



CONTENTS

Message from the Editor	1
Message from the President	3
Message from the Vice President	7
Message from the Program Chair	8
Message from the Immediate Past President	11
Message from the Language Sub-Editors	18
Spanish	18
French	20
Dutch Caribbean Report	22
Graduate Student Representative	23
CSA Member Highlight	24
Caribbean Scholarship	25
Caribbean Artistic Expression	28
New Book	29
Regional News	30
Your Commentary	31
Obituary	34
Special Announcements	35

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The Official Newsletter of the Caribbean Studies Association - June/July 2023 Edition

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

CSA 2023 Conference is a wrap!

Thanks to all our members, delegates, sponsors and volunteers for making us proud in St. Croix, Virgin Islands of the US for our annual conference this year!

As we move towards 2024, we take this opportunity to welcome our new President, Okama Ekpe Brook and Vice President, Rhoda Arrindell. See their columns to get a sense of their mission and vision for CSA 2024 and beyond!

CSA Elders

At this year's conference, our first fully in-person event after the COVID 19 pandemic, it was indeed a pleasure to see CSA Elders in attendance. Amongst the members in attendance were past presidents, former program chairs and lifetime members. As we move towards our next fifty years we remain grateful for the contributions of our Caribbean scholar stalwarts as we stand on their shoulders focused on the future.

#LongLiveCSA



Meagan Sylvester



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Africa Caribbean Heritage Alliance

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR cont'd



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Okama Ekpe Brook

CSA Members, Partners and Affiliates,

Welcome to the new season of the Caribbean Studies Association. A season that will culminate in our next gathering of the 48th annual conference and our Golden Jubilee anniversary. Our appreciation to the Immediate Past President, Dr. Chenzira Davis Kahina and the

organizing team of the 47th annual conference held last month in St. Croix. The New Executive Council is gearing up for the year ahead and encourages all members to stay engaged to enable inclusion of your perspectives into the planning of the 48th annual conference.

CSA@50: Caribbean Development Sustainability: The Convergence of Technology, People, Planet, Peace, Prosperity and Partnerships

The suitability of this theme and subthemes take several issues into consideration in the analysis of Caribbean developments and measures against the current global developments, positioning of governments post Covid 19, stagnation of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and in furtherance of key conversations related to the Decade for People of African Descent. The focus of the 2024 annual conference themed Caribbean Development Sustainability with sub-themes on technology, people, planet, peace, prosperity and partnerships (T5P) provide an intersectionality of the humanities and social sciences through culturally appropriate lens of broadened multidisciplinary and community dialogue. The conversations are geared to enable the strengthening of the Caribbean Studies Association's influence in Caribbean policy dialogue, to promote closer contact, communication, and collaboration amongst its members and practitioners as well as identify avenues for joint research and scholarship exchanges.

The conference recognizes the importance and relevance of sustainability studies that are culturally contextualized and often operationalized in the context of Participatory Action Research focusing on Caribbean issues, people, and spaces.

This vision is premised on the need to deepen dialogue and further research on avenues for economic partnerships, trade and investments and stimulating of the creative industries. It is now seven years to the closure of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. This offers a platform for the Caribbean Studies Association to consolidate, position and utilize its members' expertise and infrastructure on the various development issues and to propose evidence-based research solutions that can favorably impact regional governments' thrusts towards legislation, budget allocation, intervention planning, collaborative implementation, wealth creation, monitoring and evaluation.

Furthermore, it is envisaged that an outcome of the conference will include formation of working groups that will liaise with the CARICOM, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, Caribbean Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Organization of American States, United Nations Agencies, the 6th Region African Diaspora Caucus, European Union, African Continental & Pacific Partnership Agreement, African Union, Economic Commission of West African States, African Continental Free Trade Agreement, Island Innovation, and the Small Island Developing States. This dialogue will facilitate conversations, activities, and concrete actionable implementation frameworks for members of the Caribbean Studies Association. This will open up avenues for multidimensional partnerships (co-creation of CSA chapters in select institutions), funding, networking and exchange opportunities for CSA Scholars and young professionals. In addition, it will mobilize the necessary technical and financial resources for the academy through graduate student research, networking, exchange opportunities, coaching and mentorship of young professionals and mid-career members.

Beyond bringing our scholars to the conference, the intended overall outcome of the conference revolves around the formation of working groups to liaise with the CARICOM, United Nations Agencies, Caribbean Development Bank, the 6th Region African Diaspora Caucus, and the SIDS for conversations, activities and concrete research ideas. The Africa Caribbean Heritage Alliance, herein referred as ACHA, a global not for profit organization founded by Amb. Okama Ekpe Brook, ACHA has offices in the Caribbean, Africa and Canada and is well positioned to coordinate triangular partnerships, networking and exchange opportunities with the African continent.

Caribbean Development is also shaped by the region's unique history, geography, and political economy. The Caribbean has a complex colonial legacy, marked by centuries of slavery and exploitation,

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT cont'd

which has had lasting effects on the region's social and economic structures. The Caribbean is also a small island developing state (SIDS), which presents unique challenges for economic growth and sustainable development. Therefore, scholars and practitioners alike must also take into account the region's historical and structural realities, as well as the need for inclusive and sustainable growth that promotes the well-being of all citizens, including marginalized and vulnerable communities. This includes addressing issues such as income inequality, environmental degradation, gender inequality, and social exclusion.

Okama Ekpe Brook
President CSA 2023-2024

Español

Miembros, socios y afiliados de CSA,

Bienvenidos a la nueva temporada de la Asociación de Estudios del Caribe. Una temporada que culminará en nuestra próxima reunión de la 48.^a conferencia anual y nuestro aniversario del Jubileo de Oro. Nuestro agradecimiento a la expresidenta inmediata, la Dra. Chenzira Davis Kahina y al equipo organizador de la 47.^a conferencia anual celebrada el mes pasado en St. Croix. El Nuevo Consejo Ejecutivo se está preparando para el próximo año y alienta a todos los miembros a mantenerse comprometidos para permitir la inclusión de sus perspectivas en la planificación de la 48.^a conferencia anual.

CSA@50: Sostenibilidad del desarrollo del Caribe: la convergencia de la tecnología, las personas, el planeta, la paz, la prosperidad y las alianzas

La idoneidad de este tema y subtemas tiene en cuenta varias cuestiones en el análisis de los desarrollos del Caribe y las medidas contra los desarrollos mundiales actuales, el posicionamiento de los gobiernos después de Covid 19, el estancamiento de la implementación de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible y en la promoción de conversaciones clave relacionadas con el Decenio de los Afrodescendientes. El enfoque de la conferencia anual de 2024 con el tema Sostenibilidad del desarrollo del Caribe con subtemas sobre tecnología, personas, planeta, paz, prosperidad y asociaciones (T5P) proporciona una interseccionalidad de las humanidades y las ciencias sociales a través de una lente culturalmente apropiada de un diálogo comunitario y multidisciplinario ampliado. Las conversaciones están orientadas a permitir el fortalecimiento de la influencia de la Asociación de Estudios del Caribe en el diálogo sobre

políticas del Caribe, promover un contacto, comunicación y colaboración más estrechos entre sus miembros y profesionales, así como identificar vías para la investigación conjunta y el intercambio de becas.

La conferencia reconoce la importancia y la relevancia de los estudios de sostenibilidad que están culturalmente contextualizados y, a menudo, operacionalizados en el contexto de la Investigación de Acción Participativa que se centra en los problemas, las personas y los espacios del Caribe.

Esta visión se basa en la necesidad de profundizar el diálogo y profundizar la investigación sobre las vías para las asociaciones económicas, el comercio y las inversiones y la estimulación de las industrias creativas. Faltan siete años para el cierre de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible para 2030. Esto ofrece una plataforma para que la Asociación de Estudios del Caribe consolide, posicione y utilice la experiencia y la infraestructura de sus miembros en los diversos temas de desarrollo y proponga soluciones de investigación basadas en evidencia que pueden impactar favorablemente los impulsos de los gobiernos regionales hacia la legislación, la asignación presupuestaria, la planificación de intervenciones, la implementación colaborativa, la creación de riqueza, el seguimiento y la evaluación.

Además, se prevé que uno de los resultados de la conferencia incluirá la formación de grupos de trabajo que servirán de enlace con la CARICOM, la Organización de Estados del Caribe Oriental, el Banco de Desarrollo del Caribe, el Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo, la Organización de los Estados Americanos, las agencias de las Naciones Unidas, la Caucus de la Diáspora Africana de la Sexta Región, Unión Europea, Acuerdo de Asociación Africano Continental y del Pacífico, Unión Africana, Comisión Económica de los Estados de África Occidental, Acuerdo de Libre Comercio Continental Africano, Innovación Insular y Pequeños Estados Insulares en Desarrollo. Este diálogo facilitará conversaciones, actividades y marcos de implementación prácticos y concretos para los miembros de la Asociación de Estudios del Caribe. Esto abrirá vías para asociaciones multidimensionales (creación conjunta de capítulos de CSA en instituciones seleccionadas), oportunidades de financiación, creación de redes e intercambio para becarios de CSA y jóvenes profesionales. Además, movilizará los recursos técnicos y financieros necesarios para la academia a través de la investigación de los estudiantes de posgrado, la creación de redes, las oportunidades de intercambio, el entrenamiento y la tutoría de jóvenes profesionales y miembros de la mitad de su carrera.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT cont'd

Más allá de traer a nuestros académicos a la conferencia, el resultado general previsto de la conferencia gira en torno a la formación de grupos de trabajo para vincularse con CARICOM, las agencias de las Naciones Unidas, el Banco de Desarrollo del Caribe, el Caucus de la Diáspora Africana de la 6ta Región y los SIDS para conversaciones, actividades. e ideas de investigación concretas. La Africa Caribbean Heritage Alliance, en lo sucesivo denominada ACHA, una organización global sin fines de lucro fundada por el Emb. Okama Ekpe Brook, ACHA tiene oficinas en el Caribe, África y Canadá y está bien posicionada para coordinar asociaciones triangulares, redes y oportunidades de intercambio con el continente africano.

El desarrollo del Caribe también está determinado por la historia, la geografía y la economía política únicas de la región. El Caribe tiene un legado colonial complejo, marcado por siglos de esclavitud y explotación, que ha tenido efectos duraderos en las estructuras sociales y económicas de la región. El Caribe también es un pequeño estado insular en desarrollo (PEID), que presenta desafíos únicos para el crecimiento económico y el desarrollo sostenible. Por lo tanto, tanto académicos como profesionales también deben tener en cuenta la historia de la región realidades históricas y estructurales, así como la necesidad de un crecimiento inclusivo y sostenible que promueva el bienestar de todos los ciudadanos, incluidas las comunidades marginadas y vulnerables. Esto incluye abordar problemas como la desigualdad de ingresos, la degradación ambiental, la desigualdad de género y la exclusión social.

