



*"Jamaican Youth,
Embracing Support"*



Designed & Printed by



PRIME MINISTER'S YOUTH AWARDS FOR

Excellence

under the theme

*"Jamaican Youth,
Embracing Support"*

Sunday, December 6, 2009
Emancipation Park



THE PRIME MINISTER'S YOUTH AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

The Prime Minister's Youth Awards for Excellence is the highest honour bestowed upon Jamaicans between the ages of 15 and 24. Since 1998, this National Honour has been conferred upon young Jamaicans who have achieved eminent National and International distinction in the categories of:

- Sports
- Youth in Service
- The Arts and Culture
- Academics
- Agriculture
- Leadership
- Journalism
- Entrepreneurship

**The Prime Minister Youth
Organisation Service Award**

Produced by: The National Centre for Youth Development through
the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture



**MINISTRY OF
YOUTH, SPORTS AND CULTURE**

*“Jamaican Youth,
Embracing Support”*



Notes

- Message -




The Prime Minister's Youth Awards for Excellence affords the ideal opportunity to bring to the fore, the sterling achievements of our young people – achievements that may have gone unnoticed, without the rightful recognition. This occasion therefore, places our achievers in the 'spotlight' allowing them to be shining examples for others to emulate.

In today's society, our youths are grappling with a myriad of challenges – challenges that many of us never confronted at that stage of our development.

Rampant indiscipline and escalating levels of crime and violence, within our nation's schools, have caused grave concern for many of us. Regrettably, such actions are not confined within the boundaries of the school walls, but extend beyond, into the wider society. These problems with which we wrestle, are merely symptoms of a much wider problem – a general breakdown in family life and a blatant disregard for law and order in the society.

Amidst these pervasive problems, our young achievers, some from backgrounds that many believe would have condemned them to a life of failure, have survived the odds and claimed victory. Your journey to success can be a 'blueprint' for other young people to copy. I encourage you to share your story – be that source of inspiration and that 'light' that guides your peers down the same road to success.

Your success carries with it, a great deal of responsibility – the responsibility to be a mentor, leader and to consistently perform at the highest level. I urge you to embrace that responsibility – do not 'shy' away from it. I further implore you to slam the 'door' shut on mediocrity – there is no room at the 'inn' for it. The current highly competitive global marketplace, no longer caters to 'snail-paced' economies or individuals. It demands that we perform at our best and be on top of our game; or risk being left behind and outpaced by our competitors. Your current accomplishments represent only the beginning – do not rest on your laurels, there is so much more that you can achieve – keep that 'goal' post moving!

The background of the slide features a close-up, slightly blurred image of two hands shaking in a firm grip. The hands are positioned diagonally across the frame, with the left hand on the left and the right hand on the right. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the creases on the fingers. The overall tone is professional and positive.

Notes

You stand here today, offering that great promise of hope for the future – hope that had left the hearts of many. It is said that the future lies in the hands of our young people – but that responsibility for the future cannot rest solely on their ‘shoulders’. All critical stakeholders – Government, schools, churches, families, communities and the private sector, must share in that responsibility and ‘shoulder’ some of it – much will be achieved through collaboration and cooperation – not isolation! We must create that enabling environment, that will produce more young achievers for the future.

Nothing gives me greater pleasure, than to honour and laud the successes of our young people. Your hard work, perseverance, determination and vision, have allowed you to enjoy these great rewards. I urge you to continue sowing these ‘seeds’ as an even greater harvest will be yours to reap in the future.

The Hon. Bruce Golding, MP
Prime Minister

**NATIONAL CENTRE FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
MINISTRY OF
YOUTH, SPORTS AND CULTURE**

The National Centre for Youth Development (NCYD) as the Youth Division of the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture is responsible for facilitating the cooperation and integration of programmes, services and activities geared towards youth development. This includes designing and recommending programmes which enhance and propel the holistic development of Jamaica's youth, thus fulfilling the goals of the National Youth Policy (drafted in 2004).

The Mission

To provide leadership for positive Youth Development through partnership with stakeholders in research, policy development, advocacy, information dissemination and monitoring with a belief in youth inclusion, rewarding excellence and passion in service for Jamaica's youth.

The Vision

An independent dynamic youth-centric organisation fulfilling the needs of Jamaica's youth, empowering them to attain their maximum potential where love of self, country and fellow man is customary, thus creating a solid foundation for the country's future.

