



**ANTHONY N. SABGA
AWARDS**
Caribbean Excellence

2022



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Programme

National Anthem

Greetings

Barbados: Dr Jeannine Comma, Chair, Barbados Nominating Committee

Guyana: Mr Al Creighton, Chair, Guyana Nominating Committee

Jamaica: Mr Morin Seymour, Chair, Jamaica Nominating Committee

Trinidad & Tobago: Mrs Helen Drayton, Chair, Trinidad & Tobago Nominating Committee

Remarks

Professor Compton Bourne, Chairman, Eminent Persons Panel

Mr Andrew N Sabga, Chairman, ANSA McAL Foundation

Mr A Norman Sabga, LLD Hon (UWI) (h.c.) UTT, Patron, Anthony N Sabga Awards, Caribbean Excellence (Trinidad & Tobago)

Presentations to Laureates

Barbados: Her Excellency The Most Honourable Dame Sandra Mason, FB, GCMG, DA, QC, LLD, President of Barbados

Guyana: His Excellency Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana

Jamaica: The Honourable Steadman Fuller, CD, JP Deputy Governor-General of Jamaica

Trinidad & Tobago: Her Excellency Paula-Mae Weekes, ORTT, President of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago

Mr Andrew N Sabga, Chairman, ANSA McAL Foundation

Professor Compton Bourne Chairman, Eminent Persons Panel

Laureate Acceptance Remarks

Barbados: Dr Kim Jebodhsingh (Joint) Laureate, Public & Civic Contributions

Guyana: Mr Shyam Nokta, Laureate, Entrepreneurship; Ms Anuska Sonai (Joint) Laureate, Public & Civic Contributions

Jamaica: Mr Marlon James, Laureate in Arts & Letters

Trinidad & Tobago: Professor Christine Carrington, Laureate, Science & Technology

Closing Remarks

Ms Maria Superville-Neilson, Programme Director

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Foreword By His Excellency

Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali

**PRESIDENT OF THE
CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF
GUYANA**

Excellence Is A Way Of Life

Booker T. Washington said that true excellence is “to do a common thing iCertain truisms are worth repeating. Excellence is a product of natural ability, painstaking and sustained effort, consistent practice, mental fortitude, and the willingness to make sacrifices.

The people of the Caribbean have known much struggle and sacrifice. They have survived the colonial horrors of indigenous genocide, human enslavement, the indignities and harshness of indentured immigration, and the legacy of underdevelopment arising out of colonisation and neo-colonisation.

Human warfare and natural disasters have also taken their toll on our region. Our Region, formerly the battlefield of European powers - the Spanish, English, Dutch, and French — bears the scars of European warfare. Our development has been further retarded by natural hazards, including hurricanes, volcanoes, rising sea levels, and extreme weather events.

But, we rebuild; we regroup; still, we soldier on. Our feisty and courageous spirit has been distilled from our history and the legacy of our fore parents. It has allowed us to not only survive but to excel.

It is no small feat that the Caribbean Community, a grouping of developing, low-lying smallisland, coastal states, subject to such an unkind and harsh history, has produced no less than three (3) Nobel Laureates in the persons of Sir Arthur Lewis, Derek Walcott and Sir V. S. Naipaul. It is no accident that our academics, sportsmen and sportswomen, craftsmen, diplomats, doctors, musicians, poets, scientists, statesmen, and writers have dominated the global stage. Not to be outdone, our entrepreneurs continue to distinguish themselves inside and outside of the Community.

Excellence though, is not the reserve of trailblazers and high-achievers only. Excellence is also epitomised by the simple men and women who consistently do ordinary things extraordinarily well. The genius of the Caribbean is evinced by the farmer who doggedly treks to his farm every day to tend to his crops; by the civil servant who gives more than a day's labour for a days pay; by the soldier who resolutely guard our borders; by the nurses and other health professionals who dedicatedly go the extra mile to care for the sick; by the police officers who bravely confront crime in striving to keep communities safe; by the teachers who selflessly nurture the minds of future generations; by the janitor who takes immense pride in scrupulously doing his job; and the mother who wends her weary

way home after a hard day's work to still do housework and assist her children with their homework. The pursuit of excellence is integral to the Caribbean way of life, an essential part of our struggles, big and small, and the little triumphs which mean the world to us but might not make the news.

Caribbean people are intelligent, industrious, and innovative. The Caribbean might not have been the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, the Internet, or the mapped human genome, but it has produced men and women quite capable of accomplishing those and other superlative acts. Our human resources are our greatest assets. We are not short of persons of high- calibre intelligence and ability, but opportunities for advancement often elude them.

The ongoing task for political and business leaders of CARICOM is to better educate our people to provide them with the necessary opportunities to become world-class citizens. Education is the key to maintaining our standard of excellence.

The Caribbean Region enjoys high levels of literacy, a testament to the quality of our education. Though our current system of education is far from perfect, it is the best foundation upon which to nurture and strengthen our human capital.

The challenge before us therefore is to modernise and transform our educational system, emphasising meritocracy, and fostering the creative skills needed to compete in the global economy. As I have said before, we must heavily invest in our youngest and brightest so that they can become the future torchbearers of excellence.

At the economic level, we are building greater economic resilience by strengthening regional economic integration. The Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) affords us a guaranteed, enlarged internal market, greater economies of scale, freer movement of capital, goods, services, skills, and a buffer against exogenous shocks. The CSME is the medium that can facilitate the Region's enhanced and sustained global competitiveness.

As we retailor our education system and build greater economic resilience, excellence must become part of the rhythm of our lives. We must develop and sustain a culture of excellence. One way of doing this would be by providing continuous recognition to those excelling in ground-breaking accomplishments with consistently superior standards, all worthy of emulation.

The Anthony Sabga Awards established in 2005 has provided that much-needed recognition of Caribbean excellence. The awards reward and inspire. They generate pride and passion in regional excellence. I join in congratulating this year's awardees who are featured in this publication. They are people who remind us of the sheer audacity of our peers' excellence, and inspire us by their example and monumental accomplishments.

Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali
President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana



2022 Laureates

Mr Marlon James

Arts & Letters, Jamaica

Marlon James is an internationally acclaimed Jamaican novelist. He is best known for his 2015 Man Booker Prize winning novel, *A Brief History of Seven Killings* (2014). He has published several other novels and has received many prizes, including the Dayton Literary Peace Prize (2010) and has appeared on numerous prestigious shortlists. He has also maintained a strong link to Jamaica and the Caribbean through presentations, workshops, residencies, distinguished lectures, literary festival appearances, and book launches.

Notable are his presentations addressing topics related to writing and the writing process, issues pertaining to the history of the Caribbean, race and gender in the US and UK, and youth subcultures as expressed in literature and music such as hip-hop. He has led creative writing workshops at the Bocas Lit Fest in Trinidad and the Calabash International Literary Festival in Jamaica.

James' first novel, *John Crow's Devil* (2005), tells the story of a biblical struggle in a remote Jamaican village in the 1950s and, though rejected 78 times before being accepted for publication, *John Crow's Devil* went on to become a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and the Commonwealth Writers Prize, as well as a New York Times Editor's Choice. His second novel, *The Book of Night Women* (2009), is about a slave women's revolt on a Jamaican plantation in the early 19th century. The work won the 2010 Dayton Literary Peace Prize, Minnesota Book Award, and was a finalist for the (US) 2010 National Book Critics Circle Award in fiction, as well as a National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP) Image Award.

James' short fiction and nonfiction have been anthologized in *Bronx Noir*, *The Book of Men: Eighty Writers on How to Be a Man* and elsewhere, and have appeared in *Esquire*, *Granta*, *Harper's*, *The Caribbean Review of Books* and other publications. His widely read essay, "From Jamaica to Minnesota to Myself," which appeared in the *New York Times Magazine* (2015), was a public announcement of his status as a gay man.

Winning the Man Booker Prize made him the first Jamaican author to take home the UK's most prestigious literary award. Writing for *The New York Times*, Michiko Kakutani said of the novel: "It is epic in every sense of that word: sweeping, mythic, over-the-top, colossal and dizzyingly complex. It's also raw, dense, violent, scalding, darkly comic, exhilarating and exhausting—a testament to Mr. James's vaulting ambition and prodigious talent."

In addition to the Man Booker Prize, *A Brief History of Seven Killings* won the American Book Award, the Anisfield-Wolf Book Prize, the OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature, the Minnesota Book Award, and was a finalist for the (US) National Book Critics Circle Award, and was named one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People of 2019.



Shyam Nokta is the founder and managing director of Environmental Management Consultants Inc. (EMC), a Guyanese company which provides environmental services and innovative solutions to the private sector, Multilateral Organisations, NGOs and Governments.

EMC began in a small room of Mr Nokta's parents' home and today is a leading player in Guyana's environmental and natural resources sectors. With global attention focused on Guyana as the world's newest oil-producing nation, EMC is the premier local company providing a range of specialised environmental services, offering on-the-ground expertise not only in oil and gas but across 15 sectors, including mining, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, tourism, renewable energy, manufacturing and infrastructure. EMC's emergence, growth and development is a tribute to Nokta's foresight, tenacity, and business prowess.

