Letters, copped the prize for her “Creative Space” series, published fortnightly in Antigua & Barbuda’s Daily Observer.



Friday, August 22, 2025

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THE DAILY OBSERVER

Joanne Hillhouse wins CBU award for ‘Creative Space’

Observer Media congratulates acclaimed Antiguan and Barbudan author, journalist, features writer, and content creator, columnist, editor, writing coach, and workshop facilitator — Joanne Hillhouse — who was recognized during the Caribbean Broadcasting Union’s (CBU’s) 36th Media Awards in Barbados for her “Creative Space” series — which is published fortnightly in The Daily Observer.

“CREATIVE SPACE” #20 OF 2024: ST. JOHN’S, CITY OF

AUCTION NOTICE

UPON INSTRUCTIONS received from THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN ABOLISHED BANK, High Street, St. John’s, Antigua, Trevor Taddy Solicitor Inc. will sell by public auction on THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2025 at 11:00am on-site, the property of VINCENT CORNELIUS of St. John Estate in the parish of St. John, which is situated in the Neillside of Antigua as follows: REGISTRATION SECTION: 18, C/O: 11, 1888A, PRINCE, 378.

The property is located in St. John Estate in a middle-income area of mixed residential and commercial use. The area is relatively in approximate 10m, built up with ongoing residential development. The house is of masonry structure with tiled roof and a metal roof, situated on land with no drainage house, which is gently sloping from north to south, and measures approximately 15,240 sq ft. The ground floor of the house consists of a 2-



Joanne C. Hillhouse accepts award from Secretary General of the CBU, Sonia Gill.

STORIES” won the theme awards (digital) Excellence in Media Coverage of Caribbean Arts and Culture, sponsored by the Caribbean Culture Fund. The series, which is also pub-

lished online (extended edition) on the CREATIVE SPACE platform, picked up one of the two awards it was nominated for — during the CBU’s Caribbean Media Awards — in a live tele-

cast hosted by the Barbados Government Information Service and UWI-TV on August 19.

Presentations of trophies and certificates were made in 52 categories. Of these, 18 were themed categories supported by category sponsors: The Healthy Caribbean Coalition; UNICEF Belize; Sagcor; The Nature Conservancy Caribbean Division; The Partnership Initiative for Sustainable Land Management; SAIED Consulting Limited; The Caribbean Culture Fund.

During the Gala event, two organisations announced they would be coming on board as category sponsors in the next edition of the competition, scheduled to be presented in August 2026.

The Centre for Media Integrity of the Americas, represented by Advisory Board member, Mr David Adams, announced a Caribbean Defender of Media Freedom Award, while the UN Resident Coordinator for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean announced it would be supporting SDG Champion Awards for the 36th edition of the CMA.

A Royal Fellow!

Veterinarian Dr Ayanna Carla Phillips-Savage says she's proud to keep T&T's flag flying high after being elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) in the United Kingdom.

The RSPH is a charity dedicated to improving the health of people in the United Kingdom and around the world. It has a membership of over 5,000 public health professionals from various sectors and is the longest-established public health organisation in the UK.

Dr Phillips-Savage, who shared the Anthony N Sabga Award for Science & Technology in 2021, is currently Associate Professor of Practice in Aquatic Animal Medicine at Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine.



Hurricane Melissa

The Mustard Seed Communities home for individuals with disabilities in Montego Bay, Jamaica was completely flooded by Hurricane Melissa in October. Fortunately, all 33 disabled residents and their caregivers managed to find shelter on higher ground and were alive and safe when two of the community's leaders reached them after a 9-mile trek through flood-damaged terrain, but the damage to the property was significant.

Mustard Seed Communities was founded by our 2006 Public & Civic Contributions Laureate, Monsignor Gregory Ramkissoon. If you'd like to donate to the community's efforts to rebuild the Blessed Assurance home in Montego Bay, you can do so here [Support Mustard Seed Communities Hurricane Relief Efforts](#)



Hurricane damage to the Mustard Seed Communities home for the disabled in Montego Bay

And in news of the infrastructure that supports the Awards

Congrats, Professor Alleyne!

Barbados Country Nominating Committee member and immediate past Chair, Dr Angela Alleyne, has been promoted to Professor of Genomic Plant Pathology at UWI, Cave Hill. Professor Alleyne is a distinguished expert in tropical plant diseases whose publications and policy contributions have advanced disease management in tropical crops.

More on Hurricane Melissa

And in other Hurricane Melissa news, all members of the Jamaica Country Nominating Committee are reported to have fared reasonably well during the recent cyclone, but for disruptions to water and electricity supplies. “As you will appreciate, there are areas in the west - St Elizabeth and MoBay - that will require complete redesign and rebuilding,” wrote Jamaica CNC member Minna Israel. “But we will rise.”



Members of the Jamaica CNC with 2025 Science & Technology Laureate, Dr Simone Badal in June



Our work in the community

Apart from administering the Anthony N Sabga Awards, Caribbean Excellence, the ANSA McAL Foundation also supports a range of Non-Profit Organisations and community ventures in Trinidad and Tobago.

Here are a few of the causes we supported in 2025.



The students and principal of Santa Maria RC Primary in Moruga. The Foundation supports the community group that sponsors the kids' annual vacation camp, where they play sports and practise steel pan



Members of the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) jazz combo. Their performances at secondary schools are Foundation-sponsored, with the goal of exposing secondary school students to diverse musical styles and opportunities



Miss Genevieve Gopaul-Francis, principal of Santa Maria RC Primary, and Lester Guevarro, President of the Penal Rock Road Community Council



Students of the St Ann's/Cascade Servol Junior Life Centre and members of the St Ann's/Cascade Motivational Programme, which supports their continuing math, literacy and life skills education



Joanne Salazar (left) and her mom, 90-year-old Ruth Elcock-Small – the founder of Ferndean's Children's Home in Pt Fortin, which houses children whose families are in crisis

Find out more about the Foundation's social impact at ansamcalfoundation.org