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28TH ANNUAL SUNSHINE AWARDS

SATURDAY OCTOBER 15, 2016



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MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER AND HOST

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 28th Annual SUNSHINE Awards celebration. The SUNSHINE Awards Organization thanks you for your presence tonight. We are privileged to be able to recognize the 2016 SUNSHINE Awards nominees and recipients before an audience with such a strong commitment to the performing arts, education, humanity, science and sports. These nominees and recipients were selected by a panel of researchers using a rigid set of criteria.

In 2014, the SUNSHINE Awards Organization received approval from the Mandela family and the Nelson Mandela Foundation to name a SUNSHINE Award in his honor. This year, the Organization expands its coverage of achievement to include the inaugural presentation of the 2016 Nelson Mandela Human Rights Achievement SUNSHINE Award which will be presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions and demonstrated an unselfish commitment to humanity.

On a personal note, my thanks to all our sponsors, patrons and advertisers for your commitment to making this event a successful and very special one. Your generous contributions and participation through the years continue to help the SUNSHINE Awards Organization to make a difference in peoples' lives and bring the past into the present. My thanks to the SUNSHINE Awards teams in New York, Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean by extension, as well as our families. I know wholeheartedly that you join me in congratulating and celebrating the 28th Annual SUNSHINE Awards nominees and recipients and the new inductees into the SUNSHINE Awards Hall of Fame.

Thank you and once again a warm welcome!

Sincerely, Gilman T. Figaro, Gr. Chairman/Founder



At The Center Of Global Culture





United Airlines is proud to sponsor the 28th SUNSHINE Awards in New York City

"As a global airline operating some 4,550 flights a day to 339 airports to 55 countries, we applaud the SUNSHINE Awards' mission to recognize excellence in the performing arts, education, science and sports of people of Caribbean, South American, Central American and African heritage".



MILLIE URIARTE

Director, Latin America Onshore & Caribbean Sales

"United Airlines flies to 29 countries in Latin America, including 17 airports in the Caribbean, 10 cities in Central America, 8 cities in South America and 26 in Mexico. This fall, United customers will have a historic opportunity to board one of the first commercial flights to Havana, Cuba in more than a half century, as United starts operations to Havana from its global gateways in New York/Newark and Houston.

Every day we are reminded of the beauty of the landscapes, the creativity of the people and the richness of culture throughout the regions. For seven consecutive

years, United has sponsored the SUNSHINE Awards, demonstrating the airline's commitment to the preservation and celebration of cultural heritage and the art forms.



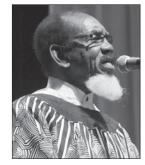




Nikki Crosby (Co-Host)



Errol Fabien (Co-Host)



Dr. Hollis Chalkdust Liverpool Host, Sunshine Awards Hall Of Fame

Presenters

Millie Uriarte	United Airlines Director, Caribbean and Latin American Sales
Don Bobb	Radio Personality
Ricky Lord	CEO, All Star Motors and Essex County Towing
Dr. Harold Robertson	Diplomat & Former Consul General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Lynette Huggins	
Steven Charles	CEO of Trini Breakfast Shed

Gianna Figaro-Sterling

UNITED

United Airlines se enorgullece en acompañar la 28 Entrega Anual de los Premios SUNSHINE en Nueva York.

"Como una aerolínea global que opera más de 4550 vuelos diarios a 339 aeropuertos en 55 países, aplaudimos la misión de los Premios SUNSHINE de reconocer la excelencia en las artes interpretativas, la educación, la ciencia y el deporte de la gente del Caribe, América del Sur, América Central y de origen africano".