EMC's services include: conducting environmental and social impact assessment studies, preparing environmental management plans; conducting biodiversity assessments; providing environmental compliance support; environmental training and capacity building. The company also supports Governments to meet Multilateral Environmental Agreements, such as the UN Conventions on climate change, biodiversity and land degradation and Multilateral Organisations to ensure their environmental and social safeguards are complied with as part of projects implementation.

An Environmental Studies graduate of the University of Guyana, Mr Nokta was inspired to start EMC after noticing a growing trend of environmental awareness being translated into action by Governments and Multilateral Organisations. He saw a gap in the local market and took the bold step of starting a business that would help private sector companies meet their regulatory requirements and improve their environmental performance.

Mr Nokta acquired much of his practical knowledge and expertise working with NGOs to support biodiversity conservation and sustainable forestry management. Early in his career he was one of the Young Professionals at the Iwokrama International Centre and its programme for biodiversity conservation and management and was a key member of the team overseeing ranger training and management of the wilderness preserve. He was one of the founding members of the Guyana Marine Turtle Conservation Society (GMTCS), a local conservation NGO which spearheaded turtle conservation efforts and the setting up of Shell Beach as a National Protected Area. He served as In-Country Representative of the UK based Fauna & Flora International (FFI), one of the oldest conservation organisations globally which provided training and capacity

development support for Guyana's Protected Areas System, and as Chairman of the Board for the Kaieteur National Park, Guyana's first national park and protected area, a position he held for over 5 years.

Mr Nokta acquired policy level and international experience as Head of Guyana's Office of Climate Change between 2008 and 2013. During this time he helped develop Guyana's response to climate change and the country's first Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS) which received national and international acclaim. He was one of the principal negotiators of Guyana's ground-breaking agreement with the Kingdom of Norway in 2009 which saw Norway pledge up to US\$250 million as payment for forest climate services Guyana's forest provide.

These experiences enabled Mr Nokta to acquire knowledge and expertise to offer clients unparalleled insight into Guyana's unique geography, natural and cultural heritage as well as the country's leadership role on the environment, biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management and climate change.

Shyam Nokta currently plays a prominent role in Guyana's private sector. He is the immediate past President of the Guyana Manufacturing and Services Association (GMSA) and Vice President of the American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) in Guyana where he chairs the Energy Committee. He also serves as Representative for the Caribbean for The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), a Delhi based not for profit NGO which is a global leader in renewable energy, biotechnology and sustainable development.

In August 2020 he was appointed by Guyana's President Dr. Irfaan Ali to Chair a Local Content Advisory Panel to advise the government on creating a strong local content policy and legislation for the petroleum sector. He continues to play a leading role on local content, having been appointed in January 2022 as Chair of an Advisory Team on local content to Guyana's umbrella private sector body, the Private Sector Commission.



2022 Laureates

Dr Kim Jebodhsingh

**Public & Civic Contributions
(Joint), Barbados**

Dr Kim Jebodhsingh is a Barbadian ophthalmologist and oculoplastic surgeon who uses her skills to improve healthcare outcomes and bring about meaningful change in healthcare delivery locally and regionally. She has been a tireless public educator, provider of pro bono medical services, and has co-founded a regional organisation, the Caribbean Ophthalmology Research Alliance (CORA).

Since her return to Barbados in 2009, Dr Jebodhsingh has made a significant contribution to raising awareness about eye diseases, prevention, and treatment. She has initiated projects and plans which have increased access to those least able to access health care. She has delivered lectures to various groups, at churches, schools, clubs, and other community-based organizations, and is an advocate for the Barbados Society for the Blind.

One of her primary goals is to provide universal state-of-the-art eye care to the people of Barbados and the Caribbean, to prevent visual impairment and blindness from diseases that affect Caribbean people. In 2021 she opened her own medical centre, The Eye Clinic. It is a medical treatment and educational facility, and a centre for Dr Jebodhsingh's various educational and professional initiatives.

Dr Jebodhsingh's outreach extends to Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and St Vincent and the Grenadines. In Jamaica she has taught doctors and performed paediatric oculoplastic surgeries at the Bustamante Children's Hospital, and adult oculoplastic surgeries at the Kingston Public Hospital in Kingston. She also provides oculoplastic services to all other islands of the Eastern Caribbean.

Apart from her practice and public educational work, she is the co-founder of the Caribbean Ophthalmology Research Alliance (CORA), a charity which raises funds to provide research grants for research into eye diseases that affect Caribbean citizens including diabetes mellitus, cataracts, glaucoma, and pterygium. She is also the convenor of the "Latest Updates in Ophthalmology Subspecialty Conference" (held in Barbados annually), an international forum which brings Caribbean and international ophthalmology specialties together.

This conference started with 10 speakers and 70 attendees and has grown to 21 speakers and 150 attendees from the USA, Canada, UK, and the Caribbean. It started as a two-day meeting and then a third day was added to facilitate teaching world class surgical techniques to nurses and ophthalmologists in training. This practical surgical day led to her spearheading the first ophthalmology Microsurgical Wet Laboratory in the

region used for doctors in training to practice surgical techniques on pig eyes or artificial eyes which is located at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Barbados. This facility was recently used for teaching nurses and doctors from the Caribbean during the ORBIS flying eye hospital teaching mission to the Caribbean.

Dr Jebodhsingh's work has been recognized. In 2021, she was invited to be a member of the International Women's Forum (IWF) (Barbados Chapter). The IWF is an invitation-only women's organization with some 7,000 members. She was also President of the Barbados Squash Association (BSA) (2019-2021). Under her leadership, the association charted a path for the development of the sport throughout Barbados including the development of the Squash School Programme, linking it to health and national development. In addition, she has provided several opportunities for young people to excel and share their talent with the world.



2022 Laureates

Ms Anuskha Sonai

**Public & Civic Contributions
(Joint), Suriname**

Anuskha Varsha Sonai is an ICT entrepreneur from Suriname. She is at the center of many Surinamese and regional initiatives for young people and women in Suriname to access training, hands-on experience and opportunities in order to work and thrive in the burgeoning technology sector. She is also active regionally as an advocate for awareness and training in ICT skills, and the creation of an inclusive digital economy and an ICT-friendly ecosystem.

It is her ambition to be one of the leaders of a strong private sector where the focus lies on development of micro small and medium enterprises and women empowerment.

Ms Sonai is the Founder and President of Creative Tech Hub Caribbean, a cluster of companies that aims to develop the Caribbean's creative technology ecosystem. It currently comprises five entities, 4 of which she co-founded: 21Q Caribbean; Cloud Engine; Spang Makandra ; Digital Talents Academy; and the Creative Talents Foundation. All the profits made by the first three are invested into the latter two, the Digital Talents Academy and the Creative Talents Foundation which are charitable initiatives.

The services offered by the three commercial companies include web development, mobile app development, social media services and cloud services to companies in the Caribbean, Europe and USA. Through the Digital Talents Academy, young people (aged 13 to 30) are offered free courses to help them into creative tech jobs such as Animators, Game Developers, Digital Designers, Content Creators, Social Media Marketers and Virtual Assistants. The Academy has also run courses for civic organisations and schools.

Ms Sonai also designed, launched and led the NxtGen Digital Professional programme in 2019 and 2020 through the Creative Talents Foundation, training 60 participants between the ages of 18 and 30 in social media, web development, internet marketing and digital content creation. A few years before that she introduced the Learn.Work.Grow Programme of Creative Tech Hub Caribbean where young talents are trained and shaped to become professionals and digital entrepreneurs in the creative industries.

Keen to see more women in Suriname's tech industry, Ms Sonai has spearheaded two scholarship programmes: the Women in Tech Scholarship and the NxtGen Women in ICT Scholarship. She is also a member of the Women in Tech Caribbean community and the steering committee of the Caricom Girls in ICT Partnership to help encourage more

women to step into the tech industry. In 2020, she was elected the second female Chair of the ICT Association of Suriname, and has led the association to engage with several key stakeholders to develop the ICT sector, and has teamed up with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to produce a webinar series on digital inclusion – an important consideration given the number of people who are unbanked or without access to technology. In February 2022, she was the first female to be assigned as the representative of the Business Services Sector (a group of 70 member companies) of the Suriname Trade and Industry Association.

Additionally, Ms Sonai is an advocate for regional ICT development and collaboration. With input from other professionals in Suriname, Guyana, Trinidad, Jamaica, Barbados, Bahamas, Grenada (including creative studios, private sector organisations, government), she developed a Digital Entrepreneurship Ecosystem model for the Caribbean – a model of the key focal points for development, including legislation, human capital and funding.

She is also the festival manager of the Trinidad-based Anima Caribe Animation Festival and collaborates with the Guyana Animation Network (GAN), Jamaica Animation Network (JANN) and Trinidad Animation Network (TTAN).

Apart from creating advocacy and industry education, Ms Sonai is also involved in research. She produced a Suriname ICT sector monitor to analyse the local ICT sector; and helped produce a market assessment, Identifying Training Needs for ICT Skills. She also teamed up with ICT professionals to design and produce the region's largest ICT event, ICT Summit Paramaribo, over three consecutive years (2013, 2014 and 2015). Additionally, she has been the chair of the Marketing & Communications Committee of CANTO (Caribbean Association of National Telecommunication Organizations).

She dedicates most of her time to engage and grow with key stakeholders in the Caribbean through which engagement she is helping to create a digital community in the Caribbean an opening up tech opportunities to underrepresented groups, particularly women.



