

Carol, Clinton & Kathleen Muschett Humanities Award



The **Carol, Clinton, Kathleen Muschett Humanities Award** (MHA) is so named after members of the Muschett family inspired by daughter Carol. Caretaker and proposer of the Award is B. Roy Davidson, past student of Church Teachers' College (CTC) and member of the Church Teachers' College Alumni Association Inc. (CTCAAi). The NAJASO Board voted to offer the Carol, Clinton & Kathleen Muschett Humanities Award to CTCAAi who would act as the conduit for awarding it. The amount is a guaranteed USD500.00 per year for four years.

The story is amazing! In addition to being a member of the CTCAAi, B. Roy Davidson is also a member of The National Association of Jamaican and Supportive Organizations, Inc. (NAJASO). During his time as President, he wanted a book to be written to depict the history of NAJASO and Carol Muschett offered to do so. Her sole desire was that some of the funds raised from the book should be used to provide financial support for a student.

The name of the book, "NAJASO a catalyst for change" will undoubtedly make a change for the student with a financial need ... the overarching criteria for identifying the beneficiary of the **Carol, Clinton & Kathleen Muschett Humanities Award**. Recognizing that the Muschett family is one of educators, it is no surprise that Carol would want to lend financial support to a student in need. Carol was a student of Music and History; and her father, Clinton, was a Music teacher and principal of Hatfield Primary School. With a possible limitation in identifying a student with these areas of specialization, it was agreed by B. Roy Davidson at a meeting of the **STAR** Committee to expand the electives to those that fall under Humanities, hence the inclusion of the word in the name of the Award. While Carol's request was for the Award to be named after her parents, Clinton and Kathleen Muschett, Roy shared with members of the **STAR** Committee that the NAJASO Board wanted her name to be included, no doubt due to her pivotal role in establishing NAJASO initiative.

An appropriate fit for writing the book on NAJASO, Carol enlightened readers that Jamaicans had been going to the United States of America (USA) for over 300 years. As a historian, she brought a significant amount of information and character to the book; and B. Roy Davidson noted that Chapter 6 offers some very interesting information. Carol's willingness to invest her time in writing the Book was phenomenal and provided the rationale for honouring her wish, particularly as academics was very important for her.

Regrettably Carol became a victim of cancer and died at a young age. Her sister and Executor of her Will turned the book over to B. Roy Davidson; and the NAJASO Board decided at its meeting held in 2019, just around the start of COVID-19, to put the scholarship in motion. As part of celebrating 25 years with NAJASO, Roy, as he is affectionately called, decided to take execution of the Award to the next stage by committing USD500.00 for four years to be paid to the CTCAAi for disbursement to CTC on behalf of the Award recipient. In the event that more funds become available, the value of the Award will increase.

Roy continues to be in touch with Carol's sister who expressed her delight at being present whenever necessary to keep her sister's mission alive. He is keen to begin implementation of the Award as funds are available, immediately. As CTC is still accepting students, the opportunity for identifying a student to benefit from the offer is achievable; and members of the **STAR** Committee are available to begin the process once approval is received from the CTCAAi Board of Directors.

Although the description documents is in draft stage, requirements of the **Carol, Clinton & Kathleen Muschett Humanities Award** will be disbursed at the start of the academic year. It will be monitored by the **STAR** Committee, who will also ensure the disbursements of funds. Applicants for the MHA must fulfil the below criteria:

1. Be a current or prospective student of Church Teachers' College, Mandeville, Jamaica.
2. Possess a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5.
3. Received acceptance in the Humanities programme at CTC.

Scholarship recipients are required to maintain a 2.5 GPA while benefitting from the Award and display his/her personal conduct at a level that befits the College's mission statement to "...develop positive attitudes, morals and values so as to be effective leaders in the communities they serve". Failure to meet these conditions will require the recipient to provide a written explanation surrounding the circumstances and corrective actions to improve it. This should be submitted to the **STAR** Committee before the end of the first semester of that particular year.

The MHA recipient will also be required to maintain an education career for at least one year after graduating from Church Teachers' College; become actively involved in a local chapter of CTCAAi while a student at CTC; and become affiliated with a service organization that will support the growth and development of CTCAAi and, by extension, the College.

All applications for the MHA must be submitted to the **STAR** Committee. Requirements of the application are submission of:

- a. An essay describing/explaining the applicant's choice in Education and attending Church Teachers' College.
- b. Evidence of holding the required GPA as a student at the College or comparative secondary /high school grade.
- c. Commitment to teach in a classroom in Jamaica for at least one year after graduation, become part of the CTCAAi and join a local community service organization.

The Award is for four years, while a student is in the Humanities programme at CTC.

Exception(s): Any prospective student, including relatives of alumni, may apply. A **STAR** Committee member with a relative who has applied for the award may lobby on behalf of any applicant irrespective of relationship but must recuse him-/herself from the decision-making process.

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