The Primary Functions of the Centre are:

- Policy Formulation and Strategy Planning
- Programme Development and Management
- Multi Sectoral Coordination
- Research
- Information Dissemination
- Monitoring and Evaluation

Programme Activities include:

- Operation Phoenix (Youth Information Centres and Youth Empowerment Officers) in each parish
- Student Governance (National Secondary Students Council)
- Jamaica Youth Ambassador Programme (JAYAP)
- Jamaica Union of Tertiary Students (JUTS)
- National Youth Council
- Annual Youth Month Activities

- Message -



Today we are honoured to salute the stand-out achievement of several young Jamaicans who have excelled in various fields of endeavour, with the Prime Minister's Youth Awards for Excellence.

Many young people across the nation continue to make a significant positive impact on national life. I am honoured to acknowledge your efforts. I congratulate each and every nominee and encourage you to continue being outstanding young citizens, giving your exceptional service to our country. I am sure your individual family and support groups are very proud of your achievements and have played a major part in moulding you to be the outstanding persons you are today. This, no doubt, will ensure better men and women for Jamaica's future.

During November, we celebrated Youth Month and focused special attention on our young people. It was heart-warming to see and highlight the many achievements of our young people, knowing that despite obstacles they were excelling and only need gentle nudges from time to time to show their greatness. The fact is, we have talented, bright, enthusiastic young people in Jamaica who are doing fantastic things.

In my capacity as Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, I call on all Jamaicans to give even greater support to our young people as they strive to be healthy, safe, educated, to be more responsible, to make valuable contributions to their communities and to enjoy a good quality of life. In short, we must allow them to enjoy their youth as they prepare to become our nation's leaders. I urge each and every one of us to commit to making at least one young person discover themselves and learn to shine.

Our youth need our guidance. Let us not fail them, instead let us give them our support and watch them become outstanding citizens of our nation.

Hon. Olivia Grange, MP
Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture

- Message -



The prowess, intellect, commitment and vision of our youth is inspiring a new Jamaica. Emboldened by their mastery of technology, sports, and access to learning; unbridled by misgivings about the future; empowered by their willingness to take risks, they lead the way in the advancement of our island nation from a developing state into a developed one. The halls of our Financial Institutions, Academia, Government, Agriculture, Manufacturing and the Creative Industries are now filled with young professionals who are making indelible marks on their chosen fields. The continued

exemplary performance of our sportsmen and women stands as the beacon from which we all can draw inspiration.

There is much to celebrate this year.

We recognise that the achievements of our youth are enhanced by the support systems that are around them. Those who fail, often do so because of a lack of guidance or help when they needed it most. This is the thinking that brought us to our theme for this year, 'Jamaican Youth, Embracing Support'. This our marquis event, the Prime Minister's Youth Awards for Excellence, takes the theme a step further to promote and celebrate the primary support unit that is the family. It is our hope that it will serve to stimulate reflection, and spur us to action, in the promulgation and protection of this vital building block of our society, and principal agency on which our youth depend for their survival.

Allow me to use the opportunity to congratulate all the nominees and awardees, and to encourage them to use this opportunity to inspire and encourage others of their peers to reach out for greatness in their fields of pursuit, remembering always this quote by American baseball great Buck Rodgers, "there are countless ways of attaining greatness, but any road to reaching one's maximum potential must be built on a bedrock of respect for the individual, a commitment to excellence, and a rejection of mediocrity."

It's the yuletide season; accept the best wishes of the youth department, from our family to yours.

Senator Warren Newby

Parliamentary Secretary
National Centre for Youth Development
Ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture

PRIME MINISTER'S YOUTH AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE SELECTION COMMITTEE 2009

Mrs. Roberta Brown Ellis	National Centre for Youth Development
Miss Andrene Blackwin	National Centre for Youth Development
Mr. Nyron Morris	National Centre for Youth Development
Mr. Peter Jones	Office of the Prime Minister
Mr. Collin Virgo	Office of the Prime Minister
Mrs. Lois Grant	Office of the Prime Minister
Mr. David Mais	Sports Development Foundation
Mr. Lloyd Pommells	Social Development Commission
Miss Keneshia Nooks	Jamaica Cultural Development Commission
Mrs. Sana Rose Savage	Jamaica Cultural Development Commission
Mr. Hewitt Walker	National Youth Service
Rev. Herro Blair Jnr.	Jamaica Youth for Christ
Mr. Dwayne Gutzmer	Jamaica Youth Ambassador
Mr. Cecil Warren	Independence Park Limited
Mrs. Gwyneth Davidson	Office of the Prime Minister

