



**BISHOPS' HIGH SCHOOL (GUYANA) ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
TORONTO CHAPTER**

6A-170 The Donway West, Box 700, Don Mills, Ontario M3C 2E8

October 24, 2010

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with a sense of deep pride and joy that the Bishops' High School Alumni Association Toronto Chapter welcomes you to our *25th Anniversary Celebration*. Our Silver Anniversary! We are especially delighted to have this gathering of alumni, families and friends to mark this significant milestone which we could not have accomplished without your unfailing support. Thank you!

Our primary goal has been, and will always be, to raise funds for our alma mater and the students it serves. With your help we have done a tremendous job in meeting a wide range of needs: computers, security systems, books, bursary awards, equipment, furniture, appliances and prizes.

We have also become involved in giving back to our Guyanese community here in Toronto. For our efforts, the Toronto Chapter received two awards this year: *the 2010 Guyana Award for Community Service (Organization)* and a *2010 Ontario Newcomer Champion Award*. Winning these awards in the same year that we celebrate our 25th Anniversary is truly exhilarating. As the current President, I was at the helm to receive these awards but much of what has been achieved has been under the guidance of our past presidents: *Aileen Morgan, Marté Bannister, Jennifer Singh, Fay Mendoza, Derek Moses, Lynette Spence and Denise Archer*. I thank them for their leadership and creativity that put us on this path of success. Thanks also to all the members of the Executive Committees and Boards and the general membership who have served in one capacity or another over the last quarter of a century.

Some members have moved on to serve in another dimension, but they remain in our hearts and memories. Some are unable to be physically present due to a variety of challenges, but are here in thought. As the tests of life become more challenging, let us all continue to rally and be what we are to each other: "true comrade and true friend".

We must not rest on our laurels for there is still much work to be done in terms of building on our legacy. However, let us take the time to pause, reflect and celebrate with gratitude—gratitude for the country of our birth—and gratitude for the school that provided us with a stellar education, a school that developed our character, a school that gave us a fuller understanding of our true selves. May our Association continue to strive for greater heights and deeper strengths!

Here's to our 25th Anniversary!

Labor Omnia Vincit

Sharena Annamunthodoo,
President

HISTORY OF BISHOPS' HIGH SCHOOL (GUYANA) ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, TORONTO CHAPTER

The Bishops' High School Alumni Association, Toronto Chapter (BHSAA Toronto) was founded by three alumni—Patricia Moore, Aileen Morgan and Lynette Spence—on July 28, 1985 with the initial aim of bringing together fellow alumni to assist the alma mater in Georgetown. The group quickly expanded that vision. Twenty-five years later, the Toronto Chapter's cultural and professional contributions, community outreach and social networking have made it one of the leading organizations within the large Guyanese Canadian community in Ontario and one of ten International Chapters in key locations where Guyanese reside.

*Bishops' High School, Georgetown, Guyana was founded by the Anglican Church in 1870 and maintains the distinction of producing graduates who hold leadership positions in all spheres of life throughout the world. The school motto: **Labor Omnia Vincit**, along with the school's guiding principle: **Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might**, continue to be the inspiration for both former and current students to engage in celebrating their outstanding BHS academic and cultural education through service to the school and to the wider community.*

One of the first Guyanese alumni associations established in Toronto, the Chapter has readily shared many of its pioneering endeavours with other emerging organizations in the community. Since its inception, BHSAA Toronto has established a network of professionals, academics, financial and business consultants, and entrepreneurs who support one another, engage in joint projects and participate in the activities of other alumni and community organizations.

In order to achieve its primary objective of providing assistance to the school, the Toronto Chapter has organized a variety of fundraising activities both independently and through collaborative efforts with other alumni associations.

Over the last 25 years, BHSAA Toronto has contributed almost half-a-million Canadian dollars in financial and non-financial aid to its alma mater. The largest project undertaken has been the establishment and maintenance of a fully networked Computer Lab with current software. Other aid includes infrastructural and curriculum support, annual bursaries for students, and identified school-based needs and library resources. The invaluable support which the Toronto Chapter continues to make to the school contributes to improved student achievement—academic and cultural—and prepares students for both nationhood and world citizenship.

