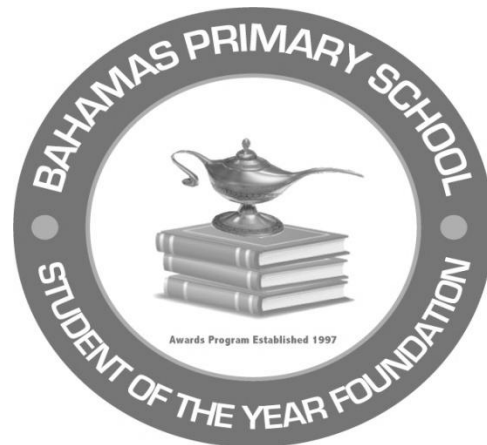


# **Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation**



## **Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program Informational Manual**

### *Vision Statement*

The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation is committed to recognizing and encouraging academic excellence and leadership development among the ***Who's Who in the Primary Schools*** in our educational System. Through this prestigious awards program, we seek to reward, encourage, and inspire these students in their pursuit of excellence.

### *Mission Statement*

The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program recognizes outstanding 6th grade students in the Bahamian Educational system regardless of colour, creed, nationality or religious affiliation.

# **Frequently Asked Questions – Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program**

**1. What is the Bahamas Primary Student of the Year Awards Program?**

The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program is a premier National Awards Recognition program for 6th graders in The Bahamas. Since it was established in 1997, over 1,000 primary school students have been recognized and over \$500,000.00 in scholarships and prizes presented.

**2. Who sponsors the Bahamas Primary Student of the Year Awards Program?**

The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program is sponsored by The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation, in partnership with the Nassau, Bahamas Pan-Hellenic Council, the local coalition of Fraternities and Sororities.

**3. What is the Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation?**

The Foundation was incorporated under The Companies Act of 1992 of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas in June 2004, as a fully registered non-profit foundation. The Foundation was given birth through the Nassau, Bahamas Council of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. It is an autonomous non-profit educational entity dedicated exclusively to public, charitable, and educational purposes of the Awards Program.

**4. How are students nominated for the Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program?**

Students must have been nominated by their respective schools. A letter from the Schools' Principal / Vice-Principal must accompany the official application form. The letter from the Principal / Vice-Principal serves as official endorsement of the nomination. Application packages missing this letter will not be accepted or reviewed.

**5. Who was eligible to be nominated for the Awards Program?**

The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program recognizes outstanding 6th grade students in the Bahamian educational system regardless of colour, creed, nationality or religious affiliation. **Each school could nominate only (1) student for the Awards Program.**

**6. What are the application requirements for the Student of the Year Awards Program?**

Students must submitted a completed Application Form, A 400 Word Essay; Copies of official report cards (Covering 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades only), Three headshot photographs (These photos are for the newspapers, website and souvenir awards booklet.) Photos will not be returned, Newspaper Clippings / Copies of Awards & Certificates (Covering 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades only), Three (3) letters of recommendation - School

Principal / Vice-Principal, Classroom Teacher / Civic or Community Leader / Former Teacher, Religious Leader / Extra-curricular Coach (ie. Sports or Dance) and the above items should be neatly attached to a portfolio or folder.

**7. Are there any special requirements with regards to the portfolio / folder?**

The portfolio / folder must be **no larger than 10 x 12** and is limited to a maximum of 50 pages. (using both sides). **All packages submitted will become the property of The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation and WILL NOT BE RETURNED.** Parents are encouraged to make a personal copy.

**8. What is the deadline for the annual Awards Program?**

The deadline for submission of completed Application Packages for the 2011 Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year is: Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 5:00pm EST. The Foundation will not be responsible for application packages that are late, lost, illegible, damaged, or incorrectly addressed entries for any reason.

