

*Governor-General's
Programme for Excellence*

20

*Annual
Report*



Youth
Family
Education



18



CONTENTS



"USING WHAT'S RIGHT WITH JAMAICA TO FIX WHAT'S WRONG WITH JAMAICA"

02

Message from His Excellency the Governor-General
Message from National Coordinator

04

How It All Began
Meet The Advisory Board

07

Meet The Management Committee
Sponsors: GGAA County Ceremonies 2018

09

GGAA County Ceremonies 2018
GGPE Stakeholders & Sponsors' Reception

13

Trailblazing IBI Ambassadors of 2018
The I Believe Initiative In Action

16

IBI Ambassador Projects
I Believe Initiative-SOSTIC Project

20

17 New 'I Believe' Ambassadors Commissioned
2018 I Believe Initiative-Munroe College Scholar: Mickaylia Johnson

22

Report Card: 2017 IBI Munroe College Scholarship Recipient: Onel Harrison
\$10 Million & Counting: Summer of Service 2018

24

IBI-Youth Consultative Conference 2018
Our Major Sponsors

Message from His Excellency The Most Honourable Sir Patrick Allen, ON, GCMG, CD, KSt.J Governor-General



The Governor-General's Programme for Excellence (GGPE) remains committed to the continued upliftment and instilment of values in the nation's youths through engendering a spirit of selflessness, and prolonging the continuity of solid family values. Education too remains a hallmark of the efforts of the Programme, so much so that an increasingly generous sum was expended to further our thrust for a more educated population. The Governor-General's Achievement Awards (GGAA) component of the GGPE continued to give recognition to the unsung stalwarts among us - bastions of the Jamaican ambition - as they inspire the weary, while unwaveringly affirming their resilience and commitment to country, community, and self. Indeed, our 2018 cadre of GGAA awardees are testament of the grit and gut intricately woven to characterize the fibre of excellence. The work of the island's network of Custodes and their respective committees have been particularly instrumental in proffering candidates who embody the spirit of nation building.

The I Believe Initiative (IBI), born out of a need to restore hope, belief, and sound values in Jamaica's youths has continued to lead a campaign to arouse and encourage Jamaicans to believe in their potential and to contribute to building a prosperous and peaceful nation. I Believe Ambassadors have diligently and boldly carried the mantle throughout the year, from copping coveted scholarships, to being bestowed with awards; reclaiming vestiges of continued excellence among youths; furthering national discourses among vulnerable groups; epitomizing the very mantra of *fixing what is wrong with Jamaica with what is right with Jamaica*.

We look towards 2019 with even greater expectations as the GGPE digs deeper into espousing our objective of diffusing the message of hope.

Message from Governor-General's Programme for Excellence National Coordinator, Ms. Sonja Simms

The Governor-General's Programme for Excellence (GGPE) Secretariat is grateful for the invaluable support and commitment of the Custodes, Parish Committees, Sponsors, Management Committee, and the Advisory Board Members in making 2018 a successful year for the programme. Huge credit enure to Ms. Tricia Grier, Project



Officer, who ably anchored the programme for eight months following Major (Retired) Effiom Whyte's departure from the office of National Coordinator in March. The seminal work of Ms. Grier and Major Whyte provides a firm foundation and gives me confidence for accepting the mantle to carry on in the ethos of excellence.

I am committed to providing leadership and amiably working with the various stakeholders in support of His Excellency The Governor-General as he executes the very important mission of fixing the things that are wrong with our nation by doing that which is right through the various initiatives of the GGPE.

Indeed, 2018 was replete with engaging activities to empower and recognize Jamaicans as they made their contribution to the nation building process. It was one which presented itself with a bounty of opportunities for GGAA Recipients and IBI Ambassadors to continue serving as 'beacons of hope' and catalysts for positive change throughout the nation.

The 2018 National Festival Queen and 2019 Rhodes Scholar emerged from the illustrious and vibrant corps of IBI Ambassadors and GGAA Recipients. Other significant achievements of the programme in 2018 were the numerous scholarships that it continued to disburse and the outreach activities for the enhancement of youth, education and family life.

