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U.S. Embassy Announces Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Competition Winners



1st Place winner Marquez Williams with U.S. Ambassador Ned L. Siegel and Director/Screenwriter Antwone Fisher.

"I am concerned about a better world. I'm concerned about justice. I'm concerned about truth. And when one is concerned about these, he can never advocate violence. For through violence you may murder a murderer, but you can't murder murder. Through violence you may murder a liar, but you can't establish truth. Through violence you may murder a hater, but you can't murder hate. Darkness cannot put out darkness. Only light can do that." - These were the words spoken by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in his last address to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference entitled, "Where Do We Go From Here?"

On January 21, 2008 as Americans across the United States observed a National Holiday celebrating the birth of the late Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., here in The Bahamas the United States Embassy honored Dr. King's legacy in a reception at Liberty Overlook, hosted by United States Ambassador Ned L. Siegel and Mrs. Siegel. The highlight of the event was the announcement of the 2008 Martin Luther King, Jr. essay competition winners, and the remarks by the Embassy's special guest, best-selling author, acclaimed poet, award-winning screenwriter, director and film producer, Antwone Fisher.

Reflecting on the quote above and using Dr. King's teachings of non-violence and conflict resolution, this year's essay competition sought to stimulate constructive discussions among Bahamian youth on responses to crime and violence and to evoke their thoughts and suggestions on how to address these challenges in The Bahamas. The competition was open to students in grades 10-12 in both public and private schools in The Bahamas. Thirty-two essays were received from eleven schools in New Providence, Eleuthera and Andros.

In his remarks, Ambassador Siegel commented that he was "deeply impressed by the depth of feeling, understanding, and commitment these young people articulated about this complex issue facing our modern society." Antwone Fisher impressed upon the audience and especially the students, the importance of hard work, perseverance and a willingness to set high goals and to strive for excellence.

Marquez Danae Williams, a 12th grade student at St. Augustine's placed first and Lizinga Rolle, a 12th grade student at Jordan Prince William High placed second. They both were awarded computers and flat screen monitors donated by the Embassy. Reggia Bain of Jordan Prince William High placed third, while D'Anthra Adderley of St. Andrew's High School placed fourth. Third and fourth place winners received a variety of materials on Dr. King and a DVD of the Antwone Fisher movie.



"Bloom where you are planted"

CLO CONNECTION

For more information about items on this page, please contact Jeanne Dennis at 322-1181 Ext. 4254 or DennisJA@state.gov

Your Contributions Are Welcome!

We will be adding two columns to the newsletter: a "Culture Corner" where we will share short informative articles on Bahamian, American or other cultures, to enhance cross-cultural knowledge and understanding; and a "Spotlight On..." featuring various Mission agencies, sections, or employees. For a successful launch, we need your contributions! Articles may be short and succinct, photos are great. Please send submissions to junkanoonews@yahoo.com.

Save The Date!

The next Embassy Restaurant Night will be at Cappriccio's in Cable Beach on Thursday, Feb. 21, at 7pm. It will be a four-course meal for \$30 including tax and gratuities. To join us, please RSVP to the CLO by Feb. 19th.

Children's Easter Party Committee



Volunteers are needed to help the CLO plan and set up this event, which will be held in mid-March. Guarantee you will have fun! Contact the CLO at 322-1181 Ext.4254, if you can help out.

Vacancy Announcement: Easter Bunny



Job Description: One day stint, one to two hours in duration. Ability to make children laugh and smile while wearing the traditional white furry suit with top hat. Knowledge of hopping is optional. Sense of humor is a must.

Compensation: *Priceless*

Contact: The CLO as soon as possible for costume fitting.

Yahoo! Groups for Foreign Service Parents

FSParent - This is a group for U.S. Foreign Service parents who would like to connect with other FS parents around the world to discuss raising children.