2003

Noelle Bennett	- Academics
Omari Blake	- Academics
Dionne Brown	- Academics
Jason Carnegie	- Academics
Sabrena McDonald	- The Arts
Anna Strachan	- The Arts
Shawna-Kaye Lester	- Journalism
Junior Rose	- Leadership

2002

Farrah Brown	- Academics
Wayne Brown	- The Arts
Tamara Noel	- The Arts
Richard Forbes Jr.	- Entrepreneurship
Leighton Davis	- Journalism
Usain Bolt	- Sports

2001

Belinda Morrison	- Academics
Stephen Anthony	- Academics
Shaw-Naar	- The Arts
Christopher	- The Arts
Henry Gayle	- Sports
Melaine Walker	- Sports

2000

Neil Hanchard	- Academics
Subira Gordon	- The Arts
Veronica Campbell	- Sports

1999

Yeshima Bennette	- Scholarship
Janelle Atkinson	- Sports
Kacey Shay	- Visual Arts

1998

Jody- Ann Maxwell	- International Achievement
Tanya Clarke	- Scholarship
Lawson Crawford	- Scholarship
Ricardo Gardener	- Sports

- Message -



As a nation we are seeing a large number of our young people transition into women and men of greatness from all walks of life, continuously making us proud on the local and international scene.

To all young Jamaicans, the spotlight is on you and it is your time to radiate the brilliance, resilience and excellence that is within you. This illumination will dispel the darkness around you and give a renewed sense of hope to other youths like yourself who are challenged, incarcerated and alone. You must be-

lieve that this brilliance comes from you and from the support structures around you, and you must believe that you have the courage to create action from your brilliance. For as we believe in you and as you believe in yourselves, others will see and believe in you too. From that moment, the youth you encounter will begin to believe in themselves as well... and, together, you will be the creators of great change within yourselves, your families, our communities, our nation, and the world.

For in that brilliance in you is knowledge and from that knowledge is an awareness that there is something that binds us all together, a bridge that connects each and every one of us to each other so that we are not ever alone, or without hope, but know assuredly that there is support.

Let us remember the words of Zig Ziglar, "If you don't like who you are and where you are, don't worry about it because you're not stuck either with who you are or where you are. You can grow. You can change. You can be more than you are."

I challenge all youths to embrace the opportunities and support systems that are available to you. Be determined to accomplish and surpass the heights of great young men and women like the ones being awarded here tonight.

Congratulations to all our nominees. Your outstanding service and contribution to the development of yourself, your community and the nation is being recorded in the annals of time, it will not be forgotten.

May God bless you all.

Roberta Brown Ellis

Director, Youth Policy and Programme Development

Prime Minister's Youth Award

N O M I N E E S



KERRI-ANN ALLEN

A past student of the Manchester High School, Kerri-Ann Allen is now pursuing a career in the field of Law at the University of the West Indies. However, from an early age, Kerri-Ann has distinguished herself in the field of Academics.

Ms Allen received the Certificate of Excellence from forms 1-5. In the years 2006 and 2007 she received 12 subjects with distinctions in the CXC CSEC examinations. She also achieved 4 subjects with distinctions in

the CXC CAPE exams in sixth form.

While at Manchester High, Kerri-Ann held numerous positions of leadership; at the end of fifth form she graduated Valedictorian of the class of 2007.

She is also an active member of her community and recently completed 62 hours of community service at the Mandeville Regional Hospital.



ZURIE JOHNSON

Zurie Johnson is a 22 year old graduate of the University of the West Indies and hails from the remote community of Thicketts, St. Ann.

He was Valedictorian for the University of the West Indies graduating class of 2008. He received a first class degree in Media and Communication and was one of three male recipients of a first class honours degree for the faculty of Humanities and Education.

He was awarded for outstanding contribution to student leadership and the development of culture on campus in 2008 by the UWI Guild of Students. He was also awarded the Jamaica National Building Society Bursary and the Wigut Bursary.

Zurie Johnson, through his numerous accomplishments, is referred to as a young role model in his small rural community.