MILLIE URIARTE

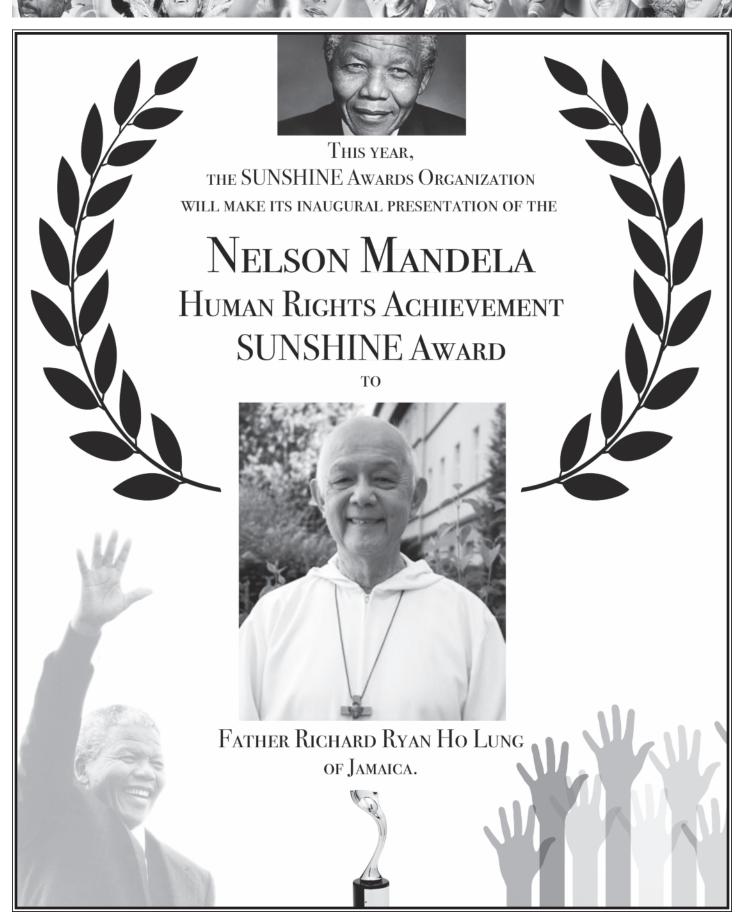
Directora, Ventas para Latinoamérica y el Caribe para United

United vuela a 29 países en Latinoamérica, incluyendo 17 aeropuertos en el Caribe, 10 ciudades en Centroamérica, 8 ciudades en Sudamérica, y 26 en México. Este Otoño, los pasajeros de United tendrán la oportunidad histórica de abordar los primeros vuelos comerciales a Havana en más de medio siglo, dado que United comenzará operaciones a la Havana desde sus aeropuertos de New York/Newark y Houston.

Todos los días experimentamos la belleza de los paisajes, la creatividad de la gente y la riqueza cultural que se extiende por toda la región. Por siete años consecutivos,

United ha patrocinado los premios SUNSHINE, demostrando el compromiso que tiene la aerolínea con la preservación y celebración de la herencia cultural y las artes.







THE NOMINEES / INDUCTEES FOR THE 28TH ANNUAL SUNSHINE AWARDS HALL OF FAME ARE AS FOLLOWS:



McCartha Lewis - Trinidad & Tobago

Better known in the calypso world as Calypso Rose. She began writing songs at the age of 15, turned professional in 1964 and has written more than 800 songs and recorded more than 20 albums.





Aldwin Albino - Trinidad & Tobago.

Aldwin's entry into the professional music field began at age fifteen, first as a Church organist, then as pianist and arranger in many local dance bands and steel bands before leading his own outfit as the first music director at Trinidad and Tobago Television on Holly Betaudier's Scouting for Talent Program.





Willard Harris - Trinidad & Tobago

Better known in the calypso world as, Lord Relator. He began his calypso career in the early 1960s and is still performing and thrilling audiences around the world. He won the Trinidad and Tobago Calypso Monarch competition in 1980.





Len "Boogsie" Sharpe - Trinidad & Tobago.

Lennox "Boogsie" Sharpe is a successful and popular composer and arranger of steelpan music. He began his music career in the early 1960s and is still thrilling audiences and winning competitions. He won the Trinidad and Tobago Steelband Panorama competition seven (7) times.





Holly Betaudier - Trinidad & Tobago.(Posthumously)

Holly began his cultural career in media in the 1940s then founded the very popular Scouting for Talent Show which began airing on Trinidad and Tobago's lone television station, Trinidad and Tobago Television Company (TTT) in the early 1960s. Many popular performing artists started their careers on Holly's program. He departed for Heaven in August 2016 at 91.



