

Schools' Independence Rally

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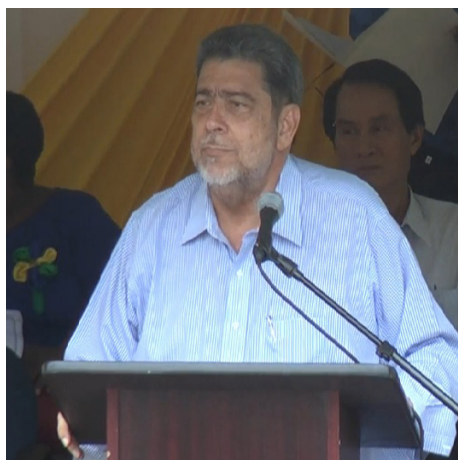
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Prime Minister, Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, has restated the government's commitment to the academic success of students in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The commitment came during the feature address at the annual Schools' Independence Rally. The Prime Minister said that the government will continue to implement programs to ensure the educational success of students.



Speaking directly to the children, the PM said: "I see each of you, not just as my own children, but as our future and so we have to make sure that you get the best training and

education. We have to make sure that the circumstances are apt in your schools, that we have quality teachers and quality leadership. Without these we would not get the results which we should and your own potential will not be sufficiently realized..."

Students across the nation assembled at the Victoria Park on Thursday 23rd October to celebrate St. Vincent and the Grenadines' 35th anniversary of Independence.



Minister of Education, Hon. Girlyn Miguel, seized the opportunity to appeal particularly to students. She urged them to continue working together with pride to further build St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Minister Miguel explained that "National pride is all about what we as a people do to ensure that our nation is a better place for us nationals and visitors alike".

The 2014 National Scholarship Awards

One of the highlights of the Schools' Independence Rally is usually the official presentation of National Scholarship Awards. This year's awards were presented to the top 20 performers in the 2014 advanced-level proficiency exams.

The student with the best results overall, *Shanique Clarke*, received \$10,000 and the Prime Minister's gold medal for academic excellence, in addition to a fully-funded scholarship for 5 years. She gained seven Grade 1 passes with all "A" profiles in the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examinations (CAPE).



Shanique Clarke



Anson Latchman



Angelina Questelles



*Receiving for
Katherine Renton*



Mbeki Swift

Ten (10) other National Scholarship Awards were also presented to the following students, who have earned themselves fully-funded scholarships for 5 years each:

Alexandra DeFreitas, Shanka Edwards, Lleta Lewis, Lafeisha Hadley, Shafel McDowall, Dimitri Kennedy, Anson Latchman, Angelina Questelles, Katherine Renton and Mbeki Swift



Alexandra DeFreitas



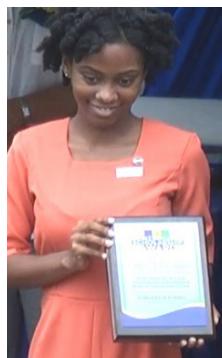
Shanka Edwards



Lleta Lewis



Lafeisha Hadley



Shafel McDowall



Dimitri Kennedy



Syprian Isaacs



Trevol Grant



Ryan John

Three (3) students received Exhibition Awards and will receive fully-funded scholarships for 3 years:

Syprian Isaacs, Trevol Grant and Ryan John

Six (6) Bursary Awards were presented to the following students, who will each receive \$20,000 per year for 3 years:

Kenichia Charles, Cle-Ann Collins, Anson Evans, Pedrique Pompey, Reenah Samuel and Sonya Morgan



Kenichia Charles



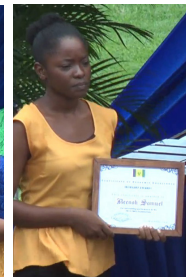
Cle-Ann Collins



Anson Evans



Pedrique Pompey



Reenah Samuel



Receiving for Sonya Morgan

The Ministry of Education hosted the Schools' Independence Rally in collaboration with the National Independence Committee, under the theme "Working Together to Enhance National Pride".

***Look how far we've come...
don't forget your history...
know your destiny!***

To celebrate the 35th anniversary of Independence in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the Ministry of Education in collaboration with the History Teachers' Association and the Ministry of Culture, staged a local history exposition. "Look how far we've come...don't forget your history...know your destiny!" was the theme under which the inaugural local history expo was held.

"We have a priceless heritage that is calling on us to acknowledge and support it!" – *Curtis King*



Mr. Curtis King - featured speaker at opening ceremony

Scholar and advocate for local history, Curtis King, highlighted the importance of the theme at the opening ceremony. Mr. King said that the theme encourages Vincentians "to reinterpret our history from our own perspective so as to debunk the Eurocentric view that we are mere victims of our circumstances and that we have not made any significant contribution to our own development or to the development of human civilization..."

The expo took the form of an all-day exhibition on Tuesday 21st October at the National Public Library. Among other things, the exhibition featured profiles of local historical figures, photo and food galleries, technological appliances and a presentation of cultural performances.

The Local History Expo targeted mainly students. It was designed to foster among students, greater appreciation for the local history of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and to motivate them to further research the heritage of the country. The activity was also intended to enhance the public's knowledge of various aspects of local history and to generally foster national pride among Vincentians.