The National Youth Consultative Conference which mobilized over one thousand (1,000) youth delegates from across the island to the Montego Bay Convention Centre, was a huge success, especially as it made a positive impression on youth even as far away as Ghana, Canada and North America, through social media.

As we approach the 29th iteration of the GGAA and the 8th year of the IBI, we are committed to making 2019 another success.

The Governor-General's Programme for Excellence

The Governor-General's Programme for Excellence (GGPE) is made up of two (2) components – an awards programme, the Governor General's Achievement Award (GGAA) and a service-oriented programme, the I Believe Initiative (IBI).

The GGAA began in 1991 under the leadership of then Governor-General, Sir Howard Cooke and was later expanded by Governor-General Sir Kenneth Hall in 2006 to recognize youth ages 18 – 35 for excellence in academia and service, as well as individuals in the Diaspora who were making significant contribution to Jamaica and in their host country.

In 2011, the service-oriented programme for youth, the I Believe Initiative (IBI), was launched by Governor-General Sir Patrick Allen to motivate and inspire young people and also to give service to country. Its mantra is "using what is right with Jamaica to fix what is wrong with Jamaica." Its projects and activities are centred on three areas of emphasis: family, youth and education.

In 2014, the programmes coalesced and became the Governor-General's Programme for Excellence. The recipients of the GGAA will be recognized on the same basis with the proviso that their community service include activities reflecting the IBI's three (3) areas of emphasis.

The GGPE continues to rely on the private sector for sponsorship of its annual activities. It also calls on the nation's fourteen (14) Custodes, the island-wide network of Justices of the Peace, "I Believe" Ambassadors and the Team at King's House for its effective functioning, diffusing its messages and maximizing its impact on the nation.

IBI Mission

To create pathways through partnerships and to promote programmes that restore hope, belief, and sound values in Jamaica's families, youth and education.

IBI Vision

Through strategic partnerships, programmes, the belief and support of Jamaicans, the I Believe Initiative leads a campaign to inspire and motivate Jamaicans to believe in their God-given potential and to contribute to building a prosperous and peaceful nation.

Mantra

"Using what's right with Jamaica to fix what's wrong with Jamaica."

IBI Programmes/Activities

- Youth Consultative Conference (YCC)
- Summer of Service Competition (SOS)
- Parenting Now! (Coming soon)
- IBI-Monroe Scholarship



GGPE Advisory Board



Chairman – His Excellency The Most Honourable Sir Patrick Allen, ON, GCMG, CD, KSt.J Governor-General



Ambassador The Honourable Burchell Whiteman, OJ



The Honourable Earl Jarrett, OJ, CD, JP



Dr. The Honourable Michael Fennell, OJ



The Honourable Steadman Fuller, CD, JP



The Very Reverend Canon the Honourable Hartley Perrin, CD, JP



The Honourable Norma Walters, CD, JP



Mr. Courtney Campbell, JP



Mr. Derrick Cotterell

GGPE Advisory Board



Ms. Minna Israel



Mr. Christopher Levy



Mr. Stephen Price



Mr. Christopher Barnes



Dr. Claudette Cooke



Mr. Gladstone Whitelocke

GGPE Management Committee



Colonel the Honourable Errol Johnson, CD, JP



The Honourable Marcia Bennett, CD, JP



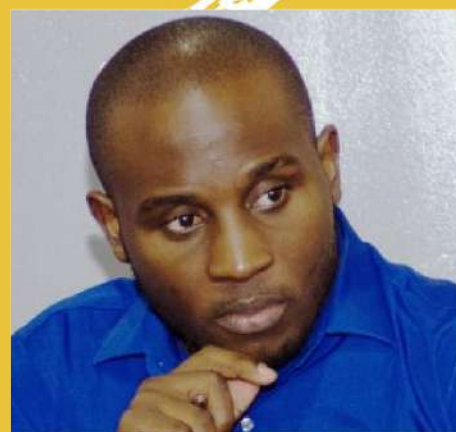
Ms. Trecia Grier



Ms. Joylene Griffiths



Mr. Ian Kelly



Mr. Dwayne Gutzmer



Mrs. Cordell Williams-Graham



Dr. Janet Dyer, JP



Mr. Glenford Smith

“

*USING WHAT IS RIGHT
WITH JAMAICA TO FIX
WHAT IS WRONG
WITH JAMAICA.*

”



G
G
A
A



COUNTY SPONSORS



HOLLAND FARMS (TREL.) LTD.



