



## CCA NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2021

### A Message from CCA Board of Directors

For most of us, 2020 is a year we are glad to see in the rear-view mirror. From the pandemic, to the many business disruptions, and the many personal and professional struggles we have had to endure, it has been challenging to say the least. We are very tired of living with the phrase – “the new normal.” It has been a learning process for all of us, adapting and adjusting on the fly, to work and learn remotely.

While disruption is not always easy, we can also reflect on some of the silver linings and positive developments that came out of 2020. CCA was able to continue reaching out to our community via ZOOM and the successful launch of “CCA Newsletter.” We continued with our core programs of tutoring and providing scholarships. We even had some fun during this past year!

For 2021, let us be resilient, focused on what we can control, while we continue to support our communities.

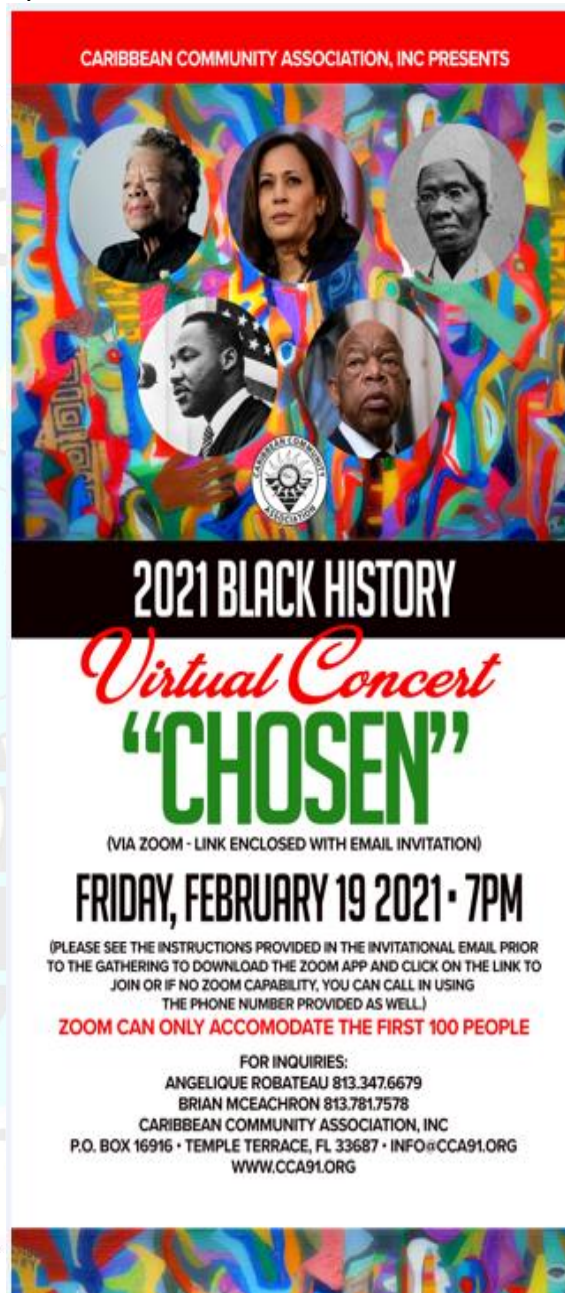
Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you on future ZOOM gatherings!!

Respectfully,  
Carol Price, President

### Black History Month – Virtual Concert!!

CCA is excited to celebrate “Chosen”, our 2021 Black History Month (BHM) program to be held virtually February 19<sup>th</sup>! Please be on the look-out for your email invitation,

February 1<sup>st</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup>, with details to join the concert via Zoom! See enclosed flyer.



Your Dedicated BHM sub-committee:  
Angelique Robateau, Brian McEachron,  
Allison Padmore Haynes, Maxon Victor, Evie  
Larmond, Nick Nicholson



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### What We Did in 2020!

As we start a new year, it is a good time to review what we achieved over the past twelve months. With that said, we cannot **THANK YOU**, our members, our sponsors, our friends, and our families, enough for your unwavering support that allowed us to respond to the unforeseen need in our community during the past year. We must recognize your generosity which propelled us to support the need of our community, which needed help the most. Due to your robust commitment and selflessness during the unprecedented year, we were able to continue impacting the community. The following is a list of all the activities we accomplished in 2020, despite the pandemic:

- **Passport to Literacy** program and **Health Fair**
- **Black History Month Program** – ‘Black Gold’
- **Monthly CCA Newsletter (new)**
- **Financial Assistance to 33 International Students** (CCA in collaboration with **Andrew Ashmeade, Jerk Hut CEO** & other Caribbean organizations)
- **Disaster Relief Care Packages Drive**
- **Virtual Tutorial Math Program**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays Virtual Monthly Gatherings**
- **The Tony & Verde Ashmeade Scholarship for Education Award Ceremony**
- **Virtual Mentoring Program**
- **Balancing Students Learning with the Arts Program**
- **Thanksgiving ‘Turkey’ Giveaway**
- **Tutorial Math Program Christmas Celebration**

### • Donation to Metropolitan Ministries

Again, a heartfelt thank you to ALL!!!

With Immense Gratitude,  
CCA Board Members

### Huge Shout Out & Congratulations!!

Happy Birthday & Anniversary to all friends and families of CCA!

Our deepest sympathy to members, sponsors, partners, families and friends who have lost a loved one in 2020, whether due to COVID or other illnesses.

