



Media Contact:

Shaila Mentore

YGB Public Relations

[smentore.ygbawards@gmail.com](mailto:smentore.ygbawards@gmail.com)

347. 559.4YGB (4942)

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## 2013 – 2014 YOUNG, GIFTED, & BLACK (YGB) ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARDS

[www.ygbawards.com](http://www.ygbawards.com)

**New York, New York (November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013)** The Young, Gifted, and Black (YGB) Entrepreneurial Awards is scheduled and confirmed to occur on **Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 in New York City**; continuing with its format of honoring **African-American & Caribbean professionals during Black History Month**. These professionals are considered "unsung heroes" within their industries and communities, and through the YGB Entrepreneurial Awards, will be given a platform on which their achievements are highlighted as they strive towards the **Continued Pursuit of Success**.

The 2013 – 2014 line-ups combine as a group the honoree selections from each respective year. Postponement of the 2013 program was done to bring forth a higher quality event for our honorees, their guests and the general public who continue to provide exceptional support since the program's launch in 2006.

Honorees are selected across a range of industries and professions broken into three major award categories; the **YGB Entrepreneurial Nina Simone Artistic Excellence Awards** to honor and brand the legacy of **Nina Simone, an American singer, songwriter, pianist, arranger, and civil rights activist** who scored the original soundtrack "**Young, Gifted & Black**"; **YGB Entrepreneurial Professional Service Awards** to honor the diverse network of individuals across industry verticals and domains; **YGB Entrepreneurial Millennium Business (M.B.) Awards** to give business professionals who've accumulated over 20 years of experience a special recognition for their accomplished body of work.

**To view the 2013 – 2014 honorees video presentation, visit [www.ygbawards.com](http://www.ygbawards.com) or [click here to view list](#)**

The YGB Entrepreneurial Awards will feature business and celebrity icons willing to brand with the program as presenters to the honorees. Carl O. Gray, Founder of the YGB Entrepreneurial Program states, "the program focuses on the unsung hero...what better way to pass the torch of success than by having individuals who've achieved successes in their industry present this honor...it should help lift the YGB brand to its next level." The list of celebs invited to participate as presenters include **Brianna Colette**, **Shanelle Gabriel**, **Allure**, **Special Ed**, **Leon**, **Sheryl Lee Ralph**, and **Khalilah Rose** to name a few; more presenters to be announced in the coming months.

Special live musical tributes confirmed to perform at the awards include rising child star **Cheyenne Wright**, 1<sup>st</sup> place winner on **Apollo Amateur Night**; Independent unsigned artists **Lawrence Ho Sang aka Rence**, a Soul & R&B singer that delivers subtle vocal harmonies with just the right amount of melodic phrasing to be reminiscent of anything from Soul Ballads of the 80s to many of today's Contemporary Pop Hits and **Danielle McKay**, a Neo-Soul, Pop, R&B singer who will both pay tribute to Nina Simone; **HBO Def Poet/Singer/Activist, Shanelle Gabriel**, known as a soulful singer, poet, lyricist, and an advocate for Lupus Awareness [www.shanellegabriel.com](http://www.shanellegabriel.com); **Brianna Colette** singer/songwriter/actress headlining a successful three week New Stars Of America "Body and Soul Tour" in Russia, Brianna was handpicked to perform with Ray Chew for A Tribute to Stevie Wonder and has performed at some of New York's premiere venues [www.briannacolette.com](http://www.briannacolette.com)

Early bird advance tickets for the 2013 – 2014 celebration are available online at [www.ygbawards.com](http://www.ygbawards.com) or [www.charged.fm/ygbawards2014](http://www.charged.fm/ygbawards2014);



**ENTER PROMO CODE "RSVP" FOR 2014 REDUCED PRICED TICKETS! OFFER ENDS 12/31/2013. RSVP CONFIRMATION ALLOWS THE BEARER TO PURCHASE A TICKET AFTER THE EARLY BIRD DEADLINE DATE OF JANUARY 10TH 2014 for BOTH VIP & GENERAL ADMISSION.**

The 2013 – 2014 YGB Entrepreneurial Awards Program will make a 10% donation from total proceeds to equally support the following **certified NYS 501 c (3)** charities:

- **Chris Rose Community Empowerment Campaign [www.crcec.org](http://www.crcec.org)** to fight youth violence by raising community awareness and creating solutions by offering positive alternatives;  
**Enter Promo Code "CRCEC" to make a direct donation through the YGB online payment site.**
- **American Foundation for the University of the West Indies [www.afuwi.org](http://www.afuwi.org)** to support students with tuition, books and supplies by developing the YGB Entrepreneurial Awards **T.O.O.L.B.O.X. (Taking Ownership Of Life By Offering Experience)** Scholarship fund;  
**Enter Promo Code "AFUWI" to make a direct donation through the YGB online payment site**

More information will be presented over the next few months announcing event updates. For sponsorships, advertisements and/or donations, in addition to questions or inquiries, contact us on the YGB Entrepreneurial Awards service line at **347. 559.4YGB (4942)** or send an email to: [ygbawards@gmail.com](mailto:ygbawards@gmail.com).

For interview requests and press credentials, please contact **Shaila Mentore: [smentore.ygbawards@gmail.com](mailto:smentore.ygbawards@gmail.com) or 347- 559-4YGB (4942).**

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**About YGB:** Founded in 2006 by Carl O. Gray, President and CEO, The NetLinkz Group, Inc., and Founder of Unified Network of Business Professionals, in honor of Black History Month, The Young, Gifted & Black Entrepreneurial Awards is designed for peer-to-peer acknowledgement for their Talent, Ambition and Achievements toward the Continued Pursuit of Success.

**About CRCEC:** The Christopher Rose Community Empowerment Campaign seeks to fight youth violence by raising community awareness and creating solutions by offering positive alternatives. CRCEC intends to mobilize the community to increase community awareness of the factors that contribute to youth violence; occurrences of violence; the impact of violence; and strategies for preventing delinquency of adolescents that leads to youth gang involvement and community violence.

**About AFUWI:** The AFUWI serves as the primary vehicle for The University of the West Indies in its Capital Campaign and fundraising efforts in the United States. This is done by organizing special events, locating funding sources, facilitating research programs and developing strategic partnerships with American corporations, foundations, alumni and other organizations in order to sponsor projects, scholarships and academic programs which benefit students and faculty in the 4 campuses serving the region. While fundraising is the Foundations primary mission, it also seeks to establish long term strategic relationships with other institutions, organizations and individuals who share the desire to positively impact the educational offerings of the University and by extension improve the socio-economic structure of the Caribbean region.