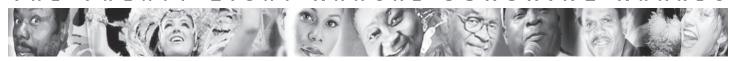


NOELLE MCKENNA Brand Manager, Spirits, Kobrand Corporations

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4 Ze



THE NOMINEES / RECIPIENTS FOR THE 28TH ANNUAL SUNSHINE AWARDS ARE AS FOLLOWS:



Father Richard Ho Lung - Jamaica

Father Ho Lung will receive the 2016 Nelson Mandela Human Rights Achievement SUNSHINE Award for his contribution and unselfish commitment to humanity. This will be the inaugural presentation of this Award.



Professor Ken Julien - Trinidad & Tobago

Professor Julien will receive the 2016 Dom Basil Matthews SUNSHINE Award for his contribution to education, human and national development.



Canute Spencer - Trinidad & Tobago

Mr. Spencer will receive the 2016 Friend of the Arts SUNSHINE Awards for his contribution to the performing arts.



Earl Crosby - Trinidad & Tobago (posthumously)

Mr. Crosby will receive the 2016 Friend of the Arts SUNSHINE Awards for his contribution to the performing arts.



Eddy Bourjolly - Haiti.

The world renowned jazz guitarist will receive the 2016 SUNSHINE Award for his over 40 years of contribution to the performing arts – creole music and jazz.



Jacouba Sissoko - Mali, Africa

A world renowned kora player/musician, will receive the 2016 SUNSHINE Award for his contribution to African Music.



Pascual & Gema Nieto-Forteza - Spain

A Spanish clarinetist (Pascual) and pianist (Gema) will receive the 2016 SUNSHINE Awards for their contribution to the performing arts and in particular Latin music. In 2001, Pascual became the first Spanish musician to become a member of the New York Philharmonic orchestra. Gema is a music consultant, a music promoter and artist manager. In 2003 she began performing with Pascual and made their New York debut, at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall. Ms. Nieto-Forteza has also played in chamber groups with other Philharmonic musicians.



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National Staffing Associates is an active supporter of cultural and artistic activities throughout The Caribbean-American community. We are proud to align ourselves with organizations such as The Sunshine Award. We thank Gil Figaro and The Sunshine Awards for recognizing excellence in the performing arts and making a difference in people's lives.



STEPHEN CHARLES CEO, TRINI BREAKFAST SHED BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

Congratulations to Gil Figaro and the SUNSHINE Awards Organization on your 28th Annual SUNSHINE Awards celebration. What a remarkable accomplishment!

The Trini Breakfast Shed is proud to be a supporter and sponsor of this very important program. Our organizations share the same optimism that the impact and relevance of the SUNSHINE Awards Program continues to shape and enrich lives, in some cases bring the forgotten back to the present, and in others, shining a light on recent accomplishments.

I also congratulate this year's nominees, recipients and the Hall of Fame inductees. I am sure that we will be hearing a great deal more about your accomplishments in the future.





EARL CROSBY Cultural Icon the 2016 Friend of the Arts SUNSHINE Award

By: David Cuffy

Earl Crosby, popular Trinidad and Tobago entrepreneur and record producer departed for Heaven on Wednesday August 6, 2016. Mr. Crosby was 65 years old.

A native of Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean by extension founded the popular Crosby's Music Store in St. James, Trinidad. He was one of the country's most popular disc jockeys, starting in the industry as DJ Village Soul Choir in the 1960s.

Mr. Crosby demonstrated his love for humanity by founding the St. James, Trinidad Community Improvement Organization and the St. James WeBeat Live event to promote the spirit of community in his home town. He also produced and distributed many of the Caribbean's top performing artists records and Cds.

In the early 1980s Mr. Corby's popularity as a DJ soared. This resulted in his first contract from the late Wayne Berkeley to provide road music for his carnival band. He became so popular and very much in demand he produced his own carnival band, titled Jus' Friends and on one occasion won the "Band of the Year".

