



December 2023

HCPA

NEWSLETTER



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WHO WE ARE

We are a nonprofit body of Caribbean professionals from diverse walks of life.

We are driven by our mission to "support, connect, and unite professionals of Caribbean heritage for the advancement of Caribbean communities domestic and abroad."

We would be delighted to have you as a member, so click on the icon to learn how: 

Also, we hope that you click on the icons at the bottom of the page to follow our journey across our various social media platforms.

The Board of Directors



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Community Development



Lucia Bates
Gov Relations



Sledge Leonidas
Chairman



Chris Walters
Chairman Community Service



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The Executive Team



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Alexa Dolmo
Marketing Chair



Chantelle Clarke
Community Liaison



T. Monique Hoggard
Community Liaison

OUR ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITIES

Community service

- Feeding the homeless
- Thanksgiving baskets
- Clothing drives
- Back to school drives

Civic engagement

- Voter registration drives
- Refugee assistance

Member engagement

- Professional mixers
- Family fun days
- Partnership events

Education

- Over \$15k in scholarship awards
- Mentorship
- Leadership, education, and empowerment
- Back to school drives

Purposeful fundraising

- Annual scholarship gala, REIGN
- Sponsoring 5 island schools
- Give2Serve



OUR RECENT ACTIVITIES

HCPA has conducted multiple impact-driven activities since our last newsletter (September release). [Click the following pictures to see the video highlights of some of these efforts!](#)

HOUSTON FOOD BANK VOLUNTEERISM, NOVEMBER 2023

In November, our organization contributed 3 hours toward a valuable partnership with the Houston Food Bank. There, we sorted and packaged food for delivery ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday.



HALLOWEEN MIXER, OCTOBER 2023

Our annual Halloween mixer was a blast—complete with trivia, costume competitions, and good old fashion networking with our wider Houston community!



GIVE TO SERVE, NOVEMBER 2023

This Thanksgiving, we fed 200 Homeless Houstonians and provided 37 Thanksgiving baskets to underserved families. Our deepest gratitude to our members, volunteers, and community partners who helped make Give to Serve a success this year!



REIGN, DECEMBER 2023

Reign, our annual fundraiser to raise money for our scholarships and programmatic expenses was a tremendous success. We not only raised money, but also honored members of our community for their service!



PAST COMMUNITY EVENTS

Numerous activities have transpired in our Caribbean community these last few months. Here are the highlights of some of these events!

SICKLE CELLEBRITY TOURNAMENT

A Sickle Celleriebity tournament fundraiser for The As One Foundation was hosted on September 19, 2023, to raise awareness and provide hope to those battling Sickle Cell Disease and Trait.



DOMINICA HOUSTON ASSOCIATION INDEPENDENCE GALA

On October 14th 2023, the Dominica Houston Association hosted its 27th annual Independence Gala in support and promotion of traditional Dominican heritage (food, music, dance, and language).



T&T ASSOCIATION POTLUCK

The Trinidad and Tobago Association of Texas hosted its annual Thanksgiving potluck to celebrate T&T culture and to unite people -through food- in the spirit of togetherness and gratitude.



LET'S WELCOME THEM GALA

At the *Let's Welcome Them* Gala hosted by the Haitian Community Center of Houston to formally recognize Haitian immigrants, we bestowed founder, Dr. Marie Decoline, with the Sledge Léonidas Trailblazer Award for her 30 plus years of impactful work with Haitian migrants and the Caribbean community.





In **CARIBIZ**, we feature professionals who are elevating Caribbean excellence and culture. [Click on the names and photos to get to know our features better!](#)

K CHERIN STUDIO, DOMINICA

Kelyn, the owner of K Cherin Studio, is channeling her esthetician knowledge of medical-grade ingredients towards addressing various skin care needs, including acne, aging, and dry skin. Her studio offers appointments and a diverse line of products that are tailored to address multiple concerns. [Click her profile to learn more!](#)



SEBASTIEN PRODUCTIONS, DOMINICA

Chad Sebastien is a model/runway coach, stylist, event producer, consultant, and the owner of Sebastien Productions.



MONIQUE HOGGARD, TRINIDAD

Monique is an established realtor and travel agent with over 15 years of business experience. She is your go-to-person for regional and/or international travel needs, and as a seasoned professional, is primely positioned to help you find the best deals.



