

Buju Banton Foundation provides skills training and educational opportunities for youth.

With immense emphasis on at risk males, ages 8-18. Its aim and objectives are to provide mentoring and training for young men in depressed communities and childcare facilities.

Encouraging them to put down all negative influences and take up skills and tools that enable them to attain personal, academic and professional growth. So they could become positive contributors to society.

Learn more about our works in Destiny

Newsletter. We invite you

to become a Friend

of Buju Banton

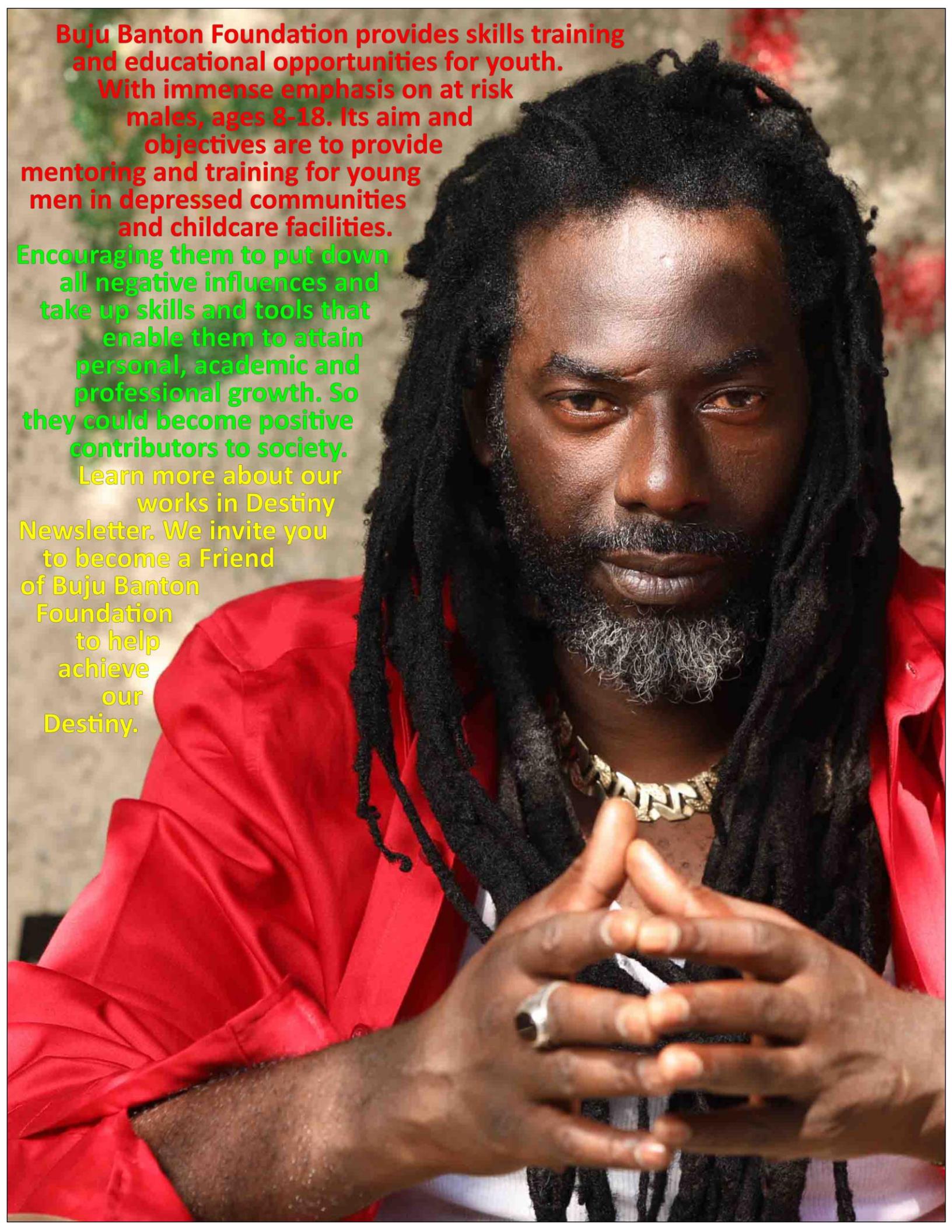
Foundation

to help

achieve

our

Destiny.