Popular radio personality Phil "De Thrill from Laventille" Simmons, shaken by the departure of his childhood friend wrote: "Earl was one of the most creative and imaginative people I have known. We began our friendship way back as students at St James Secondary. He and I began then as DJ Village Soul Choir, then Earl became DJ Crazy Man Earl. We were the first DJs in this town to have an Earth Wind & Fire album. We always sought to get the best music of the day before anybody else did. When he began the Crosby's Carnival record launchings, after leaving Telco and joining his father's business, it was all upward for Earl. For the first of the record launchings, I remember our first stage on Western Main Road was two wooden pallets, before progressing to being on the tray of a truck. The crowd got so big in St James we had to seek a much larger venue. From King George V Park, we moved the event to PSA, and the last one we staged was in the Queen's Park Savannah, Port of Spain. Earl was one of the founding members of the St James Secondary Alumni and he sacrificed a lot to keep it going, just as he did with the St James WeBeat event."

The SUNSHINE Awards Organization joins people of Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean by extension in paying tribute to this very special man for the contribution he made to our lives and the performing arts. He was a true "Friend of the Arts."







GEORGE VICTORY Musician, Vocalist and Humanitarian

George Rupert Victory, a founding member of the SUNSHINE Awards Program, musician and vocalist departed for Heaven on July 19, 2016. He was 66 years old. George was born in Five Rivers, Arouca Trinidad, often described as the "land of calypso and steelband music." His love for the performing arts combined with his compassion for the underprivileged compelled him to use his skills and talents to bring comfort to the disheartened. A humanitarian at heart, George was a regular donor of energy, time and money to lupus and cancer research centers, public schools music fundraisers and several youth programs. So unique is his music that it reflects his belief in the power of relationships and music as an international language. George and his unique style was very much in demand. In fact, he was the first to perform the commercial jingles for "Nobody Beats the Wiz" and "Folgers Coffee" in an R&B soul format. This changed the way commercials for household brand products were recorded forever after.

He performed with many performing artists including the Fat Back Band, the Calypso King of the World, the Mighty Sparrow, the Grand Master of Calypso, the Lord Kitchener, Byron Lee, Musician/arranger, Frankie McIntosh and Producer/Saxophonist, Charles Dougherty, to name a few. He was the recipient of many Awards including the Golden Reel Award and a Gold Record in 1980 as the lead guitarist for Fat Back Band and two SUNSHINE Awards in 1989.

The SUNSHINE Awards Organization joins his family and the Caribbean-American community in paying tribute to this very humble, special and talented man for his contributions to our lives and world. Memories of him will help to comfort us.







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THE NOMINEES / RECIPIENTS FOR THE 27TH ANNUAL SUNSHINE AWARDS ARE AS FOLLOWS:



Kirani James - Grenada

He will receive the 2016 SUNSHINE Award for his contribution to sports. He is a sprinter who specializes in the 200 and 400 meters. He won the 400 meters at the World Championships in 2011 and the 2012 London Olympics. He was Grenada's first Olympic medalist in any sport. He was also a silver medalist at the recently concluded Rio Olympics.





Caldwell Taylor - Grenada.

Mr. Taylor will receive the 2016 SUNSHINE Award for his contribution to education and research. A teacher, trade unionist, diplomat, an historian, journalist, lecturer, and cultural commentator. He is consumed in the study of Calypso and Carnival, two ways he described as seeing the world from street-level.





Sir Garfield Sobers - Barbados

Sir Garfield will receive the 2016 SUNSHINE Award for his contribution to sports. His first class cricket debut was at the age of 16 and he played for the West Indies between 1954 and 1974 and is regarded as the greatest all-rounder in the game of cricket.





Lance Gibbs - Guyana

Mr. Gibbs will receive the 2016 SUNSHINE Award for his contribution to sports. He is a former West Indies cricketer and is regarded as one of the most successful spin bowlers in Test cricket history. He made his first-class debut at the age of 19.)