Email: FSParent-subscribe@yahoogroups.com Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FSParent/>

FSSpecialNeeds - This group was created to bring together U.S. Foreign Service families to share information, stories, and ideas about educating a child with special needs overseas while serving with the U.S. Government under Chief of Mission authority.

Email: FSSpecialneeds-subscribe@yahoogroups.com Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FSSpecialneeds/>

FSAadoptiveParents - This yahoo group is for parents who adopted children through inter-country adoption, and are currently or will be serving under Chief of Mission authority.

Email: FSAadoptiveParentssubscribe@yahoogroups.com Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FSAadoptiveParents/>

Sailing Adventures In Nassau

Flying Cloud - Half-day cruises: 9:30am-1:00pm Tues.-Sat. or 2:00-5:00pm Mon.-Sat.; Evening cruises MWF. \$50 per person embassy rate (reg \$60). Boarding at Paradise Island Ferry Terminal. Reservations need to be made one day in advance. Bring swimwear and towels. Phone 363-4430. Visit website at www.flyingcloud.info.

Barefoot Sailing - Full-day-\$84 per person embassy rate (reg \$99); Half-day-\$55.25 (reg \$65); Sunset-\$40 (reg \$55). Phone 393-0820. Visit website at www.barefootsailingcruises.com

America's Cup Sailing Adventure - \$95 per person embassy rate (reg \$125). Half Day-9:00am-12noon. Phone 363-1552. Visit website at www.sailnassau.com.



Vacancy Announcement - Receptionist



OPEN TO: All Interested Candidates
POSITION: **Receptionist - Information Management Section**
OPENING DATE: January 23, 2008
CLOSING DATE: February 6, 2008
WORK HOURS: Full-time; 40 hours/week
SALARY: *Not-Ordinarily Resident: US\$26,264.00 p.a. (Starting salary)
(Position Grade: FP-9 to be confirmed by Washington)
*Ordinarily Resident: B\$20,852.00 p.a. (Starting salary)
(Position Grade: FSN-4)

NOTE: All Ordinarily Resident applicants must have the required work and/or residence permits to be eligible for consideration.

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION: The Receptionist operates the telephone switch board; provides training to users in basic telephone functions associated with their particular telephone models; performs administrative requirements for the Information Management Officer and coordinates with the Bahamas Telecommunication Corporation (BATELCO) concerning line problems.

Vacancy Announcement - Newsletter Editor

OPEN TO: Eligible Family Members (EFMs) - All Agencies
POSITION: **Newsletter Editor (Non-Personal Services Contract)**
OPENING DATE: January 23, 2008
CLOSING DATE: February 6, 2008
WORK HOURS: Variable; as required to produce bi-weekly (i.e. every other week) newsletter.
COMPENSATION: \$150 per issue (26 issues per year)
NOTE: Contract specifies that product (bi-weekly newsletter) is to be produced from candidate's home, using candidate's supplies and equipment.

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION: As editor for the "Junkanoo Journal" a bi-weekly newsletter publication for the U.S. Embassy Community, the selected candidate will perform a range of editorial duties, including selecting articles for publication, drafting notices, editing for conciseness, typing, formatting and proofreading. The Newsletter Editor is supervised by the Community Liaison Office Coordinator (CLO). Selected candidate will provide all services from his/her home.

Vacancy Announcement - Visa Clerk

OPEN TO: All Interested Candidates
POSITION: **Visa Clerk**
OPENING DATE: January 28, 2008
CLOSING DATE: February 11, 2008
WORK HOURS: Full-time; 40 hours/week
SALARY: *Not-Ordinarily Resident: US\$29,379.00 p.a. (Starting salary)
(Position Grade: FP-8 to be confirmed by Washington)
*Ordinarily Resident: B\$25,230.00 p.a. (Starting salary)
(Position Grade: FSN-6)

NOTE: All Ordinarily Resident applicants must have the required work and/or residence permits to be eligible for consideration.