Tivoli Dance Troupe
David Tulloch
Kevin Ellis
Lawman Lynch
Dever Orgill
Luton Shelton
Orel Ewen
Amoy Henry
Mary-Ann Montague

- Arts and Culture
- Entrepreneurship
- Journalism
- Leadership
- Sports
- Sports
- Sports
- Youth In Service
- Youth In Service

2005

Terry-Ann Nicholson
Ramon Arscott
Nadale Downer
Vanessa Cheung
Donna Chueng
Uonie Lyn
Everaldo Creary
Clonmel Cultural Group
Romaine Carter
Cleon Green
Keron Tooma
Jaeavion Nelson
Robert Lalah
Shelly-Ann Thompson
Damion Radcliffe
Simone Forbes
Sherone Simpson
Anneisha McLaughlin
Nicholas Dusard
Rushell Simmonds

- Academics
- Academics
- Academics
- Academic
- Academics
- Arts in Culture
- Arts in Culture
- Arts in Culture
- International Achievement
- International Achievement
- International Achievement
- International Achievement
- Journalism
- Journalism
- Leadership
- Sports
- Sports
- Sports
- Sports
- Youth In Service

2004

Parris Lyew-Ayee
Sashane McDonald
Josemar Cuffe
Vance Wilson
Jermaine Rowe
Garfield Buford
Leethan Grandison
Shian Christie
Tanto Campbell
Alfhanso Cunningham
Joel Ellis
Courtney Foster
Carrell Kerr
Ramona Williams
Lacey Morris

- Academics
- Academics
- Academics
- Agriculture
- Arts and Culture
- Journalism
- Journalism
- Leadership
- Sports
- Sports
- Sports
- Youth In Service
- Youth In Service
- Youth In Service
- Youth In Service

Jamaica Youth Shaping the World-Past Recipients of the Prime Minister's National Youth Awards for Excellence.

2008

Dwayne Berbeck	- Journalism
Michelle Thomas	- Journalism
Nelsa English	- Agriculture
Dave Rankin	- Agriculture
Mark Foster	- Entrepreneurship
Noelle Nicolls	- Entrepreneurship
Sequoia Thomas	- Youth In Service
Gavin Powell	- Leadership
Karl Wilkinson	- Leadership
Rodean Wallace	- Leadership
Odale Mulgrave	- Leadership
Nadje Leslie	- Arts and Culture
Andre Morris	- Arts and Culture
Dane Campbell	- Arts and Culture
Andrew Clarke	- Arts and Culture
Shavi Tolan	- Arts and Culture
Kevin Williams	- Academics
Shamfa Peart	- Academics
Romelda Aiken	- Sports
Christina Solmon	- Sports
Shelly-Ann Fraser	- Sports
Kerron Stewart	- Sports
Errol Kerr	- Sports

2007

Christopher Wilks	- Academics
Kevon Rhiney	- Academics
Rohan Hall	- Academics
Adishane Playfair	- Agriculture
Oneil Peart	- Arts and Culture
Felicia Blake	- Entrepreneurship
	Imagine Cup Advance
	Developers International Achievement
Brandon Allwood	- Journalism
Tamian Beckford	- Leadership
Brandon Wilson	- Sports
Stephen Williams	- Youth In Service

2006

Natoya Peart	- Academics
Yonique Petgrave	- Academics
Rochelle Morrison	- Academics
Karen Tamasa	- Agriculture
Ebony Patterson	- Arts and Culture
Sheldon Shepherd	- Arts and Culture



OLIVIA KELLY ANN ROSE

At age 24, Olivia Kelly Ann Rose is a Lecturer at the Excelsior Community College and Tutor of Psychology at the University of the West Indies.

She is the holder of a Master of Science degree in Psychology, a course which she completed with distinction and she also holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology with a minor in Spanish.

A past student of the Manchester and Westwood High Schools, Olivia completed her secondary studies with (8) eight distinctions in the CXC and CAPE exams. During her entire tenure at high school, Olivia was an honour role student.

Ms. Rose's expertise in the area of Psychology and Guidance Counselling led her to serve as Sports Psychologist Intern for the UWI Track and Field team in the year 2007-2008 academic year.



DONEIKA SIMMS

Doneika Simms successfully completed her Master of Science degree in Urban and Regional Planning at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus in Trinidad and Tobago, where she maintained a 3.65 Grade Point Average. Ms. Simms is also the holder of a Bachelor of Science degree in Geography with a minor in Philosophy.