Okama Ekpe Brook
Presidenta de la CSA 2023-2024

Français **Membres, partenaires et affiliés de l'ASC,**

Bienvenue à la nouvelle saison de l'Association des études caribéennes. Une saison qui culminera avec notre prochain rassemblement de la 48e conférence annuelle et notre anniversaire du jubilé d'or. Nos remerciements au président sortant, le Dr Chenzira Davis Kahina et à l'équipe organisatrice de la 47e conférence annuelle qui s'est tenue le mois dernier à Sainte-Croix. Le nouveau conseil exécutif se prépare pour l'année à venir et encourage tous les membres à rester engagés pour permettre l'inclusion de vos points de vue dans la planification de la 48e conférence annuelle.

CSA@50 : Développement durable des Caraïbes : la convergence de la technologie, des personnes, de la planète, de la paix, de la prospérité et des partenariats

La pertinence de ce thème et de ces sous-thèmes prend en considération plusieurs questions dans l'analyse des développements et des mesures des Caraïbes contre les développements mondiaux actuels, le positionnement des gouvernements après Covid 19, la stagnation de la mise en œuvre des objectifs de développement durable et dans la poursuite des conversations clés liées à Décennie des personnes d'ascendance africaine. L'objectif de la conférence annuelle 2024 sur le thème de la durabilité du développement des Caraïbes avec des sous-thèmes sur la technologie, les personnes, la planète, la paix, la prospérité et les partenariats (T5P) offre une intersectionnalité des sciences humaines et sociales à travers une optique culturellement appropriée d'un dialogue multidisciplinaire et communautaire élargi. Les conversations visent à permettre le renforcement de l'influence de la Caribbean Studies Association dans le dialogue politique caribéen, à promouvoir un contact, une communication et une collaboration plus étroits entre ses membres et praticiens, ainsi qu'à identifier des pistes de recherche conjointe et d'échanges de bourses.

La conférence reconnaît l'importance et la pertinence des études de durabilité qui sont culturellement contextualisées et souvent opérationnalisées dans le contexte de la recherche-action participative axée sur les problèmes, les personnes et les espaces des Caraïbes.

Cette vision repose sur la nécessité d'approfondir le dialogue et de poursuivre la recherche sur les possibilités de partenariats économiques, commerciaux et d'investissements et de stimulation des industries créatives. Il reste maintenant sept ans à la clôture des objectifs de développement durable d'ici 2030. Cela offre une plate-forme à l'Association des études caribéennes pour consolider, positionner et utiliser l'expertise et l'infrastructure de ses membres sur les différentes questions de développement et proposer des solutions de recherche fondées sur des preuves. qui peuvent avoir un impact favorable sur les orientations des gouvernements régionaux en matière de législation, d'allocation budgétaire, de planification des interventions, de mise en œuvre collaborative, de création de richesse, de suivi et d'évaluation.

En outre, il est prévu que l'un des résultats de la conférence comprendra la formation de groupes de travail qui assureront la liaison avec la CARICOM, l'Organisation des États des Caraïbes orientales, la Banque de développement des Caraïbes, la Banque interaméricaine

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT cont'd

de développement, l'Organisation des États américains, les agences des Nations Unies, le Caucus de la diaspora africaine de la 6e région, Union européenne, Accord de partenariat continental africain et pacifique, Union africaine, Commission économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest, Accord de libre-échange continental africain, Innovation insulaire et Petits États insulaires en développement. Ce dialogue facilitera les conversations, les activités et les cadres de mise en œuvre concrets et exploitables pour les membres de la Caribbean Studies Association. Cela ouvrira des possibilités de partenariats multidimensionnels (co-création de chapitres CSA dans certaines institutions), de financement, de réseautage et d'opportunités d'échange pour les boursiers CSA et les jeunes professionnels. En outre, il mobilisera les ressources techniques et financières nécessaires à l'académie par le biais de la recherche d'étudiants diplômés, du réseautage, des opportunités d'échange, de l'encadrement et du mentorat de jeunes professionnels et de membres à mi-carrière.

Au-delà d'amener nos universitaires à la conférence, le résultat global prévu de la conférence tourne autour de la formation de groupes de travail pour assurer la liaison avec la CARICOM, les agences des Nations Unies, la Banque de développement des Caraïbes, le Caucus de la diaspora africaine de la 6e région et les PEID pour des conversations, des activités et des idées de recherche concrètes. L'Africa Caribbean Heritage Alliance, ci-après dénommée

ACHA, une organisation mondiale à but non lucratif fondée par Amb. Okama Ekpe Brook, ACHA a des bureaux dans les Caraïbes, en Afrique et au Canada et est bien placé pour coordonner les partenariats triangulaires, le réseautage et les opportunités d'échange avec le continent africain.

Le développement des Caraïbes est également façonné par l'histoire, la géographie et l'économie politique uniques de la région. Les Caraïbes ont un héritage colonial complexe, marqué par des siècles d'esclavage et d'exploitation, qui a eu des effets durables sur les structures sociales et économiques de la région. Les Caraïbes sont également un petit État insulaire en développement (PEID), qui présente des défis uniques pour la croissance économique et le développement durable. Par conséquent, les universitaires et les praticiens doivent également tenir compte de l'histoire de la région les réalités historiques et structurelles, ainsi que la nécessité d'une croissance inclusive et durable qui favorise le bien-être de tous les citoyens, y compris les communautés marginalisées et vulnérables. Cela comprend la résolution de problèmes tels que l'inégalité des revenus, la dégradation de l'environnement, l'inégalité entre les sexes et l'exclusion sociale.

Okama Ekpe Brook
Président de l'ASC 2023-2024

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



Rhoda Arrindell

NEW RELEASE Statement by One SXM¹

One SXM on King Willem Alexander's Apology for Dutch involvement in Slavery and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade

GREAT BAY, St. Martin

(July 5, 2023)—On July 1, 2023, King Willem Alexander of the Netherlands kingdom acknowledged that Slavery and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade constituted “a crime against humanity.”

By apologizing for the Dutch involvement in Slavery and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, the Dutch king has accepted his kingdom’s culpability in the crime. The king asked for forgiveness “for the obvious lack of action against this crime against humanity,” but failed the penitence test.

One SXM acknowledges His Majesty King Willem Alexander for his gesture on July 1, 2023, Emancipation Day in the southern part of St. Martin, the only territory in the kingdom where the day is an official public holiday.

However, we believe that the apology is incomplete as it does not contain a commitment to non-repetition, eradication of colonialism by the Dutch kingdom, or Reparations and other forms of reparatory justice.

Secondly, the king’s apology explicitly mentions Suriname and Indonesia, two sovereign countries that were once Dutch colonies, but fails to acknowledge the remaining Dutch territories in the Caribbean by name. For One SXM, this amounts to an erasure of our identity, which is a core aspect of Slavery and colonialism.

Moreover, the Dutch king did not acknowledge that the southern part of St. Martin remains a Dutch colony or indicate what his government would do to eradicate colonialism. While the king’s statement asks citizens of the kingdom to work at building a world free of racism, at every opportunity to denounce racism and xenophobia at several United Nations fora, the kingdom has consistently maintained a diametrically opposite stance by refusing to join the rest of the world in denouncing these ills.

The United Nations records of 2022 would show that the Netherlands kingdom abstained from voting for the resolution approving the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. Actions speak louder than words.

To act as if the Dutch king is only now learning about their atrocious history and their participation in that evil system only adds insult to injury.

One SXM welcomes the Dutch king’s gesture as important in setting a precedence for other European countries, but it does not go far enough to address the real effects of Slavery, such as colonialism and debt entrapment. As the perpetrator of the acknowledged crime, the king and the Dutch kingdom government cannot unilaterally decide what the penalty will be for their crimes against humanity.

One SXM is further requesting that the Dutch government acknowledge that colonialism is also a crime against the people and to work with the people of St. Martin to finally eradicate colonialism on our island, fulfilling their obligation in accordance with the UN Resolution 1514, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

In December 2022, One SXM issued a statement rejecting the “apology” by Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte on behalf of the government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for the Dutch involvement in Slavery because the statement of December 19 fell short of a sincere apology. In the subsequent “Open Letter to King Willem Alexander” on February 2, 2023, One SXM demanded “a sincere apology for the Dutch Kingdom’s involvement in Slavery, the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, and continuing colonialism.”

¹ One SXM Association (One SXM) is an association that advocates for the social, cultural, educational, and economic upliftment of the people of St. Martin.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIR



Meagan Sylvester

Goodbye to CSA 2023!

It gave me great pleasure as the Program Chair to have welcomed the CSA family back to academic dialogues, camaraderie and insightful and engaging scholarship at our first fully in-person meeting after the pandemic. We were grateful that the WHO has declared that

COVID 19 was no longer a global threat and as such we could come together once more to network and participate in this year's conference. On behalf of my team and I, we brought warm Crucian (St. Croix) greetings to all!

This year's theme was Transforming Our Caribbean: Sustainable Educational Research, Cultural Creatives, Sacred Traditions, Economic Development and Environmental Solutions which took place on the island of St. Croix, Virgin Islands of the United States. Despite being one of the smaller islands in the Caribbean, this conference had over 200 abstract submissions together with 50 plus sessions exclusive of daily plenaries and luncheon discussions, which addressed each of this year's topics:

- Sustainable Educational Research
- Economic Development
- Cultural Creatives and Praxis
- Environmental Solutions
- Sacred Traditions and Influences

Together with panels, workshops and roundtable presentations, other segments included poster presentations, film screenings, a Crucian tour which encourages opportunity for networking, highlighting our literary successes through the author celebration, our signature cultural night event, young scholar panels, the annual general membership meeting, culminating with the CSA Night Awards and Gala at the Governor's House.

This year we brought back the feature of the *CSA Aunties and Uncles Mentorship Program*. The facility provided an opportunity for academic and work-based mentoring for our young scholars by connecting seasoned scholars and higher education professionals with graduate students.

As an academic institution, we pride ourselves on education being one of our institutional pillars. Given that this year we revived the CSA Book Drive which is a charitable event that gives you the membership the opportunity to partner with us to give back to the local communities by providing literature from all fields and across all levels of learning.

Finally, special mention goes out to my Program Chair Assistant, Jewel Nicome and the entire Program Team ably led by Howard Reid. Yeoman service was also provided by the abstract review team and CSA website manager, Kiah Asabea.

It has been my pleasure to serve you all and thanks again for making it CSA!

Meagan A. Sylvester
CSA Program Chair 2023

Español

¡Adiós a la CSA 2023!

Fue un gran placer para mí, como presidente del programa, haber dado la bienvenida a la familia CSA a los diálogos académicos, la camaradería y la beca perspicaz y atractiva en nuestra primera reunión totalmente en persona después de la pandemia. Estamos agradecidos de que la OMS haya declarado que COVID 19 ya no es una amenaza global y, como tal, pudimos unirnos una vez más para establecer contactos y participar en la conferencia de este año. ¡En nombre de mi equipo y mío, les trajimos un cálido saludo de Crucian (St. Croix) a todos!

