



CARIBBEAN  
HOTEL & TOURISM  
ASSOCIATION  
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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**CHTA EDUCATION FOUNDATION AWARDS RECORD US\$141,800  
IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO 36 CARIBBEAN NATIONALS**

***Recipients Pursuing Higher Education, Professional Development in Hospitality & Tourism***

MIAMI, FL (June 19, 2015) – The Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association Education Foundation (CHTAEF) has awarded a record number of scholarships to 36 Caribbean-based students for a total of US\$141,800 in funding to enable Caribbean nationals to pursue a higher education in hospitality and tourism fields.

“This year’s applicant pool was so strong that the Board of Trustees had a difficult time in choosing who to provide funding for scholarships,” said Richard S. Kahn, chairman of CHTAEF. “Most of the 85 applicants deserved to receive funds towards their education so they may become productive individuals working in the vital Caribbean hospitality industry,” Kahn said, adding:

“We are only limited by the funds we’ve been able to generate from corporate donors such as Interval International and Virgin Holidays as well as *The New York Times* Travel Show auction where hotel stays are donated from across the Caribbean and purchased by consumers thereby providing funds for scholarships.

“We congratulate all of our scholarship recipients and thank our generous corporate sponsors and the many hotels and resorts and individuals without whose contributions these scholarships would not be possible.”

Scholarship recipients are either starting their studies or continuing their education in various specialities in the hospitality industry. The 2015 scholarship winners are as follows (including where they are from, the schools they are attending and the courses or degrees they are pursuing):

**Anguilla:** **Susan Brookes**, to Anglia Ruskin for Human Resources; **Zenya Greenaway**, to University of the West Indies for Human Resources.

**Antigua:** **Latoya Gonsalves**, to Culinary Institute of America for Culinary; **Tiffany Gordon**, to University of Technology for Culinary; **Kempton McCalmont**, to University of the West Indies for Hospitality Management; **Nadia Robinson**, to Monroe College for Hospitality Management; **Gabrielle Thomas**, to Johnson & Wales Rhode Island for Culinary.

**Aruba:** **Arantxa Alves**, to Berkeley College of New York for Marketing; **Christopher Geerman**, to Florida International University for Hospitality Management.

**Bahamas:** **Kirvez Ferguson**, to Johnson & Wales for Food Service Management; **Brittney Hanna**, to Johnson & Wales for Culinary; **Tarran Simms**, to Arizona State University for Sustainable Tourism; **Dwayne Sinclair**, to Kendall College for Hospitality Management; **Donovan Smith**, to Johnson & Wales for Culinary; **Kenia Taylor**, to Florida International University for Tourism Management; **Blaire Thompson**, to Johnson & Wales for Culinary; **Travis Delva**, to Johnson & Wales for Hospitality Management.

**Barbados:** **Madeline Layne**, to Johnson & Wales for Culinary.

**Haiti:** **Karen Etienne**, to Florida International University for Hospitality Management.

**Jamaica:** **Kelsey Girod**, to Johnson & Wales for Culinary; **Josh Parkins**, to Johnson & Wales Rhode Island for Culinary; **Gason Powell**, to Florida International University for Hospitality Management; **Jordon Richards**, to Johnson & Wales Rhode Island for Culinary.

**Puerto Rico:** **Druso Daubon**, to Culinary Institute of America for Culinary; **Patricia Diaz-Centeno**, to Boston University for Event Management.

**St. Kitts:** **Jamila Boddie**, to Florida International University for Restaurant Management.

**St. Lucia:** **Paulyn Eugene**, to Trinidad & Tobago Hospitality Institute for Culinary; **Sarah George**, to Johnson & Wales for Culinary.

**St. Maarten:** **Caroline Nolasco**, to University of St. Maarten for Hospitality Management.

**Turks & Caicos:** **Alisa Folkes**, to Ashworth College for Tourism Management.

**U.S. Virgin Islands:** **Cathriellah Shabazz**, to University of Virgin Islands for Hospitality Management; **Emmaleah Turner**, to University of Virgin Islands for Hospitality Management; **Shekeenah Caesar**, to Johnson & Wales for Hospitality Management.

**Trinidad & Tobago:** **Sarah Jagdip**, to Johnson & Wales for Culinary; **Sarita Singh**, to

Mount Saint Vincent University for Hospitality Management; **Je Zen Levia**, to Mount Saint Vincent University for Hospitality Management.

Scholarships were awarded based on prior academic achievements, previous work or internships in the Caribbean hospitality industry and economic needs.

### **CHTA Education Foundation**

The Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association **Education Foundation** (CHTAEF) was established in 1987 as a stand-alone (501c3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization, through which scholarships and special assistance would be made available for the education of Caribbean hotel industry personnel and students pursuing careers in hospitality and tourism.

Since 1987, the **Education Foundation** has awarded more than US\$2 million in scholarships and grants to applicants who demonstrate a strong commitment to the hotel and tourism industry.

The **Education Foundation** has also been active in supporting Haitian students following the devastating earthquake in January 2010 by facilitating Practical Hospitality Skills training so that Haitian students are able to return home and be major catalysts in the uplift of Haitian tourism.

**For more information, visit [www.chtaeducationfoundation.com](http://www.chtaeducationfoundation.com) or [www.facebook.com/CHTAEducationFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/CHTAEducationFoundation), call (571) 436-4386 or email [foundation@caribbeanhotelandtourism.com](mailto:foundation@caribbeanhotelandtourism.com).**

### **Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association**

The Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association (CHTA) is a federation of 32 National Hotel Associations, with more than 600 member hotels and over 300 allied members. CHTA is the largest representative of the private sector in the Caribbean hotel and tourism industry. We are the voice of the Caribbean hospitality industry for the development of the region in the highly competitive and sophisticated environment of international tourism. Today, tourism is widely recognized as a pivotal industry in the economy of the region – and CHTA functions as the common denominator for this industry in a region of diverse nationalities, languages and styles, identifying mutual problems and marshaling the resources of the active and allied members to devise solutions. CHTA represents all facets of the hospitality industry with more than 600 member hotels and over 300 allied members.

CHTA, including the events staged by the association, is supported by Strategic Partners Cable & Wireless, HVS, Interval International, MasterCard, OBM International, Tambourine and TravelZoo.

**For more information, visit <http://www.caribbeanhotelandtourism.com>. Follow CHTA on Facebook [Facebook.com/CaribbeanHotelandTourismAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/CaribbeanHotelandTourismAssociation) and Twitter [Twitter.com/CHTAFeeds](https://twitter.com/CHTAFeeds).**

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