Mrs. Aldia Gumbs-Dyer - Senior Education Officer (Curriculum)

"We hope that our people would see that history is not static but is a dynamic and lively subject that allows for multiple perspectives and serious engagement. We expect that this expo would serve as a meeting ground for persons interested in the history and culture of St. Vincent and the Grenadines" - Aldia Gumbs-Dyer, Senior Education Officer (Curriculum) and former teacher of history.

The exposition is intended to be a permanent fixture on the Independence calendar of events, one which will constantly remind us of its main message: ***Look how far we've come...don't forget your history...know your destiny!***



Choose a Career: Unlimited Possibilities

The 10th Annual College and Career Exhibition was staged under the theme “Choose a career: Unlimited possibilities”

The 2-day event was aimed at giving young people an opportunity to interact with professionals from various fields, and receive guidance on making good career choices. Career Guidance and Education is one of the priority areas of the Ministry of Education and every year, the College and Career Exhibition provides students with information and resources needed to assist them in making informed decisions about their career paths.



The activities were coordinated by the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Medical Association, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education. The exhibition took place on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th October, at the Methodist Church Hall in Kingstown.

Thank You Taiwan!

Over 400 students across St. Vincent and the Grenadines have received scholarships under the Human Resource Development Scholarship Programme, awarded of the Republic of China (Taiwan).



The scholarships were officially handed over to principals of primary and secondary schools and to recipients in post-secondary institutions. The handing over took place during a ceremony on Tuesday 21st October at the Peace Memorial Hall.

The government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) has awarded scholarships to the tune of 270,000 EC dollars per year.

Thousands of Vincentian students have benefitted from the scholarship programme since 1998. The Human Resource Development Scholarship Programme is based on a memorandum of understanding between the governments of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Support Christmas Music Festival 2014



Schools' Cooperative Awards

Students and teachers who have made significant achievements under the schools' cooperative program were recognized for their efforts at a special award ceremony.

For their financial achievement in the academic year 2013-2014, the top saver of each school was awarded, as well as the top savers overall. The students with the most outstanding records are listed below:

Primary Schools

Aykeli Williams - 1st Mustique Primary School
Chloe Robertson - 2nd Mustique Primary School



Aykeli Williams - 1st Mustique Primary School



Chloe Robertson - 2nd Mustique Primary School

Secondary Schools

Ezana Henderson- 1st Girls' High School (Top overall)
Marvin Pierre- 2nd Thomas Saunders Secondary School



Ezana Henderson- 1st Girls' High School (Top overall)



Marvin Pierre- 2nd Thomas Saunders Secondary School

The cooperative department in the Ministry of National Mobilization hosted the National Schools' Co-operative Awards, to highlight the importance of thrift in the growth and holistic development of students. The public recognition of students and their financial achievements also credited the schools' cooperative programme as a platform for early youth entrepreneurship.

The award ceremony took place on Tuesday 14th October at the Peace Memorial Hall and formed part of the activities to observe October as cooperative month.

Unicef and Canada Donate Relief Supplies

Several schools received supplies compliments UNICEF and the government of Canada, during a handing over ceremony on Friday 17th October.

The ceremony, organized by the Ministry of Education, was a gesture of appreciation for the relief of schools and students adversely affected by the floods of December 2013.

Students received school uniforms and school books/supplies according to their needs. Affected schools received computers, printers and toners. Kits containing educational resources, books, toys, cots and dispensers containing hand soap were also handed over to operators of some Early Childhood Education centres.

Together, UNICEF and the Canadian government, provided relief support valued at EC \$196,026.00.



Khin-Sandi-Lwin
UNICEF representative for Barbados
and the Eastern Caribbean.



Fitz-Hughes Government School



Leeward District SeventhDay Adventist



Owia Government School



February Excels in October

Eric February, a student of the Mountain View Adventist Academy, emerged the winner of the 2014 Lions Club South/LIME Secondary Schools' Public Speaking Competition.



Eric February of the Mountain View

February was also adjudged winner in the student-prepared speech category, for his speech on the topic "Is your smart phone smarter than you".

Damali James of the Bishop's College Kingstown placed second and Chrislan Fraser of St. Vincent Grammar School took the third spot. Fraser won in the main speech category. The students were required to prepare in advance the topic - "Regardless of the title it carries, citizenship by investment, with all of its risks, is practiced by many countries with great success. Do the opportunities outweigh the risks?"

Andrika Samuel from the Girls' High School won in the impromptu speech category, with her presentation on "Bad Roads".

The other finalists were Gaileisha Huggins of the Central Leeward Secondary School and Sharied Unis of St. Joseph's Convent Marriaqua.

Sweet Victory for MOE

Congratulations to Team MOE (Ministry of Education) who beat Team ECGC (Eastern Caribbean Group of Companies) 2-nil in the finals of the Firms Football Tournament.



Nikolai Williams and Marlon St. John scored the goals that moved the MOE team to victory. Williams is a teacher assigned to St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College and St. John is a teacher at West St. George Secondary School. Employees of the Ministry of Education and several educational institutions comprised the team.

Meet the Team

S.V. G Education Media Unit



Marla Nanton
The Voice of the Unit



C. RoseMarie Lewis
The Face behind the Designs



Shaun Millington
The IT Guy

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