

# NEW YORK TUTORIAL SUPPORT GROUP, INC.

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## EXECUTIVE BODY OF THE NEW YORK TUTORIAL SUPPORT GROUP

### ♣ PRINCIPAL OFFICERS ♣

Keith Cadogan.....	President
Dale C. Edinboro .....	Vice President
Barbara Sampson .....	Treasurer
John Callender .....	Assistant Treasurer
Pamela Grannum.....	Secretary
Lorraine Edinboro.....	Assistant Secretary

### ♣ COMMITTEE MEMBERS ♣

David Bryant .....	Member
Wilton Grannum .....	Member
Cheryl Ferdinand.....	Member
Joyce Jervis-Henry .....	Member
George London .....	Member
Lear Matthews .....	Member (ex-officio)

# THE TUTORIAL REVIEW

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK TUTORIAL SUPPORT GROUP, INC.

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## Mission Statement

The Mission of New York Tutorial Support Group Inc. (NYTSG) is:  
To provide financial and material support to our  
*alma mater*, so as to  
restore and enhance its educational  
prominence in GUYANA

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Alumni and Friends of Tutorial High School (THS):

The year 2010 has been an eventful one for many of us in the USA. In retrospect, it is amazing that many have endured and ended it relatively unscathed. Some people have been economically bruised, compliments of the recession and the lingering effects of the 2008/2009 financial meltdown; others have been financially battered by the winds of unemployment and underemployment that have ravaged so many states, including New York. Yet with God's grace and some luck, many of us have persevered. And for that we are truly thankful.

In many ways, the New York Tutorial Support Group Inc. (NYTSG) has also felt the effects of the financial crises that absorbed the USA. Our membership numbers and dues have not lived up to expectations despite a 50% reduction in the membership dues. Neither has the attendance at some planned events, like the games night. Nevertheless, like true New Yorkers, the Executive Committee has persevered and put in place alternative events that have allowed us to meet our commitments. One notable alternative has been the Jazz/Dinner Dance, held on October 10, 2010 in aid of THS Scholarship Fund. The significance of the date, 10/10/10, did not go unnoticed by the many patrons who attended that evening's elegant affair and indeed had a splendid time.

As a way of motivating students to greater academic achievements, NYTSG has recognized outstanding THS students at their annual graduation ceremony in November. The Executive Committee approved a total of \$1,000 US in grants for distribution to students in 10 categories. Also, in our continuing efforts to support the computer laboratory that NYTSG initially financed in 2005, the Executive Committee approved a total of approximately \$1,000 US for the purchase in Guyana of stationery and equipment requested by the Headmistress. We also purchased and shipped two items of stationery for the computer laboratory that were not available in Guyana.

The next THS Triennial Reunion will be held from July 31 – August 7, 2011, in Toronto, Canada. All indicators point to a substantial contingent of alumni and friends from the USA who will attend the week of planned activities. While we indeed will have a wonderful time renewing acquaintances and reminiscing about school days at THS during reunion week in Canada, let us be mindful of the needs of our *alma mater* and plans for current and future students. In that regard, I would urge alumni to make a special effort to attend the Business Meeting scheduled for the morning of Friday, August 8, 2011, where those plans will be discussed.

Finally, as we negotiate the many challenges of 2011, spare a thought or two for the students at THS who are the future leaders of Guyana. Many of us are fortunate for the foundation and nurturing that Tutorial gave us that in turn provided the impetus for us to become successful in the USA. Please make a special effort to become financial members of the New York Tutorial Support Group Inc. and to actively participate in the functioning of all activities of the Group.

Hope to see you at one of our functions in 2011!

*Accipimus ut demus* (We receive that we may give).