El tema de este año fue Transformando Nuestro Caribe: Investigación Educativa Sostenible, Creativos Culturales, Tradiciones Sagradas, Desarrollo Económico y Soluciones Ambientales que tuvo lugar en la isla de St. Croix, Islas Vírgenes de los Estados Unidos. A pesar de ser una de las islas más pequeñas del Caribe, esta conferencia tuvo más de 200 presentaciones de resúmenes junto con más de 50 sesiones sin incluir plenarias diarias y almuerzos de discusión, que abordaron cada uno de los temas de este año:

- Investigación Educativa Sostenible
- Desarrollo económico
- Creativos Culturales y Praxis
- Soluciones Ambientales
- Tradiciones Sagradas e Influencias

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIR cont'd

Junto con paneles, talleres y presentaciones de mesas redondas, otros segmentos incluyeron presentaciones de carteles, proyecciones de películas, una gira cruciana que fomenta la oportunidad de establecer contactos, destacando nuestros éxitos literarios a través de la celebración del autor, nuestro evento cultural nocturno característico, paneles de jóvenes académicos, la membresía general anual reunión, que culminó con la Noche de Premios CSA y Gala en la Casa del Gobernador.

Este año volvimos a traer la característica del Programa de Mentores de Tías y Tíos de CSA. La instalación brindó una oportunidad de tutoría académica y laboral para nuestros jóvenes académicos al conectar a académicos experimentados y profesionales de la educación superior con estudiantes graduados.

Como institución académica, nos enorgullecemos de que la educación sea uno de nuestros pilares institucionales. Dado que este año reactivamos la Colecta de libros de CSA, que es un evento benéfico que le brinda a los miembros la oportunidad de asociarse con nosotros para retribuir a las comunidades locales proporcionando literatura de todos los campos y en todos los niveles de aprendizaje.

Finalmente, una mención especial va para mi asistente del presidente del programa, Jewel Nicome, y todo el equipo del programa hábilmente dirigido por Howard Reid. El servicio de Yeoman también fue proporcionado por el equipo de revisión de resúmenes y el administrador del sitio web de CSA, Kiah Asabea.

¡Ha sido un placer servirles a todos y gracias nuevamente por convertirlo en CSA!

Meagan A. Sylvester
Presidente del Programa CSA 2023

Français

Au revoir CSA 2023!

En tant que président du programme, j'ai eu le grand plaisir d'accueillir à nouveau la famille CSA dans des dialogues académiques, de la camaraderie et des bourses d'études perspicaces et engageantes lors de notre première réunion entièrement en personne après la pandémie. Nous étions reconnaissants que l'OMS ait déclaré que le COVID 19 n'était plus une menace mondiale et, à ce titre, nous avons pu nous réunir une fois de plus pour réseauter et participer à la conférence de cette année. Au nom de mon équipe et

moi-même, nous avons transmis à tous nos chaleureuses salutations de Crucian (Sainte-Croix) !

Le thème de cette année était Transformer nos Caraïbes : recherche éducative durable, créations culturelles, traditions sacrées, développement économique et solutions environnementales, qui s'est déroulé sur l'île de Sainte-Croix, îles Vierges des États-Unis. Bien qu'elle soit l'une des plus petites îles des Caraïbes, cette conférence a comporte plus de 200 soumissions de résumés ainsi que plus de 50 sessions exclusives des plénières quotidiennes et des déjeuners-débats, qui ont abordé chacun des sujets de cette année :

- Recherche en éducation durable
- Développement économique
- Créatifs et Praxis Culturels
- Solutions environnementales
- Traditions et influences sacrées

Outre des panels, des ateliers et des tables rondes, d'autres segments comprenaient des présentations d'affiches, des projections de films, une tournée Crucian qui encourage les opportunités de réseautage, mettant en évidence nos succès littéraires à travers la célébration des auteurs, notre soirée culturelle phare, des panels de jeunes universitaires, l'assemblée générale annuelle des membres réunion, culminant avec la soirée de remise des prix CSA et le gala à la maison du gouverneur.

Cette année, nous avons ramené la fonctionnalité du programme de mentorat des tantes et des oncles de l'ASC. L'installation a offert une opportunité de mentorat académique et professionnel à nos jeunes universitaires en mettant en relation des universitaires chevronnés et des professionnels de l'enseignement supérieur avec des étudiants diplômés.

En tant qu'institution universitaire, nous sommes fiers que l'éducation soit l'un de nos piliers institutionnels. Étant donné que cette année, nous avons relancé la collecte de livres de l'ASC, un événement caritatif qui vous donne aux membres la possibilité de vous associer à nous pour redonner aux communautés locales en fournissant de la littérature de tous les domaines et à tous les niveaux d'apprentissage.

Enfin, une mention spéciale va à mon adjoint au président du programme, Jewel Nicome et à toute l'équipe du programme dirigée avec compétence par Howard Reid. Le service Yeoman a également

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIR cont'd

é été fourni par l'équipe d'examen des résumés et la gestionnaire du site Web de la CSA, Kiah Asabea.

Cela a été un plaisir pour moi de vous servir tous et merci encore d'en avoir fait CSA !

Meagan A. Sylvester
Président du programme ASC 2023



MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



Chenzira Davis-Kahina

Thanks, Appreciation, and Gratitude for CSA2023 St. Croix Conference

The CSA2023 St. Croix Conference theme “Transforming Our Caribbean: Sustainable Educational Research, Cultural Creatives, Sacred Traditions, Economic Development and Environmental Solutions,” was strategically woven within an innovative and interdisciplinary tapestry throughout the five-day conference from June 5th to 9th during the plenaries, keynote presentations, film screenings, interactive workshops, networking, informative concurrent sessions by CSA2023 presenters, technology exchanges, undergraduate/ graduate student mentoring work sessions, and creative arts industry developments among CSA members, professionals, governmental leaders, corporate developers, thought leaders, philanthropy stewards, technologists, activists, and more. Special thanks and appreciation for CSA members, presenters, sponsors, supporters, volunteers, diverse youth, and silent active partners contributing to the successes and addressing challenges throughout the 47th CSA Conference physically hosted in St. Croix, Virgin Islands- for the first time in 49 years! CSA2023 cooperatively celebrated, intellectually investigated, and creatively featured the value, worth, sacred intentions, rich cultural heritage, diversity, technology advancements, equity, and harmony of St. Croix, the wider Virgin Islands, and Caribbean Americas regionally and globally. Visit the CSA website for more details on regional and international Caribbeanist work shared with the world.



Figure 1 Dr. Chenzira Davis Kahina (CSA President) after an interview with Dr. Simon B. Jones Hendrickson, CSA Living Founder & Past President in St. Croix- June 9,2023

Special thanks and appreciation are extended to CSA2023 Conference Sponsors, Supporters, Volunteers, Researchers+:

Honorable Recognition Extended to Dr. Simon Jones Hendrickson – The Sole Living CSA Founder & Past President and Dr. Cora Christian, Past President at their home on St. Croix, Virgin Islands. CSA is grateful and thankful for your lifelong support to CSA in general and annual sponsorship for the CSA Barbara T. Christian Literary Award.

Platinum Sponsors:

- Research and Technology Park at the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) (Triple)
- Peter Chapman, CEO, Aminah Saleem, COS & RTPark Team
- Dr. Simone L. Palmer Wellness Center
- St. Croix Foundation for Community Development- SCF Non-Profit Consortium
- Office of the Governor of the Virgin Islands of the United States - Honorable Albert Bryan, Jr. & Cabinet Administration

Gold Sponsors:

- UVI Medical Simulation Center (Dir. Charlene Navarro)
- VI Lottery Commission (Dir. Raymond Williams)
- 175th VI Emancipation Commemorative Commission

Silver Sponsors:

- VI Department of Tourism
- VI Department of Property & Procurement

Bronze Sponsors:

- Creative Justice Initiative
- Janice K. Born

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- The University of the West Indies Press
- University of Mississippi Press
- Rutgers University Press
- University Press of Florida

Supporters/Contributors:

- Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts
- The Company House and Caravelle Hotels
- Sugar Apple Bed and Breakfast
- Feather Leaf Inn
- Carambola Beach Resort Hotel
- Tamarind Reef Hotel
- Crucian Heritage and Nature Tourism (CHANT)

MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT cont'd

- Bungalows on the Bay
- St. Croix Unified for Community, Culture, Environment and Economic Development (SUCCEED)
- Live Up Nutrition
- AQMW Enterprises
- West Gyul
- Women's Coalition of St. Croix
- VI Architecture Center for Built Heritage & Crafts (VIAC)
- Per Ankh Khamniversity
- Conscious Lyrics Foundation (St. Martin)
- CaribNews Room (Jamaica)
- Conch Shell Media
- AST Speaks Consultants
- Let's Do It In The Caribbean (Jamaica)
- ICON Ltd. (Jamaica)
- VI Good Food Coalition
- Conscious Lyrics Foundation (St. Martin)
- House of Nehesi Publishers (St. Martin)
- Majestik Freedom Estrada-Petersen
- Leslie Greene
- CSA Travel Grant Volunteers
- Mackenzie Heffernan (SCF/Vista)
- Sonia Liburd
- David L. Horne
- Crucian Gold
- Bria James (Miss USVI 1st RU 2023) Crystal Peter
- Queen Bee's Market & Catering
- Annie's Catering
- Seaside Deli & Catering
- Camisha Lynch Catering
- J & W Grocery & Catering
- Johanna Bermudez Ruiz
- Charlita Schuster (Music In Motion School of Higher Dance Education)
- SQ Lavonne Wise
- Lauren Plaza
- Raymond Laureano
- Opal Palmer Adisa
- 35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands of the United States
- Claire Roker
- Mitchell-Larsen Studio
- CSA Lifetime & Annual Members
- Anonymous Contributors and You!

CSA2023 Plenary Panelists/Moderators:

- Carole Boyce Davies
- Professor Olasee Davis
- Genevieve Whitaker, JD
- Hon. Samuel Sanes
- Senator Novelle Francis
- Myron D. Jackson, Senator Ret.
- Obi Egbuna II (Keynote)
- Alexis Pauline Gumbs (Keynote)
- Samuel Raphael (Keynote)
- Peter Chapman
- Tim Reid
- Deanna James
- Chipo Baker Afamefuna
- DaraMonifah Cooper
- Carlyle G. Corbin
- Cardinal Mills
- Frandelle Gerard
- Brian Meeks
- Brian Kwoba
- Manuela Arciniegas
- Rhoda Arrindell

Appreciation and thanks are extended to the CSA2022-2023 Executive Council Representatives and Supportive Team actively contributing to the success of CSA2023 St. Croix physically and virtually throughout my 2022-2023 CSA Presidency:

- Okama Ekpe Brook (VP now President)
- Meagan Sylvester (Program Chair)
- Kristina Hinds (Rep)
- Eris Schoburgh (IPP)
- Nicholas Faraclas (Rep)
- L. Kaifa Roland (Rep)
- Mala Jokhan (Secretariat)
- Dwaine Plaza (Treasurer)
- Regan Reid (GSR)
- Jewel Nicome (PC Admin)
- Howard Reid (EF/Program IT)
- Chalana Brown (LOC)
- Debra Benjamin, (LOC)
- Maya Freeman, LOC Virtual/GSR 2023-25
- SisDr. Sandra Richards (LOC/Consultant)
- Sharon Parris-Chambers (LOC/Consultant)
- Davika Bissessar (LOC)
- Kiah Asabea (IT/Web Master) - A life of thanks for the exceptional IT you provide for CSA!

MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT cont'd

- Cassandra Dunn (LOC Consultant) - A life of thanks for all of the linkages and exceptional logistics expertise!
- Brad Nugent (Media/Marketing) - A life of thanks for creating/directing the professional media/brand+ for CSA2023
- Media One - Lawrence Lewis and *The Dynamic Team of Media One professionals* - A life of thanks for the exceptional livestream/videography and photography services for CSA2023!

& All others who helped in small and large ways! Thank you very much for contributing to the successes and overcoming challenges of CSA2023 St. Croix.



Figure 2 Genevieve Whitaker, Olasee Davis, Davika Bissessar, Frandelle Gerard, Sharon Parris-Chambers, SisDr.Sandra Richards - CSA2023



Figure 3 James Finies, Godfrey St. Bernard, Chenzira Davis Kahina, Meagan Sylvester, Jewel Nicome, Lauren Plaza & Dwaine Plaza - CSA2023

"Beyond the realities of the continuation of restorative work inclusive of post hurricane renovations from 2017, remnants of the global health pandemic of 2020, and increasing socioeconomic challenges impacting St. Croix and the entire Caribbean Americas in 2023, the delegates and guests of the CSA2023 St. Croix Conference contributed positively to its' theme of Transforming Our Caribbean with a positive mindset of "Clear Deh Road, Ayo!" to thrive beyond survival. 'Actionable deliverables' (Kahina:2023) were requested to encourage mental and physical shifts among all participants and guests in positively transforming our Caribbean. The importance of engaging in self-reparation, respect, and unity among CSA members, supporters, and beyond were discussed within multiple conference, signature, and networking sessions. The phrase "Clear deh road Ayo" comes from a traditional folkloric song in recognition of the emancipation of enslaved Africans on July 3rd.1848 during a time of transition in St. Croix from enslavement and colonialism into emancipated labor, freedom, and resilience. <https://vi175.com/clear-deh-road/>

With diverse sponsorship and support from the St. Croix, Virgin Islands, and Caribbean Americas, the CSA2023 St. Croix Conference was exceptional while providing professional standards of intellectual excellence that enhanced mental and physical self-inventories for the best impact among our communities, nations, and societies." (Parris-Chambers:2023) Source:

<https://www.caribnewsroom.com/blog/clear-deh-road-ayo-we-are-transforming-our-caribbean>



Figure 4 Honorable Benito Wheatley (Special Envoy to BVI Premier); Maurice Pindard (Guyane/Fr); SntDr. Chenzira Davis Kahina (CSA2023 President); Dr. Rhoda Arrindell (CSA EC/VP2023-4/St. Martin/HNP; Amb. James Finies (Bonaire); and Dr. Carlyle Corbin (UN Advisor/GDSP) - Panel Theme: "Colonialocracies: The Prematurity of Post-Coloniality"

MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT cont'd

CSA2023 St Croix Conference Plenary & Select Sessions

Livestream Videos

- [https://www.youtube.com/@caribbeanstudiesassociation8284/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@caribbeanstudiesassociation8284streams)
- <https://www.facebook.com/CaribbeanStudiesAssociation/>

Caribbean Studies Association 47th Conference St. Croix - Media links: June 2023. CSA2023

Live stream of select conference sessions June 5-9.2023

- <https://youtu.be/uS0Jlp3fRgU> (Promo)

CSA2023 Day One Luncheon Plenary

<https://www.youtube.com/live/KmzbNZ0c-1c?feature=share>

Obi Egbuna, II, Journalist | Educator| Organizer

Title: "Global Caribbean Education, Arts & Youth: M. Bishop & O. Egbuna Sr."

CSA2023 Day One Opening Ceremony Plenary

Monday, June 5, 2023 Welcoming & Opening CSA2023 Plenary 1

Title: Transforming Our Caribbean: History, Education and Equity

- **Administrator Sammuel Sanes**, Office of the Governor of the VI
- **Franelle Gerard**, Executive Director of CHANT
- **Professor Olasee Davis**, Environmentalist | Agriculturalist | UVI Professor

Video Links

- <https://fb.watch/ldSDWTk09v/> (full FB stream)
- <https://www.youtube.com/live/3RDuAlk0LGs?feature=share> (YouTube- Part2)

CSA2023 Day 2 -Tuesday, June 6th Intersession Reasoning

<https://www.youtube.com/live/0A84kx8Gm1A?feature=share>

CSA2023 Day 2 - Tuesday June 6th Luncheon Plenary

<https://www.youtube.com/live/l2NWdaHiFrc?feature=share>

Dr. Alexis Pauline Gumbs, Award-Winning Queer Caribbean Poet | Independent Scholar | Activist

Title: "Legacies of Audre Lorde & Dr. Gloria I. Joseph"

CSA2023 Plenary Day 2-Tuesday June 6th

<https://www.youtube.com/live/tq3fsREE93E?feature=share>

Title: "Sustainable Caribbean Economic Development, Technology, AgriTourism & Research"

- **Peter Chapman**, Executive Director of the Research & Technology Park
- **Dr. Chipo Baker Afamefuna**, Biotechnologist | PMP, ASQ-SSGB | CEO ABM Consultants
- **DaraMonifah Cooper**, Media Specialist, Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SARE/USDA)
- **Deanna James**, President of the St. Croix Foundation for Community Development

CSA2023 Day Three Sustainable Ed Session- June 7th

<https://www.youtube.com/live/3RDuAlk0LGs?feature=share>

- **Chair:** Catherine Adams

- **Presenters:** Caroline Henry, St. Georges University; Michaelrose Ravalier, University of the Virgin Islands; Rhoda Arrindell, Institute for Language Research and Development

CSA2023 Plenary Day 3- Wednesday, June 7th

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDWOBOSUM9c&t=3s>
- <https://www.youtube.com/live/RDWOBOSUM9c?feature=share>

Title: "175th VI Emancipation: Cultural Heritage Education & Decolonizing Narratives"

- **Senator Myron D. Jackson**, Senator (Ret) | Cultural Preservationist | Art Historian
- **Dr. Rhoda Arrindell**, Scholar | Linguist | Governance Minister (Fmr) | One SXM
- **Senator Genevieve R. Whitaker**, JD (Fmr) | VIYAC | UN Fellow | Human Rights Activist
- **Dr. Carlyle G. Corbin**, International Advisor on Governance | Founder/Senior Analyst Global Dependency Studies Project (DSP)
- **Cardinal Mills**, JD- Attorney | Educator

CSA2023 Day Four Sacred Traditions- Panel Session- Thursday, June 8th

Title: A 2020 Vision Perspective and Beyond on Various Aspects of the Rastafari Movement

<https://www.youtube.com/live/P-1Yfnyla6A?feature=share>

Michael Barnett and **Jahlani Niaah**, University of the West Indies- Mona Campus Jamaica and Charles Price, Temple University, Philadelphia

MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT cont'd

CSA2023 Day Four Plenary- Thursday, June 8th - Part 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5pd3Raq6ls4>

CSA2023 Day Four Plenary- Thursday, June 8th - Part 2

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfIfcbp3jvs>

Title: "Legacy of Hubert Harrison & Caribbean Radicalism"

- **Dr. Carole Boyce Davies**, Professor of Africana Studies and Literatures in English, Cornell University | Moderator
- Media Tribute to the Late Dr. Jeffrey Perry | Expert Harrison Biographer | Archivist | Historian | Author
- **Dr. Brian Kwoba**, Assistant Professor of African American History, University of Memphis
- **Dr. Brian Meeks**, Professor of Africana Studies, Brown University
- **Dr. ChenziRa Davis Kahina**, CSA President | Moderator | Griot | Priestess | Educator

CSA2023 Day Five Plenary- Friday, June 9th

<https://www.youtube.com/live/dzQAhIDJFz8?feature=share>

Samuel Raphael, CEO of Jungle Bay Resorts | EcoTourism Entrepreneur

Title: "Caribbean EcoTourism, Sustainability & Our Youth"

Special guest: **Tim Reid**, Emmy-nominated actor, director, producer and client with Research & Technology Park

Summary of video production "Scholarship Grounded in Our Cultural Arts and Sacred Traditions"

- **Dr. Marta Moreno Vega**, Founder/President of Creative Justice Initiative | Art Curator | Priestess
- **Manuela Arciniegas**, Ethnomusicologist, Priestess, Director of Legacy Women | Philanthropy Professional
- **Dr. ChenziRa Davis Kahina**, CSA President | Moderator | Griot | Priestess | Educator

CSA2023 Gala hosted by Office of the Governor of the Virgin Islands at St. Croix Government House. June 9.2023

<https://fb.watch/IdSsXBkyX3/>

CSA2023 47th Conference Wrap Up- June 16.2023 This media wrap-up was produced by the Office of the Governor/Government Channel

<https://fb.watch/ldwRjQtAb-/>

In closing, by invitation, this poetic verse was shared by Mrs. Sommer Sibilly-Brown, VI Creative Artivist, Thought Leader and Executive Director of the VI Good Food Coalition for the CSA2023 Authors' Celebration hosted on Tuesday, June 6th at The Company House

Hotel. Thanks are extended to long-time CSA member Karen Flynn for physically chairing the organization of this event- beyond unforeseen circumstances- with support of awesome Caribbean authors, volunteers, and CSA colleagues.

Poetic Verse by Sommer Sibilly Brown

Interpretation of the Conversation with the Authors

I use the pen

In search of WE

Identity

Me

You

*Our Sisterhood is Praxis for
CHANGE*

The World Spins on our AXIS

You and I

*Women - the communion of our Destiny's
Is GRACE*

It is the sweat of our Dance, Food and Love

Our Family

Is the thing that haunts

My Muse is you

The Village

As I write, I sit alone

*What I seek in the basement of my home is
Community*

My words tie you to me

I write to create a new to elevate what those who have painted do

I have mortgaged this

I imagine Haiti (I.T.)

