

HARAMBE

A Quarterly Foundation Newsletter

Harambe is an African word which means “working together.” It is also the foundation’s slogan and name of one of Mrs. Rita Marley’s most popular tunes. Available through our website quarterly, this newsletter will be a vital vehicle to inform you of our foundation’s endeavors, events and accomplishments; importantly, we eagerly anticipate “working together” with you, through your contributions and feedback. So with One Love we could nurture Harambe into a constructive newsletter.



Champion Jamaica College's Fabian Morris

Highly Successful 5th Annual Rita Marley Foundation (JA) Public Speaking Competition

Here are the Winning Speeches by Jamaica College's Fabian Morris

Topic: Of all the forms reparations could take repatriation is the most important.



Editor: Rita Marley
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The African rhetoric causes us to conceptualise the continent as a great kingdom. It causes us to liken the continent of Africa to an unblemished individual we affectionately call Mama Africa. The reality is:

- Black people have been through great horrors in our past
- Powerful leaders like Martin Luther King Jr and Marcus Garvey worked tirelessly to devise ways in which we can protect the black identity. Which was necessary as we were almost depleted as a race
- Within this context the discussion of repatriation (the movement of our people back to Africa) emerged and was very important

Therefore, is the traditional view of repatriation valid in today's context?

The African diaspora has established itself in countries around the world. An example is of the Jamaican people. We have our own legends in Bob Marley, Rita Marley, Usain Bolt, etc. who have not only become renown but have affected the world significantly. Therefore, the issue of identity and place of the black people is no longer a threat.

The repatriation that is necessary is not a complete relocation of the diaspora to home but building of bridges through corporation and collaboration between Mama Africa and her children. Any relocation of the people will be more detrimental to all African people. "We cyaa goh to Africa wid wi two long han." We have to build economically, politically, socially and mentally in order to reach a beneficial position. As our common phrase says, "We haffi bring bac sumting fi mum fi mek mum can add on pon di house. If yuh nuh gi mum nutn fi mek she add on pon di house den lawd god!" After we contribute to the building then we will be in a position to benefit from the collaboration.



2nd place Wendy-Ann Ivey
(Westwood High School)



3rd place Lorena Eschoe
(Immaculate Conception High School)

The people of Africa are restoring their identity despite being separated. Although the process of seasoning attempted to erase who we are, our identities live on. We can only imagine then what will happen when we start to mentally repatriate.

Our responsibility is to not necessarily run to the continent to add to the current struggles but to form partnerships that will bring about change for blacks on both sides of the Atlantic. Such strength that can come about to the point where whoever wishes to repatriate, in the traditional sense, can do so with no worries about the standard of life. We are also tasked with continuing the insistence that is led by greats such as Madam Verene Shepherd and Sir Hilary Beckles that those who took out [physical and human resources] then restore! We must fight for that.

I leave with the quote by Marcus Garvey, "The black skin is not a badge of shame but it is a symbol of national greatness."





AUDIENCE 5th RMF(JA) Public Speaking Competition

JUDGES- Mr. Tyrone Gunnie, Mrs. Merlene Heholt, Dr. Kadamawe Knife, Professor Verene Shepherd, Dr. Keino Senior

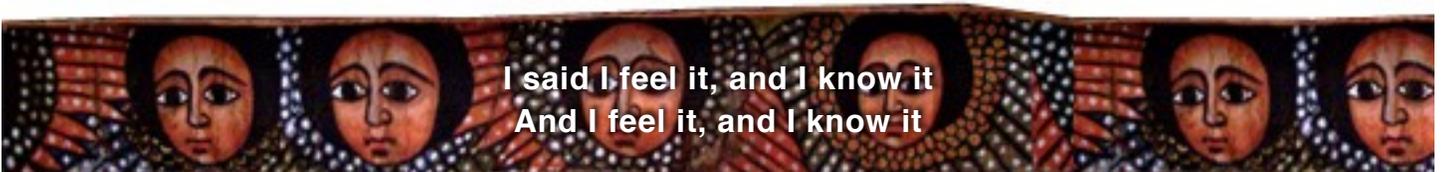
Topic: If Mr. Nelson Mandela lived until 2018, he would have turned 100. To celebrate the centenary of his birth, the South African government designed the theme, “Be The legacy.” In your opinion what is the legacy Mr. Nelson Mandela left the world?

The legacy is neither him being the first black president of South Africa nor becoming a state leader after being imprisoned for 27. His legacy is Ubuntu.

He decided to leave his hate and bitterness inside the prison in order to claim his destiny which included inspiring blacks around the world in the fight for recognition of our value.

Ubuntu is humanity. An interconnectedness like a family which plays on the strengths of its members. Ubuntu calls us to “stick by me as I stick by you”. In carrying this through Mandela had the burden to not leave his people behind but to stick by them. That was his motivation to lead the people. Playing out of this were the following traits which factor in his legacy; humility, love, sincerity, simplicity, pure generosity, absence of vanity and greatness to serve others. These are qualities within the reach of every soul. This spiritual connection allowed him to navigate the hardships he faced before and after leaving prison to impact those around him.

Let us do like Nelson Mandela and love one another. Become so closely connected that we are able to do what we never thought possible. Not for recognition but because of our connectedness.



I said I feel it, and I know it
And I feel it, and I know it



Professor Verene Shepherd Director(CRR) Co-Chair(NCR), delivers remarks for sponsors, Centre for Reparation Research(CRR) & National Council on Reparations(NCR)

Greetings from the Centre for Reparation Research & The National Council on Reparation©

Prof. Verene A. Shepherd

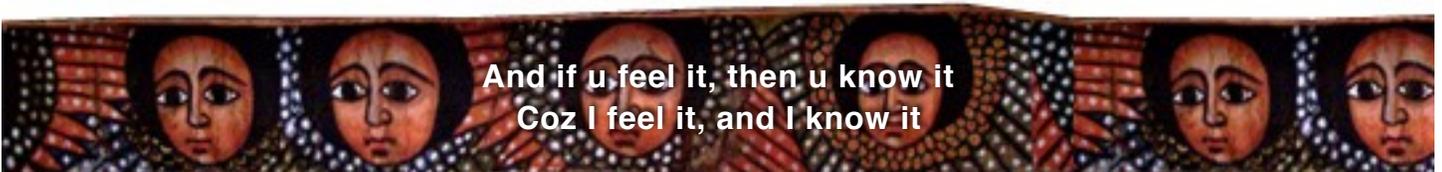
Director, CRR & Co-Chair, NCR

Rita Marley Foundation Public Speaking Competition for Schools

Feb 15, 2019 @The UWI, Multifunctional Room, Main Library

10-3 PM

Good morning everyone and congratulations to the Rita Marley Foundation for investing in the development of young people in our country by organizing and hosting this Public Speaking Competition which allows students to hone skills they will need in later life. Through this competition they are learning to stand before an audience with confidence and purpose and speak their truths. They are learning to research, to analyse data and engage in critical thinking.



The National Council on Reparation and the Centre for Reparation Research are pleased to be associated with the overall initiative as well as with this particular 5th staging of the competition, which we helped to sponsor.

The present NCR is carrying on the work of the 2009 National Commission on Reparation, chaired by the late Professor Barry Chevannes, and the 2012 National Commission on Reparation, which I chaired, but all established by different administrations of the Government of Jamaica. This means that reparation is on the national agenda and part of our responsibility is to ensure that public education, especially of the youth, is part of our mandate. Along with 12 National Reparation Committees across CARICOM, the CARICOM REPARATION COMMISSION, and the Centre for Reparation Research established in 2017 and located in the Office of the Vice Chancellor, The UWI, we are working to ensure that everyone knows why reparation is a right and not an act of begging; why it is a part of a theory of justice known as 'restorative justice'. This concept of justice emphasizes repairing the harm caused or revealed by criminal action.

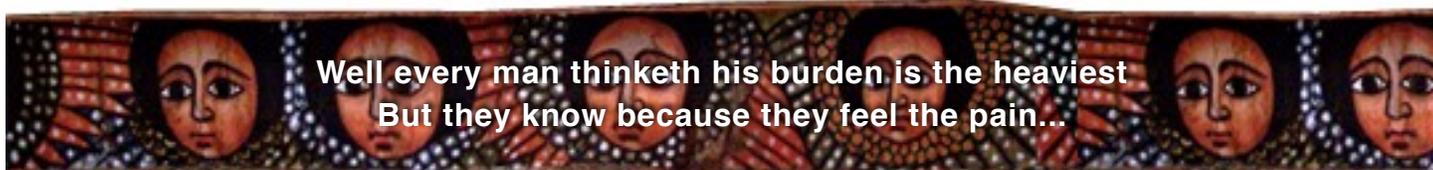
We all know that historical injustices have undeniably contributed to the poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion, economic disparities, instability and insecurity that affect many people in different parts of the world, in particular in developing countries.

When we train young people to understand the roots of current underdevelopment of our country and our region, we are not telling them that they must not place their own education and initiatives towards self-advancement and the development of our Region. But to tell people without boots that they must pull themselves up by their own bootstraps is ridiculous as Martin Luther King Jnr intimated decades ago.

It was Sir Ellis Clarke of T&T who said way back in 1964 that "An administering power...is not entitled to extract for centuries all that can be got out of a colony and when that has been done to relieve itself of its obligations..... Justice requires that reparation be made to the country that has suffered the ravages of colonialism before that country is expected to face up to the problems and difficulties that will inevitably beset it upon independence." Our main take away today must be this: A crime without a remedy is abhorrent to the spirit of justice.

Thank you Sister Rita Marley for your own tireless work towards ensuring justice for African people and for setting up this Foundation, so ably run by your team of which the able Rosemary Duncan is a part, to build capacity among the youth.

Good luck to our competitors and enjoy the day and the experience, everyone!





Mr. Paul Ashley (Senior, Education Officer)

Paul-Davey Ashley
Senior Education Officer
Schools' Operations
Educational Services Division
Ministry of Education Youth & Information

A pleasant good morning to you all. I bring warm greetings and best wishes from the team at the MoEYI.

Ladies and Gentlemen, surprisingly, the records indicate that the 12 year old Rita Marley Foundation was founded first in Ghana in 2000 and that it was not until 2014 only 5 years ago, that a branch was established in Jamaica at Hope Road.

Its main objectives are to:

- Relieve financial hardship, sickness and poor health amongst the elderly, youth and vulnerable women in poor or rural communities in Jamaica.
- Preserve and protect the health of the elderly and youths, particularly pregnant women, vulnerable mothers and their children.



- Develop the capacity and skills of members of socially and economically disadvantaged communities, with special attention to education, training or retraining of community members.
- Promote the advancement of education, agriculture, arts, amateur sports and skills training in order to empower youths or relieve poverty among persons experiencing financial hardships or other socio-economic disadvantage, particularly vulnerable or pregnant women and mothers.
- Promote and encourage knowledge, creativity and appreciation of music, arts, amateur sports, culture and heritage in Jamaica.
- Promote the spiritual, cultural, social and musical ideals and goals that guided and inspired the Honourable Robert Nesta Marley O.M. during his lifetime.
- Support all legislations and the use of other resources aimed at promoting the advancement of education, agriculture, health, music, amateur sports, arts and culture.
- Promote the advancement of religious harmony and equality, and in particular to promote awareness of the Rastafarian faith and to encourage greater understanding and appreciation of the history, principles and meanings of the Rastafarian faith.
- Promote such other charitable purposes which the directors from time to time may consider consistent with the furthering of the above objects.

Ladies and Gentlemen, The MOEYI endorses these objectives and in particular this the 5th staging of the Public Speaking Competition, organized by the foundation in Jamaica. We are also aware of its international reach throughout the African diaspora and have taken a very keen interest in this year's topic: Nevertheless I will leave the topic to the speakers and the Judges and ask that you indulge me just a little further on the purpose of the exercise for which we have gathered.

What are the Benefits of Public Speaking?

Public speaking is a great way of building personal development on many levels, because improving communication skills is helpful in almost every area of life. Whether your goal is to engage in political debate, make a career as a motivational speaker or gain confidence in front of an audience, public speaking can help you meet your goals.

1. AIDS IN CAREER ADVANCEMENT
2. BOOST CONFIDENCE
3. CRITICAL THINKING
4. PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
5. IMPROVE COMMUNICATION SKILLS
6. MAKE NEW SOCIAL CONNECTIONS
7. PERSONAL SATISFACTION
8. EXPAND YOUR PROFESSIONAL NETWORK
9. LEARN TO PERSUADE
10. BUILD LEADERSHIP SKILLS
11. DRIVE CHANGE



Who feels it knows it, God
Who feels it knows it, God

12. DEVELOP YOUR VOCABULARY AND FLUENCY

13. NO FEAR OF IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

14. LEARN TO ARGUE

15. HELPS YOU DRIVE CHANGE

16. BE A BETTER LISTENER

Listening may be a lost art, but a public speaking course actually teaches you to become a better listener. When you attend conferences, you'll hear several different types of speeches about a wide variety of topics, from people who may be very different from you. This will passively build your listening ability and note taking.



Prizes for students

These benefits of public speaking make getting out of your comfort zone and giving a speech absolutely worth it. You may be nervous the first few times you speak, but if you are committed, you'll quickly learn to enjoy the experience.

Ladies and Gentlemen, our topic today:

“Of all the Forms That Reparations Should Take, Repatriation to Africa Is The Most Important”

Like you Ladies and Gentlemen, I wait with baited breath to hear the arguments of our erudite contestants and wish them every success in their quest.

On behalf of the Hon. Minister and the team at the MOEYI, I would also like to wish the Foundation and its Sponsors another riveting 5 years as the competition continues to grow from strength to strength.

Ladies and Gentlemen; let the competition begin.





Mr. Tyrone Gunnie (1st Secretary Political, South African High Commission)

Mr. Tyrone Gunnie
1st Secretary
Political South African High Commission

The High Commission is proud to again be associated with Rita Marley Foundation Annual Public Speaking competition, because it empowers young people with the opportunity to develop their public speaking skills while at the same time developing a knowledge on a broad range of topical issues.

The South African Government through its High Commission in Jamaica associates itself with the annual programme, because South Africa and Jamaica have similar socio-economic challenges which often disproportionately affect youth. Further, the theme of the event, “Emancipate yourself from mental slavery,” resonates with the South African High Commission.



Audience





Ms. Beverley Lashley, CEO National Library of Jamaica

Beverley Lashley
National Librarian
National Library of Jamaica (NLJ)

Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen

For five consecutive years, the Rita Marley Foundation (Ja) has held highly successful public-speaking competitions among high-schoolers across Jamaica. The aim is to develop outstanding oratory skills allowing students the ability to represent Jamaica regionally and internationally. I have been a part of this initiative from its inception and have observed the development and growth of the students and how they have used these skills to advance them in their personal and professional endeavours.

Is Public Speaking a gift or can it be acquired through the learning process? It is estimated that 75% of the population struggles with a fear of public speaking to a certain degree. This means some 238 million people feel nervous about talking to others. But I am sure the teachers who have been coaching you have given you tips to overcome these and have stressed the importance of:

- Articulating clearly
- Controlling performance anxiety
- Grabbing the attention of the audience with a powerful opening
- Among others.

The stimulating and interesting topic (at least for the first segment) today is: 'Of all the forms that reparation should take, repatriation to Africa is the most important.' But since 2019 marks the Year of the Return to Ghana I anticipate varied view points.



The National Library of Jamaica (NLJ) endorses wholeheartedly this Public Speaking Competition and recognizes the sterling contribution of the Rita Marley Foundation in developing the minds of our youth. Although the competition is only 5 years old, the impact of the competition is far reaching. The Foundation is keeping track of the students and the number of schools participants has also grown yearly. The NLJ stands ready in every way to assist in this programme.

To our 12 Orators - with a few more speeches under your belt, you could become the next TED Talk presenter.

To the parents and teachers – a job well done

To Rosemary Duncan - Excellent work. Ms Duncan has been spearheading this programme singlehandedly and must be commended for her commitment to the cause.

Thanks to Dr. Rita Marley and the Rita Marley Foundation as they continue building the minds of future generations. Harambe!

Seens from The Magnificent Event



Volunteers/Ushers

Wisynco Gift Baskets



From left- Xaundre Mohansinque (2015 winner), Rosemary Duncan(Manager, Rita Marley Foundation(JA), Dr. Amina Blackwwod -Meeks(MC), Joel Lyn(2017 winner, York Castle

From left- Dr. Kadamawe Knife (Judge), Professor Verene Shepherd (Judge), Dr. Keino Senior(Judge)





Grub Cooper chants Harambe



Haile Selassie High School



Master of Ceremony Dr. Amina Blackwood-Meeks & Saevion McFadden(Ardenne High School)



Students



Awards



Contenders- Saevion McFadden(Ardenne High School), Sashae Campbell(William Knib Memorial High School), Tamoy Campbell (Wolmer's Girls' High School)



Deacon Grant .(Ethiopian Orthodox Church)



Participants-Jahne Mattis, St. Hugh's High School & Wendy-Ann Ivey, Westwood High School



Caring for Our Elders to Preserve Our Future

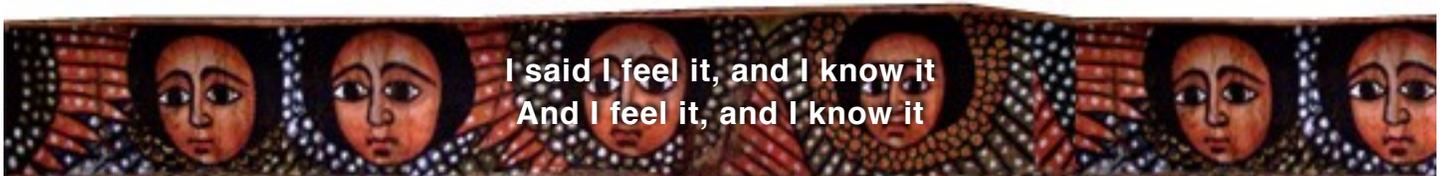
*Rita Marley Foundation(Ghana) Activities
at Alpha & Omega Home for the Aged*



Physician holds healthcare discussion with elders at Alpha & Omega Home for the Aged



Seniors braiding trivets





Considerable Cheers to our Champion, Jamaica College. Represented by Fabian Morris



Tremendous Thanks again to sponsors:

- Donna & Thomas Leeds
- Mrs. Merlene Heholt
National Council on Reparations
Centre for Reparation Research
South African High Commission(Jamaica)
- Wisynco Group
- 876 Terrace Bar & Grill
- Suzie's Bakery
- Spanish Court Hotel
- Devon House
- Caribbean Cream (Kremi)
- Bob Marley Museum
- Viking Productions
- Stationery & Computer Supplies



IMMEASURABLE THANKS FOR A MAGNIFICENT PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

Dr. Rita Marley & The Rita Marley Foundation (JA) sincerely thanks all persons and organizations who collaborated with us for presentation of a Super Fabulous 5th Annual Public Speaking Competition.

EOC, sponsors, schools, Master of Ceremony (Mrs. Amina Blackwood Meeks), judges (Professor Verene Shepherd, Mrs. Merlene Heholt, Dr. Kadamawe Knife, Mr. Tyrone Gunnie, Dr. Keino Senior), Ministry of Education, Youth & Information, South African High Commission(Jamaica), Cuba Embassy, University of the West Indies Mona(Main Library), National Library of Jamaica, artists(Grub Cooper, Bongo Herman, Isha Bel, Fikre Manassi), Excelsior High School's choir, ushers/volunteers, photographer, media (LOOP Jamaica, Nationwide News 90FM(Talking History), Jamaica Information Service (TV), Gleaner Jamaica, Youth Link, PBCJ)-heartfelt thanks to you!

Congratulations to 2nd place
Westwood High School
Wendy-Ann Ivey

Kudos to 3rd place
Immaculate Conception High School
Lorena Eschoe



We applaud semi finalists:

Tamoy Campbell
Wolmer's Girls' High School

Trevon Fletcher
Wolmer's Boys' High School

Sashae Campbell
William Knibb Memorial High School

Antonio Webba
Marcus Garvey Technical High School

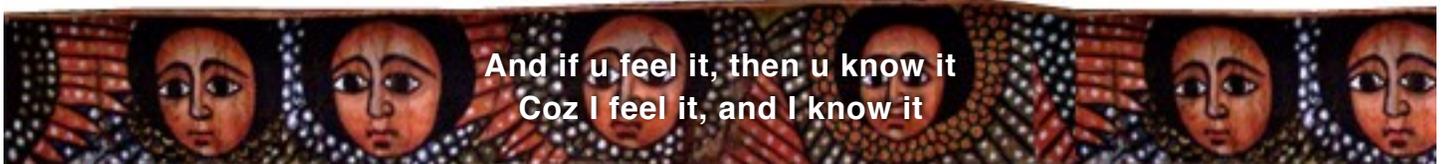
Jahme Mattis
St. Hugh's High School

Darla Campbell
Campion College

Joel Lyn
York Castle High School

Saevion McFadden
Ardenne High School

We look forward to superb Public Speaking Competition in 2020. Harambe!



And if u feel it, then u know it
Coz I feel it, and I know it

I-THREE
Recipients of Iconic Group Award at the
2019 Jamaica Reggae Industry Association
Honour Awards.



From left: Sister Judy Mowatt, Mikelle Ange Pierre, Dr. Rita Marley, Sister Marcia Griffiths, Hon. Olivia 'Babsy' Grange, Minister for Culture, Gender, Youth & Sports