Christine Carrington of Trinidad and Tobago is Professor of Molecular Genetics and Virology at The University of the West Indies (UWI), St Augustine Campus. She is perhaps the foremost regional authority on virus evolution and molecular epidemiology, respected in the scientific community regionally and globally, with an impressive record of publication and international collaboration.

Professor Carrington has been instrumental in developing the human and infrastructural capacity of Trinidad and Tobago and the region to deal with the threat of viruses to public health. Her expertise is routinely sought by Caribbean government institutions, the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) for addressing viral outbreaks which have a major impact on people's lives all over the world.

Currently, she is a member of the UWI COVID-19 Task Force and an expert advisor to the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. She has been a key player in understanding the molecular epidemiology of SARS-CoV-2 in the Caribbean. More specifically, as principal investigator of the COVID-19 IMPACT project, she leads a team that has been carrying out whole genome sequencing for genomic surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 variants for Trinidad and Tobago and 16 other Caribbean territories.

Professor Carrington's research has contributed to the understanding of the evolutionary and ecological factors underlying the emergence and epidemic behaviour of viruses that are of public health importance to the Caribbean, and she has gone a long way in demonstrating that Trinidad and Tobago is a hub for serious viral genomics research. Her reputation has enabled her to establish research collaborations with several institutes including the University of Oxford, University of London, University of Edinburgh, Imperial College, University of Colorado, Colombia University, University of Texas Medical Branch, Virginia Tech, Vitalant Research Institute, and J. Craig Venter Institute.

Her past and present international collaborators include world-renowned leaders in the fields of virus evolution, arbovirology, viral phylodynamics and viral ecology. In recognition of her scientific achievement, she has been an invited speaker or panel member at prestigious scientific forums, including in June 2021, the online WHO Global Consultation on SARS-CoV-2 "Variants of Concern and their Impact on Public Health Interventions".

Professor Carrington serves in several important public health and scientific capacities, including as Trinidad and Tobago's representative on the Board of Governors of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology; Coordinator of the Pan American Health Organisation Reference Sequencing Laboratory at the UWI; Director of the Global Virus Network Affiliated Centre of Excellence at UWI, St. Augustine, and Committee Member of the Pango Network, an international team of experts who oversee the identification and naming of different lineages of SARS-CoV-2.

Professor Carrington also engages in public outreach work where, drawing on her expertise and deep understanding of virology, genomics and epidemiology, she simplifies complex concepts for lay audience from various sectors of society in order to educate and raise awareness. She has been the recipient of significant awards for her research and mentorship. These include the UWI Research Award for Outstanding Research Mentorship (2012) and selection as one of UWI's "60 under 60" leading academics (2008). She was awarded the Commonwealth Research Fellowship in 2004.

The Selection Process

The nominees for the Anthony N Sabga Awards - Caribbean Excellence, are chosen in five territories: Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and Trinidad & Tobago. Each territory is covered by a Country Nominating Committee (CNC). The CNCs are mandated to select candidates with the following characteristics:

- i) A track record of consistently superior work that has demonstrated excellence, leadership and pioneering ability. The work must be a benchmark and positively referenced by others in their field.
- ii) The capacity for and likeliness of significant future achievement, being at the stage of life and career where this award could help them realise their promise and potential. They are between the ages of 35 and 55.
- iii) Their work has had, or is likely to have, a positive impact in the Caribbean region and has or would benefit Caribbean people.
- iv) They are likely to be a worthy exemplar and must be willing and available to serve as a Caribbean model of excellence, to inspire hope and emulation by the people of the region. Each CNC comprises members who are themselves models of excellence in various spheres of public life.

The procedures by which candidates are assessed, vetted and laureates selected remain unchanged from previous years. As before, each Country Nominating Committee was responsible for nominating suitable candidates. The CNCs combined their selections with those gleaned from the public calls and once the best candidates were identified, rigorous research was done to ensure the candidates' suitability. Resumes were thoroughly investigated and verified as were candidates' backgrounds.

Once the CNCs were satisfied that the candidates had met the criteria, one candidate in each of the categories was selected, and each CNC chairman presented their committees' recommendations to the Regional Eminent Persons Panel for final selection. Once the laureates were selected, the Programme Director confirmed their willingness to accept the awards. The 2022 Laureates were announced in a press conference in Port of Spain, at the ANSA McAL Headquarters on March 3, 2022.

Disciplines From Which Candidates May Be Nominated

ARTS & LETTERS include the visual, literary and performing arts. Visual and plastic arts include painting, photography, drawing, film, fashion, graphic arts, illustration, architectural design, sculpture, costume making, ceramics, metalworking, woodwork, couture and the textile arts. Performing arts include music, dance, drama, comedy, theatre, motion pictures, opera, magic, steel bands and other marching bands. Letters include biographies, fiction, non-fiction, history, poetry, plays,

choreography, design and music compositions in all its various forms, conductors, directors, producers, stage and lighting designers, curators and publishers.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP (introduced in 2015) is a term now commonly applied outside the domains of business and commerce where it originated. In that spirit, the committees will be open to any reasonable adjustment of definitions and criteria if the applications and nominees warrant it. In the most fundamental sense, an entrepreneur is someone able to bring some new, innovative, and necessary product to the market, and in so doing transforming the market, the field or area in which the product is embedded, and creating a model for replication. Entrepreneurship is often associated with the very big; paradigm-changing products like the cellular phone or the personal computer, which were the end points of multiple streams of academic, financial, and engineering efforts. The entrepreneurs we expect to find in the Caribbean would be innovators on a smaller scale, given the dearth of facilities available to undertake such projects. However, the nomination committees would certainly welcome anyone able to make such a paradigm-changing contribution.

PUBLIC & CIVIC CONTRIBUTIONS include the activities of those who directly work to improve communities and the lives of Caribbean people. The category includes those who have pioneered NGOs and people-centred organisations that benefit their community, country and region and better the quality of life for Caribbean people. The award recognizes outstanding work in recreation, youth activities, social welfare, educational services, cultural affairs, religious affairs, community affairs, gender issues, domestic violence and drug and substance abuse rehabilitation, health, HIV/AIDS, environment protection, employment creation, poverty alleviation, service and outstanding contribution to the cause of good governance or civic betterment.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY include research and experimental scientific work in the natural, physical, mathematical, earth, life and biological sciences, as well as applied science to address practical human and community needs. These activities include the science of non-living matter and energy and their interactions including physics, chemistry, geology, astronomy.

Earth Science includes geology, paleontology, oceanography, meteorology and soil science.

Life Science includes the fields of bioscience and all branches of natural science dealing with the structure and behaviour of living organisms such as plants, animals and humans, including botany, zoology, genetics and medicine.

Technology and Applied Science include work that uses the outputs of science to create technology which may include the practical application of science or scientific knowledge to commerce, industry and practical human and community problems and will include the fields of industrial arts, engineering, agriculture and environmental sciences.

COLLEGE OF LAUREATES

Mr Robert Yao Ramesar (Arts & Letters, 2006), The Very Rev Monsignor Gregory Ramkissoon (Public & Civic Contributions, 2006), Prof Terrence Forrester (Science & Technology, 2006); Prof David Dabydeen (Arts & Letters, 2008), Mrs Claudette Richardson-Pious (Joint Public & Civic Contributions, 2008), Ms Annette Arjoon-Martins (Joint Public & Civic Contributions, 2008), Dr James Husbands (Science & Technology, 2008); Dr Adrian Augier (Arts & Letters, 2010), Mr Sydney Allicock, MS (Public & Civic Contributions, 2010), Prof Kathleen Coard, CBE (Science & Technology, 2010), Dr Kim Johnson (Arts & Letters, 2011), Dr Lennox Honychurch (Public & Civic Contributions, 2011), Prof Surujpal Teelucksingh (Science & Technology, 2011); Mr George Simon (Arts & Letters, 2012), Dr Paula Lucie-Smith, HBM (Public & Civic Contributions, 2012), Prof Leonard O'Garro (Science & Technology, 2012); Prof Caryl Phillips (Arts & Letters, 2013), Dr Rhonda Maingot (Public & Civic Contributions, 2013), Prof Dave Chadee, CMT (Joint, Science & Technology, 2013), Prof Anselm Hennis (Joint, Science & Technology, 2013); Prof Liam Teague (Arts & Letters, 2014), Ms Karen de Souza (Public & Civic Contributions, 2014), Dr Richard Robertson (Science & Technology, 2014); Prof Paloma Mohamed Martin, AA (Arts & Letters, 2015), Mr Herbert Samuel (Entrepreneurship, 2015). Prof Suresh Narine (Joint, Science & Technology, 2015), Prof Patrick Hosein (Joint, Science & Technology, 2015); Mr Kwame Ryan (Joint Arts & Letters 2017), Mr Winslow Craig, AA (Joint Arts & Letters 2017); Ms Shadel Nyack Compton (Entrepreneurship, 2017); Dr Christopher Arif Bulkan (Public & Civic Contributions, 2017); Prof Kei Miller (Arts & Letters, 2018); Mr Andrew Boyle (Entrepreneurship, 2018), Chevaughn and Noel Joseph (Public & Civic Contributions, 2018), and Dr Adesh Ramsabhag (Science & Technology, 2018); Ms Kimala Bennett (Entrepreneurship, 2019), Ms Danielle Dieffenthaler (Arts & Letters, 2019); Mr Corey Lane (Public & Civic Contributions, 2019); Prof Michael Taylor (Science & Technology, 2019); Mr Jallim Eudovic (Arts & Letters, 2020); Mr Andrew Mendes (Entrepreneurship, 2020); Dr Olivene Burke (Public & Civic Contributions, 2020); Dr Shirin Haque (Science & Technology, 2020); Maria Nunes (Arts & Letters, Joint, 2021); Sean Sutherland (Arts & Letters, Joint, 2021); Dr Guna Muppuri, (Entrepreneurship, 2021); Dr Floyd Morris (Public & Civic Contributions, 2021); Dr Ayanna Carla Phillips Savage (Science & Technology, Joint, 2021); Prof Rupika Delgoda (Science & Technology, Joint, 2021).