SORBETIERE HOUSTON, VIRGIN ISLANDS

Sorbetiere is an ice cream parlor in Missouri City bringing customers the local taste of Crucian churned ice cream and sorbet. Sorbetiere also caters for parties, events and festivals. Be sure to bring the family around!



CARIBBEAN OUTREACH

This year, HCPA supported various charities and organizations across the Caribbean. These activities were made possible through the significant contributions of our organizational members and wider community! [Here are some photos highlighting the success of our outreach efforts.](#)

BRANDON CARIBBEAN AMERICAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION



LION'S CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY, DOMINICA



GREATER PURPOSE ORG., ST. VINCENT



SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT IN MEMORY OF SHARI M. AUGUSTINE

MARCH 6, 1981- NOVEMBER 29, 2023

We honor Shari whose indomitable spirit, heart of service, and commitment to cultural promotion enhanced our community in more ways than one. She truly loved life and giving back through various avenues. **It is in that light that we recognize her service through our newly renamed scholarship, the Shari M. Augustine Community & Cultural Advancement Scholarship. Please click the photo the right to view our tribute to Shari.** [→](#)



HCPA 2024 CALENDAR LOOKING AHEAD

We are happy to present our 2024 calendar featuring core initiatives that embody our organization's purpose! We look forward to your engagement and encourage you to stay tuned for updates to this dynamic slate of activities.

JAN

- **18th:** General members' meeting & appreciation
- **21st:** Leadership Lab facilitator training
- **TBD:** Blood Drive

FEB

- **7th:** Leadership Lab: Week 1: Navigating conflict
- **14th:** Leadership Lab: Week 2: Professional etiquette
- **28th:** Leadership Lab: Week 3: Self-care & Life balancing

MAR

- **9th:** Volunteer Opportunity (TBD)
- **6th:** Leadership Lab: Week 4: Financial literacy
- **20th:** Leadership Lab: Week 5: Interviewing skills
- **28th:** Networking Mixer

APR

- **10th:** Leadership Lab: Week 6: Communication skills
- **24th:** Leadership Lab: Week 7: Resume Building
- **30th:** Scholarship application opens up

MAY

- **1st:** Leadership Lab: Week 8: Who are you? Expressive writing
- **8th:** Leadership Lab: Week 9: Leadership Lab closes
- **15th:** Back to school drive begins
- **25th:** Reign visioning meeting

JUN

- **15th:** Family Funday
- **30th:** Carnival Kickoff

JUL

- **25th:** Scholarship window closes & review committee convenes
- **28th:** Barrel packing of school supplies
- **31st:** Donations shipped & also sent to under-served Houston school

AUG

- **2nd:** Scholarship winner announced
- **8th-15th:** Grant writing for Give to Serve initiatives:
- **17th:** Volunteer Opportunity (TBD)
- **30th:** Newsletter 2 release

SEP

7th: Back to School Student Appreciation

OCT

31st: Halloween Mixer

NOV

A MONTH OF SERVICE

- **9th:** Houston Food Bank Volunteering
- **24th:** Give to Serve Day (AM & PM)
 - Feed the Homeless
 - Bountiful Blessings

DEC

- 14th:** REIGN
- 21st:** 2nd Annual Reflection Hike
- 30th:** Newsletter 3 release

CORPORATE SPONSORS & SMALL BUSINESSES

Our deepest gratitude to our corporate sponsors and small businesses who help advance our mission through their generous support. [Please click their pics to learn more about their businesses!](#)

THE TITUS LAW FIRM



We provide real estate, business, probate, and estate planning legal services to our clients

KADRIA DERRICK, MD



General, Acute Pain and Regional Anesthesiologist. Medical/Mental Health and Wellness and Entrepreneur

CARIBBEAN WOMEN'S EXPO



Highlighting the career paths and businesses of Caribbean women

MAS PEPPA



"Spice Up Ya Life" by adding spice and flavor to everything you are..."

DR. MIKENAH VEGA, DDS



Dentist, with expertise in real estate, travel, and wellness

MONIQUE HOGGARD



Always making moves! Your domestic, international and investment realtor. I also sell vacations!

BRYAN EAVENS



We provide residential and commercial contractor services

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Family friendly realtor with additional services including mobile notary, prequalification and probate consultation

GENTLEMAN NOIRE



An inclusive lifestyle brand for men of discerning taste

K CHERIN STUDIO



Beauty, cosmetic & personal care

DAVID ALBERT



A devoted realtor at Arabella On The Prairie, providing a seamless home buying experience, from initial consultation to key handover.
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