NOVEMBER 2021



The Coalition Monthly

The Monthly Newsletter for The Coalition of Jamaican Alumni Associations of Florida

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ANNUAL WALKATHON DECEMBER 11, 2021

By now, you should have received your pledge sheet that we sent last week. If you did not get it, send us an email at <u>rgecon@hotmail.com</u> and please include an alternate email address.

We are also hoping to see you at the **ZOOM meeting on Saturday, November 6, 2021 at 11:00 AM.** You can join by using the meeting ID information or zoom link below. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

LASCO'S CHRISTMAS RELIEF DRIVE

Apart from planning for the walkathon, this Saturday's meeting will discuss LASCO's effort to help alumni associations provide some "Christmas Cheer" to families of our alma mater. The deadline for sending order confirmations is **Friday, November 19, 2021**. The distribution of the Christmas Care packages will commence during



the period Monday, December 6, 2021 through to the Friday, December 17, 2021.

Walkathon Meeting ID: 894 9148 1274 Passcode: 349818 (Pages 10-13) Walkathon Meeting ZOOM LINK https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89491481274?pwd=RjNCK3BCRFp2cU9EMXJ6Y05yaE9mdz09 One tap mobile +13017158592,,89491481274#,,,,*349818# US (Washington DC) +13126266799,,89491481274#,,,,*349818# US (Chicago) The Gillian Whylie Scholarship Fund: Making a Difference in the Lives of High School • and University Students (Pages 4-5) Inside the Newsletter Kingston College Athletes to Ride in Style Following Acquisition of New Bus (Pages 6 - 7) • Dinthill Technical Alumni Fish Fry Fundraiser (Page 8) • **MUNRO-HAMPTON Alumni Reunion Picnic (Page 9) ALPHA Alumnae Fundraisers** (Page 10) . Ugly Sweater Bingo 2. Poppin Popcorn Fundraiser Memoir Writing Workshop & JADIAS Hall of Fame Ceremony (Page 7)

ALL ALUMNI WALKATHON & FUN DAY



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2021 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

MIRAMAR REGIONAL PARK MIRAMAR, FLORIDA

WALK, RUN, DANCE, EAT, AND

HAVE FUN!



COALITION OF JAMAICAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS OF FLORIDA Helping Jamaican High Schools, Colleges, and the Communities in Florida. ORGANIZED BY THE COALITION OF JAMAICAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS OF FLORIDA

JAMAICAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS' JOINT FUND-RAISING EVENT TO SUPPORT PROJECTS IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND THEIR ALMA MATER

WALK WITH OTHER ALUMS AND

GRAND MARSHALS ALLAN & JUDITH CUNNINGHAM

RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR ALMA MATER

FOR MORE

954-242-2529 954-510-6265 OR SEND AN EMAIL TO RUPERT AT <u>RQECON@HOTMAIL.COM</u>

THE GILLIAN WHYLIE SCHOLARSHIP FUND: MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF HIGH SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS



Gillian Whylie, nee Lewis was born in Falmouth, Trelawny, Jamaica on November 10, 1963 to parents Horace and Cordella Lewis. She was the first of two daughters with sister, Donna arriving three years later. The family eventually moved to St. Catherine where Gillian attended St. Jago High School in 1974. Upon completing 'O' Levels at St. Jago High School, Gillian moved to Wolmer's High School for girls in Kingston in 1980 where she successfully completed her high school education ('A' levels). From Wolmer's, Gillian entered the Humanities program at the University of the West Indies (UWI) and studied German, Spanish and French while completing a bachelor's degree in mass communications at CARIMAC. She later completed the Diploma in Education in the teaching of Modern Languages. Gillian was also an integral member and a lead dancer of the UWI Dance Society.

In 1987, Gillian took up the challenge of teaching French and Spanish in the Bahamas at the William Grant High School and, while there, performed with the Bahamas National Dance Theatre. Many years after leaving the Bahamas, Gillian continued to correspond with a number of her students, calling them 'her daughters'. Such is the nature of this loving person. In August 1989, she was awarded an OAS Scholarship to pursue a short-term work study program for teachers of Spanish at the University of Salamanca, Spain.

Having spent 5 years in the Bahamas, Gillian came home to Jamaica in 1992 and she and Paul Whylie were married in 1995. In 2000, Paul was offered a job with the United Nations Environment Program in Geneva, Switzerland where the family lived until 2014 when the Whylie family returned to Jamaica.

After returning to Jamaica, Gillian taught French at Alpha Girls Academy. She was also elected President of Alliance Française de la Jamaïque, the international organization that aims to promote French language and culture around the world. Her dynamic and inclusive style endeared her to the international community and in no time, Gillian was fully involved and participating in events and the workings of the diplomatic community on the island.

On August 30, 2017 at age 53, Gillian tragically passed away after a brief illness. The Gillian Whylie Scholarship Fund is a charity established in her name to continue the legacy of kindness and support to those in need.