GGAA: SURREY COUNTY



Their Excellencies Governor General Sir Patrick Allen and Lady Allen (seated centre), (from left) Custodes Dunwell, Bennett, Fuller, Thaxter and Mrs. Thaxter sharing a photo moment with Awardees of the 2018 GGAA Awards in the County of Surrey, at the Terra Nova All-Suite Hotel on Thursday afternoon, April 26, 2018.

11 PATRIOTS NAMED SURREY'S GGAA RECIPIENTS

Eleven patriots from the County of Surrey stepped up to receive Governor General's Achievement Awards for their steady commitment to excellence in academia and community service. The event was held at a glitzy ceremony at the Terra Nova All-Suite Hotel in St. Andrew on April 26.

Among the awardees was Romario White, one of three male recipients, who is pursuing the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree programme on a University of the West Indies (UWI) Open Scholarship.

Other awardees were Sarah Bryant, Nicole McLaren-Campbell, Shadine McLean, Simmonette Rose-Daniels, Abigail Scarlett, Dr Tameka Stephenson, Sharon Williams, George Brown, and Mario Sammes. Dorette Bernadette Abrahams, better known as 'The Paul Bogle Lady' was also among the awardees for her commitment to preserving the socio-cultural legacy of St Thomas.

In addressing the Awardees, His Excellency highlighted that in giving back and helping others in their communities, they have become peddlers of hope through the various projects they have targeted.



GGAA: CORNWALL COUNTY



Seated centre is His Excellency The Governor- General, seated left and right are members of the planning committee, from left are Custodes Stair, Muschette, Perrin, and Pitkin. Standing are the awardees and sponsor representatives.

13 STALWARTS COPPED CORNWALL GGAA

On May 24, thirteen (13) community stalwarts were presented with Governor-General's Achievement Awards (GGAA) for the County of Cornwall.

During the ceremony held at the Melia Braco Village Resort in Rio Bueno, Trelawny, the award recipients were lauded for their selfless contribution to country and communities.

The Governor-General commended the Awardees for their "unwavering dedication and hardwork". His Excellency described the eight men and five women honoured as "some of Jamaica's finest," noting that "they have used their God-given talents to make their communities, and, by extension, their country, better places to live and raise families".

The award recipients are Tahir Hanieff Thompson and Gerline Nelson from St. James; Deandra Sutherland, Stevon Sheriffe and Lackett Cuff from St. Elizabeth; Nile Anderson, Cliff Reynolds and Moses Chybar from Westmoreland; Ashleigh Jacobs, Dr. Tanika Curry and Hermena Bucknor from Hanover; and Nicholas Rose and Errol Campbell from Trelawny.



GGAA: MIDDLESEX COUNTY



Seated (centre) is Governor-General Sir Patrick Allen and from right is Mr. Christopher Barnes, Gleaner (Media) Company Limited, Custodes Johnson, Porteous, and Walters, alongside Acting Custodes Joseph Parker and Mrs. Cloverlin Smith-Morris. Standing are the award recipients.

HEADLINE MISSING

The 2018 Governor-General's Achievement Awards curtain call was made at the Cardiff Hotel and Spa in Runaway, St. Ann on June 28.

There fifteen (15) residents of the County of Middlesex were recognized for their outstanding academic performance and selfless acts of volunteerism within their communities.

The recipients, three (3) each from the parishes of St. Catherine, Clarendon, Manchester, St. Mary and St. Ann, were awarded in the age group categories – 18 to 24 and 25 to 34, for academics and leadership in social activities; and over 35, for engagement in lifelong community service.