After completing her studies, she received a scholarship from the Canadian Bureau for International Education to conduct research for six months at the McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

In September 2008, she represented the Caribbean Region at the 44th Annual International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISO-CARP) Congress held in Dalian, China. There, she was the recipient of the Young Professional Planner Award for having the best written paper. This paper focused on "the Effects of Urbanisation on the Natural Resources of Jamaica".



ROCHELLE WHYNE

In 2007, Ms. Whyne was conferred with an Associate's degree in Business Administration from the Northern Caribbean University and in 2009, she also obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Work. This makes her the holder of an Associate's degree and a Bachelor's degree at the young age of 22.

During her tenure at the Northern Caribbean University, she received several awards for excellence in academics and made the

Dean's List for five consecutive years.

Rochelle was the valedictorian of her graduating class at the Rusea's High School where she passed 12 CXC and GCE subjects with seven (7) distinctions.

She is a Rotarian and is very active in community service. She is the current Chairman of Rotaract Jamaica Central and Director in charge of Professional Services for the Rotaract Club of Mandeville.



KEVAUGHN BONNER

Kevaughn Bonner is a 17-year-old Farmer from the parish of Clarendon. His love for rabbits led him to set up his own Rabbit Care Farm in 2008. He employs and manages two full-time and one part-time worker.

Along with his father, Kevaughn manages the family farm with over 100 goats and pigs.

He has received several awards for his work and, in particular, his innovative design of a feeding trough using compote materials from the home and tin cans. Such awards include second prize at the International IICA Award for Small Scale Farming.

Kevaughn is also an active member of the Jamaica 4H Club and has received several awards through his involvement.



RACKELL WILSON

Rackell Wilson is a 24-year-old nurse, who resides in the community of Stanton Fellowship, Portland. She has given exceptional service through her job at the Port Antonio Hospital and voluntary service in various community-based organisations. Through her leadership roles, she has engaged youths in providing services to various institutions. She also established "Care Giving Day" at the Portland Rehabilitation Centre and has organised fund raising

activities for persons in need.

Ms. Wilson provides medical and counselling support to the vulnerable population such as the youth and disabled. She is best remembered for providing medical attention on the scene after the fatal accident at Damn Bridge in Stanton Fellowship, Portland in December 2008. She received a Humanitarian Award from the Kiwanis Club of Portland for her brave service.



SEAN HYLTON

Sean Hylton is a 23-year-old student of the University of Technology where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Urban and Regional Planning.

Community Development is a consistent theme in this young man's life. In 2009, he was the recipient of the Governor-General's Award for Excellence for the Parish of St. Mary.

He is the founder and the President of the Pagge Youth for Sustainable Development, a group formed to foster greater spiritual cohesion among youth and facilitate educational and employment opportunities for the youths of Pagge.

Along with the group, he has been able to build the capacity of members to acquire jobs and partner with other organisations in implementing programmes geared at fostering the wellbeing of the elderly and the preservation of the environment.



RYAN O'NEIL SMALL

At age 19, Ryan Small has given voluntary community service to over twenty community-based organisations in Jamaica. At the Norman Manley High School, he succeeded in the renovation of the School's library at a cost of three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) and the installation of twenty new computers. He also partnered with service organisations to organise a 'Meals on Wheels' quarterly feeding programme, targeting over 200 homeless persons within the Corporate Area.

Mr. Small is now a youth volunteer in over 11 organisations including his role as Founder and Chairman of the Kingston Youth Information Centre Mentorship Programme.

Mr. Small was able to revamp several youth clubs and re-launch Student Council bodies in five high schools. In 2009, he received the award for Student Councillor of the Year, National Secondary Students' Council Region One.



KAJHA ESCOFFERY

A student at the University of Technology, Kajha Escoffery is a 20-year-old upcoming actress, pursuing studies in Hospitality and Tourism Management. She also has a flair for the Performing Arts where she has already distinguished herself.

She has starred in several productions such as "Dream Girls 2009" and received the Actor Boy Award for the production "Man Better Man".

She is a past student of the Arden High School and Hydel Preparatory School. During her school career she has received the JCDC gold and silver medals for dub poetry and mix dub.

In November 2009, Kajha won the Best Actress Award for the University of the West Indies drama production "Tallawah 2009".