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Buju Banton To Be Honoured At 27th Annual Caribbean American Heritage Awards (CARAH)

On November 20th, 2020, the Institute of Caribbean Studies will bestow the icon Buju Banton their award for Outstanding Contributions to Reggae. The ceremony to be held virtually, due to the Covid pandemic.

In a letter addressed to Buju Banton, Claire A. Nelson Ph.D., Founding President, stated

"We view with much respect your longevity in the business, your prolific output and your impact on the US and global 'culturescape'. We take note of your Grammy winning discography as well as of your most recent exploration Upside Down 2020 and the soulful 'Buried Alive' which is serving as a transformational healing anthem for many around the world in this time of extreme challenge. We especially value your passionate and compassionate outreach to and investment in the youth in Jamaica through your foundation(Buju Banton Foundation). We consider your musicianship as legendary in the reggae industry, and your ongoing journey as transformational leader as one worthy of our tribute and support. As such, we wish to honor you with our Award for Outstanding Contribution to Reggae Music."

She added"The main purpose of the Institute, the leading Caribbean American advocacy organization founded in 1993, is to promote the inclusive prosperity and sustainable economic development of the Caribbean people. The Caribbean Diaspora in the US is estimated to be well over 5 million. Given this significant number, the current political/economic environment and the debate on immigration reform, we feel it especially important to recognize Caribbean Americans who contribute significantly to the American economic, social and cultural landscape."

Previous CARAH Awardees & participants include: Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell of Grenada; Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony of St. Lucia; Prime Minister Owen Arthur of Barbados; Congresswoman Barbara Lee, D-CA; Congressman Elliot Engel, D-NY; Earl Graves, Founder of Black Enterprise; Garth Fagan, Tony Award winning Choreographer (of Jamaican heritage); the legendary Cicely Tyson (of Kittitian heritage); Rita Marley, Reggae Icon; Bunny Rugs of Third World Band, Etana, Inner Circle; Jamaican Bert Mitchell, Founder of the top black-owned accounting firm Mitchell & Titus; Sir Edward Chin, NASA Scientist (of Aruban heritage); Barbados-born Dr. Velma Scantlebury, Kidney Transplant Surgeon; Michael Lee Chin (of Jamaican heritage); and Edwidge Danticat, Author, of Haitian heritage.

Only Rasta can liberate the people

Over hills and valleys too

Don't let them fool you

Don't believe for a minute that they are with you

Jah free the people

Over hills and valleys too

Don't let them fool you

Don't believe for a minute, they don't like you

Sunbeam Children's Home Beneficiary of Humanitarian Buju Banton's J\$3Million Dollar Win At Song Festival Competition



From left: The Honourable Olivia 'Babsy' Grange, Minister for Culture, Gender, Entertainment & Sport and Buju Banton (Reggae/Dancehall Icon/Philanthropist)

such a national platform, and helping to put the Sunbeam name out there. We are forever grateful and surprised that you thought to donate to us and we are indeed very appreciative of all your efforts."

"I want to congratulate the true winners tonight. Everyone who participated in this competition: you're all winners. I was happy to share the stage with you all. But for me the true winners tonight are the Sunbeam boys' home. We did it Sunbeam Boys Home, We did it" an overjoyed Buju Banton belted out after being announced winner at the 2020 Festival Song Competition. His captivating entry 'I Am A Jamaican' voted best song.'

Sunbeam Children's Home is a childcare facility, in rural St. Catherine, for at risk boys. The facility cares for fifty (50) wards (30 onsite and 20 offsite).