The Gillian Whylie Scholarship Fund (GWSF) is a duly registered charity organization, established to promote the education and vocational training of Jamaican students with special emphasis on students pursing studies in Modern Languages. The Fund is meant to continue the legacy of Gillian Whylie, who lived her life in support of advancing the learning and use of modern languages. In specific terms, the Fund will provide financial assistance by awarding scholarships, bursaries or maintenance and travel allowances or otherwise to further the education and training of students at any educational institution approved by the Fund.

Each year, based on available funds, the GWSF provides scholarships to selected students based on set criteria to pursue courses in Modern Languages and preferably in French at the upper level of St. Jago High School (alma mater of Gillian Whylie) and to the University of the West Indies to undertake a bachelor's degree.

This is the fourth year that the GWSF has awarded scholarships. The last awardee, Sareka Crawford, has now received a scholarship to study languages at the University of Bordeaux in France and was shortlisted for the Prime Minister's National Youth Award in Academics in 2020.

The Gillian Whylie Scholarships for the 2021-22 academic year.



Zorí Blake, with her proud father Colín

Zori Blake of DeCarteret College received a scholarship valued at \$200,000 to support her first-year studies in Modern Languages at the University of the West Indies. Blake has excelled at languages and finished 2nd and 3rd in the Caribbean in the CAPE examinations in Spanish and French, respectively. The Godfrey Lands resident in Mandeville quoted Confucius: "Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life". "These words encapsulate my experience in studying foreign languages. For me, they are not work, but a passion." the confident young lady remarked.

De Marley Cohen of St. Jago High School and Tiana-Lee Gray of Wolmer's High School for Girls, both received a scholarship valued at \$150,000 to support their studies toward completing the CAPE matriculation over the two-year program.

De Marley Cohen was singled out as the 'Most Congenial' student at St. Jago in 2019. His father is a deliveryman and financing his plan to do CAPE was always going to be difficult. However, his performance at languages and his exceptional work in co-curricular activities at the school make him a worthy candidate to cop the scholarship this year.



Tíana-Lee Gray (first ríght) with her mother Natalie Lawrence (second ríght) is all smíles as she receives the award plaque from Paul Whylie, husband of Gillian Whylie **Tiana-Lee Gray** is the first recipient of a scholarship from Wolmer's High School for Girls. She has shown exceptional debating skills, strong



De Marley Cohen receiving his award from Gillian's father Horace Lewis.

leadership qualities and a determination to succeed. The resident of Fletchers Land in the inner city of Kingston is destined for greatness. She says, "I am a firm believer of the statement: 'Your environment should not dictate your future.' I use my environment as motivation, rather than a barrier to my inevitable success".

The GWSF is excited to provide support for these exemplary students. Only time will tell but these three young adults are worth monitoring as they will certainly make a positive impact on Jamaica in the future. We wish them well as they set out to achieve their dreams.

KINGSTON COLLEGE ATHLETES TO RIDE IN STYLE FOLLOWING ACQUISITION OF NEW BUS

Jamaica Observer Saturday, October 23, 2021



Kingston College Principal Dave Myrie (left) looks on as Board Chairman Michael Vascianna cuts the ribbons

KINGSTON College (KC) received a boost to their transportation fleet with the acquisition of a sparkling new 26-seater bus, just before the expected resumption of high school sports this semester. Schoolboy football is set to resume next month, according to the Inter-secondary Schools Sports Association (ISSA), so the bus could not have come at a better time for the school.

Speaking at the dedication of the bus at Cloverly Park, 2A North Street recently, chairman of the board Michael Vaccianna thanked the old boys who had contributed to the purchase of the bus valued at just over \$10m.

"I want to say thanks to the donors who have contrib-

uted to the purchase of this well-appointed bus and who have made this event possible. I believe that this gift is significant in many ways, and it will be significant to people in different ways."

Vaccianna shared what the acquisition of the bus will mean to the Kingston College family.

- "There are three things I want to mention...this is an excellent demonstration of the spirit of generosity, community and loyalty that I believe was instilled in all of us who have passed through this institution. It is a part of the vision of our founding headmaster, Bishop Gibson, and it is being realised every day of life.
- "The second thing I want to mention is that it conveys an image of success which is consistent with the many milestones that Kingston College has achieved over its 96 years.
- "This is a part of our mission: that we must educate young men, and to put them in society to make a contribution to society, and that success has shown itself in so many different ways and I think that the visibility that this bus provides is one way of showing success. This is an example of old boys giving back to their alma mater."

The chairman expressed hope that the arrival of the bus will lead to more contributions to the school by other members of the KC fraternity.

"It is my hope that every time a KC old boy sees this bus he will be motivated and encouraged to make a contribution to the school — whether it is his time and talent, or a financial one. It is an image that portrays what can happen when people get together to make a contribution."

KC Principal Dave Myrie disclosed that the acquisition time for securing the bus, from concept to delivery, was the fastest fund-raising effort he had presided over since taking charge of the all-boy institution.

- "It is the second bus I have had the pleasure of dedicating since being the principal at Kington College. I remember the boys saying to me the first time, the "phantom bus" has arrived because they heard about this bus for so many years and couldn't see the bus, and they saw a bus and said the phantom bus has arrived.
- "The acquisition of this bus may have been the fastest fund-raising event that I have ever experienced since being at Kingston College in terms of space of time of getting this thing done."

