



*Youth Development
Foundation, Inc.*

Hal Jackson's
**TALENTED TEENS
INTERNATIONAL**
Scholarship Program

"Giving Thanks for Our Dreams"

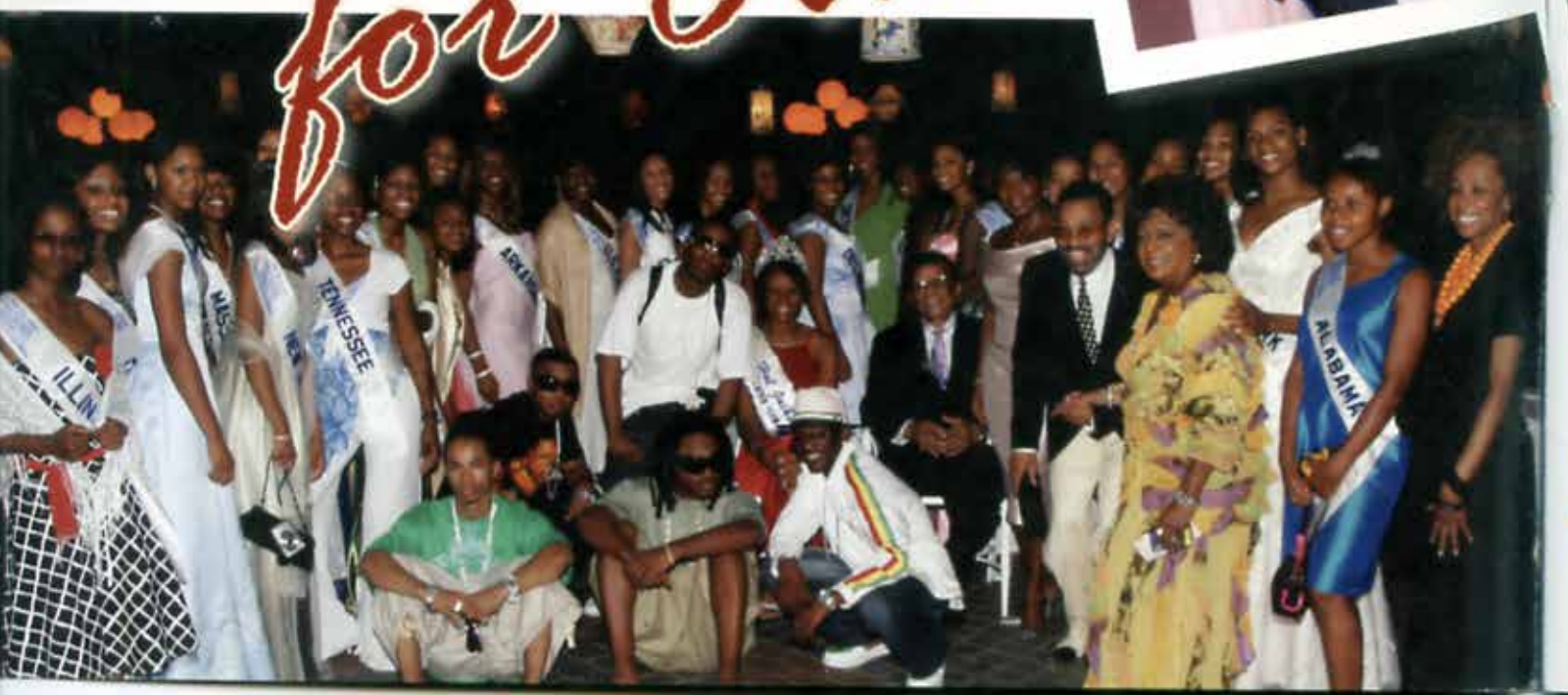
37th Anniversary Issue

PRESENTED BY

TCBC Broadcast Holdings, Inc.



*Thank
Dream
Giving
Our
for*



Youth Development Foundation, Inc.

SPONSORS THE

37th Annual

**Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International
Scholarship Program**

PRESENTED BY

TCBC Broadcast Holdings, Inc.

Saturday, July 28, 2007

Harlem Stage - Aaron Davis Hall

New York, New York

FOUNDER & CEO

Hal Jackson

FEATURING

Talented Teen Participants Representing

2007 Talented Teens From

Around the World

and

The 2006 Talented Teen

International Winner

Raquel Elise Winchester

*Special Guest
Appearances during
the Week*

Andre'

Gregory Bell

Paris Bennett

Fantasia

Cynthia Horner

Delise Jones - Miss HJTTI 1983

Dr. Bob Lee

Najiyah

Ruben Rodriguez

Pastor Hezekiah Walker





2007 Judges

Ronald Alexander – Dance Theater of Harlem

Mike Baril – J Records

Kimberly Brooks – Miss HJTTI 1981

Jeff Burns – Ebony Magazine

Enga Davis – Entertainer

Leslie Dockery – Choreographer / Director

Sharon Haywood – Virgin Records

Nona Hendryx – LaBelle

Vy Higginson – Mama Foundation

Jason King – NYU Professor

Deon Livingston – General Manager, VP ICBC
Broadcast Holdings

Rose Pierre-Louis – Elected Official

Ruben Rodriguez – Ruben Rodriguez Entertainment

Linda Rivera – Zomba Gospel

Dr. Edna Hill Sallah – Miss HJTTI 1972

Dedra Tate – Flavor Unit

Elinor Tatum – Amsterdam News



Program of Events 2007

Presented by
ICBC Broadcast Holdings, Inc.