The Regional Eminent Persons Panel



Professor Bourne is Professor Emeritus of Economics at UWI and has been a Visiting Professor and Adjunct Professor at The Ohio State University. He is a Fellow of the Caribbean Academy of Sciences, past President of the Caribbean Studies Association and past Vice-President of the Caribbean Agro-Economic Society. He was President of the Caribbean Development Bank, Principal of the University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Planning and Development of the University of the West Indies and Vice-Chairman, UNESCO Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Professor Bourne is the author or editor of 11 books, 60 scholarly papers and more than 50 research reports and advisory memoranda for Caribbean governments, foreign governments and international development organisations and financial institutions. He is a Member of the Order of Excellence of Guyana, recipient of the Caribbean Studies Distinguished Service Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Higher Education from the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago.



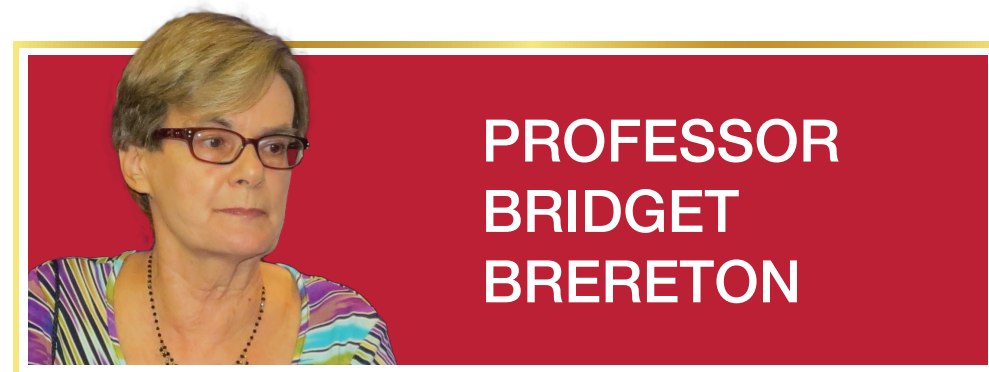
Mr. Justice Christopher Blackman is presently the Chairman of the Barbados Republican Constitution Review Commission. He was appointed Chairman of the CARICOM Competition Commission and Chairman of the Employment Rights Tribunal of Barbados in July 2018. He is a former non-resident Justice of Appeal of the Belize Court of Appeal, having been appointed to that post on October 1, 2014 for a period of three years. Prior to that, he was a Justice of the Court of Appeal of The Bahamas, serving from March 1, 2008 to December 5, 2014. He served as a High Court Judge of Barbados (2003-2008) and Belize (2001-2003).

Justice Blackman who qualified as a Solicitor in 1970 was in private practice as partner and later Managing Partner of the law firm of Carrington & Sealy (established in August 1872). He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1987, served as President of the Barbados Bar Association (1983-86) and as an Independent Senator (1986-1990) in the Barbados Parliament. He was a former Deputy Chairman of Barbados Shipping & Trading Company Limited, Chairman of the Nation Publishing Company Limited and a director of CIBC (West Indies) Holdings Limited. From 1985 to 1992 he served as Chairman of the Caribbean Council of Legal Education and from 1996 to 2001 as Chairman of the Police Service Commission. He has also been a Trustee and Synod member of the Anglican Church.

A member of the Eminent Persons Panel of the Anthony N. Sabga Awards, Caribbean Excellence, from inception, he was awarded the Gold Crown of Merit for Law and Public Service in Barbados in 2000.

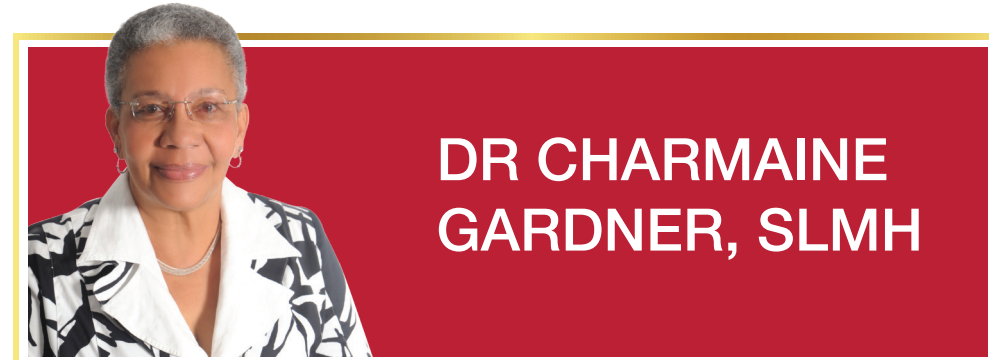


Admitted to the Bar in England, Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago, Mr Bovell is a former Senior Partner, now Consultant, with DunnCox, Jamaica; Chairman of Barnett Limited; Director of Hardware & Lumber Ltd, and a former Director of GraceKennedy Limited, and First Caribbean International Bank (Jamaica). He served as a Government Senator (1983-89) and was the Treasurer of the Jamaican Labour Party (1993-2012). He is the Secretary of the Incorporated Lay Body of the Anglican Church of Jamaica.



Professor Brereton is Professor Emerita in History at UWI, St Augustine, where she held several posts, including head of its History Department, and Deputy Principal and Interim Principal of the St Augustine campus. She has also sat on various government and advisory boards including Trinidad's National Library and Information System (NALIS).

As an academic, Professor Brereton has published several groundbreaking works of Trinidadian history including A History of Modern Trinidad 1783-1962, Race Relations in Colonial Trinidad (1870-1900), and Law, Justice and Empire, The Colonial Career of Justice John Gorrie. She also edited Volume V of the UNESCO General History of the Caribbean, on the 20th Century Caribbean.

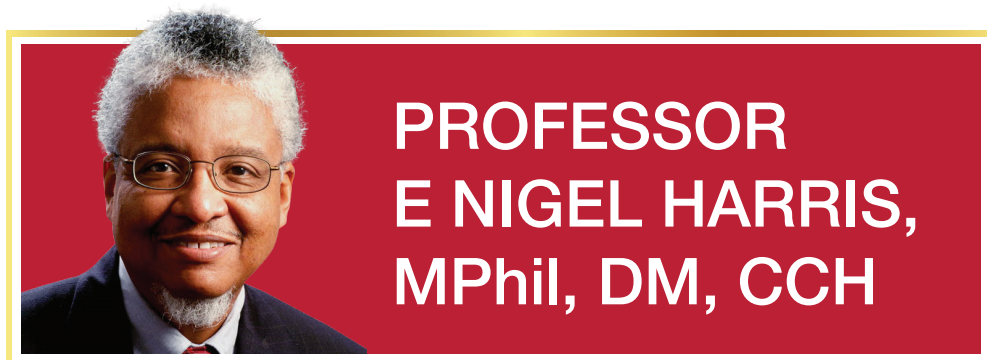


Dr Charmaine Gardner is the former chair of the OECS Nominating Committee. She is the former Managing Director of Carasco and Son Limited, a fourth-generation 99-year-old family company. She has served as President of the St. Lucia Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, and the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce. She is past President of the 1st National Bank, St Lucia Ltd, and former Chairperson of the Bank's Board of Directors, where she served for 26 years. In 2020, Dr Gardner retired as Chairperson of the Cave Hill School of Business of the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados. She has served as a member of the Cave Hill Campus Council and the University Council of the University of the West Indies for many years.

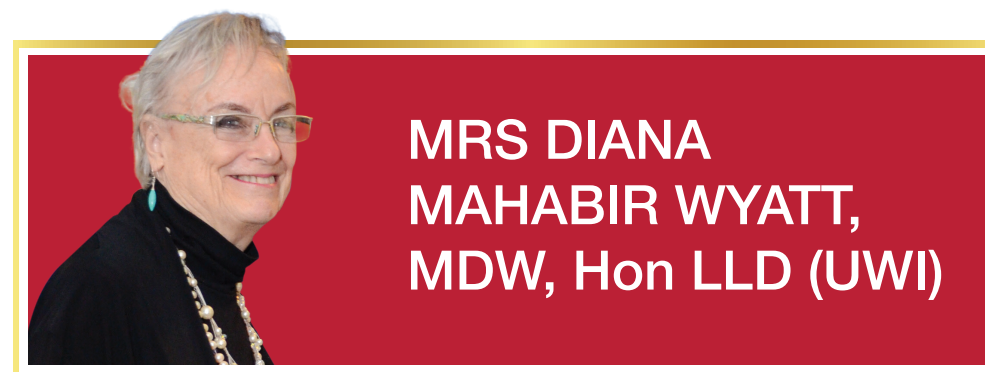
Dr. Gardner is the recipient of the Saint Lucia Medal of Honour (SLMH). The honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, LL.D (Honoris Causa) was conferred upon her by the University of the West Indies in 2006. She continues her voluntary service mainly in the areas of Education, Church and Women's Affairs. She is a member of the Girl Guides of Saint Lucia, the Saint Lucia Crisis Centre (from inception), the Women's Support Centre, and the Archdiocesan Pastoral Programmes and Teaching Committee. She is currently the Honorary Consul for Israel in Saint Lucia.