To all of our **Sponsors/Donors** – Our **heartfelt gratitude** for your in-kind and financial contributions!!

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **ALL** graduates of 2020 – you did it! **WAY TO GO!!**

**A Huge THANK YOU** to our Volunteers for your selfless act in always stepping up and giving back to the community!! You are so appreciated!!!

### Balancing Students Learning with the Arts

With the COVID-19 pandemic, we became aware of the impact of this disease on our school-aged children, the US education system, and online instruction challenges.

It is to this end that the organization encouraged families and friends with children ages 8 to 18 years to participate in this literary competition. Participants were highly motivated, inspired, and energized in



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expressing their feelings about the pandemic and other self-selected topics via poems and short essays.

Developing students' creativity and originality in writing poetry and short essays became a major accomplishment for all 33 students who participated in the CCA Education committee literary project **"Balancing Students Learning with The arts."**

As we work to adjust living with the pandemic, let us heed the messages of our children, in the recommended practices of wearing a mask, social distancing, and frequent hand-washing.

**Winners of the competition were awarded cash prizes, journals, and certificates! Congrats to all!!!**

Thanks to all our judges, sponsors, and members of the "Arts" Committee.

Special thanks to Rude Bwoy Graphics, for printing the CCA publication "Feelings" Anthology of Poems & Short Essays.

This anthology is for the entire family to read and enjoy and can be viewed on the CCA website: [www.cca91.org](http://www.cca91.org).

Stay tuned for 2021, **"Balancing Students Learning with The arts!"**

Respectfully,  
Evie Larmond, Project Coordinator/Editor

### Parent Appreciation Letter

I would be remised if I did not take the time to acknowledge the positive impact of the poetry contest. Initially, my children were not excited about what they deemed to be yet another assignment. However, all of that changed and was replaced with enthusiasm especially during their mentoring sessions with Ms. Evie who was able to explain the intent and importance of poetry. The topic they chose to write about served in a therapeutic manner as they were able to express their feelings about the pandemic and how their lives have changed because of it.

Thanks to the contest my children have a new found love of poetry, so much so that my 5th grader requested a poetry book for Christmas entitled "Poems to Learn by Heart". In addition, they were thrilled to see their poems in a book alongside the other poetry contestants; it really aided in bringing everything together. The journals they received went into immediate use as they began to journal for that day. As parents, we are extremely proud and appreciative of the continued opportunities CCA offers to our children.

Sincerely,  
Mr. & Mrs. Jenkins

### CCA Adopt Island Orphanages in 2021



The Disaster Relief committee has already prepared several hundred care packages of hygiene items for hurricane relief victims in anticipation of





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the 2021 hurricane season. Thanks to all our members, sponsors, families and friends for your kind donation in 2020.

Now, the excitement to move forward in 2021 has triggered increased energy to launch the adoption of 2 island orphanages, one each in Dominica and Jamaica. Administrators from the orphanages welcome these urgently needed items: **baby diapers, boys and girl's underwear, wash cloths, toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, deodorant, bath soap, lotion, shampoo, conditioner and toilet paper.**

We look forward to your continued support and encourage our readers to kindly consider donating to this project.

For additional information, **please call Michael Anderson @ 954-588-6874 and Allison Padmore-Haynes @ 360-259-0567.**

Warm Regards,  
Michael Anderson, Disaster Relief Chair

### **Rude Bwoy Graphics & Printing CEO: Dawn Gonsalves**

1717 E. Busch Blvd., #804  
Tampa, FL 33612  
Office: 813 990-8480

MON-FRI 11AM-8PM  
CLOSED SAT & SUN

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

### **CDC Health & Safety Announcement**

The CDC is encouraging everyone to continue following the **SIMPLE** and **EFFECTIVE** steps below, in addition to the vaccine, to help stop the spread of the coronavirus:

- Wash hands frequently for 20 seconds each wash
- Wear a mask
- Stay your distance

For updates on the current CDC COVID guidelines, visit: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cdc-in-action.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cdc-in-action.html)

### **Sponsor Organization Spotlight**



Rude Bwoy Graphics & Printing is geared toward providing the highest quality design and print service in Tampa Bay under the leadership of Dawn

Gonsalves. It has been our biggest sponsorship support in servicing CCA printing needs for all of our community events over the years. Thanks to Rude Bwoy Graphics & Printing for their contribution to the betterment of the Caribbean community.

### **Renew Your Membership Today!!**

It is that time again for membership renewal of \$40! You can do so by using any of the following options:

- Via Zelle using the email address [cca1991org@gmail.com](mailto:cca1991org@gmail.com) to send directly to CCA
- Through our website, [cca91.org](http://cca91.org), via PayPal
- Mail a check to CCA, P.O. Box 16916, Temple Terrace, FL 33687

CCA appreciates your continued membership support.

The Caribbean Community Association, Inc. (CCA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization



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### 2021 Calendar of Events

See the list below for our upcoming 2021 event lineup through June.

Month	Event/Theme
January	Newsletter
February 19	Black History Month Program – “Chosen”
March 20	To Be Announced
April 16	Tutorial Math Program Award Ceremony
May 21	To Be Announced
June 18	Tea Party

Please visit our website, [www.cca91.org](http://www.cca91.org) as well for the latest calendar updates and information.

For questions or comments, please reach out to the Editor, Valencia Bonner.

Mail to: [bonnerjuillet@gmail.com](mailto:bonnerjuillet@gmail.com)