As the kingdom of this world

And my worldview

I walk with hope, apprehension, and affirmation

The tension of my knowing, my prose, my publications

Telling stories for every age

Saying PLEASE come back to me

I have left you gifts in the soil and ruins of the plantation

*There is truth for you and a connection to the great Nation that
Birthed We. Caribbean people 60 million crossed our
deep, majestic sea*

Connected by things that don't often equate

I translate to share the Brilliance of others

Who explores the word through percussion and bass

Poetic Musicality on the Written Page

My attunement is to the rhythm of our sameness

6 languages in 1

MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT cont'd

I honor you
She who wrote before me
Of light and dark
Me facing my own vexation
Exploring capitalization and oppression
Grappling with Angst
Twisted up in knots
Raging against you and your verse
In love of you I curse
Me relearning how we swim through the truth of what others don't see
The freedom and discomfort of embracing my duttiness
Pen clenched in fist
I visualize how you will hold me
Warm hands wrapped around the jacket of a book
Kindle, Audible, smart phone
I imagine what it looks like a 3 am in the morning
When you chose to open me
Checking -in, no small thing
When we kinfolk in the word
I read to write
I write for right
To have presence in the fight
Of Class, race, New day , New face
Old struggles
Remind me that many came before me
And there are so many ways of knowing
We Caribbean people
We are growing
Writing is a gift
A curse and a craft
Those who write, shake heads and laugh
As they too know what makes this Hell easy
Nothing and everything
They all are after there own kind
Each having it own pattern
Emerging in its own time
And I wrestle
It could be 5 years, or 90 days, fired up by a series of experiences
Or married to me for 10 years and 16 days
Truth is she is Powerful
Rising out of the feminine
This expansion has been foretold
I dare not attempt to explain
Just Celebrate the experience
Each time I write

The CSA2023 Conference on St. Croix embraced a synergy and alignment with observations of the *175th Anniversary of VI Emancipation*; the *60th Diamond Jubilee Anniversary of the VI Elections System*; VI Legislature officially designated annual *VI Freedom Week observances* from June 26th to July 3rd (*VI Emancipation Day*); the 9th year of the *United Nations' International Decade for People of African Descent (IDPAD)* promoting the theme of "*Recognition Justice Development*"; the June month annual designation of *Caribbean American Heritage Month*; and many other Global Caribbean affairs. CSA2023 delegates, sponsors, leaders, and others in attendance were supported and encouraged to share exchanges with pragmatic outcomes. CSA continued to experience and implement many changes and welcomed your active contributions presented throughout this year that provided methods, strategies, and workable solutions for national, regional, and international transformation. CSA members-Get your complementary version of the Inaugural CSA Journal. CSA2023 featured special hardcopy editions of the Inaugural CSA Journal request your today!

csajournal@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org

As the former CSA President 2022-2023 and now the CSA Immediate Past President 2023-2024, I extend thanks to each of you that have shared your invaluable labor, time, resources, and commitment for CSA to thrive as we enter our 50th anniversary year in 2024. Thank you. Asante. Dua. Gracias. Merci. I welcome, appreciate, and respect your willingness to have shared your intellectual scholarship, films, educational strategies, research, skills, talents, and expertise during the CSA2023 St. Croix Conference into the regional and global stage. Looking forward to the continued support and proactive collaborative engagement of the CSA membership, sponsors, and supporters as we embark on another successful physical conference for CSA2024 in St. Lucia.

#RemainInspired #TransformingOurCaribbean #AllThingsCSA
#CSA2023 #StCroixAVibeLikeNoOther

Chenzira Davis-Kahina
President CSA 2022-2023

MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT cont'd



Please share/email photos, videos and media from #CSA2023StCroix to perankh@me.com and astspeaks@gmail.com

Share social media links and posts to #chenzirakahina FB/Instagram/Twitter

Thank you. Gracias. Merci. Danki. Dua. Asante. #AllThingsCSA



MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS



Vanesa Contreras Capó

Español

La lucha del pueblo en contra los aumentos

El pasado 28 de junio de 2023 se llevó a cabo una exitosa marcha multisectorial en contra de los aumentos, a pesar de las grandes diferencias ideológicas de los diversos grupos que participaron de esta. Fue todo un logro que el colectivo **No + Aumentos** pudiera juntar a cientos de personas de diferentes sectores con un solo reclamo: ni un centavo más de aumento en el costo de la energía eléctrica.

Desde que en 2016 se impusiera la Junta de Control Fiscal en Puerto Rico, como medida para obligarnos a pagar una deuda odiosa, sin ni siquiera auditarla; el gobierno de Puerto Rico ha servido al país en bandeja a los inversionistas extranjeros que han encontrado en este archipiélago su nuevo paraíso fiscal. En estos últimos 7 años hemos visto cómo se han vendido casi la mitad de las escuelas públicas, apenas quedan algunos centros públicos para atender emergencias médicas, la transportación pública es prácticamente inexistente, el aeropuerto se "alquiló" en 2014 a una compañía privada por 40 años y en estos últimos dos años han privatizado todo el servicio de energía eléctrica. Todo con la excusa de pagar una deuda que el pueblo no solo no creó, sino que tampoco ha visto el dinero prestado invertido en los servicios a las y los ciudadanos.

Otro elemento interesante a tomar en consideración es la nueva forma de privatización, en donde las empresas privadas ni siquiera tienen que invertir dinero para adquirir (más bien robar) ese bien público, sino que administran las empresas públicas y reciben los fondos públicos. Esto ha pasado en el caso de la privatización del servicio de energía eléctrica, las empresas que se han quedado con este servicio público lo que están haciendo es recibir los fondos de FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) otorgados al país después del paso del huracán María. Es decir, no invierten nada, solo administran y se lucran de los fondos públicos. Naomi Klein explica en su libro *La doctrina del shock. El auge del capitalismo del desastre*, cómo el sistema capitalista se aprovecha del trauma de un pueblo, en este caso a raíz de un evento natural, para imponer políticas neoliberales que son, al fin y al cabo, el verdadero desastre. Puerto Rico, al igual que ha ocurrido en otros países del sur global,

ha sido el escenario perfecto para este neoliberalismo salvaje y la imposición del pago de la deuda la mejor excusa para la venta del país. Nos encontramos en un momento en donde se impulsa que las personas se vayan del país a través de la privatización y aumento en los precios de los servicios, la falta de servicios básicos, la falta de acceso a los recursos naturales y el desplazamiento sistemático de las poblaciones más vulneradas por el sistema.

Es por todo esto que la marcha del pasado 28 de junio en contra de los aumentos se convierte en otro espacio de lucha que va más allá de oponerse al continuo empobrecimiento de la población que sobrevive en Puerto Rico, sino que es un gesto de resistencia en contra de políticas públicas que impulsan el éxodo masivo de la clase pobre y trabajadora. Pensar en un futuro digno en este archipiélago se ha convertido prácticamente en un ejercicio de ciencia ficción, sin embargo, la apuesta a otro Puerto Rico es la agenda política de muchas de nosotras.

English

The people's struggle against austerity

On June 28, 2023, a successful multi-sectoral march against the increases of public services took place, despite the great ideological differences of the various groups that participated in it. It was an achievement that the collective **No + Aumentos** was able to bring together hundreds of people from different sectors with a single demand: not one more cent of increase in the cost of electricity.

Since the Fiscal Control Board was imposed in Puerto Rico in 2016, as a measure to force us to pay an odious debt, without even auditing it; the government of Puerto Rico has served the country on a platter to foreign investors who have found in this archipelago their new tax haven. In these last 7 years we have seen how almost half of the public schools have been sold, there are barely a few public centers left to attend medical emergencies, public transportation is practically non-existent, the airport was "leased" in 2014 to a private company for 40 years and in these last two years they have privatized the entire electric power service. All with the excuse of paying a debt that the people not only did not create, but also have not seen the borrowed money invested in services to the citizens.

Another interesting element to take into consideration is the new form of privatization, where private companies do not even have to invest money to acquire (or rather steal) this public good, but rather they manage the public companies and receive public funds. This has happened in the case of the privatization of the electric

MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS cont'd

power service, the companies that have been left with this public service what they are doing is receiving FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) funds granted to the country after the passage of Hurricane Maria. In other words, they do not invest anything, they only manage and profit from public funds. Naomi Klein explains in her book *The Shock Doctrine. The Rise of Disaster Capitalism*, how the capitalist system takes advantage of the trauma of a people, in this case as a result of a natural event, to impose neoliberal policies that are, after all, the real disaster. Puerto Rico, as has happened in other countries of the global south, has been the perfect scenario for this savage neoliberalism and the imposition of the payment of the debt has been the best excuse for the sale of the country. We find ourselves in a moment where people are being pushed to leave the country through privatization and increased prices of services, lack of basic services, lack of access to natural resources and the systemic displacement of the populations most vulnerable to the system.

It is for all these reasons that the June 28th march against the increases of public services becomes another space of struggle that goes beyond opposing the continued impoverishment of the population that survives in Puerto Rico, but is a gesture of resistance against public policies that promote the mass exodus of the poor and working class. Thinking of a dignified future in this archipelago has become practically an exercise in science fiction, however, the bet on another Puerto Rico is the political agenda of many of us.

MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS cont'd



Julien Merion

Français UN ESPACE CONSACRE A MARYSE CONDE A POINTE- A-PITRE

Dans la ville natale de l'écrivaine guadeloupéenne a été créée une association « Kaz a Condé » (La Maison Condé) qui siège dans un bâtiment mis à disposition par les autorités municipales.

Maryse Condé, prix Nobel alternatif en 2018 a publié plus d'une cinquantaine d'ouvrages et incarne l'écriture féminine caribéenne. L'initiative de cette association revient à sa fille, Sylvie-Anne Condé, qui s'est entourée, pour la circonstance, d'un groupe d'amis.

L'espace, situé au Pavillon de la Ville, un bâtiment classé, a été inauguré le 16 février 2023.

Selon le Maire de Pointe-à-Pitre, Harry Durimel : « Un pavillon qui a presque la dimension d'une tour de contrôle de l'art et de la culture qui s'exprime sur cette même place et qui est situé à proximité de la maison natale de Maryse Condé. Tous ces critères ont concouru à justifier cette implantation dans ce lieu »

Dans le projet initié par l'association, l'espace sera d'abord un espace documentaire avec les œuvres de Maryse Condé, les ouvrages et travaux réalisés sur l'auteure, sa pensée et ses écrits.

Ce sera aussi une salle d'exposition. A cet égard lors d'une soirée organisée le 29 avril, plusieurs peintres et photographes ont offert au public des tableaux retracant la vie et l'œuvre de Maryse Condé. A cette occasion j'ai présenté une communication sur les voies de l'engagement chez Maryse Condé et je disais : « Comme tout écrivain, il faut pouvoir démêler le fil de la complexité chez Maryse Condé.

L'engagement chez elle emprunte plusieurs voies, plusieurs chemins mais sa rébellion n'a qu'une voix qui résonne dans l'esprit de tous ceux qui l'ont connu, c'est le cri de révolte anticolonialiste. Maryse Condé respire et aspire à la Libération totale, bien au-delà de la simple émancipation politique qui n'est qu'un moyen. »

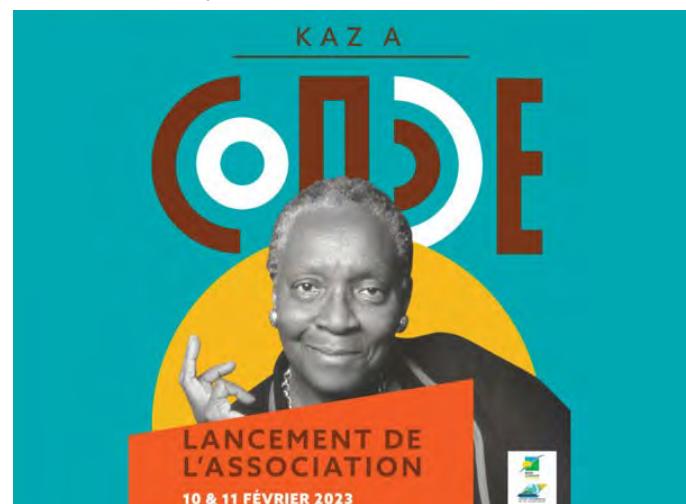
Ainsi, depuis la création de cet espace en février, plusieurs manifestations ont été organisées autour de l'œuvre et de la pensée de Maryse Condé.

La manifestation du 29 avril a été un vrai succès, tout comme l'accueil de lycéen, au mois de mai, en quête d'information sur son œuvre.

Plus récemment, le 1^{er} juillet, pour clore le premier cycle d'animation, une soirée littéraire a été proposée au public à partir du film réalisé par Françoise Vergès : « Maryse Condé : une voix singulière ». A nouveau, le public a répondu présent.

Pour Sylvie-Anne Condé, présidente de Kaz a Condé, « Les débuts sont encourageants et vont même au-delà de mes espérances. Le but de l'association est de donner plus de visibilité à l'œuvre de Maryse Condé dans sa ville natale, dans son pays. C'est aussi le moyen de rassembler tous les amis de Maryse pour vulgariser son travail et mieux appréhender sa pensée, notamment auprès de la jeunesse. C'est capital au moment où la Guadeloupe se penche sur son futur »

Cette activité est destinée à s'étendre au-delà de la Guadeloupe. C'est pourquoi, les responsables ont prévu dès la saison prochaine, la venue de critiques littéraires d'autres pays de la Caraïbe, des Etats-Unis et d'Afrique.



MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS cont'd

English

A SPACE DEDICATED TO MARYSE CONDE IN POINTE-A-PITRE

In the hometown of the Guadeloupean writer, an association "Kaz a Condé" (The Condé House) has been created, which sits in a building made available by the municipal authorities.

Maryse Condé, alternative Nobel Prize winner in 2018, has published more than fifty books and embodies Caribbean women's writing.

The initiative for this association comes from his daughter, Sylvie-Anne Condé, who surrounded herself, for the occasion, with a group of friends.

The space, located in the Pavillon de la Ville, a listed building, was inaugurated on February 16, 2023.

According to the Mayor of Pointe-à-Pitre, Harry Durimel: "A pavilion which has almost the size of an art and culture control tower which expresses itself in this same square and which is located near Maryse Condé's birthplace. All these criteria have contributed to justify this establishment in this place »

In the project initiated by the association, the space will first be a documentary space with the works of Maryse Condé, the works and works carried out on the author, her thought and her writings. It will also be an exhibition hall. In this regard, during an evening organized on April 29, several painters and photographers offered the public paintings retracing the life and work of Maryse Condé.

On this occasion I presented a communication on the paths of engagement with Maryse Condé and I said: "Like any writer, you have to be able to untangle the thread of complexity with Maryse Condé. Her commitment takes several paths, several paths, but her rebellion has only one voice that resonates in the minds of all those who knew her, it is the cry of anti-colonialist revolt.

Maryse Condé breathes and aspires to total Liberation, well beyond the simple political emancipation which is only a means. »

Thus, since the creation of this space in February, several events have been organized around the work and thought of Maryse Condé.

The demonstration of April 29 was a real success, as was the reception of high school students, in May, in search of information on his work.

More recently, on July 1, to close the first animation cycle, a literary evening was offered to the public based on the film directed by Françoise Vergès: "Maryse Condé: a singular voice".

Again, the public responded.

For Sylvie-Anne Condé, president of Kaz a Condé, "The beginnings are encouraging and even go beyond my expectations. The aim of the association is to give more visibility to the work of Maryse Condé in her hometown, in her country. It is also the way to bring together all of Maryse's friends to popularize her work and better understand her thinking, especially among young people. It is crucial at a time when Guadeloupe is looking at its future"

This activity is intended to extend beyond Guadeloupe.

This is why officials have planned for next season the arrival of literary critics from other Caribbean countries, the United States and Africa.

DUTCH CARIBBEAN REPORT

THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. MARTIN, UNIVERSITY OF ARUBA, UNIVERSITY OF CURAÇAO, INSTITUTO PEDAGOGICO ARUBANO Caribbean Institutions Sign MOUs for Higher Education

Source: <https://sxmislandtime.com>



Pond Island, On Sunday, June 25, 2023, the four main institutions of higher education and research in the Caribbean of the Kingdom signed two Memoranda of Understanding for stronger collaboration and exchange among faculty, staff, and students.

Representatives of the University of St. Martin (USM), the University of Curaçao (UoC), the University of Aruba (UA), and the Instituto Pedagogico Arubano (IPA) met at the USM campus on Pond Island over the weekend to discuss areas of collaboration, exchange programs, and mobility within the Kingdom of the Netherlands to support student success and the further development of higher education in the region. One MOU affirmed the commitment that was made in 2014 among the Caribbean institutions (UNICARIB) to cooperate in curriculum development, the sharing of resources, and research. The second document signed secures partnerships in student exchange programs, the recognition of credits, and professional, and academic exchange among faculty members and staff within the framework of the Strategic Education Alliance ([SEA](#)).

Funds have already been set aside for student exchange at the last four-country consultation process (4LO) in January this year when the ministers of education of the Netherlands, Curaçao, Aruba, and Sint Maarten committed to working with the regional universities to elevate the quality of education in the Caribbean. Among the agreements was the coordination of a pre-academic foundation year geared towards the preparation of students for higher education in the region or the Netherlands. Also during the meeting, all

four institutions committed to establishing the Caribbean Higher Education Council of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (CHECK), which will oversee projects, dialogue on accreditation and quality assurance, synchronization of scientific and practitioner-based research and academic programs, and advise ministers on related policies.

CHECK will work closely with SEA. SEA was established at a work conference in Aruba in September 2022, where representatives of regional institutions of tertiary and higher education met with all four ministries and the public entities of Saba, Sint Eustatius, and Bonaire. Following the experience of the Europe-wide exchange program Erasmus+, SEA+ was created in order to facilitate exchange within the Kingdom. Student exchange can begin as of the 2023–2024 academic year, and students can spend up to one semester abroad. At each institution, an office of international affairs will coordinate the exchange programs. Scholarships will cover travel expenses and a monthly stipend.

Attending the meeting held at USM on Sunday were IPA Director drs. Marilyn Richardson, Rector of UA Prof. Dr. Viola Heutger, and USM President Prof. Dr. Antonio Carmona Báez. Representing the University of Curaçao was Prof. Dr. Elisabeth Echteld. The team was accompanied by Juliska van Rossum of the Ministry of Education, Culture, and Science in the Dutch Caribbean and Wladimir Kleinmoedig of the Curaçao Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sports. The next meeting of the newly founded Council is scheduled to take place in September.

GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Maya I. Freeman the current CSA2023-2025 Graduate Student Representative is a researcher, health/wellness educator, creative artist, photojournalist, and mother. Freeman is a graduate student in the Goddard Graduate Institute of Goddard College.

Maya Freeman has remained committed to successfully completing her Ph.D. in Sociology. Freeman's research and interdisciplinary studies in Caribbean/Indigenous Global History, Global/African Diasporan Studies, Global Social History, Hybrid Cultural Studies, and related areas inclusive of Intersectional Studies of the Caribbean and wider Americas.

Freeman completed her Bachelor's degree in Sociology-Cum Laude at City University of New York-Hunter College. Freeman attended the University of the Virgin Islands- Orville Kean Campus in St. Thomas from 2014-2016 attending CUNY-Hunter College.

Freeman remains engaged in community service organizations, social media marketing, graphic design development, and creative arts consultant projects. Served as CSA2023 St. Croix Local Organizing Committee Representative and Virtual Administrative Program Coordinator for CSA2023 St. Croix Conference.



CSA MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

SALISES Spotlight Series

Championing Development Statistics: A Vow That I Kept

Featuring Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard, *Acting Director, Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES)*

Date: Wednesday, 26 July, 2023 via Zoom

Time: 10:00 a.m. AST

Registration: <https://bit.ly/avowthatikept>



Championing Development Statistics: A Vow That I Kept

26th July 2023 | 10:00 am via Zoom

Register at
<https://bit.ly/avowthatikept>



Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard

Director (Ag.)
Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and
Economic Studies
UWI, St. Augustine

For more information email salises@sta.uwi.edu

CARIBBEAN SCHOLARSHIP

July 4, 1776 and the Caribbean

Source: EVERYBODY'S Caribbean Magazine newsletter



Greetings all,

As America celebrates 4th of July, Independence Day, its history books fail to tell how the West Indies (Caribbean) helped the 13 British North American colonies win the War of Independence.

July 4, 1776, the 13 colonies declared their independence from England. The War of American Independence intensified. The West Indies became a battleground. France, the principal supporter of the American revolutionaries, kept British fleets occupied in the West Indies in order to help the Revolutionaries win victories on the mainland. By **June 1779**, a French naval fleet captured **British St. Lucia and British St. Vincent**. **July 2-4, 1779**, France invaded **British Grenada**, its former colony. **July 6, 1779**, the French fleet, under Admiral D'Estaing consisting of 25 ships, 10 frigates and 10,000 men enjoying the spoils of war, was attacked by a British fleet commanded by Admiral John Byron off St. George's, Grenada. Thousands of sailors died. (*Paintings of the battle are in the US and French National Archives*). Victory for D'Estaing! One daredevil slave in Grenada may have joined D'Estaing's fleet before the armada sailed for French Saint-Domingue (Haiti). A few months later, the refitted D'Estaing fleet battled the British at Savannah, Georgia. The teenager may have sailed to Savannah. For that reason he won his freedom. As a protégé of Toussaint Louverture, he fought in the Haitian Revolution and became a Founding Father of Haiti. Who was this slave from Grenada?

As George Lamming wrote about Dr. Eric Williams, "He taught us to see the history of any part of the Caribbean as the history of all ... the task of the historian ... is to break-down particularism and parochialism in each territory."

I thank the thousands of readers who purchased the books and I hope you find "**From Alexander Hamilton to Kamala Harris**" informative when it is released next year.

If you have not yet obtained my two reader-friendly books, I encourage you to collect them.

Available from Amazon and IngramSpark (worldwide) or direct from me (in USA only): www.everybodysmag.com
herman@everybodysmag.com

Regards,
Herman G. Hall

Book Reviews

JULIEN FÉDON: REVOLUTIONARY, PATRIOT AND INSURRECTIONIST

- **THE UNTOLD STORY OF A MULATTO LEADER**

By Herman G. Hall

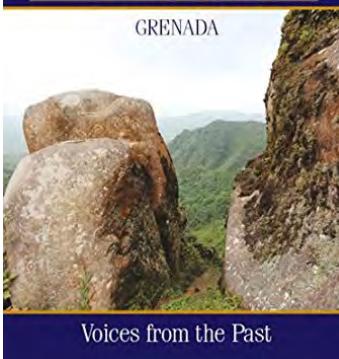
"Given how little is known about Fédon's early life beyond his birth to a free Black woman and a French immigrant, Hall pieces together a remarkably cohesive narrative that avoids the temptation to overly speculate and that effectively places the revolutionary's life and legacy in a wider Caribbean historical context ... Hall has a solid grasp of the relevant scholarly literature and an expert command of the limited primary source material relating to Grenada in the late 1700s ... this well-written book succeeds in its goal of offering a "reader friendly" work ... this work is a definitive biography of a Caribbean legend too often distorted in official histories. An incisive and illuminating account of a Caribbean revolutionary." ***Kirkus Reviews***

"Julien Fédon Revolutionary, Patriot and Insurrectionist - The Untold Story of a Mulatto Leader takes the reader to the time and circumstances that made this French speaking estate owner rise up against the British rulers. This story, albeit unfinished, is long overdue." ***Grenada Voice***

CARIBBEAN SCHOLARSHIP cont'd

HERMAN G. HALL
**BELVIDERE ESTATE
FÉDON'S HOUSE**

GRENADA



Voices from the Past

BELVIDERE ESTATE - FÉDON'S HOUSE VOICES FROM THE PAST

By Herman G. Hall

"Herman Hall brings to life with a skillful meld of powerful Caribbean history and personal memories." Jared McCallister, New York Daily News

"The oral tradition that passed history from one generation to another by word of mouth remained strong on the estates, where only a few could read and write. The book convincingly shows that Belvidere workers' tales were soundly based on historical fact. And, yes, there are some interesting revelations about the Grenadian contribution to Trinidad Carnival and calypso too! Belvidere played a part in more recent history too, including strikes organised by Eric Gairy, the turbulent years of Maurice Bishop's People's Revolutionary Government and the US invasion of 1983 an event that allegedly put the Queen at loggerheads with her prime minister, Margaret Thatcher." Stephen Spark, Soca News, London, UK

"Inspired by the revolutions in Haiti, the United States, and France, Fédon, a seasoned French officer, masterfully played various sides of the struggle—French, British, Grenadian, and Hessian—against one another and nearly succeeded in changing the history of the Western Hemisphere. In this volume, Fédon's story alternates with chapters in which Hall tells of his own childhood on the plantation in a sweet, nostalgic tone." Kirkus Reviews

About Herman G. Hall

Herman G. Hall is an award-winning journalist and author of "Belvedere Estate-Fédon's House," (2016) and "Julien Fédon: Revolutionary-Patriot and Insurrectionist" (2022). **From Alexander Hamilton to Kamala Harris** will be released in 2024.

Born on Belvedere Estate, St. John's, Grenada, on April 26, 1945, Herman Hall received his early



informal education at the Estate's 18th century great house where Grenada's revolutionary leader Julien Fédon once lived. Hall later attended St. John's Anglican Primary School in Gouyave and the Grenada Boys' Secondary School (GBSS).

Upon graduating from the GBSS in 1965, he joined the newly established St. John's Christian Secondary School. Attending the School's 55th Anniversary on Sunday, January 19, 2020, Hall realized he is the only surviving original teacher.

Arriving in NY in 1967, he attended Brooklyn College and New York University. He soon found himself in New York-Caribbean organizations such as the Grenada Mutual Association, founded in Harlem in 1926, and the West Indian-American Carnival Association. It was President Carlos Lezama and Hall who changed the organization's name to the West Indian-American Day Carnival Association (WIADCA).

On January 2, 1977, EVERYBODY'S, the Caribbean-American magazine, was established by Herman Hall. His journalism career includes:

- 1970s, WLIB and WBLS Radio – Commentator and a creator of WLIB's Caribbean format.
- 1982, recipient of a National Award in Journalism for international reporting on the death of Trinidad & Tobago's Prime Minister Eric Williams and Bob Marley.
- 1982, member of the White House Press Corps that accompanied President Ronald Reagan to Jamaica and Barbados.
- 1983, consultant to ABC and CBS television networks during the invasion or rescue mission of Grenada by the U.S.
- 2009 & 2013, accreditation to cover the inauguration and inauguration balls of President Barack Obama.

A producer of high-profile events, Hall presented the World Calypso & Soca Monarch in the 1990s seen on Pay-Per-View and carried on the 10pm and 11pm news by television in NYC.

Hall served as manager of Winston Bailey, Shadow, from 1976 until Shadow's passing in 2018.

Hall promotes Oliver Samuels' plays in the American northeast. Plays he staged in NY and Washington, D.C. from Grenada include playwright Francis Urias Peters and Chris DeRiggs and storytelling by Paul Keens-Douglas.

CARIBBEAN SCHOLARSHIP cont'd

Hall and **EVERYBODY'S** Magazine have presented events at Roseland, Theater at Madison Square Garden, Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center, Town Hall, Radio City Music Hall in New York City, the Strand Theater and Prudential Center in Boston and Symphony Hall in Newark.

Hall is the recipient of many citations and awards from among others, President Ronald Reagan, the Congress of the US, various mayors of New York City and governors of NY State, the Consulate of Jamaica and New York Mets baseball team.

Hall is the proud grandfather of Penelope, Adrian and Lucia.



CARIBBEAN ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

Celebrating Caribbean American Heritage Month



Alton Aimable the Founder and President of Tropicalfete Inc. Aimable obtained a Bachelor of Science in Accounting at The City University of New York, York College. In his first semester, Aimable was put on the Dean's list for excellent academic performance and took classes outside of the curriculum such as music and web programming. These became the foundation upon which he was able to establish an online publication called Tropicalfete.com, the official home of Caribbean Culture.

Over his career, Aimable has held various accounting positions including Senior Accountant with the Brooklyn Community Housing and Services Inc., Sr. Accountant N. Cheng & Company CPA firm, and Lott Community Development. Mr. Aimable has received a proclamation from the New York City Council for promoting Caribbean Culture in New York City. Whether it is carnival, dance, music, drama, or anything to do with Caribbean culture, Aimable is inspired to promote it through tropicalfete.com. His dream is to take Caribbean culture to the international level where it will be accepted without discrimination or biases. Mr. Aimable also has a Community Leadership Certificate from Neighborhood Leadership Institute and is always working on initiatives to advance Caribbean Culture.

The Main event for Caribbean American Heritage is Tropicalfete Carnival Festival a partnership with Brooklyn Public library on Sunday!!!! June 25 2 PM on Plaza Eastern Parkway and Flatbush Ave.

Our host for the event are award-winning journalist, from Essence Magazine, Melissa Noel, and Tropicalfete board member, Keran Deterville. Our carnival queen will be Averi Harper who is the deputy political director for ABC News. We are bringing the heat with fire eating, the pageantry of our costumes, music, dance showmanship and craftsmanship.

The event will include local performers as well as the different Tropicalfete performing groups, Tropicalfete's Voices, Tropicalfete's Steel Pan Ensemble, Tropicalfete's Stilting Unit, Tropicalfete's Body of Vibration Limbo, Dance & Theater and Tropicalfete's Masquerade

production.

Bringing Caribbean Carnival History to Life!!!!

Confirm to attend:

- Jumaane Williams New York City Public Advocate
- Senator Roxanne J. Persaud
- State Senator Zellnor Myrie
- Assemblywoman Jamie R. Williams \ Adrienne Adams
- Council Member Farah N. Louis
- Council Member Rita Joseph
- Council Member Crystal Hudson
- Debbie Louis representative for Governor Kathy Hochul

Please visit our website at <https://tropicalfete.com> to register for our programs.

For additional information please send an email to info@tropicalfete.com or call 646 504 3383 Ext:748.



Carnival Festival

Celebrate Caribbean American heritage! Join us for joyful festivities on Central Library's Plaza, featuring:

- Moko jumbies (stilt walkers)
- Ole Mas
- Live music, including steelpans and tamboo bamboo
- Masquerades
- Dancing and limbo
- Fire Eaters
- Folklore and more!

Sunday, June 25, 2 pm

Central Library
10 Grand Army Plaza
Brooklyn NY 11238

For more information, email info@tropicalfete.com or call 646.504.3383

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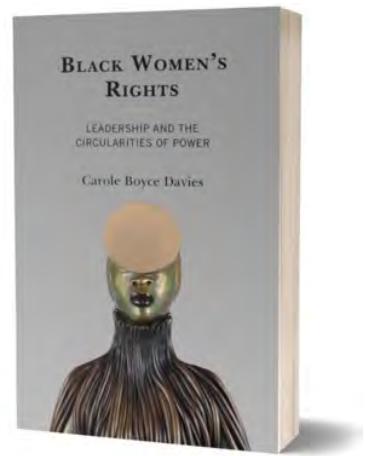
NEW BOOK

Black Womens Rights: Leadership and the Circularities of Power

By Carole Boyce Davies

About the Book

This book studies the manifestation of leadership as expressed, narrativized, and represented by women of African descent. It uses the language of "rights" and "power" to assert that Black women find strategic alternatives to the male-dominated leadership status quo and are the leaders of the future.



About the Author

Carole Boyce Davies, an endowed professor of Africana Studies and Literatures in English at Cornell University, is a leading scholar of African Diaspora, Black feminist theories and literatures, and Black women's writings internationally.

"An authoritative and compelling articulation of historical, political, legal, social, creative, and ubuntu-responsive conceptions and navigations of power, leadership, and empowerment by women of African descent."

- Besi Brillian Muhonja, James Madison University



"Carole Boyce Davies always escorts us across the geographical borders that routinely impede the development of global engagements with transformative ideas, especially theories and practices generated by Black women. This study of the politics of Black women's leadership—in Africa, Europe, the Caribbean, as well as North and South America—is yet one more example, an impressive work for its unusual expansiveness and interdisciplinary grounding in such literary genres as memoir, autobiography, and political writing."

- Angela Y. Davis, University of California, Santa Cruz

"Boyce Davies challenges readers to reimagine the complexities of our engagements and entanglements with racist and patriarchal paradigms in various historical periods. Included are provocative interviews and rare portraits of powerful Black women—if maligned or neglected—including 'alternative president' Winnie Mandela (South Africa), Madame President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (Liberia), and Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm (U.S. presidential candidate)."

- Beverly Guy-Sheftall, Women's Research & Resource Center at Spelman College

"Carole Boyce Davies has proved again why she remains one of the most respected Black feminist literary theory scholars of her generation. She continues her quest in this volume by referencing the experiences of Black women in power through biographical and autobiographical reflections, speeches, and essays to reveal why the struggle for leadership and power for Black women still continues in the 21st century. This brilliant volume reaffirms Boyce Davies as an authority on the theory of radical transnational Black women and power."

- Nana Ayebia Clarke, Ayebia Clarke Publishing Limited

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REGIONAL NEWS

July 4, A Caribbean Holiday Celebrating CARICOM - 1973-2023

Source: EVERYBODY'S Caribbean Magazine newsletter



CARICOM's Founders

Today, July 4, almost each head of government in the Caribbean is in Trinidad & Tobago to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). Most member nations of Caricom have declared July 4, 2023, a national holiday.

On July 4, 1973, Prime Ministers, Errol Barrow of Barbados, Forbes Burnham of Guyana, Dr. Eric Williams of Trinidad & Tobago and Michael Manley of Jamaica met at Chaguaramas, Trinidad, where they established the Caribbean Community by the Treaty of Chaguaramas.