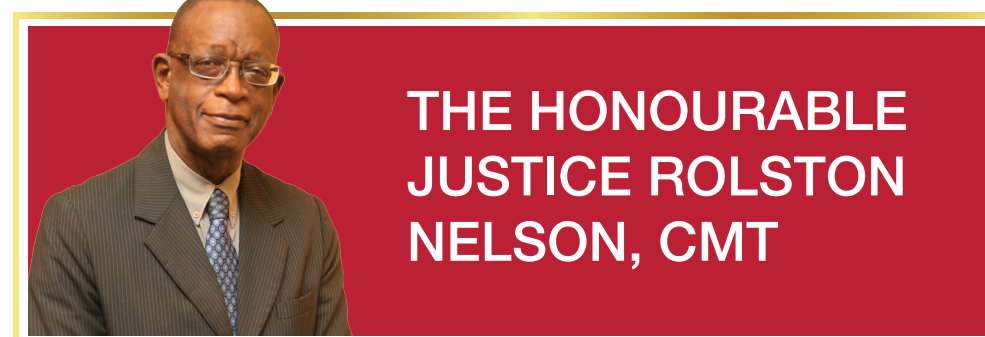
Sir Kenneth has had a distinguished career in public service and academia. He was appointed Governor-General of Jamaica on February 16, 2006. He is the fifth person, and fourth Jamaican, to hold this position since Independence in 1962. Prior to assuming his position as Governor-General, Professor Hall was Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal of the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. During the ten years (1996-2006) at the UWI, the policies he implemented resulted in significant transformation in academic programmes, physical infrastructure and in student relations on the Campus. He was zealous in his efforts to establish an environment conducive to learning and one that was supported heavily by information and communication technologies. He is also a productive and prolific academic and writer who has published several books, articles and reviews on issues relating to History and International Relations. He is also renowned for his contribution to advancement of the regional integration process, during his tenure at the CARICOM Secretariat from 1975-1977 and 1994 and 1996.



Professor Nigel Harris, born in Guyana, is a former Chancellor of the University of Guyana and the former Vice Chancellor of the University of the West Indies (2005- 2015). He is known for his medical research work as a Rheumatologist. With Drs Aziz Gharavi and Graham Hughes in London, he helped to define a disorder which they named the Antiphospholipid Syndrome and devised a diagnostic test (the anticardiolipin test) for it. For this work he shared with Dr Graham Hughes, Dr Aziz Gharavi and others, the Ciba-Geigy Prize awarded by the International League Against Rheumatism (ILAR) in 1990.



Mrs Diana Mahabir-Wyatt joins the EPP as the representative of the ANSA McAL Foundation. She has been one of the most active personalities in the public and civic spheres in Trinidad and Tobago for decades. She has served in the Senate (1991-2000), and has been heavily involved in NGOs and other community based organisations dedicated to women's and children's rights. She is also a Human Resources professional and has served as a founding member of the National Training Board of Trinidad and Tobago, the Registration, Recognition and Certification Board and the National Insurance Board of Trinidad & Tobago. She served on other committees and commissions including the Workman's Compensation Employment Injury Committee, Severance Pay Legislation Committee, Freedom of Association Committee, National Flexi-Time Committee, National Productivity Council, the National Training Board, the Self Help Commission, and the Family Court Committee, among others. In 2011 she was awarded the medal for the Development of Women of the Order of the Trinity (Gold) for community service for her work in the field of Human Rights, specifically work with women. In 2012 she was awarded a Doctor of Laws degree (Honoris Causa) from the University of the West Indies. She is also certified in Psychometric Testing, Mediation, Executive Coaching, and Counselling.



The Honourable Mr. Justice Rolston Nelson served as a Judge in the Caribbean Court of Justice from 2005 to 2017. Prior to that he was a judge of the Trinidad and Tobago Court of Appeal, to which he was elevated direct from the Inner Bar. He has taught law at the Law Schools in Jamaica and Trinidad since 1974. He is the author of several articles and case notes appearing in legal journals, including the British Tax Review and the Jamaica Law Journal. From 1987-1999 Mr. Justice Nelson was the editor of The Lawyer, the journal of the Law Association of Trinidad & Tobago. He is an Honorary Distinguished Fellow of the University of the West Indies and a former chairman of the Trinidad & Tobago Unit Trust Corporation, the Workers' Bank (1989) Limited, and a former director of Republic Bank Limited. Mr. Justice Nelson was selected from among senior Commonwealth Judges as the Inns of Court Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies for 2010-2011. He was awarded the Chaconia Medal (Gold) from the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for the year 2020.



AMBASSADOR IRWIN LAROCQUE

Ambassador Irwin LaRocque, a national of Dominica, was the seventh Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the second Secretary-General of the Caribbean Forum of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (CARIFORUM). He held both offices for ten years commencing in August 2011. Prior to that, he served, with distinction, at senior management levels in the Public Service of Dominica for over eighteen (18) years. As Secretary-General he was instrumental in strengthening the Community's Security Architecture, ensuring the completion and signing of the CARICOM Arrest Warrant Treaty and the Agreement on the Return and Sharing of Recovered Assets. Ambassador LaRocque has managed diplomatic negotiations with third countries and international development partners. He has a wealth of experience in management, public administration, economic development, trade, foreign affairs and diplomacy.



MAJOR GENERAL (Retd) JOSEPH G SINGH, MSS, MSc, FCMI, FRGS, RCDS

General Singh is the Special Assistant to the President of Guyana and served in the same capacity (2010-2017) under the three previous Presidents. He was recently appointed as Chairman of the Board of the Natural Resource Fund.

He was the Pro-Chancellor of the University of Guyana from March 2018 to March 2021, during which time he also acted as the Chancellor from November 2018 to Nov 2019. He has chaired several State and autonomous Boards including the National Agriculture, Research and Extension Institute, NAREI, the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, GGMC, and the National Protected Areas Trust, NPAS. He was Chief Executive Officer of the Guyana Telephone & Telegraph Company (2005 – 2010), Executive Director of Conservation International Guyana (2001 – 2005) and, Chairman of the Guyana Elections Commission (2000 – 2001) for the March 2001 General Elections. He has had a career in uniform spanning 35 years (1965-2000), and was the Chief of Staff of the Guyana Defence Force (1990 – 2000) under five Presidents and Commanders-in-Chief.

He is an alumnus of Queen's College; the University of Guyana (Public Administration); the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences of the University of Greenwich (MSc – Tourism & Protected Areas Management); the British Army Staff College; and, the Royal College of Defence Studies (post-graduate in International Affairs and Strategic Studies). He is a Fellow of the UK Chartered Management Institute (FCMI), a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (FRGS), an Officer of the Order of the Golden Ark (for work in global conservation), a Founder-Member of the Global Military Advisory Council on Climate Change, based in Brussels, and is the Guyana representative of the UK Scientific Exploration Society.

He is the recipient of Guyana's highest military award - the Military Service Star (MSS) and national and military awards from Brazil, Venezuela, Suriname, France, Cuba and the Netherlands. He is a Director of the Institute of Private Enterprise Development, IPED, and a Director of the Demerara Distillers Limited, DDL. He is the Patron of the Kidney Foundation of Guyana, and of the Guyana Heritage Society.

He is a published author and has contributed peer-reviewed articles on a wide range of topics for local, regional and international publications. He chaired the Country Nominating Committee of the ANTHONY N SABGA Caribbean Awards for Excellence in 2006, and since 2007 he has been a Member of the Regional Eminent Persons Selection Panel.

Country Nominating Committees

Barbados

Dr Jeannine Comma



Dr Jeannine Comma is the former Chief Executive Officer and Director of the Sagicor Cave Hill School of Business and Management. Under her direction, the school grew to become the centre of excellence for Caribbean knowledge at the forefront of higher education in business. Dr Comma's long list of outstanding achievements includes this turnaround of the business school to ensure programme relevance, financial sustainability and growth. Dr Comma's leadership has successfully equipped over 2,000 regional managers and executives with the knowledge and tools necessary to achieve their professional goals.

Jeannine is a graduate of the George Washington University in Washington D.C. and of the University of the Virgin Islands. Her academic background paired with wide-ranging experience in both the private and public sector has developed her into an expert in Organisational Development, Strategic Planning, Project Management, Quality Management and Corporate Governance. Furthermore, her work has allowed her to facilitate Executive Leadership Retreats and workshops for Boards of Directors centering on Leadership Development and Transformation Management.

