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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**THE YOUNG, GIFTED, & BLACK (YGB) ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARDS**  
**WILL HONOR REGGAE ARTIST TONY REBEL WITH ICON AWARD**

New York, New York — (Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> 2017) The Young, Gifted & Black (YGB) Entrepreneurial Awards launched in 2006 to honor Black History Month in February will expand its consistently growing US base awards program with the launch of its **YGB – Caribbean (YGBC)** platform. The YGBC seeks to honor those Unsung Heroes & Heroines exclusively born within the Caribbean islands who exemplify the “**Continued Pursuit of Success**”.

The YGBC recognizes **Reggae artist, Tony Rebel**, who will receive a special **ICON Award in Reggae Music & Concert Production for Rebel Salute**, a Roots & Culture Concert in existence for over two decades. The YGBC ICON Award presentation happens at this weekend’s Rebel Salute Concert January 13-14, 2017 in Plantation Cove, St. Ann Jamaica. As stated by Kerise Wright, Media & Communications Officer for Rebel Salute, in an email confirming the nomination, “Tony Rebel is more than thankful for this award”. The Young, Gifted & Black (YGB) Entrepreneurial Awards is proud to honor over 200 individuals during its 12 years of existence and the pool of honorees begins to expand internationally with the YGBC launch.

The actual awards dinner will occur in New York City, Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017

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**EVENT:** 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BLACK TIE  
VIP Dinner & Presentation  
**DATE:** Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017  
**TIME:** 6:00PM – 11:00PM  
**LOCATION:** MILK River Restaurant  
960 Atlantic Ave  
Brooklyn, NY 11238  
[www.milkriverrestaurant.com](http://www.milkriverrestaurant.com)  
  
**ONLINE** [www.ygbawards.com](http://www.ygbawards.com)  
**TICKETS:** [www.2017YGBAwards.eventbrite.com](http://www.2017YGBAwards.eventbrite.com)



The awards program creates a platform that brings exposure to individuals who are positive role models within their communities, while providing an opportunity for others to be inspired and motivated. The **YGB Entrepreneurial Awards Program is the brainchild of Mr. Carl O. Gray**, President & CEO of The NetLinkz Group, Inc.

Tickets are available online at [www.ygbawards.com](http://www.ygbawards.com) via Eventbrite. 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).

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### **2017 YOUNG, GIFTED & BLACK (YGB) ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARDS HONOREES**

#### **YGB – CARIBBEAN MILLENNIUM BUSINESS HONOREES:**

- Tony Rebel, **ICON Award in Reggae Music & Concert Production**
  - Reggae Artist/Event Producer, Rebel Salute Productions
- Michael "Candy" Muir, **Caribbean Lifestyle & Sound System Production Award**
  - Owner-Operator, Fun Factory Disco International, New York City

#### **YGB – CARIBBEAN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES HONOREES:**

- Gregory Clarke, **Health & Instructional Fitness Award**
  - Owner - Fitness Instructor Miami Fitness Jamaica, St. Ann, Jamaica W.I.
- Jay Will, **Strategic Business Management Award in Film, Video and Movie Production**
  - Film Director, Jay WILL Films, (Game Over)

#### **YGB PROFESSIONAL SERVICE HONOREES:**

- Barry Cooper, **Strategic Vision Award**
  - Dean, Advisor, Political Activist
  - Vice Chair of Education - Vanguard Independence Democratic Association
  - Dean/Director of Culture for Eagle Academy
- Camille C. Joseph, **Women Empowerment Award**
  - Vice President, State Government Affairs Administration, Charter Communications
- Donovan West, **Philanthropist of the Year Award**
  - Chief Operating Officer, People for People Inc.
- Jazel Best, **Strategic Business Development Award**
  - Operations Director, TVT Group
  - CEO/Founder, Financial Wellness Coach, JB Advisory
- Joanne Taitt, **Woman in Business Award**
  - Author, Entrepreneur, Consultant,
  - Director For International Empowering Conferences, Empower Each Other Organization
- Kelly-Ann Daniel, **Strategic Account & Brand Manager Award**
  - Owner, KAROSS Marketing
  - Sales Representative, Royal Wine Corp



- Kerry-Ann Reid-Brown, **Strategic Business Development & Management Award**
  - Founder, Carry on Friends
- La-Niece Lyew, **Restaurant Management & Hospitality Award**
  - Owner, Milk River Restaurant
- LaToya Morgan, **Motivational Coach & Inspirational Speaker of the Year**
  - Owner-Operator, Life Coach, Your Hidden Treasure Inc.
- Linnette Harrigan, **Strategic Business Management Award in Music & Entertainment**
  - CEO-President, Music Supervisor, LINNETTE HARRIGAN MEDIA
- Susan Cameron, LCSW, **Health & Human Services Award**
  - Senior Associate Director of Social Work - Behavioral Health, Kings County Hospital, New York City
- Tyran Marquis, **Fashion Stylist of Year Award**
  - Fashion Designer, Styling by Marquis
- Wayne Thompson, **Community Empowerment Award**
  - Founder, Managing Director, S.O.A.R! (Strategic Opportunities Achieving Results)

#### **YGB MILLENNIUM BUSINESS HONOREES:**

- Jocelyn R. Taylor, **Strategic Vision Award in Media, Marketing & Public Relations**
  - President-CEO, JRT Multimedia, LLC
- Roger Milliner, **Strategic Business Management Award in Marketing & Brand Management**
  - Deputy Executive Director of Marketing, MetroPlus Health Plan

#### **NINA SIMONE ARTISTIC HONOREES:**

- Colby Christina, **Nina Simone Artistic Excellence Award in Creativity & Entrepreneurship**
  - Professional Actress, TV TALK SHOW HOST - Colby's Corner, Dancer, Singer, Model, Choreographer, Motivational Speaker, Advocate, AUDELCO - Rising Star Award Recipient
- The Melisizwe Brothers, **Nina Simone Artistic Excellence Award in Music Entertainment**
  - Artists & Band Performers

#### **YGB – P.O.W.E.R.-N.-M.O.T.I.O.N. MISSION AWARD**

- Phil Andrews, **Providing Opportunity With Effective Resources – Networking – Motivate Optimize Transcend Inspire Organize Nurture Mission Award**
  - President, Long Island African American Chamber of Commerce, Inc. (LIAACC)

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