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION: The Incumbent serves as one of three Visa Clerks directly supervised by the chief of the Visa Unit. Performs moderately difficult and highly responsible data entry and data management work pertaining to visa services. Provides direct customer service on complex subjects in difficult circumstances.

A copy of the complete position descriptions listing all duties, responsibilities and qualifications are available in the Human Resources Office at 322-1181 Ext. 4288 or 4293.

Pol/Econ/Public Diplomacy News

Woodcock Primary Reading Program

On Wednesday, January 23rd Ambassador Siegel officially accepted the baton for the embassy reading program from former Ambassador Rood in a turnover ceremony at Woodcock Primary School and pledged the continued support of he and Mrs. Siegel in the reading program initiative. We welcome the participation of Ambassador and Mrs. Siegel in this significant effort that continues to positively impact the lives of children throughout The Bahamas.

Once again, a special appeal is made for new readers to become a part of this most rewarding experience. This is a fun and exciting activity to interact with our youth and to make a difference in their lives. Please accept the challenge.

Embassy volunteer readers are asked to assemble in the lobby at 12:15pm each Wednesday for departure to Woodcock Primary via Embassy vehicle. The reading program is from 12:30-1:00 p.m. If you are interested in participating, please contact Katherine Stewart-Gibson at 322-1181 Ext. 4251 or gibsonk@state.gov.

Embassy Health Unit News

Nurse Young will be in Florida attending a conference during the week of February 10-15. Should a medical emergency or medical problem occur during that time, the Mission Community is asked to contact Ronnie Fontenot (Acting Management Officer) at 322-1181 Ext.4222 or 422-6242.

Marines Receive Performance Award For 2007

Please join the RSO office in congratulating the Marine Security Guard Detachment for being awarded Region 9, Marine Security Guard Detachment of the Year for 2007. This award is based on the performance of the Marines in the Detachment. A few of the areas they are judged on are mission capability at the Embassy, off duty education, physical fitness scores, community service, off duty conduct and team work. All these areas were graded during the Detachment's Command Visits and Semi-Annual Inspections.

On Friday, February 8th at 3:00pm in the Spiers Room the Marines will be recognized by the Ambassador and CPT James, Marines Regional Inspection Officer, and receive the Detachment's award.

The RSO office and the Marine Security Guard Detachment thank you for your support.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

January 31-
February 9 -

Stepping Stones Annual Quilt Show Trinity Methodist Church Hall

The 18th Annual Quilt Show features original hand-made quilts that feature Bahamian designs and fabrics. Quilts range from miniature to large heirloom sizes that can be commissioned. Held at Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Frederick St. from 10 am - 4 pm every day except Sunday. For more information, phone 327-8098/359-2349 or email chisnall@coralwave.com.



February 1&2 - Nassau Music Society - An Evening With Terry Waldo
Feb. 1 - St. Paul's Church Hall, Lyford Cay

7:30pm

The concert for February 1st at St. Paul's will be a buffet dinner. Tickets: Members \$135; Non-Members \$150; Students \$85; Table for 10 - \$1350. Book early on our web site www.nassaumusicsociety.org or call 327-7668 or the offices of James Moir & Co. at 362-4895.

Feb. 2 - Dundas Centre for the Performing Arts, Mackey Street
8:00pm

Tickets: Members \$25; Non-Members \$35; Students \$10. Book at Dundas Centre box office open January 23rd. Call 394-7179 or 393-3728.

February 9 -

Cuban Pig Roast Maillis Farm, Adelaide Road 12:00 Noon

The Bahamas National Trust invites you to a traditional Cuban Pig Roast luncheon. Dress is Cuban or Smart Casual and the cost is \$150 per person. A traditional Cuban lunch, dancing to a Cuban Band and a silent auction with fabulous prizes promise to make this an event not to be missed. Proceeds to support Primeval Forest National Park. For more information, call Candy at 393-1317.