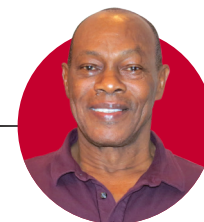
Dr Comma's extensive experience and practical insights have led her to be selected for the Board of Directors of several prominent organisations in Barbados: Sagicor Financial Corporation, Sagicor Life Inc., The National Initiative for Service Excellence, the Barbados Tourism Investment Inc., and the Barbados Entrepreneurship Foundation. Furthermore, her career has allowed her to share her knowledge on a global scale with published works and conferences in Singapore, Delhi, Morocco, South Africa, Ghana, England, Canada and the Caribbean.

Dr Comma is an Executive, an Academic, a Consultant and a Leadership Development Expert. She is a Certified Executive Coach, a Myers-Briggs Type Indicator practitioner and an Emotional Intelligence facilitator. Her prior management experiences include Illuminat and the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce (CAIC) and she has lectured at universities in North America and the Caribbean. Above all else, Dr Comma is a results-driven and visionary leader with strong abilities to set a direction, develop and implement initiatives and garner a targeted outcome. She leads by example and utilizes best practices to direct strategy, manage finances and leverage human capital for organizations.

The Barbados CNC: Dr Jeannine Comma (Chair); Dr Angela Alleyne; Mr Stetson Babb; Ms Susan Boyea; The Hon Tony Gibbs, ChB, FREng; Mrs Vivian-Anne Gittens; Ms Fiona Hinds, QC; Mr Hilford Murrell; Dr Basil Springer, GCM.

Guyana

Mr Al Creighton



Mr Al Creighton, Jr is Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Education, University of Guyana; Director of the Confucius Institute, University of Guyana; Associate Fellow of the University of Warwick; Secretary of the Guyana Prize for Literature; and, Director of the National School of Theatre Arts and Drama in Guyana. As an academic, he has carried out extensive research and has several publications in books and academic journals; is a Jamaican, playwright, poet, theatre director, and literary critic.

He is also External Examiner for M.A., M.Phil and PhD for the UWI, Cave Hill, and St. Augustine; has been a Commonwealth Fellow in the Centre for Caribbean Studies, University of Warwick, UK; and Visiting Senior Lecturer at UWI, Cave Hill.

The Guyana CNC: Mr Al Creighton (Chair), Mr Vincent Alexander Dr Marlene Cox, Mr Phillip Da Silva, Mr Alim Hosein, AA, Dr Seeta Terry Shah Roath.

Jamaica

Mr Morin Seymour



Mr Morin Seymour is former Executive Director of Kingston Restoration Company Limited and a director of the Kingston Restoration Foundation, Mona Services Company, UWI Mona. He is also a member of other boards including PALS Jamaica Ltd. He is chairman of the Central Branch All Age School, the Rector's Warden of the Kingston parish Church and a past chairman of the Jamaican American Friendship Association. His many honours include the designation of Fellow of the Life Management Institute from LOMA, USA; being designated an Eisenhower Fellow from Harvard University in 1995; receiving the Governor-General's Award for Surrey, Jamaica in 2005, and in 2011, being conferred with the Commander of the Order of Distinction in the Jamaican honours list.

The Jamaica CNC: Mr Morin Seymour, CD (Chair), Dr Brian Heap, Ms Minna Israel, Prof Ishenkumba Kahwa, Ms Petrona Morrison, Mr Milton J Samuda, Dr Kimberley Robinson-Walcott.

The OECS



Dr Lennox Honychurch (Dominica)

Dr Lennox Honychurch (Dominica) is an archaeologist, historian, and artist from Dominica. He is the Anthony N Sabga Awards Laureate in Public & Civic Contributions for 2012. He is well known throughout the region for his work as a conservationist, and as a writer of a series of textbooks, *The Caribbean People*. He has been a member of parliament in his native Dominica, a journalist, and a visual artist. He was educated at Oxford University, where he was awarded his PhD in Museology and Archaeology. He is a recipient of the Golden Drum Award, Dominica's highest national award for culture, and an honorary doctorate from UWI (2012). His most recent publication is *In the Forests of Freedom: The Fighting Maroons of Dominica*, published by the University of Mississippi (Jackson) Press.

The OECS CNC: Dr Lennox Honychurch (Chair); Sir Errol Allen (St Vincent); Mr Richard Duncan (Grenada); Mr J Emile Ferdinand QC (St Kitts & Nevis); Ms E Ann Henry, QC (Antigua and Barbuda); Prof Hazel Simmons-McDonald, OBE (St Lucia); Mr Marius St Rose (St Lucia); Lyston E Skerritt (Montserrat).

Trinidad & Tobago



Mrs Helen Drayton

Mrs Helen Drayton entered The Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago in December of 2007 when she was appointed an Independent Senator in the 9th Parliament and served for eight years. She is an adjunct lecturer with the University of the West Indies (UWI) Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business and lectures in Business Communication, Networking and Collaboration, and Corporate Ethics. Mrs. Drayton has over 40 years of service with private and public sector service organizations and holds an Executive Masters Degree in Business Administration (EMBA) from the University of the West Indies Institute of Business (now the Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business), a Diploma in Bank Marketing from the University of Colorado, Boulder, U.S.A. and several professional certificates.

Mrs Drayton had served as a member of the Board of Directors of RBTT Bank Limited, RBTT Trust Services and other companies in the RBTT Group. She was President of the Royal Bank Institute of Business and Technology (ROYTEC) and Chairman of the Royal Bank Education Foundation. Her career with the RBTT Financial Group spanned twenty-five years, and over that time she held the positions of Executive Director - Group Marketing and Corporate Communications and Executive Director - Group Human Resources.

Other Directorships included Corbin Compton Advertising, Trinidad and Tobago Tourist Board, the Water and Sewerage Authority of Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean Procurement Institute.

Mrs Drayton has served with several humanitarian and international organisations. These included the position of Chief Executive Officer of United Way Trinidad and Tobago, Vice President of the World Federation of United Nations Association – the civil arm of the United Nations, Council member of the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society and the Blind Welfare Association. She was a member of the United Nations Development Fund Programme (UNDP) Steering Environment Small Grants Committee and the Express Children's Fund, a former director of the Trinidad and Tobago Unit Trust Corporation, SERVOL, and former Chairman of the National Insurance board. Mrs Drayton is currently a columnist with the Trinidad Guardian.

The Trinidad & Tobago CNC: Mrs Helen Drayton (Chair), Mr Gabriel Faria, Dr Linda Hadeed, Prof Patricia Mohammed, Mr Vincent Pereira, Prof Brinsley Samaroo, (Laureate) Prof Surujpal Teelucksingh.



Profile Of Dr Anthony N Sabga, ORTT

The Founder of the Anthony N Sabga Awards, Caribbean Excellence, (in his lifetime, the Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence), Dr Anthony N Sabga, ORTT, passed away on May 3, 2017.

Dr Sabga ended his life as one of the giants of Caribbean achievement and entrepreneurial foresight. He was part of the last wave of immigrants to arrive who make up the mosaic that is 21st century Trinidad & Tobago. His business life began at the tender age of 12 after his father took ill. From there, he founded his own agency business at the end of the Second World War, and registered Standard Distributors Ltd, the cornerstone of his empire, in 1948.

Dr Sabga was involved in many businesses: from printing, automotive distribution, household goods, food distribution, construction and manufacturing. In retrospect his journey might have seemed to some certain and inevitable. This was far from the case. He faced many more failures than he ever did successes. But when he succeeded, he did so extravagantly.

It was after his retirement in the early 2000s that he turned his attention to a problem many people spoke of, but few knew how to address: regional unity. He believed many stories of achievement and excellence existed in the region, but because of the nature of regional politics and society, they were not being told. His answer to this, after consulting with many friends and associates, was the Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence, launched in 2005, and its first laureates named in 2006.

The Awards has since named a college of 54 laureates and provided a unique regional platform for cooperation, unity, and fraternity. At the convocation in Guyana in 2017, Mr A Norman Sabga, Dr Sabga's eldest son and successor in his business, and the new patron of these awards, promised they would continue. This is as Dr Anthony N Sabga would have wanted.

Some of Dr Sabga's Awards and Achievements include:

- Posthumous Lifetime Achievement from the Trinidad & Tobago Manufacturers' Association Hall of Fame, 2018
- Chaguanas Chamber of Commerce Award for Outstanding Achievement in Business and Contribution towards the Growth and Development of Chaguanas, 2017
- Keys to the City of Port of Spain, 2015
- National Icon of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago for outstanding contribution to Trinidad & Tobago in the field of Entrepreneurship, 2013
- Order of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago, 2011
- The Trinidad & Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce Business Hall of Fame, 2008
- The American Foundation for the UWI for Outstanding Contribution to the Caribbean, 2004
- Prime Minister's Award for Innovation and Invention, Lifetime Achievement Award, Manufacturing Sector, 2004
- Trinidad & Tobago Icons of the Nation in the Category - "Thinkers, Movers and Shapers," 2002
- The Ernst & Young Master Entrepreneur of the Year, 1998
- The Chaconia Medal, Gold, 1998
- The UWI Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa, 1998
- Prime Minister's Export Award, 1968.



**Profile Of
Mr A Norman Sabga,
LLD Hon (UWI), (h.c.) UTT
Executive Chairman of the
ANSA McAL Group of Companies**

Patron Of The Awards

Mr A Norman Sabga is the Executive Chairman of the ANSA McAL Group of companies. He is the eldest son of the late Dr Anthony N Sabga and has two brothers and three sisters. He is married to Alma Sabga and they have five children.