Myrie noted that only a select few old boys were contacted to raise funds to purchase the bus, and he thanked them for responding to the call.

"To all the donors, we really, really appreciate your input. Your commitment to KC is obvious...and countless students will talk about this and talk about how our old boy fraternity responds every time we need help."

The list of donors includes Denis Cohen, Timothy Scarlet, Howard Lau, Urvin Banks, Donavan Germain, Chris Chin (VP Records), Darren Moore, Everton Gardener, Dean Nevers, Earl Powell, Kirk Scott, Rick Case, Ryan Reid, Steve Dunn, Clinton Daley, KCOBA New York and KCOBA Florida.



DINTHILL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL Alumni Association of Florida



FUNDRAISER



on Saturday November 6, 2021 12 noon - 6 pm @ 613 Ixora Lane Plantation, FL 33317

Fish

Come down the lane and get your meal to go or enjoy your meal by the pool side!!!!!!

\$20 - Fish is served with 2 sides\$15 - Jerk Chicken with 2 sides\$2 - Fish Soup

Take-Out Available. Call:(954)860-2474







ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS' INFORMATION

- 1. Alpha Alumnae (CMA) Nickie Wong (President) (954) 298-6162 <u>nickie1968@bellsouth.net</u> <u>alphaflchapter@gmail.com</u> <u>Website</u>
- 2. Ardenne High School Alumni Association Pamela Brown-Peoples (President) (239) 245-2314 <u>ardennealumniflorida@gmail.com</u> <u>Facebook</u>
- 3. Calabar High School Alumni Association Karl Thompson (President) president@cbarfla.org Website
- 4. Camperdown Past Students Association Michelle Cooper (President) (954) 802-6590 <u>executives@camperdownfl.org</u> <u>cdownpaststudent@gmail.com</u> <u>Website</u>
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- 7. Charlemont High School Past Students' Assoc. Onenetta Labeach (President) (404) 915-8387 <u>chspsafoundation@gmail.com</u> Facebook
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- 10. Cornwall College Alumni Association Phillip Wallace (President) (954) 243-4469 president@calumni-florida.com Website
- 11. DeCarteret College Past Students' Alliance Sean Brown (President) Facebook
- 12. Dinthill Technical Alumni Association Charlton Chance (President) (954) 860-2474 chanchoy81@yahoo.com dths_dinthill_of_florida@hotmail.com Facebook
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- 14. Ferncourt High School Alumni Association

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- 21. Jamaica Ex-Soldier Association Patrick Russell (President) (954) 324-5506 jesa allflorida@yahoo.com Website
- 22. Kingston College Old Boys Association (954) 587-5257 fortis_Florida@Bellsouth.Net Website
- 23. Friends of KTHS High School Shannet Brown-Peterkin (President) (954) 610-3192 <u>shannetpat2000@gmail.com</u> <u>Website</u>
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- 26. Manchester High School Alumni Association <u>manhesterhighschool@gmail.com</u>
- 27. Manning's Past Students Association Leroy Bookal (President) (954) 464 6940 <u>lebookal@hotmail.com</u> Website
- Marymount High School Alumnae Association Pat Matthews-Darlington (President) (954) 288-3853 <u>marymountalumnae@gmail.com</u>
- 29. MICO Alumni Association Ruben "Tony" Brown (President) (954) 804-7200 <u>info@micoalumnisf.org</u> <u>Website</u>
- 30. Montego Bay High School Alumnae Assoc. Audrey Smith (President) (954) 330 4500 montegobayhighsfl@gmail.com
- 31. Montego Bay High Int'l Alumnae Association Lisa Legg/Karen Morris-Clarke (561) 714-3441/984-0616 <u>http://mbhsiaa.org/</u> <u>info@Mbhsiaa.org;</u> Website
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- 35. Northern Caribbean University Alumni Assoc.
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- 37. Rusea's Old Students Association Colin Rigg (President) 954 709 0208 info@rosafl.org Website
- 38. St. Andrew High Old Girls' Association Michelle Morris-Penn (President) (754) 201-6589 mmorrispenn@gmail.com
- 39. St. Andrew Techical Alumni Association
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- 41. St. Catherine High School Alumni Association Jasmine Barnes (President) (786) 252-6120 <u>jbarnes530@gmail.com</u> <u>Website</u>
- 42. **St. Elizabeth Tech High Alumni Association** Michael McCreath (President) <u>stethsaa@gmail.com</u>

- 43. **St. George's College Old Boys Association** Michael Lewis (President) <u>Facebook</u> <u>Website</u> <u>board@Stgcfl.com</u>
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- 47. **St. Mary High South Florida Alumni** Michael Brady (President) (954) 663-7220 <u>bradysrx@Hotmail.com</u> Facebook
- 48. Tarrant High School Past Students' Assoc. Michael Rose (President) (954) 353-1702 tarranthighjausa@aol.com Website
- 49. The Alumni Association of Titchfield High Paul Perry (President) 954-647-0293 <u>spectra2@bellsouth.net</u> <u>taa@Titchfieldhigh.com</u> <u>Website</u>

50. UWI Alumni Association

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