The award recipients were Mr. Everton Rattray, Mrs. Cordell Williams-Graham, Mrs. Una Harrison from the parish of St. Catherine; Clarendon's Mr. Kedean Lee, Ms. Chevelle Campbell, Mr. Gaston Thomas, JP were awarded, while St. Mary's Ms. Kadesha Croney, Mr. Gordon Lindsay, and Mrs. Evadne McIntosh-Amritt were the standard-bearers for the parish.

From the parish of St. Ann were Mr. Damion Lawrence, Pastor Omar Oliphant, JP, Esq, and Everton Walker. Wrapping up the county of Middlesex were the Manchester-bred Mr. Delmas Brown, Ms. Paris-Michelle Barrett-Powell, and Mrs. Lucinda Peart.



GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



READ UP ON THE GGAA


Get to know the areas of focus for the respective Awards.

Step 1

Step 2

NOMINATE SOMEONE

Download the nomination form and nominate! You may also nominate yourself.



COMPLETE ALL FORMS


Have the Nominee complete and submit all requested information including references.

Step 3

Step 4

SUBMIT TO LOCAL PARISH OFFICE

All completed forms are to be brought to the parish of the Custos for the person nominated.



GGPE STAKEHOLDERS & SPONSORS' RECEPTION

Their Excellencies, The Governor General and Lady Allen warmly greeted guests to include Diplomats, Custodes, Corporate Sponsors and IBI Ambassadors in an appreciation soirée at King's House on November 24, 2018. Here are the highlights of this luminous event.



Her Excellency Lady Allen trades laughs with GGPE Advisory Board member and Group CEO, Victoria Mutual Group, Mr. Courtney Campbell.



His Excellency Sir Patrick Allen captures the admiration of Ms. Patricia Smith of First Regional Cooperative Credit Union Ltd while Ms. Janet Dyer, Managing Director of the HEART Trust / NTA listens keenly. IBI Ambassador, Leneka Rhoden looks on.



From l-r: Special Advisor to the Governor-General Ambassador Burchell Whiteman holds the attention of Yang Wenxu, DCM & Political Consul of the People's Republic of China Embassy in Jamaica, and Ms. Lun Ju, both representing Chinese Ambassador Tian Qi.



From l-r: Hon. Godfrey Dyer smiles eagerly as Ms. Sonja Simms, GGPE National Coordinator; IBI Ambassador, Mr. Lachu Ramchandani and Custos Rotulorum of St. James, Hon. Custos Pitkin listen keenly to His Excellency Sir Patrick Allen.



From l-r: Her Excellency Lady Allen lends an ear to Dr. Janet Dyer, GGPE Management Committee member, while Ms. Patricia Smith looks on.

2018 TRAILBLAZING IBI AMBASSADORS

MS ACKERA GOWIE



- IBI Ambassador
- 2016 SOS Scholarship Recipient
- 2018 National Festival Queen

MS LENEKA RHODEN



- IBI Ambassador
- 2015 GGAA Recipient
- 2017 SOS Scholarship Recipient
- Miss Kingston and St. Andrew Festival Queen

MR CHEVANO BAKER



- IBI Ambassador
- 2019 Jamaica Rhodes Scholar
- IBI/University of Birmingham JN Foundation Legacy Scholarship Awardee 2016

SGT. NICKOYON BROWN



- IBI Ambassador
- Centre for Victim Safety and Support (CVSS) Young Leader Awardee 2018

MR KEENAN FALCONER



- IBI Ambassador
- Centre for Victim Safety and Support (CVSS) Public Sector Volunteer of the Year 2018

The IBI In Action

Their Excellencies Visit Hampton High School

As part of the very important social mission of the Office of Head of State, Governor-General Sir Patrick Allen, Lady Allen and members of their Staff on February 27 visited the Hampton High School, as the St. Elizabeth-based institution celebrated its 160th anniversary celebration.

In a thought provoking speech to the school community, His Excellency emphasized the values of education as espoused by the I Believe Initiative (IBI), telling students that this is a most exciting time to be alive, with all the inventions, modern technology and access to education.