Mr Sabga is part of the legacy of the ANSA McAL Group which was founded over 140 years ago in 1881. Now the largest and most diversified conglomerate operating in the Caribbean, the Group has operations that stretch from Miami, Florida, to Georgetown, Guyana.

ASNA McAL is engaged in manufacturing, brewing, packaging, insurance, finance and merchant banking, trading and distribution, retail, real estate development, shipping, and in automotive and industrial equipment. The Group employs approximately 6,000 people.

Having received his early education in Trinidad and Tobago at St Andrew's Private School and Mount St Benedict's College, Mr Sabga then attended Red Rice College in the UK and Fordham University in the US. Upon his return to Trinidad, he re-joined the family business. He began earning his stripes in the trenches at Standard Distributors Limited and built a distinct reputation for fairness and a preference for fact-based business discussions. Over the years he served as Chairman, Managing Director and Director of several of the Group's companies.

Throughout his career, Mr Sabga has been actively associated with several business institutions in the fields of trade and industry. In 2015, as Executive Chairman of the ANSA McAL Group, he was conferred with the Doctor of Laws degree (Honoris Causa) from the University of the West Indies, St Augustine (2015), and an Honorary Doctorate (Doctor of Laws) from the University of Trinidad and Tobago in 2019.



**Profile Of
Mr Andrew N Sabga,
Chairman of the
ANSA McAL Foundation**

Mr Andrew N Sabga is the third son of our founder, Dr Anthony N Sabga. He took over the chairmanship of the Foundation from his brother, Mr A Norman Sabga, who remains the patron of the Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence.

Mr Sabga is the Deputy Chairman of the ANSA McAL Group of Companies. He was the Group Chief Executive Officer and the Chairman of the Executive Committee for the Parent Board and ANSA McAL Barbados from August 2017 to December 2019.

A past President of the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce from 2011 to 2013, Mr Andrew Sabga has over 25 years of industry experience in the Manufacturing Sector of the Group, having previously held senior managerial positions and directorships at CARIB Brewery Limited, CARIB Glassworks Limited, Caribbean Development Co. Limited and Trinidad Match Limited. He was the former Chairman of Alstons Marketing, Caribbean Development Co. Limited, CARIB Brewery Limited, Grenada Breweries Limited, CARIB Brewery (St Kitts & Nevis) Limited, DCI Miami, ANSA McAL (US) Inc and CARIB Glassworks Ltd.

He holds an MBA, Marketing, from the University of Miami and a B.Sc. in Business Administration (Marketing/ Finance) from Boston University.

2020 Laureates Updates



The past year has been one in which I focused extensively on documenting steelpan musicians through three projects I undertook for Mark Loquan Music. The first was directing and filming a transcontinental music video of a song called "My Home" written by Mark Loquan. He had commissioned Etienne Charles to arrange the song for steelpan and big band and I got involved when the arrangement was complete and ready to be recorded on steelpan in Trinidad and by woodwind and brass musicians in the USA.

Since a big part of my creative photography work has been in the steelpan arena I welcomed the chance to work on this project as artistic director and associate producer. I love the visual aesthetic of pan. It's such a beautiful instrument and I relished the opportunity to have the creative freedom to direct the filming of steelpan, woodwind and brass musicians in a cinematic way.

The project spanned an 8-month period between the first recording in Trinidad in January 2021 and the release of the final finished video on August 31, 2021 - Trinidad and Tobago's Independence Day. In between it involved teaming up with Etienne Charles, sending directorial notes for the filming of musicians in Michigan and Miami and working closely with Steve Brickman, an editor based in Los Angeles. It was the first time I worked so extensively in the virtual space. Borders were truly transcended through music.

The second project was inspired by a song that Mark Loquan wrote during the early anxiety-filled stage of the pandemic called "A Better Tomorrow". This project was envisioned as the first of a series titled "A Better Tomorrow" intended to highlight people in the pan community whose life stories would inspire many people in the national landscape of Trinidad and Tobago and throughout the pan world globally.

The focus was on Kareem Brown, an unassuming but very accomplished pan musician, composer and arranger who has been captain of the National Steel Symphony Orchestra (NSSO) of Trinidad and Tobago since its inception. I spent six months working on this project, shooting all of the footage, assembling all the archival material, scripting the episodes and working closely with the editor, Emily Anderson-Smart to tell Kareem's story in six parts which ranged in length from 10 - 14 minutes. The first episode debuted in October 2021 and a new episode was released every Friday for six weeks on Mark Loquan's YouTube channel.

The most recent project is a work in progress. It's the second edition of "A Better Tomorrow" series. This time the focus is on five outstanding women in pan. Conceptual work began in late 2021 with the pre-production and production phases completed between January and March of this year. This project will make its online debut in August.



Sean Sutherland

Arts & Letters,
St Vincent & The Grenadines

While having become a Sabga Laureate has given me greater visibility regionally and internationally, Covid has continued to plague efforts to stage live performances, given the uncertainty of outbreaks and the instability of protocols around public gatherings and travel. Nevertheless, I used the time to focus on my growth as a pianist. In addition to working assiduously with my teachers, I attended the Puerto Rico Piano Festival online in June (2021) and the Vivace Music Festival in person in Wilmington, North Carolina, USA in July (2021). Both festivals were instrumental in providing me with the opportunity to play for world-renowned pianists and pedagogues who gave me invaluable feedback. Vivace was also pivotal, because it gave me the opportunity to perform in public, something that I had not done since the pandemic started.

My focus and preparation paid dividends: in September (2021), I won the Chopin Amateur Piano Competition in Warsaw, Poland, from a field of 40 pianists from around the globe invited to compete in Warsaw. This, for me, was seminal because it was my first victory at an international piano competition and a springboard for future engagements. I was interviewed by radio stations in Europe following my victory and was invited to perform at venues in the United States. When I returned home to St. Vincent to receive the Sabga Award, I took the opportunity to give a free recital at my childhood church, an event which was very well attended and allowed me to celebrate with many people close to me, long-time fans and supporters, and musicians with whom I have collaborated over the decades.

For this year, I have set my sights on the Van Cliburn Amateur Piano Competition, largest and most prestigious of piano competitions for “amateurs”. This competition will take place in October (2022) in Fort Worth, Texas, USA, bringing together 48 pianists selected from applicants around the world. In preparation, I am participating in four summer festivals: Puerto Rico (San Juan, Puerto Rico), Piano Texas (Fort Worth, Texas, USA), and Music Fest Perugia (Perugia, Italy) and Vivace Music Festival. All of these festivals have not only a strong pedagogical component, but also opportunities for performances.

Piano Texas and Music Fest Perugia, in particular, have opportunities for orchestral performances, an element unique to the Cliburn competition, which requires competitors to play a movement from a piano concerto in the final round with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. While preparing for the Cliburn remains my primary focus, I have been exploring a collaboration with fellow Laureate Liam Teague on future performances, planning a recording of my solo playing, and premiering a set of 24

Preludes written by Haitian-Canadian pianist and composer David Bontemps for solo piano. After the competition, I will, regardless of outcome, shift from competing to giving more live solo and collaborative performances, Covid protocols permitting.

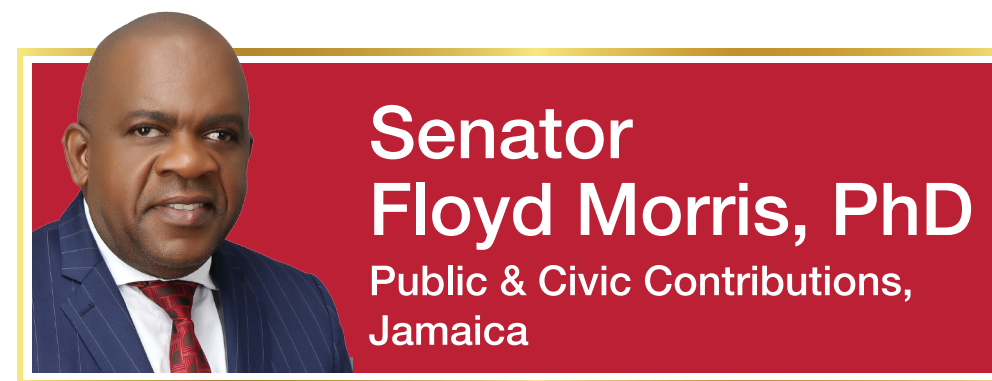


I have continued my usual mission to create and bring additional value to our wider community in the fields of Medicine and HealthCare and Medical Education. There have been three aspects to my activity in the past year: Harvesting; Nurturing; Seedling-cultivation.

In harvesting I focused my attention on the existing matured business, but invested significant amounts of time into new drug development activities, and filing at the regulatory authorities so that we would be able to obtain timely approvals to reduce the drug cost burden on the end user. On the commercial aspect, the same effort has translated into further value to our investors from the revenues generated by our drug formulations. The end result is the sense of satisfaction that we experience from these accomplishments which is as usual a priceless reward.

In nurturing, with the established businesses functioning, I proceeded with the nourishment phase for projects which are coming to fruition. I focused on the upcoming Bioprist Institute of Medical Sciences (BIMS). I have been busy procuring and formulating all the needful resources towards setting up the ideal launch pad and get this new enterprise to take off carefully before it enters into its own orbit.

And as for new products and endeavours, in the seedling-cultivation phase I have continued to dream and try to turn those dreams into seedlings of reality. The dream I am focused on now is to establish medical tourism in Jamaica through developing the proposed Medical City. Many hours of paper and regulatory work and hunting for the right design, development and operating partners for our Grand Ridge Med City, are being expended, demanding a lot of attention to fine detail. I hope it will emerge into the best crop of the healthcare endeavours and grow into a giant sequoia benefiting the entire Caricom.



Being selected as one of the Sabga Laureates is one of the best things that have happened in my entire life. This has brought about a “Sabgarific” feeling as I execute my various duties. My confidence has increased exponentially as I recognize that my work and effort is appreciated by the people of the Caribbean.

Since I have been selected as one of the Sabga Caribbean Laureates, I have been concentrating on driving the disability agenda not just in the Caribbean, but across the world. In this context, I have been focusing on pushing for the implementation of the Disabilities Act of Jamaica that was approved in the Parliament in 2014. The legislation finally came into effect on February 14, 2022.

Additionally, I have been pushing for all countries within the Caribbean to establish specific legislation to protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities. Currently, only six countries have specific legislation to protect these individuals. Consequently, I convened a special ministerial conference in July 2021, to discuss this situation in the Caribbean. A special template for specific legislation has been developed and made available to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Commonwealth Secretariat for action.

In April 2022, I convened the Fifth Regional Disability Studies Conference in my capacity as Director for the University of the West Indies Centre for Disability Studies (UWICDS). The focus of this year’s conference was on quality healthcare for persons with disabilities in the Caribbean. Emanating from this conference will be a peer reviewed book documenting the situation of healthcare in the Caribbean for persons with disabilities.

Significantly, I have had two new books published on the topic of disability in Jamaica and the broader Caribbean. ‘Inclusive Education: The Key to Social Transformation of Persons with Disabilities in the Caribbean’ was published in October 2021. ‘Cultural Inclusion: The Case of Persons with Disabilities in Jamaica’ was published in February 2022 and is a chronicling of the contribution of persons with disabilities to the development of Jamaica’s culture through music and entertainment. Both books are peer reviewed. These publications have resulted in me now having over 25 scholarly publications on the subject of disability and politics.

Finally, in March 2022, I participated actively in a face-to-face session of the United Nations Committee on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Geneva Switzerland. This is the special committee that has been established by the United Nations to monitor the implementation of

the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) by States Parties. I was elected to this body in November 2020 and am required to actively review the efforts of countries that have signed and ratified the CRPD, over the next four years.



**Professor
Rupika Delgoda**
Science & Technology (Joint),
Jamaica

Last year, I published significant research findings emanating from my laboratory, through a number of peer-reviewed scientific journals, particularly in the area of natural product use in cancer. Nature's expressions as preventive and treatment options in colon, breast and prostate cancer were published in high impact journals, one which included the Nature group.

These publications described efficacy of traditionally used plants, *Artocarpus heterophyllus* (Jackfruit), *Annona muricata* (Soursop), *Petiveria alliacea* (guinea hen weed), using enzymic, cellular, animal and computer models and promising results pointed to the need for clinical studies as a next phase. Novel findings on preventive pathways, difficult-to-treat cancers, on cells of varying racial origins, illuminated potential avenues for future explorations. Through these efforts, I supervised three PhD students and also helped in recruiting two highly qualified scientists from New Zealand and USA, which were strategic steps towards expanding local capacity for dedicated biomedical research on natural resources.

The past year was also marked by a number of international speaker engagements for me, which included the delivery of plenary addresses at the Commonwealth Chemistry Congress in May, the 21st Annual Rocky Mountain Virology Meeting in Colorado in October, in addition to research findings delivered by my supervised students at the American Society for Pharmacognosy and Society for Toxicology. I also gave addresses for a general audience at the UWI Faculty of Science and Technology speaker series on COVID19, the Natural History Museum of Jamaica for "meet a scientist" series and an interview for the Caribbean Beat magazine.

Throughout last year I was engaged in research on Psilocybin mushrooms, within a novel partnership agreement with Field Trip Health, a global leader in the development of and delivery of technology enabled psychedelic therapies, and the Faculty of Science and Technology at UWI. A fully refurbished, state-of-the-art research facility on campus, which I have supervised from concept to launch, has been engaged in basic science understandings on a number of psilocybin containing mushroom species, employing several UWI graduates and associates. Natural products expressed in these mushrooms are emerging as highly promising candidates in the treatment of mental illness.



**Dr Ayanna Carla
Phillips Savage**
Science & Technology (Joint),
Trinidad & Tobago

It has been, and continues to be, an absolute honour to be a part of this distinguished community of regional scholars. I am thankful for the opportunity the Anthony N Sabga Award has provided to shed light on the critical but little-known area of Aquatic One Health in the Caribbean region.

Over the past year, I have had the pleasure of being specially invited to address numerous local, regional and international audiences. I have participated in several podcast interviews and have delivered numerous lectures to the public as well as to students and faculty at universities across the United States on issues related to Aquatic One Health in the Caribbean region, the diverse roles veterinarians can play in safeguarding aquatic ecosystem health, and the public health threats that are rooted in both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem degradation.

I have been especially encouraged by the many communications I continue to receive from not only local veterinary students, but international students from minority groups who see in me someone with whom they can identify, were inspired by my somewhat unique path, and now recognise the many possibilities that exist and the positive impacts that can be made as you seek to distinguish yourself within your profession.

The past year has also presented tremendous avenues to support Caribbean One Health initiatives. I have engaged in new regional partnerships aimed at educating and training Caribbean communities in areas related to climate resilience and adaptation.

I have been delighted to collaborate with Jalawelo, a United States-based Jamaican non-profit organisation, and Spring Village Development Foundation in Jamaica, to establish a training and research hub for delivering practical instruction in hydroponic and aquaponic-based food production techniques, tackle threats of food and nutrition insecurity in the region, maximise the efficiency of water use in local food production systems, and support the use of agricultural and aquaculture techniques that are environmentally sustainable.

The project also incorporates education on the impacts of climate change on Caribbean agriculture, the importance of incorporating biosecurity and aquatic animal health management plans into the business framework of such food production systems, and utilising responsible integrated farm management protocols to ensure that aquafarmers and food-producers in general do not contribute to the growing global challenge of antimicrobial resistance.

I have also partnered with other wonderful Caribbean leaders to strengthen our regional One Health network, and to educate on the multidisciplinary approach that is critical to successfully addressing key issues that threaten the overall health of Caribbean communities. I continue to serve on multiple state and regional committees, boards and networks focused on aquatic wildlife conservation, particularly contributing to the development of national and regional action plans to protect the health, well-being and improved conservation status of marine turtles and marine mammals in the Caribbean region.

I am heartened by the growth and increasing recognition of the global and regional Aquatic One Health movement. In addition to my ongoing publishing of research and case reports in this field, the academic journal *Frontiers in Marine Science*, appreciating this rapidly growing sphere of medicine, has launched a special collection with a focus on marine species in the context of One Health, and I am honoured to have been invited to serve as a guest editor for this series. Most recently, I have been appointed to serve along with select international aquatic veterinary medical professionals to contribute to the official process of having fish health established as a recognised, independent specialty within the profession of veterinary medicine globally.

I am truly grateful for the many opportunities to use my knowledge and expertise to contribute to protecting Caribbean health and biodiversity. As a Laureate, my work and efforts have quickly gained even greater visibility. I eagerly look forward to the many other doors that will continue to open to allow me to serve and positively influence my homeland, my region, and wherever this professional journey takes me worldwide.

About the ANSA McAL Foundation

Since inception the Foundation has been committed to addressing a broad range of social needs. In recent times it has adopted a policy of concentrating on projects of national and regional significance. The Foundation was created by a merger of the ANSA Foundation, formed in 1986 to assist charitable causes, and the McAL Foundation, formed with similar aims in 1981. The merger was effected on November 17, 1993.

Notable achievements include:

- Building the ANSA McAL Psychological Research Centre at UWI, St Augustine.
- Vitas House Hospice, five-year endowment (2012-2016).
- Benefactor of the ANSA McAL wing of the Diagnostic, Research, Education and Therapeutic Centre for the Hearing Impaired (DRETCHI) for the Trinidad and Tobago Association for the Deaf.
- Significant support for The Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children; SERVOL; the Jaya Lakshmi Children's Home; Junior Achievement of Trinidad and Tobago; The Living Water Community Food Assistance Relief (FAR) Project; the Blood Bank; and Trinidad & Tobago Cancer Society, and the Lady Hochoy Vocational Centre.
- Founding member of the UWI Institute of Business.

From 1991 to 2003 the Foundation received 1 per cent of profit of the ANSA McAL Group. By investing this endowment, the Foundation is now self-financing, and able to undertake in perpetuity the significant commitment of the Anthony N Sabga Awards, Caribbean Excellence, programme.

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Ceremony Dates

Barbados:

May 20, 2022, State House, Bridgetown

Jamaica:

June 2, 2022, King's House, Kingston

Trinidad & Tobago:

June 14, 2022, President's House, Port of Spain

Guyana:

July 25, 2022, State House, Georgetown

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