Featuring Our 2007 Talented Teen Participants

Parade of States & Countries

Introduction of Hal Jackson

Introduction of MC

Top 10 Finalists Announced



Judging Segment 1 Personality & Achievement

Rules & Regulations

Entertainment

Introduction of Judges

Judging Segment 2 - Talent

Performance by 2006 Winner - Miss Raquel Winchester

Intermission

A Tribute to the Biggest Dreamer of All - James Brown

Performed by - 2007 Contestants

Special Presentations

Entertainment

Judging Segment 3 Appearance

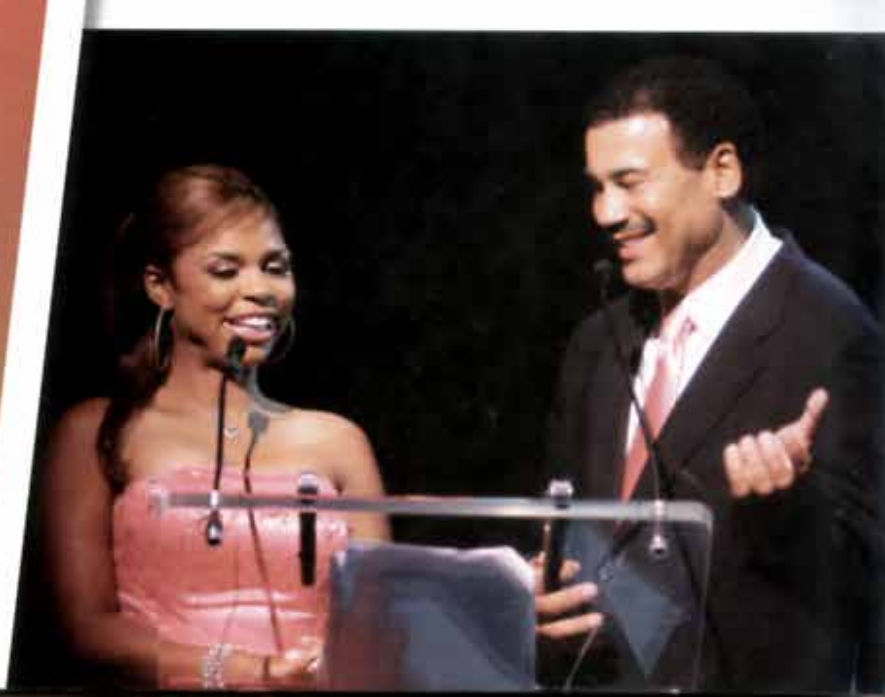
Entertainment

Farewell Address - Miss Raquel Winchester

Special HJTTI Awards



Crowning of the 2007 HJTTI Winner



Benefit Committee



Founder & CEO

HAL JACKSON

Executive Producer

DEBI JACKSON

Director & Choreographer

KEISHA L. CLARKE

of Shine Your Light - Miss New York 1992

Stage Manager

NORMAN LANDER

Assistant Choreographer

JADE MELVIN

- Miss Connecticut 2004

ESSENCE RANDOLPH

- Miss Missouri 1996

Publicity

CYNTHIA HORNER

HOLLIS GROUP, LLC

Supervising Producer

NADINE ABRAM

- Miss New York 1982

Audio Producers

CLAY BERRY

SHEILA EDWARDS

JAMES FARLEY

EMOKE' PRODUCTIONS

ANTHONY RICHARDS

JASON ROBINSON

Production Managers

CHEYVONNE GRAVES

TONYA GRAY

PINESE HARRIS

TIFFANY JONES

DELISE JONES

- Miss HJTTI 1983

BOB LEE

KEISA PARRISH

- Miss California 1993

BERNICE WHITE

Make Up

VERDA ROGERS

Hair Stylist

ANDREA SHELL

of Mo'Hair Salon, NYC

244 East 13th Street, NYC

International Coordinators

MERDEAN GALES

JANE JACKSON HARLEY

CLAIRE ROKER

PINNIE ROSS

Regional Coordinators

NINA CHANDLER

MARGIE EVANS

MAXINE JENKINS

WILEY MORTON

VERDA ROGERS

JANASEE SINCLAIR

CELOIS STEELE

SUSAN WARREN

Planning Committee

VINNY BROWN

LORRAINE CALDWELL

LESLIE DOCKERY

ANGELA HOLLIS

SANDY JENNINGS

GWEN KINGSBERRY

BOB LEE

DEON LEVINGSTON

KAREN MALONE

THERESA MERRING

SUSAN PEREZ

NAOMI SHAW

KENDRA SHERWOOD

CYNTHIA SMITH

KORAN VAUGHN

CHARLES WARFIELD, JR.

LLOYD WILLIAMS

PIA WINSLOW

LOIS WRIGHT

Accountant

LANCELOT CLARK, CPA

IAN NELSON

Photography

DEBI JACKSON

MYCHAL WATTS

Graphic Design

JASON REYNOLDS

Videographers

JERRY KUPFER

THORNE MAXWELL



Youth Development Foundation, Inc.
Promoting Culture & Education Through the Performing Arts

July 28, 2007

Dear Talented Teen International Family:

Oh boy, it's another new Talented Teen year and I hope you are all just as excited as we point toward what we hope will be the greatest year ever for Talented Teens International.

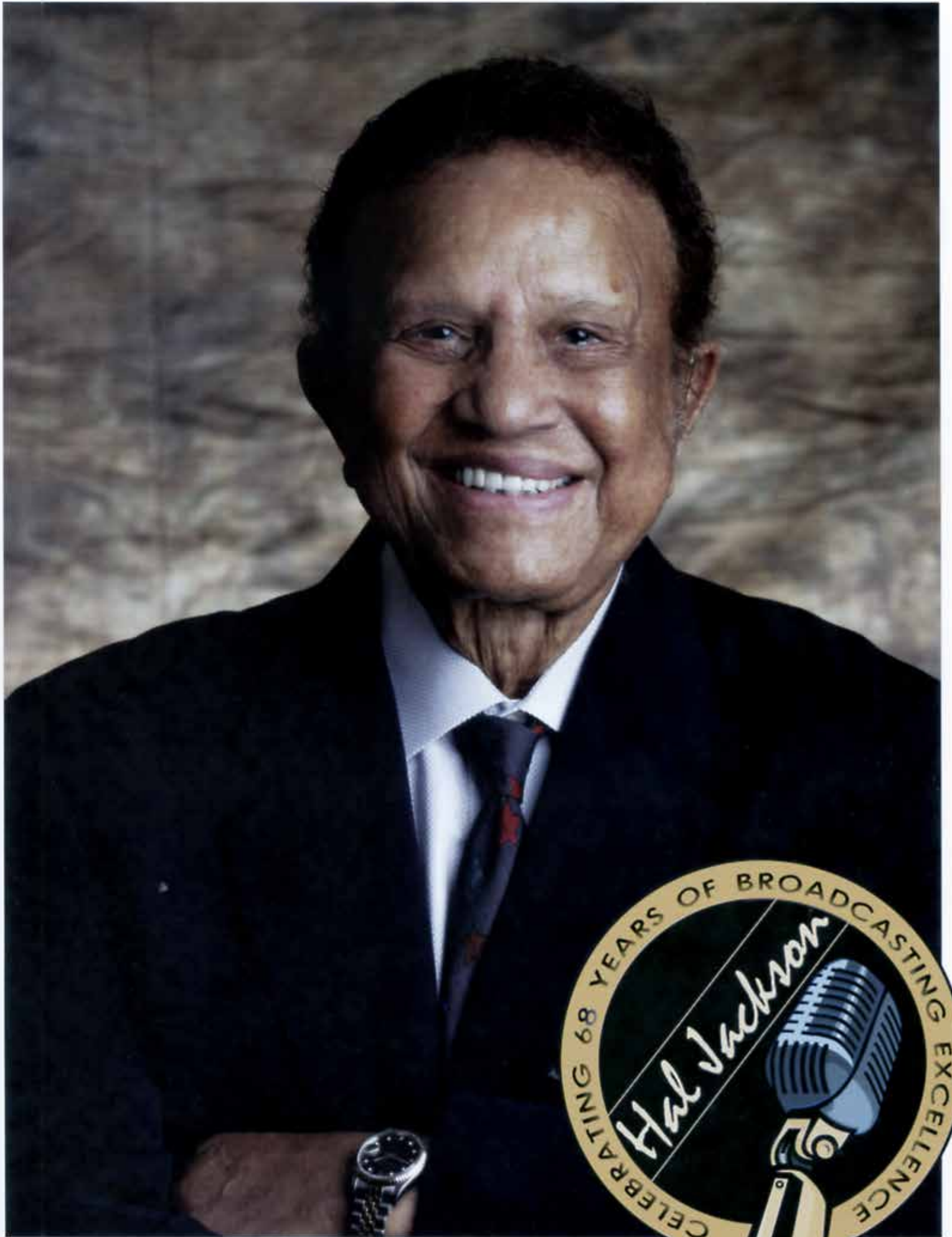
We are so blessed to have HJTII Directors and organizations representing us across the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, Africa and Europe. Over the years you have shown your spirit, energy and sincere support of us in our joint venture of encouraging young women to be the best they can be. We are sure everyone in attendance at your competition will enjoy the young ladies and see how proud we all are of them.