In thanking the kind hearted legend, facility administrator, Mr. Desmond Whitely, joyously expressed "We at Sunbeam would like to wish you a hearty congratulations on your phenomenal win in the JCDC Festival Song Competition. The performance was amazing! The boys watched it and are truly ecstatic about your win. We are elated that you even thought of making mention of us on

Why try to make I unhappy
Really I don't know
If it was up to them my friend
We would never see the sun nor the snow

Through that mystical communication within
We keep on coming together
I love to see brothers and sisters
Looking out for one another

That's the way it should be
Not contrary, stop tearing down each other
Only Rasta free the people
Over hills and valleys too

Both organisations are working in unison on establishment of the Sunbeam Layers Chicken Project. An agricultural venture at the premises of Sunbeam Children's Home. The project's main feature will be the production of eggs for sale to community members, schools and businesses, as well as for domestic use at the facility. There is a national emphasis on the importance of agriculture and farming; eat what you grow, grow what you eat, buy local. The existing farm is underutilized, will be expanded to include poultry.

The project should provide a sustainable income stream for the childcare facility and employable skills for wards. Eggs and poultry are rich in essential vitamins, nutrients and minerals. Products are in demand and can be successfully produced at the facility. The existing poultry house which has a capacity of 1000 birds, will initially be used for production of 500 layers. Eggs will be sold to generate income. The layers project will provide training in sound work ethics for all fifty (50) boys. Additionally, it will serve as a temporary means of voluntary employment for those unable to attend school, for any period.

Training is essential to the sustainability of the project; for this reason, monthly training seminars will be conducted, to ensure both wards and staff are educated in the appropriate farming techniques and best practices. Such education and skills training will empower the boys to work in the agricultural sector or establish their own small farms, upon leaving Sunbeam Children's Home.



From left-Mr. Desmond Whitely, Administrator Sunbeam Boy's Home & Buju Banton, Reggae/Dancehall Icon/Philanthropist)

Don't let them fool you
Don't believe one minute that they are with you
Jah free the people
Over hills and valleys too

Don't let them fool you
Don't believe for a minute that they are with you
Hard drugs won't do
You're just behaving like they want you to (yeah)

Tajay Bailey Inaugural Recipient of Murdine Clarke Scholarship



Signing scholarship agreement

In his song ‘Untold Stories’ reggae legend Buju Banton laments “Opportunity a scarce, scarce commodity in these times I say. When mama spend her last and send you go class

never you ever play. It's a competitive world for low budget people, spending a dime while earning a nickel...” He has further articulated “Born in abject poverty I know what it is for a child to go without basic needs. I also know what it is to be a youth with big dreams and lots of determination. Unfortunately, daunted and unable to achieve your destiny, due to lack of a helping hand. For this reason I established the Buju Banton Foundation to ensure those youths have equal opportunities to succeed.”

Arrogance is much different from ignorance

And I know you feel the same way too

Many live this life without having a clue

No reason why they are so sad and blue

Places to go so much things to do

Not a moment to reflect on the cycle of life (yeah)

A who free the people

Over hills and valleys too

Don't let them fool you

Don't believe for a minute that they are with you

Jah free the people

Over hills and valleys too



From left: Donovan Hunter, Principal- Denham Town High School; Rosemary Duncan, Director- Buju Banton Foundation; Tajay Bailey, Scholarship Recipient; Buju Banton, Reggae/Dancehall Icon/Philanthropist; Denese Callum, Teacher- Denham Town High School

Denham Town High School alumni and reggae icon, Buju Banton, established the scholarship in honour of his beloved mother Murdine Clarke. Awarded to financially challenged boys, at that institution, who despite hardships, excel academically. Tajay Bailey, is the first recipient of the Murdine Clarke Scholarship. The scholar will utilise the \$100,000 grant for procurement of school supplies.