*BHSAA Toronto was the first alumni association to initiate an **Interactive Volunteer Program** whereby "volunteers" return to the school to use their diasporic experiences and qualifications to motivate, mentor current students.*

Over its history, the Toronto Chapter has successfully organized the following key initiatives which promote academic excellence and showcase our rich Guyanese heritage:

HISTORY (Cont'd)

- Initiated the **Annual Bursary Award Program** (1997) to enable children of BHS alumni and students from the Guyanese Canadian community to pursue higher education.
- Mounted two major Theatrical Productions—**A Christmas Story** (1988) and **A Wedding for Miss Jane** (1990).
- Hosted an **Art Exhibition of Guyanese Women Artists** (1994)—a “first” for any Guyanese Canadian community organization.
- Produced a major **Variety Concert—Musical Memories** (1997).
- Produced **Annual Literary Evenings** for 23 years, featuring an assortment of poems, short stories, skits and excerpts from books predominantly written by Guyanese and Caribbean authors.
- Established the **BHS Singers** over 20 years ago to perform Guyanese folk and national songs at various community events.
- Created a **Circle of Support Program** (2003) to provide assistance for alumni and Guyanese Seniors, particularly during illness or bereavement, and visits to bring “Christmas Cheer”.
- Hosted two **BHS International Reunions** (1987 & 2008).
- Co-developed **Last Lap Lime** (1995)—one of the largest annual Guyanese community festivals in North America—with Queen’s College, St. Stanislaus, St. Rose’s and St. Joseph’s Alumni Associations.
- Co-produced the play, **The Last of the Redmen** (2007), with Queen’s College Alumni Association.
- Co-hosted the **Annual Twelfth Night Dance** since 2000 with Queen’s College Alumni Association.
- Provided volunteer teacher-administrators for a Saturday Morning Mentorship Program initiated by the Youth Arm of the Alliance of Guyanese Canadian Organizations.
- Established a long-standing working relationship with the Guyana Consulate by actively participating in many of the Consulate’s cultural/educational initiatives and special events, e.g., Guyana Independence Festival Committee.

In this 25th Anniversary year, BHSAA Toronto received two community awards: **2010 Guyana Award for Community Service (Organization)**, and a **2010 Ontario Newcomer Champion Award**. In addition, individual members of the Chapter have utilized their personal and professional expertise to perform volunteer work within the Guyanese Canadian and the wider society, resulting in awards for outstanding community service and leadership.

The Toronto Chapter of the Bishops’ High School (Guyana) Alumni Association takes this opportunity to say “**THANK YOU**” to our families, friends and loyal supporters who have enabled us to develop and sustain this vibrant association for 25 years.

ONWARD, UPWARD, MAY WE EVER GO...

NATIONAL ANTHEM OF CANADA

O Canada!

Our home and native land!

True patriot love in all thy sons command.

With glowing hearts we see thee rise,

The True North strong and free!

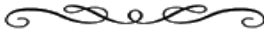
From far and wide,

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

God keep our land glorious and free!

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.



NATIONAL ANTHEM OF GUYANA

Dear Land of Guyana, of rivers and plains,

Made rich by the sunshine and lush by the rains,

Set gem-like and fair between mountains and sea,

Your children salute you, dear land of the free.

Dear Land of Guyana, to you will we give

Our homage, our service, each day that we live;

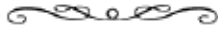
God guard you, great Mother, and make us to be

More worthy our heritage -- land of the free.

M E N U

Frozen Cocktail - Mango or Tropical Fruit

*Spinach and Artichoke, Hummus and Sun-dried
Tomato Pesto Dips with Crunchy Toasted Pita Chips*



*Spring Baby Greens with a Medley of
Julienne Bell Peppers, Carrots, Grape Tomatoes
and Cucumber, with Balsamic Vinaigrette*

*Roasted Chicken Supreme
Marinated in Thyme and Rosemary
Laced with Wild Mushroom Jus Lié*

*VEGETARIAN OPTION:
Phyllo Pastry stuffed with
Spinach, Tofu and Mushroom*

Seasoned Wild Rice

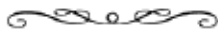
Seasonal Mixed Vegetables

Assorted Breads & Flatbreads



Vanilla Ice-Cream Crêpes

Coffee and Tea



All Beverages Cash Bar

PROGRAMME

Master of CeremoniesFay Mendoza

Trumpet CallJan Morgan

National Anthems of Canada & Guyana

Welcome..... Sharena Annamunthoodoo,
President, BHSAA Toronto

Greetings Danny Doobay,
Hon. Consul General of Guyana

Tribute to Mr. Danny Doobay.....Fay Mendoza
Sharena Annamunthoodoo

Medley of Guyanese National Songs..... BHS Singers

Brief History of the Toronto Chapter..... Patricia Moore
Aileen Morgan
Lynette Spence