## POEM

### WORDS OF INSPIRATION

By Trevor J. Emanuel, THS Student

Goals are sometimes hard to achieve  
To make it possible you must believe  
No matter what difficulties you may face  
Never do things out of haste

Always work hard towards perfection  
You can overcome; it's hard work and dedication  
The road to success is never easy  
But the harder the battle, the sweeter the victory

Even in the days when the dark clouds appear  
Don't give up, because victory is near  
Keep the faith alive, don't let it die  
You are not a failure, unless you fail to try

Don't give up, even when all hope is gone  
Search inside you and just be strong  
At the end of hard work comes success  
It's a blessing from God, after passing the test

Others have made it; you can too  
But remember the creator in everything you do  
Never try to make life on your own  
God is in charge; trust in him alone



## PICTURES FROM THS (GUYANA) GRADUATION EXERCISES (Cont'd)



Special Invitees at THS Graduation



Special Invitees at THS Graduation

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee expresses sincere thanks to all alumni and friends who have supported our fundraising events during the 2010 calendar year. We look forward to your continued support in 2011.

### REVIEW OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR 2009 / 2010

NYTSG hosted three fundraisers in 2009/2010. The 12th Night dance and the Spring Fling were well attended and financially successful. The limited attendance at our inaugural Fall Jazz / Dinner / Dance was in keeping with elegance of the evening as well as the capacity restrictions of the venue. As a result, the revenues generated from that event were equally modest. Nevertheless, the proceeds from those fundraisers allowed us to satisfy our financial commitments for the year.

As a way to encourage and motivate THS students to excel academically, NYTSG contributed \$1,000 US to students in eleven (11) categories at their November 2010 graduation. The recipients and the named categories are: Natural Science - Dillon Adams; Computer Science - Leon Marks; Home Economics - Althia Singh; Agriculture Science - Sherryann Charles; Language Arts - Danellie Giddings; Wood Work / Building Tech - Lerone Charles; Business - Retisha Persaud; Best 1st Year Student - Akesha Murray; Most improved Social Studies Student - Cherlyn Miller; Best Athlete - Male Dellon DeAbreu; Best Athlete Female - Jevina Straker. We also responded to a request from the Headmistress for equipment and supplies for the computer room in the sum of \$970 US. That amount was used to purchase the supplies in Guyana. Additionally, we also purchased and shipped two items of stationery for the computer laboratory that were not available in Guyana. NYTSG is committed to provide stationery and supplies for the computer laboratory that it established for THS in 2005, as well as to provide hardware and software on an as needed basis. It is no surprise, therefore, that THS boasts the best computer laboratory at any high school in Guyana. The Executive Committee of NYTSG, the staff and students at THS thank alumni and supporters for your generosity.

### OUTLOOK

At the Business meeting held during the New York reunion in 2008, NYTSG had proposed the establishment of an Integrated Arts Program at our *alma mater*. That proposal visualized eight sections of The Arts, among them music, dance, debate, journalism, crafts & painting, with NYTSG spearheading the support of two sections: music and journalism. In keeping with those plans, NYTSG is prepared to budget funds from its upcoming and future fundraisers to support the implementation of those programs, including the purchase of instruments for a band. Those and related long-term plans for THS will be discussed at the Business meeting during the Toronto Reunion.

We were anticipating that the reduction in membership fees to \$60 per year or \$50 if paid in one installment beginning in June 2009 would have boosted our membership revenues. Unfortunately, we have not seen the spike in membership that we anticipated. Indeed, our membership revenues for 2009 / 2010 are down substantially from the amount budgeted. Additionally, the budget categories of Donations and Miscellaneous revenues saw no incoming funds, a far cry from the modest amounts hoped for in our projections for that period. So the task of improving revenues is paramount in 2011. In these turbulent economic times, we appeal to your generosity to improve that gloomy financial picture and hope that many alumni will respond to the membership committee's efforts to increase membership revenues.

With your continuing support at our various fundraisers, we anticipate an excess of revenues over expenditures in 2011, based on the assumptions of our revenue and expenditure sources. Those proceeds in turn will greatly assist us to continue to support our *alma mater* and realize our mission.

*Please, help us continue to make NYTSG a viable financial organization that supports our alma mater.*

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Fellow alumni, fellow associations, friends and well-wishers, best wishes for the upcoming new year. The Membership Committee of the New York Tutorial Support Group Inc. (NYTSG) wishes to report on our activity for 2010.