The fifteen year old beneficiary is under the sole care of his grandmother. Since his dad is deceased and mom unwell. Although he hails from a socio-economically deprived inner city community, Tajay is resilient and directs his energies to positive endeavours. An exemplary student who thrives academically. He is respectful to school officials and peers. The reason for his selection for this prestigious endowment.

Don't let them fool you
Don't believe one minute, they don't like you
It hard, it hard, it hard (yeah)
Mek them know we waan go home a we yard

It hard, it hard, it hard (let them know)
Let them know we waan go home a we yard
It hard, it hard, it hard (let them know)
Let them know we waan go home a we yard



Tajay Bailey and Buju Banton in discussion

Tajay was presented the scholarship on Friday August 14, at Gargamel Music Inc. In counselling Tajay, Buju Banton advised "I am proud of you. At your age, a student at Denham Town High School, I recall sometimes going without, due to my family's financial challenges. Despite this I had great dreams and ambitions of a successful career as a musician and remained focused on that goal. Take all subjects taught at school seriously; especially, writing and accounting. As those will prepare you to successfully function in the working world." An elated Tajay heartily shared with his musical icon " I am happy and feel blessed for being gifted the prestigious Murdine Clarke Scholarship. I will remain focused on my studies. As I look forward to serving Jamaica as a meteorologist."

Donovan Hunter, principal at Denham Town High School voiced "Our school, more so its students, will benefit from this wonderful scholarship, from the great Buju Banton and the Buju Banton Foundation. We are grateful for his support. Though born in abject poverty, Buju Banton overcame tremendous obstacles to achieve prosperity. Many students born in the same socio-economic situation, are motivated by him. We are thankful that he is a past student of Denham Town High School. One who has not forgotten his roots. We want more former students to do likewise."

It hard, it hard, it hard (oh god)

We waan go home

Only Rasta free the people

Over hills and valleys too

Don't let them fool you

Don't believe one minute, they don't like you

A who free the people

Over hills and valleys too

Buju Blesses Boys with 100 Pairs of Footwear and Footballs



Form left: Rosemary Duncan, Director at Buju Banton Foundation and Mr. Patrick Newman, Facility Administrator at Mount Olivet Boy's Home
Caption-
Form left: Rosemary Duncan, Director at Buju Banton Foundation and Mr. Patrick Newman, Facility Admini

Music legend and philanthropist Buju Banton, through his Foundation, gifted residents of Mount Olivet Boys' Home with an assortment of school shoes, football boots and footballs. One hundred pairs of shoes in total. The facility in Manchester is home to forty eight at risk boys, ages 6-18.

On Thursday, July 2, facility representatives and some residents convened at Gargamel Music Inc, to accept the gifts. All excited to meet Buju Banton in person. In encouraging the youths he stated " You should always have hope. Never lose hope. We have to show those who abandoned us, we succeeded. The child the parent abandoned will become the head corner stone. Respect staff at the facility. As the world out there is cruel. Buju Banton Foundation is trying to be part of the programme of hope and change. Help each other, love each other. Above all, love God."



Assorted shoes for boys.

Foundation director, Ms. Rosemary Duncan, presented the items to facility director, Mr. Patrick Newman. He ecstatically voiced " We are indeed impressed with the commitment shown by the Buju Banton Foundation to ensure the boys at Mount Olivet Boys' Home are all prepared for the new school term. This latest donation of 100 pairs of shoes, could not have come at a more opportune time and for that we are extremely grateful for your love and kindness. In a time when many of our boys are marginalized and lacking parental guidance, the Buju Banton Foundation presents a beacon of hope for those who have and will come through our gate. We cannot over emphasise our gratitude to your Foundation for this donation that will help to make it possible to transform the lives of these boys."

The Buju Banton Foundation, established in January 2019, focuses on assisting at risk males, ages 6-18. Ensuring they too are provided equal socio-economic opportunities to succeed.

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