A large congratulation has to go to the contestants who have worked so hard for this day. We are sure they have made new acquaintances and have obtained more self-confidence and awareness of themselves and their talents due to time spent working with our world wide Talented Teens staff.

Thank you to all the families, friends and companies who have given of themselves to this worthwhile cause. Because of your support, Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International has awarded over \$1,000,000 in scholarships, prizes and trips abroad to well deserving young women. I want to thank all of you for being a part of the Talented Teens International family and the happiness that we all give to these young ladies.

Warmest regards,

Hal Jackson
Founder & CEO





STATE OF NEW YORK

ELIOT SPITZER
GOVERNOR

July 21-29, 2007



Dear Friends:

I am delighted to send greetings to all gathered for the 37th Annual Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International Scholarship Competition.

For nearly four decades, this competition has provided a venue through which youth from around the world can enjoy a new cultural experience and, at the same time, enhance their potential in various areas of endeavor. The Empire State is proud to once again host this wonderful program which highlights the creative and artistic talents of young ladies, offering them opportunities through education and other means of positive development.

As women and future leaders of the world, you can find success by pursuing an education, which is the certain path to an interesting and fulfilling career. I encourage you to consider the many choices that await you. Above all, you should follow your dreams and strive to achieve your best in every way a person can – both personal and professional – so that you can enjoy the benefits of a truly rewarding life.

In sponsoring this event, Hal Jackson continues to inspire young ladies through his longstanding commitment to a valuable program that builds self-esteem among deserving young ladies with a great deal of talent and promise. I congratulate all of the participants and this year's scholarship recipients as you work toward realizing your vision for the future.

Best wishes for a highly memorable and successful event.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

ELIOT SPITZER



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

July 21, 2007

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to welcome everyone to Hal Jackson's 37th Annual Talented Teens International Scholarship Competition.

Since 1971, the Youth Development Foundation has helped countless promising young women reach their potential. I can imagine no better host for this wonderful competition than New York City, where for years men and women from every background have come to pursue their dreams. Hal Jackson, the first African-American radio sports announcer and the first African-American to own a radio station in New York, will always be known as an icon for his groundbreaking broadcasting career – but he should be equally respected for his belief that success means most when shared with others. With this terrific showcase, Mr. Jackson is showing us the very best that our great City and nation have to offer.

I extend my best wishes to all of the young women taking part in this competition, and my gratitude to all those whose hard work and generosity have made this event possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael R. Bloomberg".

Michael R. Bloomberg



CHARLES B. RANGEL
15TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
NEW YORK

COMMITTEE:
WAYS AND MEANS
CHAIRMAN



GEORGE A. DALLEY
CHIEF OF STAFF

JAMES E. CAPEL
DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3215

May 12, 2007

Dear Contestants:

I wish to offer my best wishes and congratulations to all of the participants of the 37th Annual Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International Scholarship Competition.

I would like to commend Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International, for your organization's support to young women through educational programs and your efforts to promote positive activities for young people.

Additionally, I would like to commend the talented young women who take part in this annual event. You are fine examples of what a positive attitude and a solid educational foundation can do for ladies who are poised for great success in their lives.

Again, congratulations to you all and please accept my best wishes for continued success in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. B. Rangel", written over the typed name.

Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



WASHINGTON OFFICE
2354 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3215
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-4365
FAX: (202) 225-0818

PLEASE RESPOND TO OFFICE CHECKED



PIERRE M. SUTTON
CHAIRMAN AND CEO

Congratulations to Hal Jackson and his dedicated team on this year's Hal Jackson Talented Teens Scholarship Competition. It is through Hal Jackson's leadership, vision and dream that we watch talented young ladies from here, across the country and around the world grow, develop and enhance their skill. Each year, we watch Hal Jackson deliver to us this talent!

Ladies, good luck to you all at this year's competition.

Also, I would like to recognize the directors and team members that unselfishly dedicate their time and talents to making this Competition a continued success. It is this tireless effort that makes me, once again, applaud Hal Jackson and the wonderful work he started 37 years ago.

Again, Congratulations to you all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Sutton", written in a cursive style.

Pierre M. Sutton
Chairman and CEO
Inner City Broadcasting Corporation

BEACON ON THE SCENE AT TAVERN ON THE GREEN

Hal Jackson's Talented Teens Dinner Shoots for the Stars

By Audrey J. Bernard, Lifestyles/Society Editor

A dapper Hal Jackson and his lovely wife Debi B Jackson were all aglow at the 6th annual Shooting Star Awards dinner on Thursday, July 27, at Tavern on the Green. The radiant couple had lots to be happy about starting with the fact that they were attending an event named after him...Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International (HJTTI) scholarship competition. They were also joyful about their proven track record of helping others.

Over the past thirty-six years, the world-renowned radio personality and Broadcasting and Cable Hall of Fame inductee has been fully committed to providing young women with a chance to not only showcase their talents, but an opportunity to broaden their horizons through exposure to new culture, new environments and new experiences. HJTTI serves to build its young contestants' self-esteem and confidence, which is essential for the positive development of young ladies and success in all aspects of their lives. Through Jackson's Youth Development Foundation (YDF), these goals of lifting these young women up one star at a time are being realized. And just looking at the eager faces of the 35 contestants, ages 13 to 17 in attendance at the reception and dinner, the Jacksons are truly making a significant difference.

The stellar event also honored three individuals who served as wonderful role models for these youngsters and who exemplify the driving force behind YDF...."Fostering excellence, intercultural awareness and education through the performing arts. The honorees included star of stage, screen and television Maurice Hines; dynamic motivation speaker and former Miss New York State Tiffany Walker; and Hal's daughter, phenomenal business woman Jewell Jackson McCabe. Dr. Bob Lee of WBLS-FM New York served as emcee and a pulsating performance by J. Records' Chapter 4 resulted in high-pitched youthful screams of ecstasy.



Hals Pals...

1. Debra L. Lee 2. Lionel Richie
3. Steve Harvey 4. Dennis Haysbert & Pam Grier 5. Eddie LeVert 6. Cathy Hughes & Congressman Charles Rangel
7. Areatha Franklin 8. Al Jarreau & Rachelle Ferrell 9. Kem 10. Fantasia 11. Cissy Houston





The Youth
Development
Foundation, Inc.

Program Overview

Youth Development Foundation, Inc. Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International®

"Promoting Culture & Education through the Performing Arts"

Youth Development Foundation, Inc. (YDF) is a non-profit tax-exempt organization that promotes culture and education through the performing arts. Founded in 1971 by Hal Jackson, legendary radio personality, who has been named a "National Treasure" by the Smithsonian Institution, is a Broadcasting and Cable Hall of Fame inductee, a National Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame inductee, a Radio Hall of Fame inductee, and a Black Radio Hall of Fame inductee; provides a support system for girls which offers exposure, encourages cross-culture exchange and nurtures emerging talent from around the world while providing training, educational scholarships and travel opportunities for young women.

YDF showcases the intelligence and talents of girls 13 to 17 years of age from the United States and abroad. The program is open to all ethnic groups with an emphasis on diversity and intercultural awareness. Program participants typically are average or above academically and have performing talents. These young ladies want to use their gifts as a platform for attaining their secondary educational goals.

State and country programs are held from January through June in approximately 30 states and 10 countries. Area programs provide activities dedicated to youth, education and community involvement. Additionally as a part of each program, girls participate in a series of training sessions and local competitions where they are judged in categories demonstrating academic abilities, talent and stage presence. State and country winners move on to the international program – Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International (HJTTI) to compete to become Miss Talented Teen International.

The young ladies are brought together during International Week. They tour the competition city visit radio and/or television stations to learn about operations behind the scenes in the media industry visit restaurants to taste foods of different cultures attend Broadway shows and ultimately rehearse for their appearance on stage. Winners have received over \$1,000,000 in scholarships, prizes and inter-cultural trips abroad.

The Youth Development Foundation, Inc. via Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International assists in preventing drug abuse and pregnancy among young women by developing self-esteem and confidence, which is essential for the positive development of young ladies and success in all aspects of their lives.

HJTTI/YDF winners and/or participants who have become success stories, include, but are not limited to civil court judge Tanya R. Kennedy, Jada Pinkett Smith, Ce Ce Peniston, the late Michelle Thomas, Vanessa Williams, and Sheryl Lee Ralph.

36 Years of Bringing Dreams to Life



1971

The first contest was held under the title "Miss Black Teenage America" on July 28 in Atlanta, Georgia and was taped for television syndication. The winner was Miss Texas, *June Kelly*.



1972

The site changed to New York City and the location of the contest was Madison Square Garden's Felt Forum. Miss Texas won again, this time her name was *Cynthia Lewis*.



1973

The title changed to "Miss U.S. Talented Teen Pageant & Revue" and Miss *Edna Hill* from Maryland was the winner. Dr. Hill is currently the 1st Black plastic surgeon in the state of Maryland.



1974

Talent, intellect, determination and the ability to perform under pressure, all qualities that characterize Miss Missouri, *Denise DuMaine* who won the crown at Town Hall in New York City.



1975

Miss Georgia won the crown in New York City at Town Hall. *Renee Crutcher* tours and sings with Harry Belafonte.



1976

Due to requests to extend its benefits to teens in other countries, the title was changed to "Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International." The 1st international finals took place in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, the winner was Miss New York, *Karen McLellan*.



1977

HJTTI offers an educational experience and a unique opportunity for thousands of teenagers 13 to 16 years who have a performing talent. *Melody Smith* from New Jersey was the winner at the Longhorn Theatre in Hollywood, California.



1978

Each year thousands of young ladies walk through the doors of HJTTI sponsors around the world. The winner's door opened for Miss Connecticut, *Sheryl Piland* and she was crowned by Michael Jackson at the Coconut Grove in Los Angeles.



1979

HJTTI helps to raise the academic achievement of young ladies by providing scholarships to assist in education. This year's scholarship recipient was *Angela Pollack*. Angela resided in New Jersey and was crowned at the Coconut Grove in Los Angeles.



1980

HJTTI assists young women by helping them express themselves with imagination and intelligence. *Annette Jones* expressed herself well and is currently a member of "101 North" signed with Capitol Records. Miss California won in L. A.

Talented Teens International

1981



Returning from California to share in the 50th Anniversary of the Waldorf Astoria, HJTTI enters its second decade from the worlds' premier city, New York. Miss *Kimberly Brooks* from Baltimore, Maryland won the crown.

1982



HJTTI gives ladies the opportunity of displaying their talents before a large audience, on a prestigious stage such as the John F. Kennedy Center For the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. where *Kristel Henderson*, Miss U.S. Virgin Islands took the title.

1983



HJTTI assists in building self-esteem, self-confidence, self-discipline and positive values. Miss New York, *Delise Jones* possesses all of these qualities and is currently teaching in the New York school system. Miss Jones displayed her talents in California.

1984



The contest was held in Montego Bay, Jamaica on an extraordinary summer evening under the stars. The winner resided in New Jersey...her name *Michelle Thomas*.

1985



HJTTI competitions are conducted by civic-minded organizations and individuals. This year's winner is a ballet dancer who is currently dancing with the Dance Theatre of Harlem. *Tai Jimenez* "wowed" the judges at the Coconut Grove in Los Angeles.

1986



Prizes for the winners include scholarships, exposure to the music and film industries, and travel abroad which enhances cultural awareness. *Oween Davis*, an accomplished violinist took the crown on stage at the Apollo in New York City.

1987



Cool breezes blew through the hair of the HJTTI contestants when they visited St. Croix, St. John and performed live in St. Thomas. The winning contestant was *Tammy Townsend* who hails from Carson, California

1988



The age of entering contestants was raised to 17. The HJTTI contest was held at the Arie Crown Theatre and *Kya Dawn Winston* a gymnast from New Jersey stole the judges' hearts.

1989



HJTTI was designed as an outlet for untapped talent as well as training in staging, choreography, poise, grace, and diction. *Tamica Ellis*, a young lady from Wisconsin possessed all of those qualities and won on the Apollo stage in Harlem, U.S.A.

1990



For 20 years Mr. Jackson has taken on the tremendous task of providing a launching pad for hundreds of thousands of young ladies into the entertainment field. The Wiltern Theatre in Los Angeles was the stage, the winner *ReNisha Rayford* from Detroit.

36 Years of Bringing Dreams to Life



1991

The third decade of HJTTI was started with a triumphant return to the Apollo Theatre. Boyz II Men were on hand to help crown *Myisha Richmond*, 15 year old from Lawndale, Ca.



1992

Zakiya Munnerlyn, a 15 year old singer from Hillside, N.J. won the judges approval at the world famous Apollo Theatre in New York City.



1993

Rosa Sanchez, a 16 year old gymnast from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands won the crown in St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. at the Reichhold Center for Performing Arts.



1994

Amanda Stanley, a 17 year old tap dancer from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands won the Judges hearts and the crown in Washington, D.C. at the historic Lincoln Theater.



1995

Ebony Mack, a 13 year old gospel singer from Irvington, NJ won the judges approval at the world famous Apollo Theatre in New York City.



1996

A 16 year old Modern Dancer from New York City won the International crown on the renowned Apollo stage in New York City. Her name is *Tiffany Walker*.



1997

Quianic Withey leaped her way to the top of the judges score cards when she won the crown in the Bahamas after a wonderful week of sun, sand and surf. Quianic a 16 year old gymnastic dancer for the U S Virgin Islands.



1998

A Shakespearean actress from New Jersey won the International Crown at the world famous Apollo Theatre. She is 16 year old *Nikiya Mathis* from Elizabeth, New Jersey.



1999

A 15 year old opera singer from Trinidad & Tobago won the International crown in St. Thomas, U. S. Virgin Islands. Her name is *Renee Solomon*.



2000

The 30th Anniversary HJTTI was celebrated in New York City. 15 year old *Nicole Nicholas*, the granddaughter of Fayard Nicholas and the great niece of Dorothy Dandridge, tapped her way into the hearts of our judges and walked away with the Crown. Alicia Keys & Musiq SoulChild were special guests.

Talented Teens International



2001

Brian McKnight was the chairperson for the 31st annual competition held in New York City where *Della Hamby*, a 16 year old gymnastic dancer won the judges' approval and walked away with the International Crown.



2002

Mario enchanted the young ladies at a luncheon for the 32nd annual competition. *Teena Lugo*, a 17 year old actress from New Brunswick, NJ won the International crown at the Hudson Theatre on Broadway in New York City.



2003

Tatiana McConnico sang her way into the hearts of our judges which included Cissy Houston in St. Thomas, USVI and won the International crown. Tatiana a 14 years old from Douglasville, Georgia.



2004

Sheryl Lee Ralph was on hand as a judge when *Nicola Dalrymple* won the International Crown in New York City. Nicola a 15 year old dancer/singer/actress from Trinidad & Tobago.



2005

St. Maarten was the venue of the 35th annual HJTTI. The winner a 16 year old Michael Jackson impersonator by the name of *Esonica Veira* from the US Virgin Islands.



2006

Raquel Winchester a 15 year old opera singer from Trinidad won the 36th annual contest in New York City. Pretty Ricky met the girls at Tavern on the Green. Freddie Jackson and Urban Mystic serenaded them at Symphony Space.

Are you a **young lady** between the ages of 13 and 17 with a performing talent? Will you be 17 until September 2008? Then you maybe eligible to enter the 38th Annual Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International competition.

Are you a **community minded individual** or organization who would like to run a Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International competition in your location?

Then write to:

Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International® Scholarship Program

1230 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10128

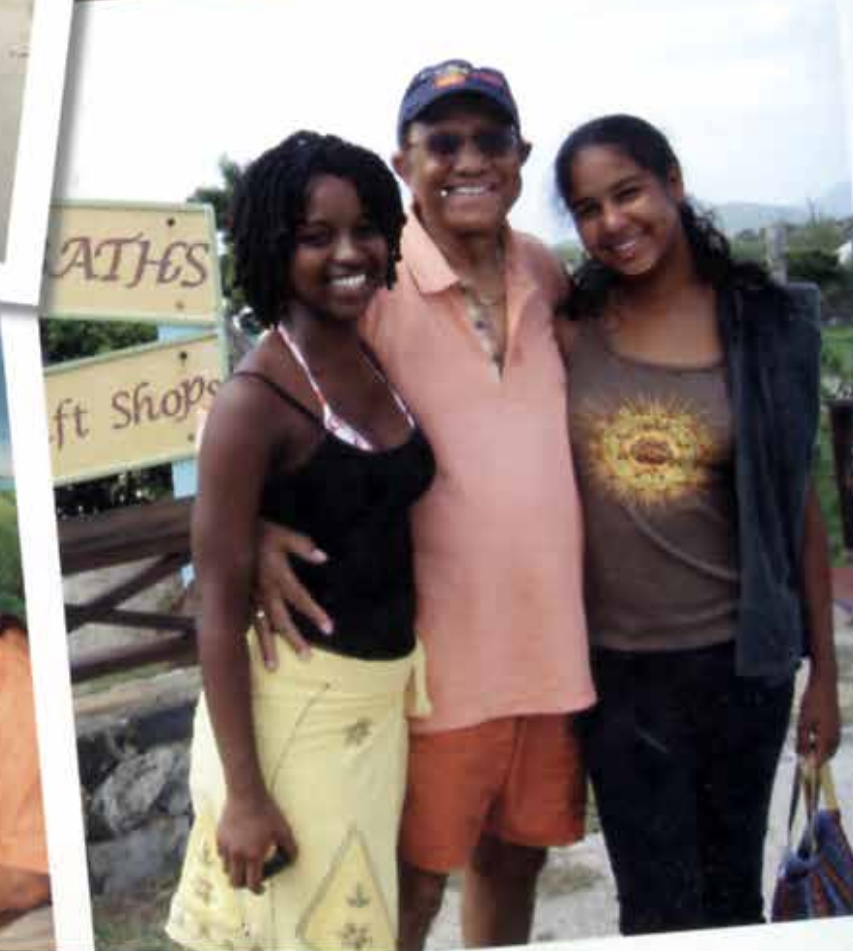
Telephone: 212.592.0413

Fax: 212.722.4576

Email: hjteens@aol.com

www.talentedteens.org





Raquel's Trip to British Virgin Islands

On July 29th 2006, one of my dreams was realized as I was crowned Miss Hal Jackson's Talented Teen International. Little did I know that this was only the first of a series of dreams that were about to become my reality, including my dream of traveling the world. One of my experiences as Miss Talented Teen was a trip to the British Virgin Islands, "Nature's Little Secrets" On August 7th 2006, I departed from JFK International Airport with my chaperone, Nadine Shaw, the Supervising Producer of Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International Scholarship Competition 2006. We had a brief stopover in Puerto Rico, where we were supposed to meet with Mr. & Mrs. Jackson. However, we soon learned that their flight had been cancelled and that they would have to take a later one. Within hours, Nadine and I took our connecting flight and arrived at the largest of the British Virgin Islands, Tortola, the "City Centre and Island of Mystery" We were warmly greeted by a representative from The British Virgin Islands Tourist Board at the Terrance B. Lettsome International Airport. They directed us to a taxi, which took us on a mountainous journey all the way across the island to our villa, Sunset House at West End. The scenery was simply breathtaking and the driver gave us a guided tour and short history of the island.

Soon enough, Nadine and I arrived at what appeared to be a small mansion set atop a hill. We met with the landlord Shivan, who took us on a short tour of West End. We took a short drive to the Ferry Dock to meet Miss Hal Jackson's Talented Teen International 2005, Esonica Veira, who had just ferried across from St. Thomas. We returned to Sunset House and learned that Mr. & Mrs. Jackson would be stuck in Puerto Rico for the night! Nadine was appointed "mama hen" and we chose our rooms and began to settle ourselves down for a relaxing yet exciting week. As the sun set, we took in the magnificent seascape of Long Bay Beach, which Sunset House overlooked. We went to Pusser's Landing at Frenchman's Cay, West End, where we dined in the open night air, near to the sea. At dinner we were joined by Miss Hal Jackson's Talented Teen International 2004, Nicola Dalrymple of Tobago. After a relaxing and fulfilling dinner, we returned to Sunset Villa, where we three island girls and our chaperone spent the majority of the night in the Jacuzzi getting to know each other.

The following morning we were met by Hal and Debi Jackson, Tonya Gray and her two children. We went down to Long Bay Beach and enjoyed brunch on the lower deck of '1748', an 18th century sugar mill which was converted into a restaurant and a leisurely day soaking up the sun at the beach. When we returned to Sunset Villa we relished an authentic Caribbean meal cooked by our house chef. We spent the next day in a similar fashion, retreating at the beach. We walked along the length of the beach and took many pictures then lay under the sea-grape trees, taking in the tropical breeze. When we returned to the house, we lounged around the pool for the evening.

Unfortunately, Esonica had to return to St. Thomas the following morning. After we bid her farewell at the Ferry Dock, we met with Mr. Neil Blyden who had so generously arranged for us to take a speedboat 12 miles across the Sir Francis Drake Channel to Virgin Gorda, the "Natural Wonder and Island of Mystery" which create the eastern most border of the British Virgin Islands. After savoring another authentic Caribbean meal at the Top of the Baths Restaurant/Bar we took a short hike to the Baths. We spent some time taking in this natural wonder of the BVI and what was, in a sense, our last day of vacation. Back at Tortola that night, Debi surprised Nicola with a cake, celebrating her 18th birthday just a few days in advance.

Our last morning on the beautiful island of Tortola went by only too quickly. We packed up and most reluctantly left Sunset House and its magnificent view of the seemingly endless expanse of sparkling, dancing waves. On the ride back to the airport we drank in the exotic island scenery once more. The British Virgin Islands Tourist Board representatives interviewed us at the airport as we waited for our flight. With bittersweet emotions we departed from the island of Tortola with sun kissed skin and smiles on all our faces; our evidence of a week in paradise.

2007 Scholarship Program



Alabama
Julia Foy, 15
Dancer



Antigua
Kimberly King, 15
Vocalist



Arkansas
Jessica Powell, 16
Dancer



California
Darina Littleton, 17
Dancer



Connecticut
Cathy Cann, 14
Dancer



Delaware
Loren Boyd, 15
Actress



Illinois
Tracy Thomas, 15
Instrumentalist



Louisiana
LeTrevia Antoine, 15
Vocalist



Maryland
Mariah Ford, 15
Vocalist

HJTTI Participants



Bahamas
Khia Poitier, 16
Vocalist / Instrumentalist



Bermuda
Canjelae Taylor, 17
Vocalist



British Virgin Isles
Jerema Vanterpool, 15
Dancer



District of Columbia
Lydia White, 17
Vocalist



Florida
Chanel West, 17
Actress



Georgia
Ariel Johnson, 15
Vocalist



Massachusetts
Alicia Yates, 17
Vocalist



Missouri
Kenndra Moore, 17
Vocalist



Nevada
Micah Jones, 14
Dancer

2007 Scholarship Program



New Jersey
Kristyn Harris, 17
Actress / Singer / Dancer



New York
Ajanee Hambrick, 16
Vocalist



Nigeria
Deborah Bamidele, 16
Actress



St. Lucia
Lizzy Ann Gregg, 15
Dancer



St. Maarten
Anisa Dijkhoffz, 16
Dancer



South Carolina
Alexis Nicole Mitchell, 13
Dancer



Virginia
Aleasa Whitaker, 16
Baton Twirler



Washington
Naomi Rahn, 15
Actress

HJTTI Participants



North Carolina
Brittany Grubbs, 14
Dancer



Ohio
Chandra Turner, 17
Vocalist



Pennsylvania
RaShona Pierce, 17
Actress



Tennessee
Aleasha Love, 16
Vocalist



Trinidad & Tobago
Maisha Peters, 17
Instrumentalist



US Virgin Islands
Marcelina Ventura, 17
Dancer

*Good Luck to all of you!
Give Thanks for your Dreams*

State and Country Directors



ALABAMA
Carol Cheatham
HJTTI of Alabama



ANTIGUA
Gilbert Roy Laudat
Talent Incorporated Ltd.



ARKANSAS
Tamitha Gulley
A Willing Heart Foundation



BAHAMAS
Dr. Barry Russell
HJTTI of the Bahamas



DELAWARE
Phyllis Tucker Saunders
PMT Enterprises



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Jane Harley
Kemet Productions



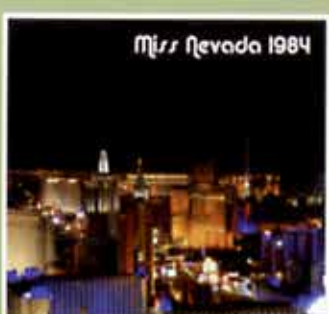
FLORIDA
Wanda Feaster
HJTTI of Florida



GEORGIA
Arlisa Bradshaw & Vickee Clark
Empowering GA's Talented Youth



MISSOURI
Merdean Gales
Mershaw Productions



NEVADA
Esperanza Brooks
HJTTI of Nevada



NEW JERSEY
Susan Warren
Uniting Talented Youth, Inc.



NEW YORK
Flora Haynes
Committee for Positive Youth



ST. LUCIA
Michelle Rock
HJTTI of St. Lucia



ST. MAARTEN
Ann Meyers
HJTTI of St. Maarten



SOUTH CAROLINA
Wilhelmina P. Johnson
*Darlington County Cultural
Realism Complex*



TENNESSEE
Wiley Morton & Juanita Ulmer
Community Concepts

Talented Teens International



BERMUDA
Lettitia Kelly
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority



BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS
Luce Hodge Smith
HJTTI of the BRITISH V.I.



CALIFORNIA
Myisha Richmond
HJTTI of California



CONNECTICUT
Margie Evans
CT Talented Teens Productions



ILLINOIS
Verda Rogers
Elegant Image Productions



LOUISIANA
Geri Simpson
Talent Plus Productions, LLC



MARYLAND
Pinnie Ross
Pinnie's Charm Studio



MASSACHUSETTS
Danita Wilson
HJTTI of Massachusetts



NIGERIA
Aderonke Kimemenihia-Eseka
Rykk-E Communications



NORTH CAROLINA
Pearl Marshall
HJTTI of North Carolina



OHIO
Margaret Barron
Leadership Development Inst.



PENNSYLVANIA
Keith Bueford
HJTTI of Pennsylvania



TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
Roslyn Jackson
HJTTI of Trinidad & Tobago



U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS
Claire Roker
Talent Unlimited, Inc.



VIRGINIA
Nina Chandler &
Yvette Williams-Person
C&P Youth Productions



WASHINGTON
C. Maxine & Henry Jenkins
Positive Success for Teens

Official Ballot

You Be the Judge!

Judge's Name _____

Judge's Name _____

Please make all final scores in ink. Initial any corrections.

AV = Average

GD = Good

VG = Very Good

I. Appearance (1-20 Points)

AV = 1-6

GD = 7-12

VG = 13-20

A Youthful Teenage Appearance

II. Personality and Achievement (1-15 Points)

AV = 1-5

GD = 6-10

VG = 11-15

A Good Public Speaking Ability

III. Performing Talent (1-30 Points)

AV = 1-10

GD = 11-20

VG = 21-30

Material with Universal Appeal

STATE/
COUNTRY

NAME

AGE

APPEARANCE
1-20

PERSONALITY
1-15

PERFORMING
1-30

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

Awards For Our 2007 Participants



Michelle Thomas Scholarships

HJTTI Winner Receives a \$5,000 Scholarship
The 1st Runner-Up Also Receives a \$2,000 Scholarship
The 2nd Runner-Up Receives a \$1,500 Scholarship
The 3rd Runner-Up Receives a \$1,000 Scholarship
The 4th Runner-Up Receives a \$500 Scholarship

Wilda Labrie Scholarships

Awarded for the Highest Grade Point Average - \$1,000
Miss Talent \$1,000 Miss Photogenic \$500
Miss Personality \$250 Miss Creativity - \$250
Miss Congeniality - \$250



A Diamond Ring to The Winner and First Runner Up

Courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Hal Jackson

A Trip to England

Air Travel Courtesy of Alken Tours

A Trip to The British Virgin Islands

To Attend the BVI HJTTI Competition
Courtesy of the BVI Tourist Board

A Trip to St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands

To Attend the U.S. Virgin Islands HJTTI Competition
Courtesy of Claire Roker, Talented Unlimited, Inc.

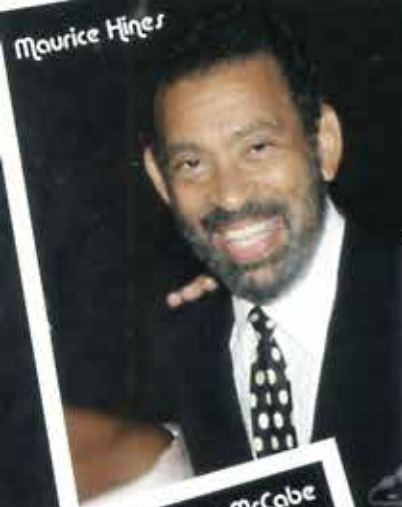
One Full Scholarship to Ramapo College of New Jersey

Awarded to the first entering high school senior
who applies and meets all requirements



Each Participant Receives

A Participation Trophy
An Official HJTTI Sash
An Official Talented Teens T-Shirt
An Official Talented Teens Tote Bag
A HJTTI Certificate of Achievement
An Eye Opening Week in New York City



Maurice Hines



Tiffany Walker



Jewell Jackson McCabe



2006 Shooting Star Award Recipients



2007 Shooting Star Awards

Delise Jones

Delise Jones was crowned Hal Jackson's International Talented Teen in 1983 at the Coconut Grove Hotel, in Los Angeles, California. She won the judges hearts with her soulful rendition of "The Way We were." Delise went on to complete her undergraduate degree @ the University of Buffalo, graduating with a B.S. in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing. Upon graduation, Delise began her career in education at the Joseph H. Wade Academies Middle School in the Bronx, NY. Since 1989 to current, Delise has served the Wade Team in the capacity of teacher, dean, assistant principal and currently Principal. During her tenure at the Wade Academies, Delise obtained two masters degrees, both on scholarship and with honors; M.S. Early Childhood Education from Herbert H. Lehman College and M.S. Education Administration from Fordham University.



Delise is passionate about education and believes that the greatest gift we can give is to empower children. A single mother of three children: Kayla, Kyle, and Kai... Delise prides herself in being a role model for her children and hopes to attain her Ph.D in Education and Leadership.

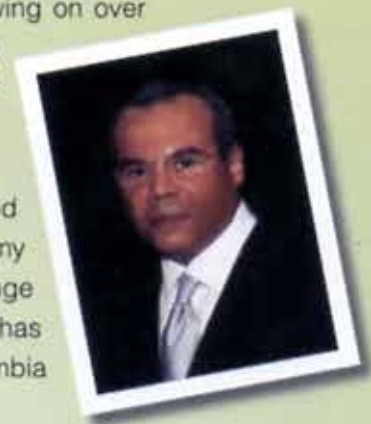
Although she wears many hats, Delise has not forgotten her first love; singing. Delise has been featured on two CD's ("Say I'm Blessed" by Clinton Utterbach and "Sealed by Divine Authority" by Montel Thomas). Delise is very committed to her faith and is a member of "The Lords Church" in the Bronx, where she sings on the praise team and the choir.

Ruben Rodriguez

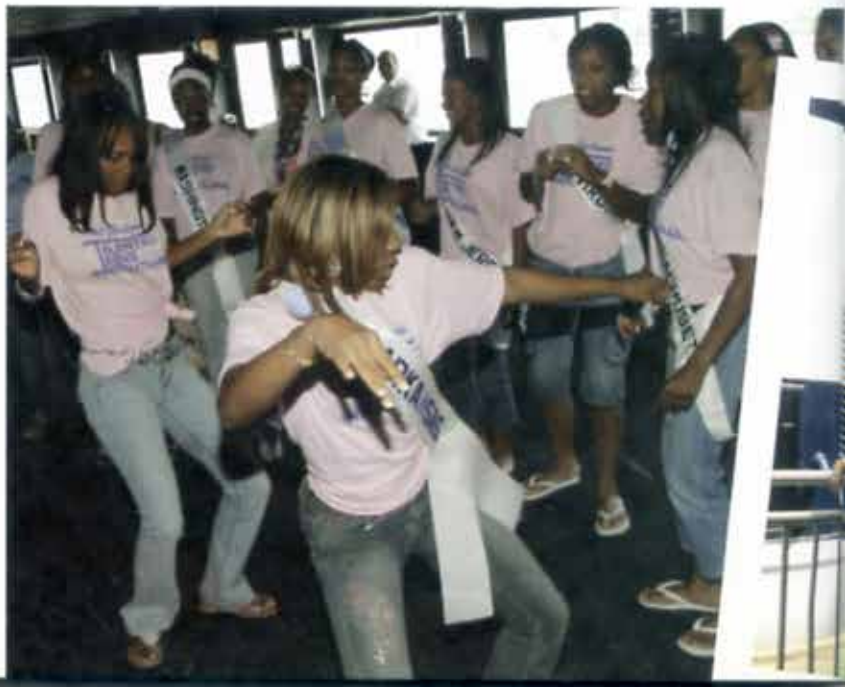
Ruben Rodriguez is a renowned music industry executive who is always on the cutting edge. From his earliest days at Motown Records to his Pendulum Records upstart, an innate knowledge of what the market is missing and a surefire ability to fill that void with extraordinary success have driven Rodriguez.

Rodriguez' success is not only forward reaching, but far reaching as well. Rodriguez is very proud to not only be involved in the development of artistic talent but in the career building of many of today's industry executives. He has always handled his career with integrity, commitment and strong work ethics. Drawing on over twenty-five years experience in the music industry, Rodriguez' extensive knowledge and rise to executive leadership took root when he landed a position at Motown as the Northeast Regional Marketing and Promotion Manager.

Rodriguez left Motown to join the marketing and promotion team at then newly formed Casablanca Records. "My years at Casablanca opened my perspective and shaped my desire to work with talent outside of the mainstream. I'm motivated by the creative challenge of helping to introduce a new sound and image into the broader market." That sentiment has become Rodriguez' trademark and passion which defined his tenures at Island and at Columbia Records, where he was Senior Vice President.



The years following Rodriguez' departure from Columbia has also proven to be some of the most challenging and exciting in his career. At the time of Pendulum's start-up, Rodriguez was simultaneously hired as the Senior VP of Elektra Records. Currently, Ruben under the banner of Ruben Rodriguez Entertainment, Inc. is consulting and working with major record companies, as well as independent companies.



Intercultural Week

The Young Ladies Experienced an Enlightening & Enriching Intercultural Week in New York City

OFFICIAL WELCOME TO NYC

The Contestants, and State & Country Directors were given a Welcome to New York City by Mayor Michael Bloomberg

Luncheon at Ashford & Simpson's Sugar Bar

Directors & Delegates had lunch at the Exquisite Sugar Bar

We had a guided tour of New York City on a Double Decker Bus

We visited 107.5 WBLS FM & 1190 WLIB AM

We toured the Schomburg Center for African American Culture

We enjoyed Down-Home Meals at Justin's & Miss Maude's Spoonbread & the Soul Café

We saw the Broadway Play "The Color Purple"

7TH ANNUAL SHOOTING STAR AWARDS CEREMONY

The 2007 HJTTI Participants along with the State & Country Directors Saluted Delise Jones and Ruben Rodriguez At an Elegant Affair in Central Park's Tavern on the Green

PRELIMINARY NIGHT RECEPTION

HJTTI Directors, Family & Friends Celebrated with the 2007 HJTTI Participants



Miss HJTTI 2006



Farewell Address

Miss Raquel Elise Winchester

It was as though a portal to a completely new world was opened up to me on June 16th, 2006, when I was crowned Miss Hal Jackson's Talented Teen of Trinidad & Tobago 2006. In the immediately ensuing days, I found myself caught up in a whirlwind of meetings with the press, photo shoots and the beginning of preparations for a trip to New York, where I would proudly be an ambassador for our twin island republic.

There is no greater honor that I could have had bestowed upon me. I spent the following weeks training hard for the international leg, getting prepared for it, and planning and hosting a benefit concert in an effort to raise funds. In mid-July, I traveled to Connecticut with my director, where former Trinidad & Tobago international directors, Uncle Anthony and Aunty Ann-Marie James, so graciously welcomed me into their home for a few days. I offer them my sincerest thanks for this hospitable gesture and for providing me with all the love, support and guidance that I needed to get me through the competition.

An exhilarating week which was simply bursting with activity followed in the heart of New York, the city that never sleeps. Mr. & Mrs. Jackson afforded me the wonderful opportunity of interacting with 32 other girls from across the United States, Canada and the Caribbean. Despite our rigorous rehearsal schedule, we managed to find the time to meet the deputy mayor of New York, attend various luncheons, including a luncheon cruise on The Spirit of New York, where we sailed across to the Statue of Liberty, visit Mr. Jackson's radio station 107.5 WBLS and got a guided tour of New York City on a Double Decker Bus. The highlight of all the activities was, to me, seeing the Broadway musical "Rent" and attending the 6th Annual Shooting Star Awards Ceremony at Tavern on the Green where we met with stars Chapter 4, Urban Mystic and Pretty Ricky.

On the final night of this intercultural week, to my amazement and disbelief, I emerged the winner of the competition, being crowned Miss Hal Jackson's Talented Teen International 2006. This title came with amazing prizes, trips and numerous performance opportunities, the most amazing of all, the opportunity to perform to thousands of people at a tribute to Mr. Jackson on the Harlem Summer Stage. Uncle Hal and Aunty Debi, owe you all so much. You have powerfully impacted upon my life in so many different ways. I thank you so much from the bottom of my heart. Returning to my country in victory gave me a great sense of self-fulfillment and happiness, and it filled me with great pride to have made my mark on an international stage while proudly wearing the name Trinidad & Tobago across my chest. I was interviewed by the press, invited to speak to the youth of our nation on a local radio program, and interviewed on the TV program Dateline and by SynergyTV. Through the masterful training of Ms. Joy Caesar, I made my operatic debut as 16 year old Miss Talented Teen International. This prestigious title also afforded me the opportunity of meeting the president of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. George Maxwell-Richards.

It would have been simply impossible for me to have achieved this great success on my own. I thank God each and every day for that wonderful experience and for all the people in my life who helped me to make my dream a reality: My parents, my sisters, my various musical directors, the House of Jacqui, Jagdeo, my director, Ms. Roslyn Jackson, my supportive family and friends and the countless sponsors and well-wishers. Thank you all so much. