

2017 MERL GROVE HIGH SCHOOL PAST STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION NY CHAPTER INC ANNUAL REPORT



As we end our seventh (7th) year as a Past Students' Association here in New York, I offer this reminder **“TEAM WORK MAKES THE DREAM WORKS”**. Although the year started with the Executive Committee experiencing health challenges amongst its members, with your help we overcame all obstacles, pursue possibilities, all in the aid of our beloved alma mater. We lost a founding member of the chapter Ouida Young, and we thank her for her loyal service in helping us to grow thus far and look forward to her continuing support. United we stand in our endeavors- **Labor Omni Vincit- Hard Work Overcome All difficulties!!!!**

And so, we approach each endeavor with tenacity and vigor, resolute in our logo of **“Embracing the Past; Enriching the Future”** we look back on our accomplishments for the past year:

- Our first (1st) Women's History Month Raffle was a success. Thank you to all who supported by selling or purchasing a ticket(s). Our Drawing Reception was loads of fun. Thank you to Dahlia Lyons- Harrison who was able to secure a donated venue for us. To Lilieth's grand-daughter who truly helped with the drawing of the prizes. A big thank you to Sadraine Gordon, the Community Relationship Representative for the Consulate General office. She picked the first prize winner Neville Simms. We wished them bon Voyage as they departed on December 3rd, 2017. Unfortunately, our second and third prize winners chose to forfeit their prizes.
- The Second (2nd) Annual Backpack Drive was a tremendous success once again. This year saw some changes, due to our late start. We were able to purchase most of the backpacks and supplies in bulk this year. With generous donations from thirty-seven (37) Past Students we were able to ship forty-five backpacks filled with basic supplies. We also received donations of supplies and backpacks from two past students. Although the goal of 50 backpacks was not attained we were so close.
- For our Family Fun Day our fare was a bit lighter this year, as we moved towards a more picnic menu. DJ Chucky and crew kept us jamming to the hits of yester years and today. Thank you to all who supported us with donations of dishes to the table or beverages. Thank you to Lilieth Fereguson (VP & Class of 72) who coordinated our Family Fun Day. Once again, we ask that you support our sponsors – Pat's Exotic Beverages, Squeezer's Caribbean Rhythm's Juices, Stop and Shop, and Jamaican Choice.

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- Due to the weather our Pre-Christmas Dance, co-hosted with Dinthill and St. Elizabeth Technical High Schools, attendance this year fell short of projected figures. However, we were once again the top school with 58 past students, friends and family who came out to celebrate with us. We are forever appreciative of your continued support.
- We fulfilled our 501 (c) 3 IRS community requirements by donating \$100.00 to UJAA's High School Graduates Award.
- Over the years we have supported other associations fundraising events and this year saw no exception. Although our support was limited to just a few key associations, we still made an impact in terms of reciprocal support.

Therefore, my fellow sisters, **“New things are on our way to make our coming year eventful”**. We have found that needs never stop. Therefore, neither do we the ladies of **MGHS PSA NY Chapter Inc.**, so gather your MGHS Classmates, Family and Friends and join us as we continue **EMBRACING THE PAST; ENRICHING THE FUTURE!!!!**