We are in the second year of our "annual membership dues affordability drive". Reluctantly, this first year of the drive has not lived up to our expected increase of financial members. Therefore, we are asking you to take advantage of the current dues reduction of \$60.00 per year if dues are paid in more than one installment or \$50.00 per year if dues are paid in full.

Our goal is to recruit at least 65 new financial members for the New Year. This drive will commence in February, 2011. Enclosed herewith is a Membership Supplement Form which we would like you to complete and return with either your dues or a donation as soon as possible.

We take this opportunity to thank you for your support over the past year and we look forward to your continued support in the coming year. Wishing you a healthy and prosperous 2011. May you be richly blessed in all your undertakings.

## EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Events Committee extends greetings to alumni and friends for the holiday season and thank you for your support at our various events held this year. Initially, in our Calendar of Events for the year 2010, we had six events planned but hosted five instead - our annual 12<sup>th</sup> Night Affair in January, a Games Night in May, the Spring Fling in June, a Family Fun Day in the Park in August and a Jazz/Dinner/Dance affair in October. We are planning a calendar of events for 2011 which will be made available shortly.

In place of our Annual Twelfth Night Dance held in January of each year, we will have our first Pre-Valentine Dance to be held on Friday February 11, 2011, at St. Gabriel's Church Hall, 331 Hawthorne Street, Brooklyn, NY. We expect to see you there.

The 11<sup>th</sup> Triennial Reunion of THSAA will be held in Toronto, Canada, from Sunday, July 31 – Sunday, August 7, 2011. The Calendar of Events published by THS' Canadian Chapter is as follows.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS - THAA, TORONTO

- Sunday, July 31, 2011** .....—3:00 pm Church Service and Reception  
Anglican Church of the Nativity,  
10 Sewells Road (Neilson/Sewells)  
Scarborough  
Registration/Package pickup
- Monday, August 1, 2011** .....—"Do what you want day" - enjoy various after  
Caribana events
- Tuesday, August 2, 2011** .....—Sightseeing – CN Tower, Harbor Front, Ontario  
Place, Center Island  
—Meet 'n Greet/Registration/Package Pickup  
6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Wednesday, August 3, 2011** .....—Boat Ride (dinner included) - Queen's Quay, 6:30 pm  
(\$50.00)

## PICTURES FROM THS (GUYANA) GRADUATION EXERCISES (Cont'd)



THS Choir performing at Graduation Exercises



Shaquila Hollingsworth  
THS Student Performing a dance at Graduation Exercises



Nationals. In cricket, Tutorial won all three games played against North Georgetown Secondary, Campbellville Secondary and St. Joseph High. At Mashramani, Tutorial High competed in 6 categories. We obtained 4 first places, 1 second place and 1 third place.

**ACADEMICS:** Similarly, many Tutorial Students have excelled academically. At our internal exams, the following students have excelled for the respective Grades: Grade 7A – Akasha Murray who topped her grade; Grade 8D – Naminie Singh; Grade 9B – Nadia Seymour; Grade 10 Sci – Wonda Emptage. At CXC, students performed well in the following subject areas from Grades 1 to 3: Agriculture Science – 79%; Clothing & Textiles – 60%; English A – 50%; Food & Nutrition – 100%; Home Economics – 80%; Information Technology – 98%; Integrated Science – 85%; Office Administration – 68%; Principles of Business – 55%; Social Studies – 66%; Technical Drawing – 63%; Human and Social Biology – 59%; and Building Tec – 67%. Our overall percent from grade 1 to 3 is 52%. To motivate students and teachers, we had our Child Friendly Classroom Open Day inter-departmental competition. Grade 11 Home Economics and The Social Studies Departments emerged as winners in those categories.

**RELATIONSHIPS:** I am pleased to report that our PTA has been resuscitated and is in complete control of the finances of the school. Our Treasurer, Mr. Dale Seabra, is working daily with us to keep the wheel well oiled. Since the year begun, we had a fair. We also have an Ice-cream day planned along with many more fundraising activities. Our relationship with our Alumni has grown as you will notice in the prizes given to the students later on in this program. Nineteen (19) prizes in the form of financial donations were given by the Toronto, USA and Guyana Chapters. The Joseph Castello Memorial Fund also made financial gifts to students who have performed well. We received backpacks filled with materials for maintaining students' personal hygiene from the Canadian Chapter. These packs were given to needy students of our school. Furthermore, a set of mathematics texts were donated to the school by the New York Chapter, a pallet of books were donated by the UK Chapter, and the school received a donation of a 21-inch television set from the Guyana Revenue Authority.