She is a former member of Ashe and Tabulex and serves as Secretary for the Jamaican Youth Theatre.



CHRISTOPHER GORDON

Christopher Gordon is a 23-year-old Performer. He can be referred to as a part of a theatre elite who have been awarded by all four national theatre competitions: School's Drama Festival, Tallawah Festivals for the Caribbean Region Universities, the Actor Boy Award and the JCDC festivals where, over a two-year period, he received eight (8) individual gold medals.

Christopher created, produced and hosted the radio programme "Reggae on the Fuse" on Fuse 105.5 FM for three years. The programme was the first of its kind to be aired live on radio, television and the internet. It drew listeners from around the world. He was also a Producer and Writer for Jamaican shows and plays.

His contributions have landed him prestigious awards not only in Jamaica but in the United States as well.



RANDY MCLAREN

At age 22, Randy McLaren is a second year student at the University of the West Indies, who has participated in, and has future ambitions to contribute to the development of Jamaica's theatre.

In the field of Theatre Arts, he has copped several awards and medals in various competitions such as the Caribbean School's Drama Fest, where he received the award for Outstanding Acting. He also achieved the premier award for Arts and Culture at the

UWI last year. He has been featured in over five plays and productions such as "MANSONG".

In 2009, he was chosen to be Jamaica's representative for the Caribbean Broadcast Media AIDS Campaign and assisted in the production of commercials for the "Live Up" HIV campaign.



DANIELLA HYDE

At age 24, Daniella is currently the Manager of "Hyde Enterprise", a business which she started in July of this year. Through her business she does fashion designing and large scale production of uniforms and professional wear for corporate clients.

She was recently selected as one of Jamaica's young business elite for 2009. In addition, she received the University of Technology 2009 Award for Entrepreneurship and was awarded the Churches Coop-

erative Credit Union (CCCJ) Entrepreneurship Programme Business award.

Daniella is a past student of the University of Technology where she pursued a Bachelor of Education degree in TVET and Computer Studies.

She is also a past student of St. Andrew Technical High School, a Senior Girls' Brigade leader, and is active in community development.



NATIONAL SYNCHRONISED SWIMMING TEAM (SYNCHRO SWIMMERS)

Members: Shannon March, Tashna Smith-Edwards and Michelle-Ann Gabbadon.

These synchro swimmers are pioneers and have excelled even with meager resources and little local competition to assist in tuning their skills.

In August 2009, coach Amanda Eyre, judge Tanya March and the Synchro Swimmers ventured off to North Carolina, USA to participate in the Pan American Junior Synchro Championship. Their performance was exemplary and generated great interest among fellow competitors.

The Pan American Junior Championship was preceded by very good showings in the Florida Gold Coast Synchronised Swimming International competition and the CARIFTA Swimming Championships. The team fought hard for a third place finish at the CARIFTA Swimming Championships.



ONEIL CLARKE

Oneil Clarke is a 21-year-old Jamaican who is committed to youth and community development.

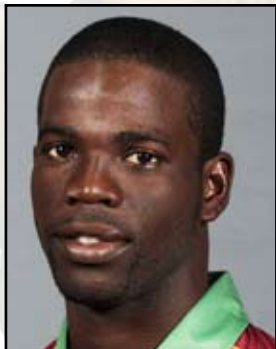
He is a certified Chaplin and frequently visits and ministers to inmates at Correctional Institutions and Homes.

Mr. Clarke is a member of committees and organisations such as the St. Ann Parish Development Committee and the Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network.

He has received a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of his invaluable contribution to community development from the Social Development Commission.

For his contribution to community development he has been invited by the Governor-General and Ministers of Government to participate in conferences advocating youth development as an integral and necessary aspect of national development.

Oneil Clarke is a past student of the Marcus Garvey High School and the Runaway Bay HEART Training Institute.



CHADWICK ANTONIO KIRKPATRICK WALTON

This 24-year-old's sporting career started at Munro College. While there, he accepted an invitation in 1999 to play with the Under 15 National Team. In 2000, he was selected Captain and led the team to victory against Guyana.

In the 2003–2004 season, he received the highest individual score for cricket and was named Batsman of the Year in the Headley Cup.

To date, he has the highest individual score in the Super Cup, 179 not out.