His Excellency urged the students to start a new trend by taking responsibility for their actions and the well-being of others as they

“will pass this way only once [so] their actions should reflect a statement by renowned educator Horace Mann who said people should “be ashamed to die until you have won a victory for humanity.”

The visit culminated with Their Excellencies planting poui trees but not before telling the students to maintain a record of hard work and good behaviour, as they keep alive the illustrious and vibrant traditions of excellence which is the hallmark of Hampton School.



Above: His Excellency the Most Honourable Sir Patrick Allen prepares the soil for planting a poui tree at Hampton School as Acting Headmistress Mrs. Roseann Lounges looks on.

Below: Hampton's Head Girl, Deandre Sutherland, being embraced by Her Excellency the Most Honourable Lady Allen after been presented with a token of appreciation of the visit.



Governor-General Encourages Revolutionary Training at U-Tech

Governor-General Sir Patrick Allen in delivering the 60th Anniversary Public Lecture for the University of Technology-Jamaica on July 12 challenged the university community to continue revolutionizing education for the Millennials whom it will have to train for the 21st century.

Speaking on the theme, “Promoting Excellence to Enhance Development: Pioneering Past; Bright Future”, The Governor-General also commended U-Tech for being pioneers in providing tertiary training in science, technology, and innovation.



I-PLEDGE



THE IBI IN ACTION



I-PLEDGE stands for 'I Promise to Lend Encouragement to Develop Growth in Education'. It is a fixture in Her Excellency The Honourable Lady Allen's calendar of supported activities - where she shows her great affection and dedication to the nation's children. The programme was established by GraceKennedy Money Services through its affiliation with Western Union.

It was designed to support community development with an emphasis on Primary Education.

I PLEDGE has grown since its launch. Today it includes The Western Union National Reading Week, The Western Union Debate Competition and the Computerization Programme. Her Excellency, Lady Allen, has grown with the programme and has made it a fixture in her calendar - a show of her great affection and dedication to the nation's children. The GGPE and its constituents lend its support whenever called upon by Her Excellency.

VISION MISSION

HANDING OVER OF COMPUTERS TO THE ORACABESSA PRIMARY SCHOOL IN ST. MARY

In 2018, Vision Mission once again partnered with the I Believe Initiative to deliver many smiles across Jamaica. The Vision Mission project focuses on giving back to the communities of Jamaica where students access eye examination services, referrals and prescription glasses, all at no cost. The Vision Mission is an initiative of the Issa Trust Foundation which embarks upon its mission to provide a system of prevention, health promotion and education, community health improvement and other services to promote well-being and development for the people of Jamaica.





E.L.I.T.T.E CLUB BRINGS SMILES TO FRANKLIN TOWN

In August, the Franklin Town Sports Centre was a bubbling playground of anxious children waiting to enjoy a day full of treats and entertainment put on by IBI Ambassador, Sheldon Millington, and the Elitte Club. The Franklin Town treat was one such project that forms the club's catalogue of charitable service. At the event, Ayrtons Distributors provided six back-to-school grants of \$20,000.00 each. The six recipients were also awarded scholarships at the event.

Club President, Millington commented that "[as] a small club of young men and women, some of us from the [very] same communities we serve... are motivated by the drive to help lift Jamaica's most vulnerable to a higher place and to support them through their journeys." He further explained that "when a child gets a new bag and new supplies to go to school, they really are more lifted and motivated to show up to school,". Mr. Millington shared that "the vulnerabilities of poverty can sometimes feel like a slave house that you can't get out on. But I also know that you can truly set someone free when you give them the gift of education".

A non-profit organization, The Elitte Club, undertakes a number of projects to aid in social development and educational upliftment for vulnerable youth across the island.

Above: IBI Ambassador, Sheldon Millington pictured atop a pile of goodies.



Sponsors included Grace Kennedy Money Services, NCB Foundation, Purity Consolidated Bakery, World Brands Services, Honey Bun, Caribbean Dreams, Island Grill, Restaurant Associates of Jamaica, and Food for the Poor.



TEEN LEADERSHIP & ENTREPRENEURSHIP SYMPOSIUM

IBI Ambassador and Managing Director of Young Scholars Inc., Shanese Watson, partnered with CareerEd International to stage the aptly named 2018 Teen Leadership & Entrepreneurial Symposium at the University of the Technology in December.