**9. Who is responsible for judging the application packages?**

An Independent Distinguished Panel of Judges will review application packages received and determine the overall winner and finalists. **THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES IS FINAL.**

**10. When is the Student of the Year Awards Ceremony held?**

The 2011 Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program is scheduled to be held in two segments: **Medal Presentation for the 2011 Nominees – Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011 and Awards Ceremony – Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Locations will be confirmed in early 2011. The Medal Presentation is usually limited to the nominee and two guests. The Awards Ceremony is free of charge and is open to the general public.**

**11. Is there a website?**

Yes, you can visit our website: **[www.bahamaspstay.org](http://www.bahamaspstay.org)**. You will find information on The Awards History, Our Patrons, Our Board of Directors, Our Past Honourees and Our Corporate Sponsors.

**12. Will each child be recognized?**

Yes, Each child receives a trophy, a certificate and a medal in recognition of his/her accomplishments. Please note that the Foundation consider each nominee who participates in the Awards Program, a winner. Therefore, parents and family members are encouraged to applaud the child's nomination in the program.

In addition, nominees are prominently highlighted as the Student of the Year Awards Ceremony airs repeatedly on ZNS Channel 11, Cable Bahamas Channel 12 and Jones Communications Network – Channel 14. Nominees are seen as national role models for academic excellence.

**13. Do students from the Family Islands have a realistic chance to win?**

Yes, The Distinguished Panel of Judges take into consideration each nominee's accomplishments with the knowledge of what activities, organizations and community service opportunities are available on a particular island and/or campus.

In addition, six (6) of the past overall winners have come from the Family Islands. There have also been some Runners up and Scholarship Finalists: **1999** – Runner Up D'Shanti Pinder - Governor's Harbour Primary (Eleuthera), **2003** – Finalist Ryan Ferguson - High Rock Primary School (Andros), **2005** – First Runner Up Alieth Adderley, Mangrove Bush Primary School (Long Island), **2005** – Finalist, Decele Mullings, Inagua All-Age School (Inagua), **2006** – Finalist, Laura Albury Hope Town Primary School (Abaco), **2007** – Finalist, Shayne Thompson, James Cistern Primary School and **2010** – First Runner Up – Yalena Persuad – St. Francis de Sales Primary, Abaco. The above reflects only a small percentage of the Family Island Students who were recognized and were chosen as Finalists in the Awards Program.

**14. Who are the Past Student of the Year Winners and what schools they represented?**

The Past Student of the Year Winners are: **1997** - Vashti Darling - St. John's College – Prep, New Providence; **1998** - Andrea Darling -St. John's College – Prep, New Providence; **1999** - Tiffany Moncur - Carmichael Primary School, New Providence; **2000** - Sasha Bain - Walter Parker Primary, Grand Bahama; **2001** - Kenny Roberts - Spanish Wells All Age, Eleuthera; **2002** - Zachary Lyons - Queen's College – Prep New Providence; **2003** - Tanielle Curtis - Sts. Francis & Joseph Primary, New Providence; **2004** - Saul Salonga - Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Primary, Grand Bahama; **2005** - Shirdat Jadoo - Maurice Moore Primary School, Grand Bahama, **2006** - George Zonicle - Bahamas Academy – Elementary, New Providence; **2007** – Taran Carey – Tarpum Bay Primary School, Eleuthera, **2008** – James Boyce – Hope Town Primary School, Abaco, **2009** – Khes Adderley – Temple Christian Academy, New Providence and **2010** – Jared Fitzgerald – Xavier's Lower School, New Providence.

**15. Will scholarships be presented to any of the students?**

In 2010, fifty-four (54) students received scholarships totalling more than \$85,500.00 thanks to Corporate Donors. **Scholarships received must be used towards the student's secondary education in a Bahamian educational institution.** Students receiving a scholarship must agree to abide by the established guidelines governing the awarding a scholarship in the Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program.

**16. Who is responsible for Family Island Nominees Travel?**

The Foundation will seek to provide all Family Island Students with their travel to - New Providence for the Awards Ceremony. This is usually done through the donation from Corporate Bahamas and Individual sponsors. Please note that the travel of the chaperone and/or family members will be the responsibilities of those individuals. In addition, living accommodations will also be the responsibility of the family. The Foundation will attempt to secure discounted hotel accommodations for all family members requesting assistance. If you will require hotel accommodations, you are requested to notify the Foundation via email at: [president@bahamaspstoy.org](mailto:president@bahamaspstoy.org) or 242-364-4889 / 242-434-6089.