In the second test against Bangladesh in 2009 he contributed five dismissals in a single innings and was recorded in history as the first West Indian Wicket-keeper since Ridley Jacobs to attain this achievement.



SHERICKA WILLIAMS

The slim figured quarter-miler, aka Wire, has consistently shown development in her craft over the years, having been successful at the World Junior level and the Boys' and Girls' Championships.

Shericka etched her name in the annals of Jamaica's illustrious athletics history with a fighting display to capture the silver medal in the women's 400 metres at the Games of the 29th Olympiad in the Bird's Nest Stadium in Beijing, China

on August 19, 2008, clocking a career's best of 46.69 seconds.

Williams, with this performance, became only the sixth Jamaican to achieve such heights. A service-driven individual, Shericka gives back to her alma mater, St. Elizabeth Technical High School, whenever she can and is involved in mentorship of the students there.



SIMONE ABSALOM

A 23-year-old student of the University of the West Indies, Simone Absalom is both an enthused Journalist and a Social Worker.

She has organised and produced programmes that give young people a voice on issues that affect them.

She is a Producer at Jamaica News Network where she has produced programmes such as the "Rise and Fall of the Banana Industry" and the "Impact of the Spanish Hotels on the

Jamaican Economy".

Since working in the media, Simone has utilised her knowledge and skills gained by soliciting donations and funding for institutions in need. She has also organised back to school treats, a homework and counselling programme for youth and organised the donation of wheelchairs for the physically challenged. Simone Absalom is a past student of the Mico Teacher's College and Merl Grove High School.



GARFENE GRANDISON

After entering the Martin Luther King, Jr. essay competition in 2006, Garfene was invited by the Jamaica Observer to be a writer for their weekly teen publication Teenager Observer Magazine. In less than a year, he was promoted to President of the Magazine.

In late 2008, he became a part of the directing team for a new magazine for college students both locally and abroad. He has been involved in the planning

and execution of events geared towards youth development.

Throughout his four years in Journalism, his articles have focused on matters including education, politics and various areas relating to young people.

At the age of 21, Mr. Grandison is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Liberal Studies in Media and Philosophy at the University of the West Indies.



DONALD OLIVER

Donald Oliver is a 24-year-old radio and television personality who has accomplished a great deal in the area of Communications.

He had an early start on the "Small People's" programme on Love 101 and experienced a career high point as one of the commentators during the West Indies tour of Pakistan in 2006 at the age of 21. The tour was covered regionally on satellite radio and internationally on the internet.

Mr. Oliver has done various feature stories on major sporting events in addition to doing nightly reports on CVM TV.

He has also produced for both radio and television. In 2006 and 2007 he was entrusted with the overall radio production of the 2006 and 2007 "Sports Year in Review". He is currently pursuing a degree in Media and Communications.



ROLANDO ANGELO SMITH

This 22 year old Jamaican Journalist believes that doing work that is socially relevant and beneficial daily and providing information that will transform lives positively is one of the greatest rewards in life.

Mr. Rolando Smith is currently employed to the Jamaica News Network as a Reporter, Presenter and Producer.

His vitality and competence as a Journalist led him to produce the half-hour news package "Today's News" on JNN. He also reports on a wide range of issues including copyright infringement, political events and other business news including Bill Clarke versus Scotiabank.

Rolando is the holder of a first class Bachelor of Arts degree in Media and Communications from the University of the West Indies and he is currently pursuing his Master of Arts degree in Communication Studies at the same institution.



MICHELLE-ANN GABBADON

As a 16-year-old sports woman, Michelle-Ann has helped to increase the awareness of Synchronized Swimming in Jamaica by being one of Jamaica's first synchronized swimmers.

She has won several medals in national and international swim meets during her seven year career in the sport, which started at age 8½ at a Synchro Beginners Summer Camp.

As her sporting career excelled, she participated in a number of meets and won a number of medals. These included a gold medal in the 200m freestyle at the Mayberry high schools' meet in 2009 and her participation in the JAS Invitational for the under twelve category where she received gold, silver and bronze medals in 2005 and received a special award for the Most Improved synchro swimmer.



KALISE SPENCER

A graduate of the Mannings High School in Westmoreland, Kaliese in 2006 set a national junior record when she won the 400 metre hurdles at the World Junior Championships in Beijing, China. Her triumph was the first of its kind at the Junior level for a Jamaican athlete.