In attendance were eager minds from the surrounding institutions of Paine High School, Mona High School, Quality Academics, Jamaica College as well as University of Technology students.

Keynote speakers included other IBI Ambassadors such as Glendon Watson, who delivered messages on behalf of the GGPE Secretariat; Ambassador Michelle Thomas engaged the audience on the matter of using advocacy as a tool of teen leadership; while Ambassador Leneka Rhoden spoke emphatically on using co-curricular activities to spark conversations affecting youths.

Event organizer, Ms. Shanese Watson, charged student leaders to become positive role models. Watson also shed light on avenues for obtaining scholarships while drawing attention to the launch of the TEEN L.E.A.D.S Project which will take the form of a teen leadership and entrepreneurship competition. The TEEN L.E.A.D.S Project is slated to start in November 2019.



Above: Pictured second right IBI Ambassador, Shanese Watson is flanked by (from l-r) fellow IBI Ambassador Michelle Thomas, and presenters Kristofferson Nunes and Kemoy Lindsay.



Above: Shanese Watson, third from left, and Michelle Thomas, fourth from right, flanked by student attendees.

MAKING 'STEPS' FOR THE 'NEXX' GENIUSES IN ST. THOMAS

IBI Ambassador, Tishauna Mullings continues to showcase her commitment to her home parish of St. Thomas through her NexxStepp Lifelong Educational Programme, of which her 'Little Genius Competition' is an offspring.



As an IBI Ambassador, Ms. Mullings has built a brand that caters to youth and family as she takes an inter-generational approach to life transforming education. " During the year, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Jamaica National Foundation awarded Ms. Mulling's NexxStepp Programme for rural regeneration. NexxStepp presents itself as the ultimate example of a rural social enterprise. Ms. Mullings commented that "NextStepp aims to be a friend of rural youths looking for an oasis in the wilderness of rural stereotypes and supposed lack of opportunities.



IBI Ambassador Tishauna Mullings and her team as they evangelized the IBI's message for transformational education to hundreds of youths islandwide.



IBI-S.O.S.T.I.C SETS ROOTS IN EASTERN JAMAICA

The I Believe Initiative (IBI) endorsed the Save Our Schools Through Industries and Commitment (SOSTIC) agricultural project has reported many successes. In 2018, the novel agricultural initiative exhibited remarkable resilience even after many daunting challenges and naysayers.

A programme aimed at creating employment and healthy lifestyle through agricultural enterprises, reported a boost in its infrastructural framework and production output. Moving from zero, the operation now boasts a fully integrated irrigation system, food processing plant and ten green houses.

Among the main commodities being produced through the scheme are cold press coconut oil and castor oil, breadfruit and plantain flour, turmeric powder and paprika.

SOSTIC was launched in October 2015 as a pioneering initiative which uses greenhouse farming to create employment, revenue and promote healthy lifestyle in St Mary and Portland. In the early years of the project, it suffered theft, adverse weather conditions and plant diseases.

At the launch, in Dover, St. Mary, His Excellency the Governor-General revealed that the project was endorsed by the IBI on the premise that it is a prime example of how people can come together and, with vision, affect creative solutions for social, economic, and spiritual changes. The launch also featured workshops and presentations on topics such as grant funding, crop security and diet.

It is spearheaded by Pastor Arlington Woodburn of the North East Jamaica Conference (NEJC) of Seventh-day Adventists.



Above: His Excellency Sir Patrick Allen engages the audience. Looking on is Pastor Arlington Woodburn, President of the NEJC of Seventh Day Adventist Church.



Above: His Excellency Sir Patrick Allen examines one of the many produces of the SOSTIC Project.



Left: Children from the NEJC of Seventh Day Adventist Church deliver a performance about a healthy diet.

17

New 'I Believe Initiative' Ambassadors Commissioned



Newly minted IBI Ambassadors reading the IBI Declaration at their induction ceremony on November 22, at the King's House Ballroom.