Commissary

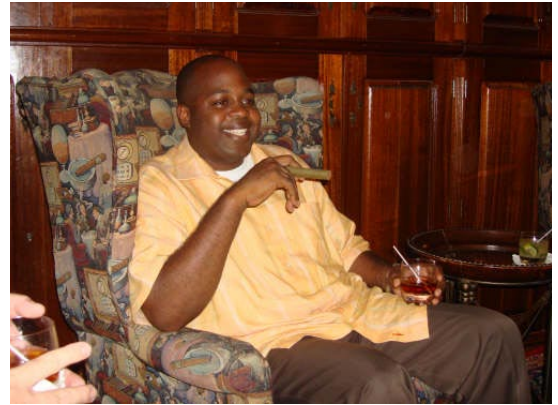
Hours of Operation
Wednesday 10:00am-2:00pm
Friday 3:30pm-6:30pm

For comments or to suggest items for future commissary orders,
please contact your board members at nassaucommisary@state.gov

PHOTO GALLERY



Restaurant Night at
Humidor Churrascaria



North American Booth At
Lyford Cay International School
Fun Day

Send in your photos to be featured in the Photo Gallery!

PHOTO GALLERY



Employee's Appreciation Party

The Ambassador hosted a party at the Cricket Club to thank those that worked on projects in the Residence.



Ambassador Jackie Wolcott addressing Embassy staff in the Spiers Room on Monday, January 28th.

Send in your photos to be featured in the Photo Gallery!

Advertisements



Announcements

Mission Family Book Group



Jen Waters will be hosting the discussion for the next book, *Many Lives, Many Masters* by Brian L. Weiss. This is a true story of a psychiatrist, a patient, and the past therapy that changed their lives.

The group will meet on Monday, February 18th at 7:00pm. Contact Jen Waters at jdckfl@yahoo.com or Pat Wielkie at pkailani@flash.net or phone 394-4575, if you would like to join this or any future discussions.

Happy Reading!



Proud Paws Calendar

The Proud Paws Calendar, produced in conjunction with the Palmdale Vet Clinic, is now on sale for \$20 and can be purchased from Ann Daley at 322-1700 Ext.4349. By purchasing the calendar, you will be supporting Proud Paws as they work to achieve their goals.

Proud Paws is a not-for-profit charity that has as its primary mission the reduction of unwanted and stray and roaming dogs and cats by means of a well-organized subsidized spay and neuter project. The spay and neuter project targets those pet owners who would not otherwise spay or neuter their dogs and cats, and the stray and roaming dog population. The primary goal is to spay or neuter 1,500 dogs and cats per year. The secondary goal is to promote responsible pet ownership through an education program, which will cultivate a more caring attitude towards animals within our community.

Proud Paws works closely with The Bahamas Humane Society, A.R.K., the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and other organizations to improve the lives of pet animals throughout the Bahamas.



Father-Daughter Sweetheart Dance

Show her how special she really is...

Fathers, Uncles, Grandfathers, or anyone with a special girl is invited to spend a semi-formal evening full of music, dancing, refreshments, desserts & more!

Saturday, February 9, 2008

6:30 - 9:30pm

New Providence Community Centre

Contact David Billburg at nassaudance@gmail.com or 327-0324 to purchase tickets.

Tickets must be purchased by February 1, 2008. Limited tickets available.

Cost: \$50/couple; \$10 additional daughters (Recommended ages 2-12.)

*Price includes food, refreshments and photo.

Beer and wine will be available for purchase.

Submission Guidelines

Submissions are to be made by email to Sue Minor at junkanoonews@yahoo.com or by phone at 327-1631. The Junkanoo Journal will be published on *Thursdays*, every other week and all submissions must be made by *COB on the Monday* before distribution. Some submissions may have to be reformatted due to program conversion. If you're sending a picture and know how to make it a smaller file, please do. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity, or security. All content will be reviewed and approved by the Community Liaison Officer and RSO.