Medley of BHS House HymnsLed by BHS Singers

Reflections.....Dr. Joy Mighty

Thanksgivings:

BHS (Teachers & Students).....Julianna Johnson

Present & Past Members Denise Archer

Chapters & Other Alumni Associations Jennifer Singh

Native and Adoptive LandsDerek Moses

Family, Friends & Youth Patricia Moore

School Hymn.....Led by BHS Singers

INTERMISSION

PROGRAMME

Frozen Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres

Vocal Solos—R&B/Soul.....George St Kitts

GRACEJennifer Cave-Williams

DINNER

Entertainment during Dinner by The Richard Whiteman Trio

Ceremonial Cutting of 25th Anniversary Cake

Present & Past President(s) & Founders

INTERMISSION

CABARET

Dance Solo “Come to the Cabaret”Alicia Nero

RepriseThe Richard Whiteman Trio

Dance SoloAlicia Nero

Vocal Solos—R&B HitsShemroy Parkinson

Vocal/Keyboard SolosTracey Soman

Spoken WordMichael Grandsoult

Trumpet SoloJan Morgan

Vocal Solos—BalladsBill Newman

Cool JazzThe Richard Whiteman Trio

Dance ExtravaganzaThe Andrea Douglas Dancers

CLOSING WORDS & THANK YOU.....Lynette Spence

Invitation to Party TimeDJ Monty Hammer

MIX & MINGLE & DANCING

MEDLEY OF GUYANA NATIONAL SONGS

*Oh, beautiful Guyana!
Oh, my lovely native land.*

*Oh, I care not that others rave
Over fair lands afar,
Where silvern lakes and placid streams
Mirror the evening star.
I care not though their wealth be great,
Their scenery be grand,
For none so fair as can compare
With my own native land.*

*My Guyana, El Dorado,
Best of all the world to me,
In my heart where'er I wander
Memory enshrineth thee.
All my hopes and aspirations,
All my longings only tie
Everlasting bonds around us,
As the fleeting years roll by.*

*Oh, beautiful Guyana!
Oh, my lovely native land,
More dear to me than all the world,
Thy sea-washed, sun-kissed strand.
Or down upon the border looking out upon the deep,
The great Atlantic blown into a fury, or asleep.
At morn, at noon,
Or better in the crimson sunset's glow,
I love thee! Oh, I love thee.*

COMMEMORATE!

Baskett

*Lift up your hearts, we lift them Lord to Thee,
Here at Thy feet, none other may we see.
Lift up your hearts, e'en so with one accord,
We lift them up, we lift them to the Lord.*

Victoria/Dewar

*Teach us to bear the yoke in youth
With steadfastness and careful truth;
That in our time, Thy grace may give
The truth whereby the nations live.*

Vyphuis

*O feet so strong to climb the path of duty,
O lips divine that taught the words of truth,
Kind eyes that marked the lilies in their beauty,
And heart that kindled at the zeal of youth.*

Mary/Wearn

*Drop Thy still dews of quietness
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace,
The beauty of Thy peace.*

Elizabeth/Allen

*Then shall all shackles fall, the stormy clangour
Of wild war music o'er the earth shall cease.
Love shall tread out the baleful fire of anger,
And in its ashes plant the tree of peace.*

THE SCHOOL HYMN

*Look down on us, O Father,
Who dwell'st in purest light,
A company of children
Here gathered in Thy sight.
Our lives take Thou in keeping,
That we may ever be
As Thou dost wish us, happy,
True, resolute and free.*

*In seed time and in harvest,
Thy power divine we own,
Send forth Thy quickening spirit
And bless the seed here sown.
Oh, do Thou guide our footsteps
In life's dim, dubious ways,
That all our thought and actions
May bring to Thee due praise.*

*In all our joys and sorrows,
We know Thou hast Thy part,
May we, too, show to others
A loving, tender heart.
Bound by the ties of friendship
From schooldays to the end,
May each to each prove ever
True comrade and true friend.*

25TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Lynette (Smith-Green) Spence, Chair

Diane Akai

Sharena Annamunthodoo

Barbara (Sharma) Bacchus

Peta (McWatt) McRae

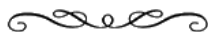
Patricia Moore

Nancy Rickford

Beverly (Henry) Stephenson

Verna (Simon) Thomas

Ornette (Grant) Willis



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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