Newly installed IBI Ambassadors posed with Their Excellencies The Governor-General and Lady Allen. Seventeen of the twenty-two Ambassadors were in attendance at the ceremony.

Seventeen (17) Jamaicans were on November 22 inducted as the 2018 cohort of I Believe Initiative (IBI) ambassadors by Governor General Sir Patrick Allen as they committed to using the things that are great about Jamaica to fix the things that are undesirable.

As the inductees join the team of ambassadors whom have already answered the call to service and mentorship His Excellency charged them to wave the IBI flag high and exemplify excellence in all their endeavours.

Twenty-four (24) IBI Ambassadors were selected, however seventeen (17) were presented to be commissioned. The remaining seven (7) will be commissioned at a later date.



MICKAYLIA JOHNSON: 2018 MUNROE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Hampton High School student, 18-year old Mackaylia Johnson is the 2018 recipient of the Governor-General's I Believe Initiative (IBI)-Monroe Scholarship. The scholarship made it possible for Mickaylia to commence a four-year Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Information Systems at the New York-based institution in September.

Commenting on her selection, an elated Johnson indicated that, "It's a dream come true and I'm really happy and grateful for the opportunity to be able to take the next step toward achieving my goals."

She further added that her decision to venture into computer studies resulted from an enduring interest in all things technology. She said that she is very excited about the possibilities that lie ahead.

The IBI-Monroe partnership began in 2014 and has benefited three (3) students to date; Mr. Onel Harrison, the first recipient is in his final phases of study.

Johnson hails from the humble community of Jointwood, St. Elizabeth. She was presented with the scholarship in a small ceremony at King's House on September 11, 2018 by His Excellency the Governor-General.

Students eligible to apply for a scholarship through the programme include high school graduates who have attained passes at both the Caribbean Secondary Examinations Council (CSEC) and Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examinations (CAPE) levels.

If provided, the next round of selections will take place in July 2019 for the 2019/20 academic year.



Above: His Excellency Sir Patrick Allen greets IBI-Munroe scholarship recipient, Ms. Mickaylia Johnson while the recipient's mother looks on in the foreground. Custos Rotulorum for the Parish of St. Elizabeth, Custos Beryl Rochester smiles amused alongside Mr. Paul Goldson of the Selection Committee in the background.

REPORT CARD: ONEL HARRISON

Each year, The I Believe Initiative partners with Munroe College based in New York, USA to award scholarships for study in the field of Computer Science. Mr. Onel Harrison was the 2014 recipient. This is what he shared of his progress in 2017:

“ I became a Fusemachines AI Fellow in January, and since then, I've completed 75% of the course-based learning activities. As part of the Fellowship, fellows I had to work to complete Columbia University's MicroMasters in Artificial Intelligence.

I also became a CODE2040 Fellow where I was exposed to a variety of new ideas and perspectives, learned new technologies, and made new friends. CODE2040 is a non-profit organization and community on a mission to ensure the full representation and leadership of Black and Latinx people in the innovation economy by creating pathways to their educational, professional, and entrepreneurial success in tech.

I worked on multiple new features in the ListenFirst Product including Content Tagging, and some unreleased features. In doing so, I learned how to build user interfaces with React, which we adopted in the latter part of 2017.

On the Move:

I now publish pieces on Medium and have articles published in the Towards Data Science and freeCodeCamp publications, two of Medium's largest tech publications.

I started volunteering as a web developer at the ACMF while the organization was in its infancy early in 2017. I did this at the request of my mentor and current president and executive director of the ACMF Dr. Genieve Brown-Metzger, a powerhouse of a person I've known since I began college. **”**

Below from left to right: Onel Harrison; The Honourable Robert Montague, Jamaican Minister of Transport and Mining; Justine Arias, Senior Economics student at Queens College, City University of New York; Dr. Fritz Pinnock, President of the Caribbean Maritime University.





