

Anthony Sabga Awards E-News

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ANTHONY N. SABGA CARIBBEAN AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

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Congratulations!

On April 12, the 2008 laureates of the Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence received their Awards from the ANSA McAL Foundation. The ceremony was part of a gala event staged at the Hilton Trinidad & Conference Centre, Port-of-Spain, to honour the winners of this year's Awards.

The laureates, Professor David Dabydeen (Arts & Letters), Mr James Husbands (Science & Technology), and Mrs Claudette Richardson-Pious and Ms Annette Arjoon (joint winners, Public & Civic Contributions), accepted

their awards from the hands of Dr Anthony N Sabga and Sir Ellis Clarke.

Dr Sabga, the patron of the Awards and the chairman of the ANSA McAL Foundation, said in his remarks that the laureates were part of a "growing group of very special Caribbean citizens", and that he was happy to be associated with the Awards because they would help develop our region. He also welcomed the laureates into the ANSA McAL Foundation family and pledged to help them continue to strive and achieve their hearts' desires. Sir Ellis, the chair of the Regional Selection Persons Eminent Panel, highly commended the work of the laureates.

All the laureates were gracious in their acceptance speeches. Mrs

Members of the EPP, Dr Sabga and the Laureates pose on stage at the ceremony. From left: Sir Shridath Ramphal, Maj Gen (Ret'd) Joseph Singh, Sr Paul D'Ornellas, Prof David Dabydeen, Ms Annette Arjoon, Sir Ellis Clarke, Ms Michael Mansoor, Dr Anthony N Sabga, Justice Christopher Blackman, Mrs Claudette Richardson-Pious, Mrs Judy Y Chang and Dr Wahid Ali. Photo: Shirley Bahadur

Richardson-Pious presented the Foundation and Dr Sabga with commemorative plaques and a model of her organisation's award-winning mobile HIV testing clinic the "Bashy Bus". Ms Arjoon dedicated the upcoming Shell Beach National Park in Guyana to Dr Sabga in recognition of his contribution to the work of her organisation, the Guyana Marine Turtle Conservation Society.

Hon Barendra Sinanan, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Trinidad & Tobago, and Hon Jerry Narace, Minister of Health, both attended the function. ANSA McAL Group executives, including Mr A Norman Sabga, the chairman, and Mr Gerry Brooks, the chief operating officer, were also present. Dr Sabga's family was well-represented and many of his grandchildren were in the audience.

The Regional Eminent Persons Selection Panel, with the exception of two members, attended the Awards Ceremony, as did the chairs of the Country Nominating Committees from all five Awards territories. The Foundation presented these with gifts in recognition of their hard work on the Awards Programme.

Guyana Honours its Laureates



Joint Public & Civic Contributions Laureate Ms Annette Arjoon with His Excellency Barath Jagdeo, President of Guyana, and Arts & Letters Laureate Prof David Dabydeen, at a function held in the laureates' honour in Georgetown on April 23. Photo courtesy: Annette Arjoon

CARBBEAN AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

The Prime Minister of Guyana Hon Sam Hinds feted Guyanese laureates Ms Annette Arjoon and Professor David Dabydeen in a function on April 23 at Le Meridien Pegasus Hotel in Georgetown.

Ms Arjoon said in an e-mail message after the event, "The President also attended and wished us well.

"Being opportunistic as ever I introduced my cocoa stick producer Christine James to him as her women's group will be the beneficiary of Dr Sabga's largesse." Mrs James is president of a group that manufactures cocoa sticks under the North West Organics branding, which Ms Arjoon pioneered for the Guyana Marine Turtle Conservation Society. The joint laureate in Public & Civic Contributions has said she plans to use her award on mechanising the group's production of the sticks.

"I also relentlessly plugged our case for him to facilitate the operationalising of an existing port of entry in the area so that this could result in effective trade of agricultural goods from our Region/Guyana to Trinidad as in the northwest of Guyana we are nearer to Trinidad than to our capital of Georgetown! More Amerindians would benefit from increased markets for their indigenous and agricultural products. He committed to support this request and Christine and I will have a follow up meeting with him on this."

Foundation, EPP meet

The ANSA McAL Foundation and the Trinidad & Tobago members of the Awards' Regional Eminent Persons Selection Panel met on April 21 to wrap up the 2007-2008 Awards Programme. The meeting was chaired by Dr Anthony N Sabga and took place in the ANSA McAL Board Room.

The meeting effectively begins the 2009-2010 Awards Programme Director Programme. Mrs Superville-Neilson will shortly embark on a series of visits to the various Country Nominating Committees to debrief them on the 2007-2008 Programme and begin the 2009-2010 one.

Bon Chance, Patrice!

Miss Patrice Khan, our Programme dedicated Office Co-ordinator for the past three years, has moved on from the position. We wish her best of luck in her new country of residence and God's continued blessings.

The Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence

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