David Cuffy - Trinidad & Tobago

Mr. Cuffy will receive the 2016 SUNSHINE Award for his contribution to journalism. He spent more than 40 years working as a journalist. Along the way, he reported on politics, labor and entertainment. For the past 20-plus years he has been working exclusively in the arts and entertainment sector, writing on all aspects of the nation's cultural diversity

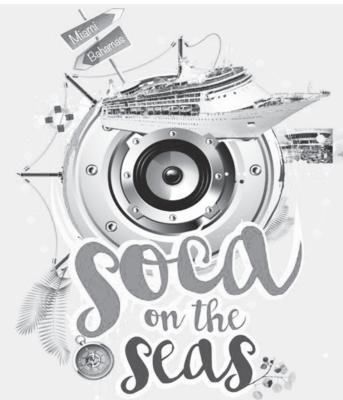




Samir Chatterjee - India

Mr. Chatterjee is a virtuoso Tabla player from India. He travels widely across the world throughout the year performing in numerous festivals as a soloist or with other outstanding musicians from both Indian and non-Indian musical traditions. He is also the founder of Chhandayan, is a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to the promotion and preservation of Indian music, dance and culture.





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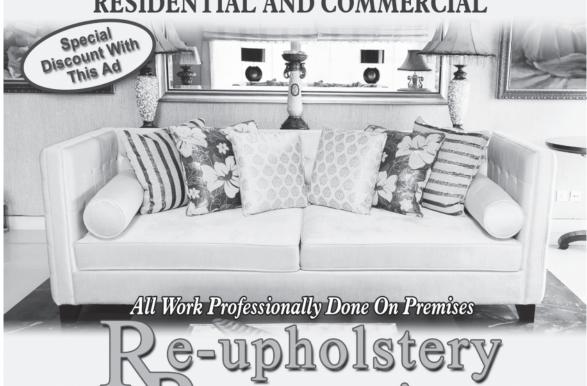
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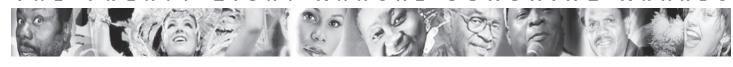
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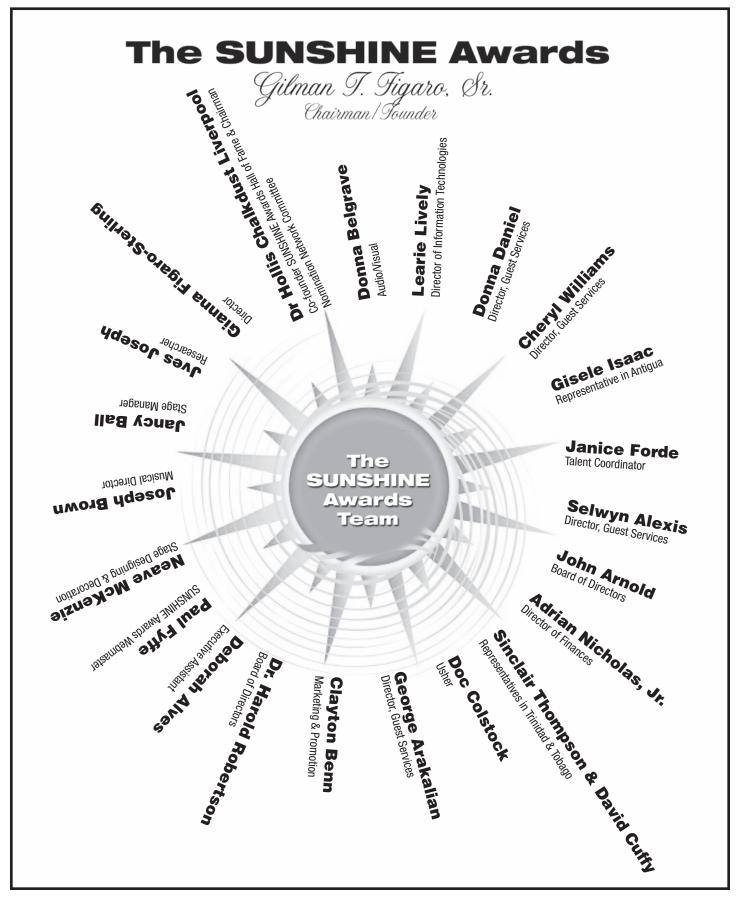
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