Summer of Service 2019

"Youths Volunteering for a Worthy Cause"

OPEN FOR REGISTRATION
2ND APRIL 2019

DEADLINE: 30TH APRIL 2019

PRIZES

- **SCHOLARSHIPS & BOOK GRANTS**
- **MOST OUTSTANDING SERVICE GIVERS WILL BE AWARDED**

Eligibility: Students must be accepted for fulltime undergrad study. Only those starting their 1ST or 2ND year qualify to register.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S PROGRAMME FOR EXCELLENCE

Scholarship Awardees must maintain a 3.0 GPA or greater.

For more information: www.ggpe.org.jm

\$10M

AWARDED IN 2018 SUMMER OF SERVICE (S.O.S) PROGRAMME

The Summer of Service (SOS) is the most recent activity of the I Believe Initiative (IBI) having started in 2013 and now has an alumni of medical doctors, social scientists and built environmentalists.

The students who were rewarded in the 2018 iteration are Ashera Barron, Ashley Bernard, Samantha Forrester, James Peart, Jastine Smith, Samantha Webb, and Magali Williams who will pursue studies at The University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona; Stephanie Wright, Northern Caribbean University (NCU); Kerone Miller, The Mico University; Brittania Derby and Mellisa Edwards who will attend the Caribbean Maritime University (CMU); and Phillip Griffiths, University of Technology, Jamaica (UTech).



Above: Their Excellencies Sir Patrick Allen and the Most Honourable Lady Allen (centre) are nestled between 2018 IBI-Summer of Service scholarship and bursary recipients, their guardians / parents, and representatives from respective GGPE sponsors at King's House.

The Summer of Service Programme seeks to encourage youth who are matriculating to, or are completing their first year of undergraduate study, to dedicate their summer to a worthy cause while vying for prizes that will help them achieve a tertiary education.

The scholarships and grants were made available through sponsorship and partnerships from:

- The NCB Foundation;
- Derrimon Trading Company;
- Newport Fersan Jamaica Limited;
- The Embassy of the People's Republic of China; Kingston Bookshop;
- Caribbean Maritime University;
- First Regional Co-operative Credit Union.



IBI-Youth Consultative Conference 2018



The 2018 staging of the Governor-General's I Believe Initiative (IBI) National Youth Consultative Conference (YCC) was held at the Montego Bay Convention Centre in St. James on October 25 was a resounding success.

The over one thousand (1000) youth delegates in attendance were engaged in interactive sessions throughout the day on a range of topics geared toward stimulating discussions surrounding mental wellness.

Custos of the Parish of St. James, Hon. Conrad Pitkin, welcomed the delegates and encouraged them to take full advantage of the day's activities and offerings.

In attendance was Governor-General, Sir Patrick Allen who implored the youth to ensure that despite life's challenges, self-care and appreciation are vital.

Main Presenter, Prof. Wendel Abel kept the delegates engaged during his interactive session on personal development and success. He outlined the importance of being goal-oriented and remaining motivated to carry out the necessary steps to achieve planned outcomes. Also speaking at the Conference, Dr. Donovan Thomas reminded students of the importance of giving support to their peers during challenging times, while also being vigilant to identify instances where individuals may be in need of additional help.

The Youth Consultative Conference is an annual event which targets youth between 17 and 35 years and provides a forum for constructive dialogue toward empowerment and development.

Connect with us on social media!



2018 IBI-YCC Highlights





Tourism
Enhancement
Fund



NIA
National Integrity Action



Tai Flora Services Ltd.
Jamaica's Largest Floral Provider



**JAMAICA
NATIONAL
GROUP**



中华人民共和国驻牙买加大使馆

EMBASSY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN JAMAICA

中华人民共和国常驻国际海底管理局代表处
Permanent Mission of PRC to International Seabed Authority



IBI-YCC SPONSORS



THANK YOU TO:

Dr. Donovan Thomas

Dr. Windell Abel

Mr. Roshan Ramchandani

Mr. Adiel 'Diel' Thomas

Custodes & Parish Coordinators

I Believe Ambassadors

King's House Staff

Participating schools including Student Delegates & Chaperones



VICTORIA MUTUAL



**Scotia Jamaica
Building Society**

THE *FAST* WAY HOME



FLOW

**OUR MAJOR
SPONSORS**

