



ANTHONY N. SABGA AWARDS E-NEWS



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David Dabydeen at Bocas in Trinidad



Susheila Nasta and David Dabydeen in conversation at the Bocas Lit Fest in Port of Spain.

Our 2008 Laureate in Arts & Letters, Prof David Dabydeen of Guyana and the UK, was a featured writer at the Bocas Literary Festival in Port of Spain from April 27–30.

Prof Dabydeen was interviewed by the Guyanese poet, novelist and scholar, Susheila Nasta about his long career as a poet, novelist, essayist and critic. A career academic at Warwick University in the UK, he left to be the Guyanese ambassador to China for five years, from where he has just returned.

His career began with a collection of poems, *Slave Song*, which won the Commonwealth Poetry Prize in 1984. He has also published several novels,

beginning with *The Intended* (1991) and most recently, *Johnson's Dictionary* (2014) which won the Guyana Prize for Literature. Some of his other novels include *The Counting House*, *A Harlot's Progress*, and *Molly and the Muslim Stick*.

His non-fiction and critical work includes co-editing *The Oxford Companion to Black British History* (1997), and *Across the Dark Waters*, an anthology of academic works on Indian emigration to the West Indies.

Most recently, Peepal Tree Press from Leeds, UK, has begun to re-publish his early work, including his seminal book-length poem, *Turner*.

Patrick Hosein's Professorial Lecture at UWI, St Augustine



(Left) Prof Brent Wilson; UWI Principal, Prof Brian Copeland; Prof Patrick Hosein; and Prof Indar Ramnarine at Prof Hosein's Distinguished lecture at UWI, St Augustine on April 13..

Our 2015 Laureate in Science & Technology, Prof Patrick Hosein, delivered his professorial lecture on Research, Innovation, and Education in STEM at UWI, St

Augustine, two weeks ago. The lecture focused on his think tank research group, TTLAB. (It can be found at <http://lab.tt>.)

Prof Hosein, who is a computer scientist and mathematician, is a seminal figure in the development of internet and cellular technology. A MIT scholar, he worked with some of the early pioneers in the fields of both technologies — AT&T, Bell Labs, Ericsson, and Hua Wei.

Prof Hosein's lecture focused on the student and institutional infrastructure needed to spur innovation. The main components, he said, are flexible programmes, and environments that encourage and allow creativity, critical thinking, and interdisciplinary cooperation.

2012 Laureate, Paula Lucie Smith's ALTA honoured



The Adult Literacy Tutors Association (ALTA) was presented with the NGO Award for Good Governance by the Energy Chamber of Trinidad & Tobago in January. ALTA was founded in 1992 by 2012 Laureate in Public & Civic Contributions, Paula Lucie-Smith.

ALTA delivers an indispensable service to Trinidad & Tobago, by providing remedial literacy tutoring services for the large number of functionally non-literate adults in the country. The organization's tutors are volunteers, who are put through a rigorous preparation schedule and are required to constantly upgrade their skills.

Mrs Lucie-Smith remains as the organization's CEO, and ALTA celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. (See www.alta-tt.org.)



Brian Heap's play, An African Odyssey



Dr Brian Heap, Chair of our Jamaica Nominating Committee, recently saw his play, *Catherine Mulgrave — African Odyssey* received nine Actor Boy award nominations in that country.

The play is the story of an enslaved African woman, Catherine Mulgrave, and her life story, based on research by Prof Maureen Warner Lewis.

Mulgrave was en route to Cuba on a slave-ship, which was wrecked. She washed ashore in Jamaica, and was adopted by the Governor of Jamaica, the Earl of Mulgrave. Catherine later becomes a teacher and a missionary to the Gold Coast of Africa. The play premiered in May, 2016 at the Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts, Mona, Jamaica.



Our Ceremony is on May 13, at the Georgetown Marriot

We at the Programme Office in Trinidad & Tobago are very excited to be hosting our first ceremony in another Caribbean territory.

We look forward to meeting as many of our eight Guyanese laureates and we take this opportunity to remember them here. They are: Prof David Dabydeen (2008), Annette Arjoon-Martins (2008), The Rt Hon Sydney Allicock, MP, MS (2010); George Simon (2012), Karen de Souza (2014), Prof Paloma Mohamed Martin (2015), Prof Suresh Narine (2015) to join our 2017 laureates Dr Christopher Arif Bulkan and Winslow Craig.

The 2017 ceremony will take place at the Marriot Hotel in Georgetown. It is our hope that this is the first of many ceremonies which will be held in Caribbean capitals to celebrate the accomplishments of their laureates, and to toast the newly-discovered possibilities in science, art, entrepreneurship and civic activism of the Caribbean.

