

ANTHONY N. SABGA AWARDS

Caribbean Excellence



E-News

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Our Laureates get their prizes



Dr Guna Muppuri, Prof Rupika Delgoda, Sir Patrick Allen (Governor-General of Jamaica), Sir Kenneth Hall, (former Governor-General of Jamaica and current EPP member) and Dr Floyd Morris

Our 2021 Laureates were presented with their prizes at small-in-scope, but grand-in-intention ceremonies at the official residences of the heads of state of their respective territories.

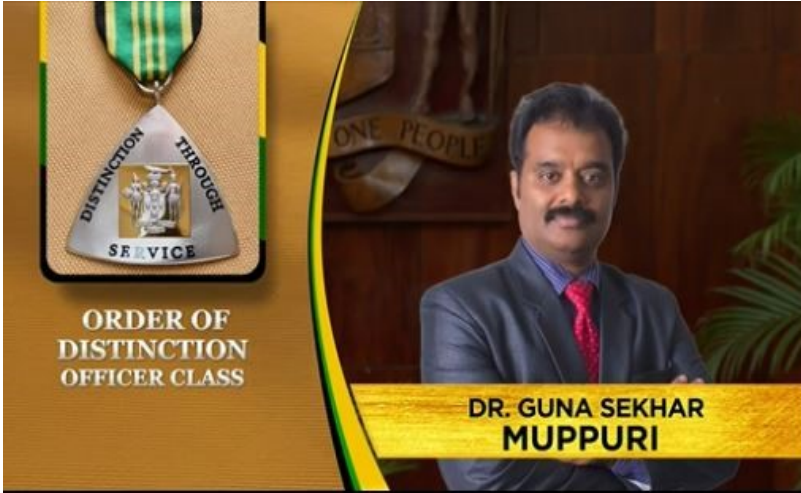
Their Excellencies Governors-General Sir Patrick Allen of Jamaica, and Dame Susan Dougan of St Vincent and the Grenadines, and President Paula-Mae Weekes of Trinidad and Tobago, hosted our laureates,

members of the Eminent Persons Panel, and ANSA McAL Foundation Chairman, Mr Andrew Sabga (in Trinidad), and made the presentations.

Like last year, the ceremonies were delayed this year by the pandemic. The Laureates received prizes comprising (the equivalent) of TT \$500,000, a medal and a citation. We have also published our latest edition of the [Laureate magazine](#) with laureate autobiographies.



Laureates working and playing



Our 2021 Laureate in Entrepreneurship, Dr Guna Muppuri was awarded the Order of Distinction (OD), Officer Class, by the government of Jamaica for 2021.

Apart from his work as an entrepreneur, Dr Muppuri is well-known for his charitable and philanthropic activities in Jamaica.

His companies, Indies Pharma and Bioprism provide low-cost generic medications at a fraction of the branded prices, along with scholarships and other aid to needy communities in Jamaica.

He has also been honoured by the government of India.

Our two musician Arts & Letters laureates, Sean Sutherland, a pianist from St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Liam Teague, virtuoso pan musician from Trinidad and Tobago, recently staged online recitals.

Mr Sutherland, who was conferred with his prize in Kingstown by the Governor General, Dame Susan Dougan in late October, put on an online piano concert at the Kingstown Methodist Church, which was streamed live on YouTube.

The recital can be viewed [here](#). Mr Sutherland lives in Canada, but has a long history of participating in musical events and training throughout the region. He has taught (engineering and acoustic design) at the University of the West Indies (St Augustine), and participated and performed in concerts and trained musicians in SVG and the region.



Prof Liam Teague, who was conferred with the Arts & Letters prize in 2014, also gave a performance on November 6, in the US, at Northern Illinois University (NIU). Teague is a professor at NIU, and he premiered a piece called "Sorcerer" by the composer Jan Bach, and other pieces. The performance was streamed.

Considered the most gifted Trinidadian pianist, Prof Teague has been a Professor of Music and Head of Steel Pan Studies at Northern Illinois University. He is also a recipient of the Presidential Research, Scholarship and Artistry Professor Award. He also maintains a full performance schedule outside of academia.



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Irwin LaRocque: New EPP member



Ambassador Irwin LaRocque, a national of Dominica, is the latest appointee to the regional Eminent Persons Panel.

He 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.

He is the former Assistant Secretary-General for Trade and Economic Integration at the CARICOM Secretariat, a position he assumed in September 2005. Prior to that, he served, with distinction, at senior management levels in the Public Service of Dominica for over 18 years. As Secretary-General he oversaw the production of the Caribbean Community's first ever Community Strategic Plan and began the process of reforming the CARICOM Secretariat.

His successful tenure saw the adoption of major measures to enhance the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) including Protocols on Contingent Rights and Public Procurement. He promoted the re-engagement by the Community's

Ministerial Councils and Heads of Government with the private sector through the CARICOM Private Sector Organisation which was formally established as an Associate Institution of the Community.

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.

During his tenure in the Dominica public service, Ambassador LaRocque served in several capacities, including Principal Adviser to the Government of Dominica on all matters pertaining to Regional integration and international trade. He was Dominica's Senior Policy Adviser on the revision of the original Treaty of Chaguaramas and served on the Inter-Governmental Task Force (IGTF) which resulted in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas.

He also served as Permanent Secretary in various Ministries for more than fourteen years, including in the Ministries of Trade, Industry, Enterprise Development, Tourism, and Foreign Affairs, where he headed the diplomatic service. He also has private sector experience.

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.

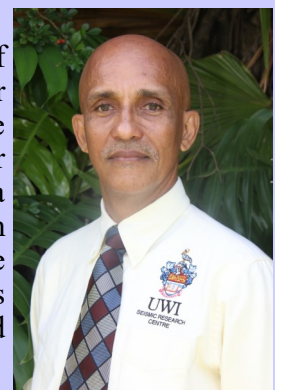
Richard Robertson is now a Professor of Geology

Our 2014 Laureate in Science & Technology, Geologist Dr Richard Robertson, was promoted to the rank of Professor of Geology at UWI, St Augustine. Prof Robertson, a native of St Vincent & The Grenadines, is one of the region's foremost experts on earthquakes and volcanoes. He has worked for several years at the UWI's Seismic Research Centre in St Augustine.

His professorial lecture was delivered on November 11, via Zoom. The lecture was titled: "Living Safely with Explosive Mountains in the

Eastern Caribbean".

This is an issue Prof Robertson has worked on for several years. At the start of the eruptions in St Vincent earlier this year, the Anthony N Sabga Awards did a podcast with him to explain for the benefit of the public some of the main issues with the eruptions. You can find it [here](#).





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(Top left to right) Sir Patrick Allen, Governor-General of Jamaica with Prof Rupika Delgoda, Dr Guna Muppuri, and Dr Floyd Morris. Next is Dame Susan Dougan, Governor-General of St Vincent and The Grenadines with Sean Sutherland, and below Her Excellency Paula-Mae Weekes, President of Trinidad and Tobago with Maria Nunes and Lorenzo Savage II, who received his wife, Dr Carla Phillips Savage's, prize.

Programme Director, Maria Superville-Neilson — maria.neilson@ansamcal.com
Programme Office Coordinator, Olivia Habib — olivia.habib@ansamcal.com
Communications Consultant, Raymond Ramcharitar — anscfe@ansamcal.com