

# ANTHONY N. SABGA AWARDS

## *Caribbean Excellence*



E-News

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## *Chairman's Message*



At the beginning of a new year, it is our wish that the Anthony N Sabga Awards, Caribbean Excellence continues to be a source of optimism and hope. As we enter 2023, the programme remains committed to our core mission: to seek out Caribbean excellence and celebrate it with the region and the world.

More than ever, we find ourselves in need of daring, creative ideas, which will move us into more efficient and clever ways of doing business, living, and thinking. Allow me to reflect on our 2022 laureates as examples of transformation and innovation.

Prof Christine Carrington of Trinidad and Tobago was an authoritative public figure during the Covid-19 pandemic – her work as a virologist placed her at the forefront of public health and academic research needed to keep the region safe. Dr Kim Jebodhsingh from Barbados made it her mission to disseminate knowledge about eye care and provide free treatments. Anuskha Sonai of Suriname offers technological accessibility for the region, while driving digital inclusion for women. Guyanese Shyam Nokta has shown that we can grow economically while preserving our environment. And Marlon James, our



Jamaican novelist, has shown us that our lives, our ideas, and our dreams are inspiring, compelling, and have global potential as stories to educate and entertain.

We owe these remarkable people so much, as we do their 48 colleagues in our college of laureates – people working in fields as diverse as climate science, child rights activism, alternative energy, and astronomy. And we feel privileged to know that we continue on our mission to recognize and commemorate more remarkable people, whose work can enrich all our lives.

We at the Anthony N Sabga Awards, Caribbean Excellence, wish all our panel members, committees, laureates, and those who share our vision for a better tomorrow, the very best wishes for the coming year. And even as we look forward, we invite

you to take a look back at the previous year's laureates in the form of four half-hour television specials, featuring them and their work. These are now on [YouTube](#) and can easily be shared with your social media and professional networks to inspire and influence change.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish you and your families a happy and holy Christmas Season and a bright and prosperous 2023.



# Laureates receive honours

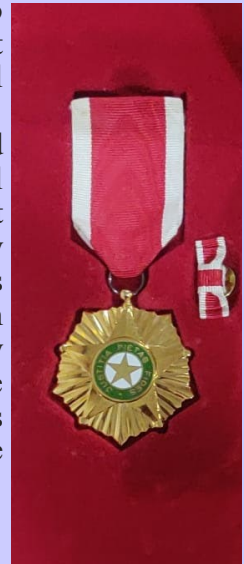


Yellow Star for her contributions to community and representing her country abroad positively.

Ms Sonai is a digital entrepreneur. She is the founder of Creative Tech Hub Caribbean, a group of companies which includes commercial ICT companies alongside creative enterprises.

She has been tireless in her efforts to empower women and girls by increasing and enhancing their access to digital tools, training and ability to work and conduct business in a digital environment.

She is also involved in several regional initiatives aimed at increasing creativity and connectivity across the region. She was in Trinidad most recently for the Anima Caribe festival which mentors creatives in the animation field.



Our 2022 Laureate in Public and Civic Contributions, Anuskha Sonai of Suriname, has had a busy year. Apart from being named our joint laureate in her category, Ms Sonai also picked up a Women in Tech Award in Dubai, and was given a national honour in her native Suriname: The Honorary Order of the

Mr Andrew Boyle, our 2018 Laureate in Entrepreneurship from Guyana, was conferred with an honorary doctorate from the University of Guyana on December 9. He also delivered the commencement address at the University's graduation exercise.

Mr Boyle is the founder of Eureka Medical Laboratory. He has also branched into several other concerns, including farming and green energy.

He is also widely known for his philanthropy, and supports a number of causes on his own accord and through the Rotary Club of Guyana, of which he is a long standing member.







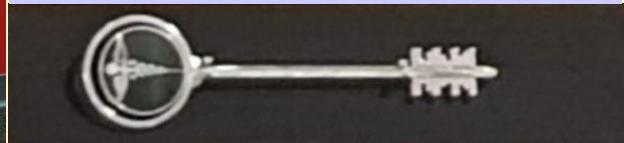
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Our 2014 Laureate in Arts & Letters, Prof Liam Teague, was recently presented with the key to the city of San Fernando, where he was born in Trinidad. He was also selected to be the mace bearer at Northern Illinois University's undergraduate commencement ceremony this year.

Prof Teague is Professor of Music and Steelpan Studies at NIU. He is a gifted pannist and one of the world's most accomplished pan players and musicians.

He also returns to Trinidad & Tobago annually to work as a steelpan arranger for the Silver Stars orchestra during the Carnival period. He has appeared in concert with Grammy-Award winning musicians Paquito D'Rivera, Dave Samuels, Zakir Hussain and Dame Evelyn Glennie, and has regularly collaborated with NIU colleagues Robert Chappell and Faye Seeman (harp) with whom he co-founded the duo Pangelic.



Our 2019 Laureate in Science & Technology, climate scientist, Prof Michael Taylor of Jamaica, will contribute a chapter to international climate activist, Greta Thunberg's forthcoming *The Climate Book*, which features essays by distinguished scientists and activists.

Prof Taylor is the region's and one of the world's leading climate scientists. He is head of the Climate Studies Group at UWI, Mona, and dean of the Faculty of Science & Technology. He has for decades focused research on regional Climate Modelling, Caribbean Climate Variability and Caribbean Climate Dynamics. He has also consistently represented the Caribbean region at the global level on Climate Change issues. The book will be published in early 2023.





## *In Memoriam*



We close the year with the loss of some stellar Caribbean personages with connections to our Awards programme. On December 4, 2022 Fr Malcolm Rodrigues SJ, passed away in Guyana at the age of 81. Fr Rodrigues was a Jesuit priest who served the Guyana Nominating Committee from 2011 until he retired in 2016. He was a former Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University of Guyana and was involved in the early conceptualization and establishment of the Iwokrama International Centre for Rain Forest Conservation and Development. He held an MA (Oxon) in Physics and was awarded the Cacique Crown of Honour National Award in 2018.

Dr Beverley Steele, CBE passed away in Barbados on December 19, 2022. Beverley was a member of the OECS Nominating Committee from inception as

Grenada's representative at the time together with Sir Paul Scoon. She retired from the Committee in September 2017.

The OECS Committee has paid sterling tribute to her and I quote here from the Chair of the Committee, Laureate Dr Lennox Honychurch: "I was stunned by the news. Always will recall her cheery and yet deeply committed nature, a fine Caribbean mix of her Jamaican and Grenadian heritage. She was a mentor and inspiration and a stalwart of the University of the West Indies. Beverley contributed significantly to academic life in Grenada and Carriacou through her dedicated work for the Extra Mural Department as it transformed into The School of Continuing Studies and The UWI Open Campus. Through these institutions she opened up new educational opportunities to hundreds of young Grenadians who I am certain will record their appreciation and gratitude at this time. Worked with her on some heritage projects and treasure her important books Grenada: A History of its People published by Macmillan Education 2003, and Grenada in War Time." Gone but certainly not forgotten.







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***Merry Christmas & Happy 2023***

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