Finally, we also developed a new relationship with Child Link Incorporated. They have been working with our students and parents in an attempt to assist in the way parents and children relate to each other. They have also trained some of our students to be mentors and Youth Advocates. Child Link Incorporated also executed an essay and art competition among the schools in which they are working. In closing, a Mentoring Program was also launched at Tutorial High School by the Ministry of Education which involves teachers and students from this and other schools.

**THANK YOU:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to the Ministry of Education for responding to the requests of this school in a timely manner. Gratitude is also extended to the Board of Governors of this school who is always very supportive in the growth and development of the teachers and students of Tutorial High. Special thanks to all those stakeholders who have the vested interest of Tutorial High at heart and as such made timely donations to benefit the school. Last, but by no means least, I want to say a heartfelt thank you to all my teachers who have worked diligently to educate our children and have also lent sterling support to me in times of need.



**SHERRYANN CHARLES - VALEDICTORIAN**

Today I am honored to deliver the Valedictorian's Speech for the Graduating Class of 2010 of Tutorial High School. I would like to say thank you to all those persons who have helped me to achieve the success that I have attained.

First, I would like to thank God for guiding me and helping me. I would also like to thank my Mother and Siblings for the support that they gave to me, not only when I was writing my CSEC exams, but throughout my entire school life. I must thank my teachers, especially my Form Teacher, Ms. Jackman, and my Science Teacher, Mr. Ikpeama, and the teachers I hold dear to me, Ms. James, Ms. Lee, Ms. Fernance Sir, Moses, Ms. Timmon and Ms Kokoram, for the time and effort they put into teaching me. And of course, I must thank my friends, especially Darren King, Leon Marks, Kevin Dalrimple, Corwin D'Anjou, Yonaka Harris, and others too much to mention, for always being there for me.

During my five years at Tutorial High School, I have learnt so much, not only as a student increasing my knowledge in academics, but also as a human being. I have learnt how to live in harmony with other people, with my fellow students and my teachers. Values I learn at home, such as tolerance for the beliefs of others, honesty, and being industrious, were reinforced at school, and this helped to develop my character. I also had to learn how to balance my duties and responsibilities as a Prefect with my studies. But, the fact that I am standing here today in the capacity of Valedictorian is evidence that I have succeeded and the taste of success is sweet on my tongue. And so I want to encourage my fellow graduates to keep striving for the best. As that old adage says, aim for the skies, and even if you don't get there, you'll land on the clouds. Don't lose focus of what you want to achieve. Keep trying and you'll eventually get what you want in life.

I'm learning that the world out there is quite different from life at school. There is more competition and you have to make it on your own as the poem said today. But if we go out there armed with determination, we will succeed. For the students who are left at school, I want to offer this advice. Value what you are being given at school because this is what is going to help you when you leave here. If you waste time in school, you will leave with no proper qualification and you will not get a good job or opportunity to further your studies. Absorb all that you are taught. Without an education you can't really get anywhere. I hate to see how much violence there is in schools now. I think one reason for the violence is the attitude of students. Some students do not have a sense of responsibility and so they do irresponsible things and this could develop into serious situations. Also, the boys especially seem to be enchanted with the macho or the bad man image. We only have to look at the news on television to see where that gets you.

So my friends, learn to value your life and the lives of those around you. As a matter of fact, you must not just value your life, but value who you are. If you do, you would want the best for yourself and you would start working toward that right now. Once again, I want to thank all those who have helped me to attain what I have and to wish my fellow graduates and the students at my school which I am leaving today, all the best. As I end, I want to leave with you this quote from the Bible from Psalms 111:10 which says "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom". If we know everything and we don't know God, we know nothing. But if we acknowledge God as the Supreme Being in the world and if we put God first in our lives, then we can be sure that we have already learnt the best lesson of all.

Thank you.