2009 saw Kaliese making strides at a very youthful age to achieve a number of milestones. At the IAAF Grand Prix in Zagreb, Croatia she became the third fastest Jamaican hurdler and the world's fourth fastest hurdler. She contributed to the spectacular Jamaican medal haul at the World Championships in Berlin by being a member of the silver medal 4 x 400 metre team.



TRUDI ANNE HOWE

Trudy Ann Howe personifies the term "Leadership with a purpose". At all three education institutions she has attended, she held numerous positions of leadership and received awards and honours for her service. At her alma-mater, St. Andrew High School, in addition to the several positions held, she was selected Deputy Head-girl in 2003.

She achieved over twenty-six honours and awards at the University of the West Indies and the University College of the Caribbean, including Distinguished President and the Governor-General/Kiwanis Club of Kingston Youth in Excellence Award for Leadership. Her established reputation as a young leader has led to opportunities to speak on a number of platforms including TV and radio, and has also enabled her to sit on various boards and panels.



NESTA CARTER

This Manchester High School graduate has had an outstanding career to date even amidst periods of inactivity due to injuries. In 2008, Nesta Carter provided a brilliant start leg for the world record breaking quartet at the Beijing Olympics in the 4 x 100 metres event for men.

In September 2009, at a meet in Shanghai, he clocked his personal best time of 9.91 seconds to become the third fastest Jamaican man in the world.

can man in the world.



ANDREW WILDES

The résumé of Andrew Wildes at age 23, far outweighs his years of experience.

At age 19, he received the prestigious Gleaner's Silver Pen Award. He was also offered a job by the Editor-In-Chief of the Gleaner Company. To date, he has published over one hundred articles in The Gleaner and Star newspapers, many of which were lead stories.

He has also covered several major historic events. This law student was the only indigenous Jamaican Journalist to personally cover the inauguration of the first black President of the United States, Barack Obama, in January 2009.

Through his work, he received support for vulnerable persons living in Jamaica. By publishing their stories he has had a tremendous impact on the lives of many young Jamaicans.



SIAELDA GREEN

A past student of the University of the West Indies and the Northern Caribbean University, her track record of accomplishments and experience in the field of leadership far outweighs her years at age 24.

During her tenure at both institutions, she held several key leadership positions and received several awards for her contribution to university life.

In a one-year period, she received over eight awards from the University of the West Indies in the area of leadership and service. The University of the West Indies conferred on Ms. Green the Premier Award for Outstanding Leadership for the 2008–2009 academic year.

Ms. Siaelda Green is presently the host of the "Red Ribbon Café", a radio programme done annually on World AIDS Day to educate persons about HIV/AIDS.



PRIME MINISTER'S YOUTH AWARDS 2009 P R O G R A M M E *"A FAMILY REUNION"*

THE GATHERING

Kingston Drummers
Stella Maris Dance Ensemble
Nomaddz

The Hosts:

Sanique Vacianna & Garth Williams

THE PROCESSION OF NOMINEES

THE FAMILY PRAYER

The National Anthem

The Williams' Family
(Jon, Imani and Jovani)

THE FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

Salutation

Hon. Olivia Grange, MP
Minister of Youth, Sports
& Culture

Levy's Heritage

Goddy Goddy and Ryan Mark

PROFILES OF THE NOMINEES I

IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR

William Tell
by Gioachino Rossini

The Williams' Family
(Jon, Imani and Jovani)

Con te partiro
by F. Sartori and L. Quarantotto

Mr. Rory Baugh

FAMILY TESTIMONY I

Alaine and Myrna Laughton

A Duet for Sisters

The Tivoli Dance Troupe

PROFILES OF THE NOMINEES II

Cliff Mix

St George's College Choir

FAMILY TESTIMONY II

LNS

Shady Squad

PROFILES OF THE NOMINEES III

THINGS FALL APART

Nomaddz

FAMILY TESTIMONY III

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

*The Prime Minister's
Youth Awards*

Mrs. Roberta Ellis
Director of Youth Policy
& Programme Development
NCYD

*Introduction of
the Prime Minister*

Mr. Kamal Powell
Youth Ambassador & Chairman of
Youth Parliamentary Watch Comm.

Main Address

The Hon. Bruce Golding, MP
Prime Minister

The Awards

CELEBRATION

Junior Reid, Andrew and
Wadah Blood

I Octane

Gee Wiz

Freddie McGregor and Chino