



ANTHONY N. SABGA AWARDS E-NEWS



THE
ANTHONY N. SABGA
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Our Laureates Shine at Carifesta XIV in Trinidad & Tobago

Several of our Arts & Letters Laureates participated in Carifesta XIV which was staged in Trinidad & Tobago from August 17 to 24, in various capacities.

The keynote address for the symposia held at the University of the West Indies was given by 2018 Laureate Prof Kei Miller of Jamaica, who gave a talk titled “Re-Imagining Caribbean Futures” on Carnival and its movement through the islands and further afield.

The theme of the symposia was derived from a 1999 essay by Trinidadian scholar Errol Hill, titled “Journey Round Myself”. Miller’s talk traced Carnival from



Yao Ramesar and Kei Miller

its origins in Trinidad & Tobago in the late 18th century, where it was introduced by French immigrants, to its being appropriated by the enslaved and the formerly enslaved after emancipation and reinterpreted for their needs. This reinterpretation had continued, he said, in the movement of the Carnival through the islands, and to the US and UK, where it was appropriated by various groups for their purposes. The latest group who have used the Carnival, he said, were members of the LGBTQ community in Jamaica.



Also participating in the symposia was the very first Arts & Letters Laureate,

Trinidadian filmmaker Robert Yao Ramesar, who also delivered a lecture on a panel on culture and the creative industries. Our current Laureate, Danielle Dieffenthaler, was also very active in the festival, as her NGO, Film Cooperative (FilmCo), formally took over the management of the Trinidad and Tobago Film Festival which staged its 2019 edition to coincide with Carifesta.

Our 2011 Laureate, Kim Johnson’s feature film, *Pan, Our Music Odyssey*, was also screened as part of the festival. In addition to the direct participation of our laureates, we were also fortunate to have several of our laureates featured on Carifesta Radio, which was broadcast daily during the festival.



Laureates at Work

Our 2018 Laureate in Arts & Letters, Prof Kwamé Ryan, Director of the Academy for the Performing Arts at the University of Trinidad & Tobago, and international conductor, made an acclaimed debut at the BBC Proms in London on July 21 and 22.

Presented at the iconic Royal Albert Hall, and earning a four-star

review from London's *Daily Telegraph*, his performances commemorated the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing with an 80-piece orchestra, a 400-strong choir and a range of practical and visual effects for a live audience of 11,000. A combined edit of the performances will be aired on BBC television on September 14, 2019. Prof Ryan also forms part of the team presenting the television broadcasts of the BBC Proms to an audience of millions and will make his debut in that capacity later this month.



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Our 2019 Entrepreneurship Laureate, Kimala Bennett of Jamaica, recently achieved a significant milestone in her career: her company, The Limners and Bards (The LAB) was listed on the Jamaica Stock Exchange (JSE).

The *Jamaica Observer* reported on August 7, that The LAB's prospectus was published on July 10, and the offer open date was July 17. The offer was closed by 4 pm the same day due to over-subscription.

The LAB is the first ad agency and film company to be listed on the JSE. The company received 2,507 applications, and applicants sought 887 million units valued at (J) \$ 1 per unit.. This was more than three times the number of shares the company initially offered (189 million units).

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Laureates at Work

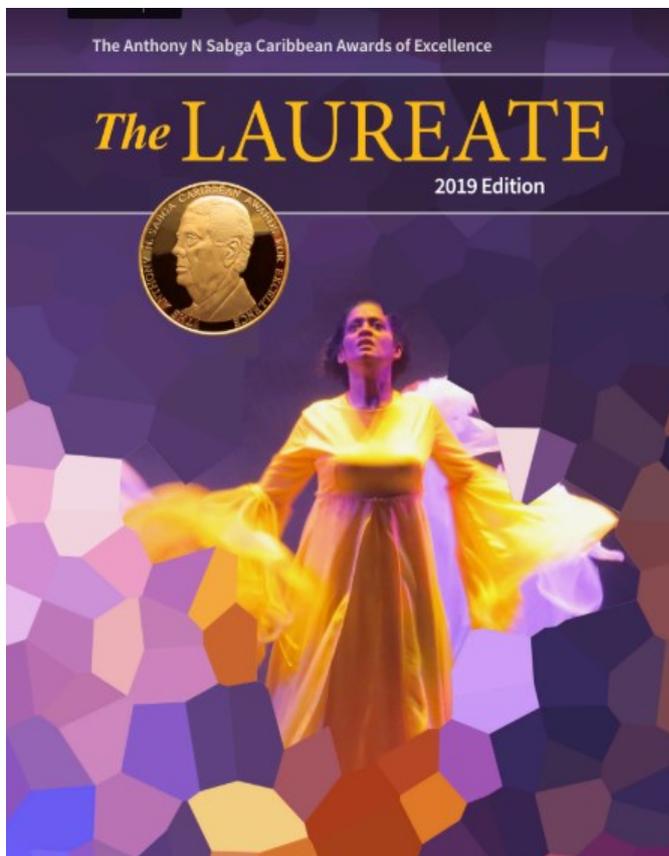


Our 2018 Public & Civic Contributions Laureates, Chevaughn and Noel Joseph, founders of the Just Because Foundation (JBF), staged their annual HOPE concert at the Central Bank Auditorium in July. The acronym stands for Have Only Positive Expectations, and it is a fund-raising event which provides funding for the JBF's many programmes which are offered free of charge.

The JBF is an NGO whose purpose is to offer care and support to children diagnosed with cancer, and their families. The JBF is responsible for the paediatric cancer unit at the Mt Hope Hospital in Trinidad and Tobago. It offers support groups to the siblings and parents of cancer patients, and accommodation and lodging near to the Mt Hope Hospital for parents who live in other islands and rural Trinidadian communities for whom the commute is burdensome.



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We are pleased to announce the publication of our latest edition of *The Laureate* magazine.

This edition contains twelve autobiographical essays written by our laureates from 2017 to 2019. These are: Shadel Nyack Compton, Kwamé Ryan, Winslow Craig, Arif Bulkan, Kei Miller, Adesh Ramsubhag, Chevaughn and Noel Joseph, William Boyle, Danielle Dieffenthaler, Kimala Bennett, Michael Taylor and Corey Lane.

The magazine will be available to download from our website in a month or so, after the hard copies are delivered across the region via our committees and laureates.

It is just one of the elements of our drive to produce content on our laureates and the programme for regional dissemination. We invite you to listen to, and help to share, our newly-minted podcasts. You can find them at <https://anscafe.podbean.com/>.