The Treaty of Chaguaramas became effective on August 1, 1973. Why August 1st? August 1, 1833, 1834, 1836 and 1838 are symbolic. Plans to end slavery in the British West Indies (Caribbean) were implemented climaxing in 1838 when apprenticeship ended and complete emancipation was given to all former slaves.

How and why Caricom started? After the demise of the West Indies Federation (1958-1962), Chief Minister Vere Bird of Antigua, Premier Errol Barrow of Barbados and Premier Forbes Burnham of British Guiana (Guyana) met at Dickenson Bay, Antigua, to set up the Caribbean Free Trade Association (CARIFTA). None of the three states were independent; still British colonies.

CARIFTA was formally established on May 1, 1968 by Antigua, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana.

By 1972 other British Caribbean colonies were members of CARIFTA.

That year the Caribbean leaders transformed CARIFTA into a Common Market and CARIFTA became the Caribbean Community (Caricom).

Today, July 4, 2023, Caricom membership includes the French speaking nation of Haiti and Dutch speaking Suriname as well as Belize in Central America.

The decades of the 1960s and 1970s brought an urgency for Caribbean integration and a spirit of good feelings was in the air across the Caribbean and its diaspora. Some businesses called themselves "Carifta ...; in Montreal and Toronto carnival organizers named their organizations Carifesta and Caribana. And, with the spirit of Caribbean integration, the creator of this magazine named it, EVERYBODY'S meaning it is for everyone within the Caribbean community at home and abroad.



*The late President of Guyana,
Forbes Burnham*



*The late Prime Minister
Vere Bird of
Antigua/Barbuda*

YOUR COMMENTARY

Strange Fruit

Equality didn't really gel in its day. Equity might've been the better phrase.

Source: The Charlatan newsletter



George Washington w/ William Lee (John Trumbull, 1780),

Americans across the country on Monday celebrated Juneteenth, a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans.

While George Washington publicly denounced the slave trade on moral grounds in the Fairfax Resolves, the American slave of which he so gallantly spoke wouldn't actually celebrate their freedom until 19 June 1866 — 1 day, two weeks, and 90 years after everyone else. In fact, a federal holiday commemorating the emancipation of American slaves wasn't created until 2021, a couple hundred years and change after some 56 signatories signed the Declaration of Independence.

Mass shootings and violence erupted across the country last weekend including 4 killed in Idaho; 6 shootings in Wisconsin; 11 in Missouri; 60 in Illinois. Juneteenth gatherings across the United States left 12 dead altogether and more than 100 injured.

More than 150 years after the 13th Amendment abolished slavery in the United States, most agree the institution of slavery has and continues to shape America today. Four-in-ten say the country hasn't made enough progress toward racial equality, according to a new Pew Research Center survey. Moreover, nearly all Americans say it's unlikely that the country known as "A Nation of Immigrants" will ever achieve Racial Equity.

Racial Equity is achieved when race no longer factors into or determines one's socioeconomic outcomes. Though the ultimate goal of racial equity may be equality, the road to achieving equity cannot be accomplished simply through treating everyone equally. It is achieved by treating everyone equally — according to their circumstances.

Myths of Equality

The Thirteen American Colonies were reluctant to form a union in 1776. Each were operating as a self appointed sovereign nation. Where they agreed was on the word 'equality,' and their collective independence from Great Britain. Originally drafted as instruction for Virginia's delegates to the Continental Congress in 1774, Thomas Jefferson's pamphlet begins circulating throughout the Thirteen Colonies and stirs consensus. It begins:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

The Declaration of Independence is signed in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776, and the Articles of Confederation, effectively the first U.S. Constitution, begins drafting the nation's moral code into law the following year.

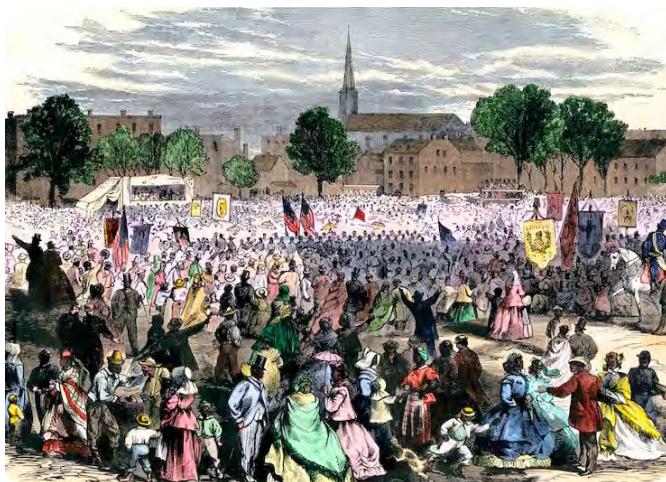
While the first U.S. national government came into force under the Articles of Confederation adopted in 1781, the document itself said nothing about slavery, instead leaving the power to regulate slavery to the individual states. Each and all had encoded indentured servitude and slavery into their state constitutions in 1776.

Juneteenth

Ninety years on, Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston Texas on June 19, 1865 to enforce the emancipation of its enslaved population and oversee Reconstruction. Ordinances were posted in public places, including the Reedy Chapel A.M.E. Church:

The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor.

YOUR COMMENTARY cont'd



Juneteenth Celebration, Galveston Texas 1866

Abraham Lincoln's EO The Emancipation Proclamation (January 1863) freed southern slaves to fight for the union. It is the deciding factor in the American Civil War (May 1865); enshrines the Thirteenth Amendment into the U.S. Constitution (December 1865); and ensures Juneteenth's first celebration in Galveston Texas the following year (June 19, 1866).

Yet despite Juneteenth becoming a federal holiday in 2021, nearly 243 years of cultural economic, physical, legal, and political inequity against Black Americans in particular has proven to be a difficult bell to unring. Fact: Wealth disparity, poverty rates, bankruptcy, housing patterns, educational opportunities, unemployment, incarceration and mortality rates among Blacks are disproportionate for a nation that prides itself on equality.

Racial Disparity

It's defined as "the total value of things families own minus their debts" and a study at Brandeis University — who followed the same sets of families for 25 years — recently found racial disparity in wealth across the United States. In fact, the wealth gap between Caucasian and Black families they followed nearly tripled over 25 years, from \$85K in 1984 to \$236K in 2009. The study concluded that factors contributing to the inequality included years of home ownership (27%), household income (20%), education (5%), and familial financial support and/or inheritance (5%).

Nearly 70% of all Black adults queried in a AP-NORC poll recently said, "a lot needs to be done to close the pay gap for African Americans," but the income inequality in the United States today might shock even the enslavers of the Old South.

Asian Americans, as it happens, have the highest median income in America today, followed by White Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, and African Americans. Blacks earn on average 60% of White workers, according to the Economic Report of the President. Asian American earn upwards of 110% of their caucasian colleagues and beyond.

However, there are congruencies among women. The highest median incomes go to fairer Asian and White women who're concentrated in professional, executive and managerial occupations across all sectors, according to the EROP. While the darker skinned Hispanic and Black women dominate manufacturing jobs, retail accommodations and the service industry.

Inclusive Mindset

While Juneteenth celebrations are new in many parts of the country, in Memphis, where the slave trade once thrived, equestrian statues of slave traders and Confederate Generals have been removed to fete the day, and more than 160 monuments and memorials honoring the Confederate States of America and associated figures have been removed from public view across the nation since 2015.

Does airbrushing Confederate Generals from the public square serve American history? Can banning the Critical Race Theory from public schools retell the American story? As Michelle Obama explains, "I am the former First Lady of the United States, and I am also a descendent of slaves. My great grandmother (Melvinia Shields) was in bondage in South Carolina. It's important to keep that truth right there."

Because among the nation's 333 million people today, only 46.8 million are Black. That's because their mortality rate is higher, 1.63 million times higher relative to White Americans over the last two decades. According to a recent study in JAMA, the Journal of the American Medical Association observes, "the high mortality rates among Black people have less to do with genetics than with the country's long history of discrimination, which has undermined educational, housing, and job opportunities for generations of Black people."

YOUR COMMENTARY cont'd



Equality is the soul of liberty, and even though the Father of the Nation ordered all 123 of his personal slaves free upon he and Martha Washington's death — casting them all rather suddenly from Mount Vernon on May 22, 1802 to scramble for housing, labor, healthcare and education on their own — providing a reference, job, scholarship, loan, or even a sack lunch for the road might have been the more American thing to do.

OBITUARY



Renowned scientist **Betty Sedoc-Dahlberg** died last night after a fatal collision. Society has reacted with deep shock to the sad news.

Sedoc-Dahlberg was affiliated with the University of Suriname for many years. There she was a lecturer and rector magnificus. She mainly stood up for human rights. She wanted to strengthen the management systems. She wrote books about human rights and democracy the Caribbean.

Minister Albert Ramdin of Foreign Affairs, International Business & International Cooperation (BIBIS) was in contact with Sedoc-Dahlberg last week. In Suriname and the Caribbean she was well known for her contributions to strengthening democracy.

"I was definitely shocked. It was even considered to consult her on matters of national dialogue. So recently been in our thoughts. A Surinamese of great stature,' says Ramdin.

Sedoc-Dahlberg mainly stood up for human rights. She wanted to strengthen the systems. She wrote books about this that are about 'human rights and democracy the Caribbean.

Sedoc-Dahlberg has turned 84 years old.

Dutch

De bekende wetenschapper **Betty Sedoc-Dahlberg** is gisteravond overleden na een noodlottige aanrijding. In de samenleving is er diep geschokt gereageerd op het droevige bericht.

Sedoc-Dahlberg was jarenlang verbonden aan de universiteit van Suriname. Daar was zij docent en rector magnificus. Zij kwam vooral op voor mensenrechten. De bestuurssystemen heeft zij willen versterken. Zij schreef boeken die gaan over 'human rights and democracy the Caribbean.

Minister Albert Ramdin van Buitenlandse Zaken, International Business & Internationale Samenwerking (BIBIS), had de vorige week nog contact met Sedoc-Dahlberg. In Suriname en het Caribisch gebied genoot ze veel bekendheid voor haar bijdragen aan het versterken van de democratie.

'Ik was zeer zeker geschockt. Er werd zelfs overwogen om haar te consulteren voor zaken betreffende de nationale dialoog. Dus nog recentelijk in onze gedachten geweest. Een Surinamer van groot format', zegt Ramdin.

Sedoc-Dahlberg kwam vooral op voor mensenrechten. De systemen heeft zij willen versterken. Daarover schreef zij boeken die gaan over 'human rights and democracy the Caribbean.

Sedoc-Dahlberg is 84 jaar geworden.

Testimonials

It was sad to receive this news about her passing.

Many of us knew your mother through her attendance at CSA meetings.

Her panels were always well attended because of the caliber of her scholarship on the Caribbean and political economy perspective.

Betty was always a regal person who walked into a room and everyone noticed her at CSA.

She was a dame for CSA.



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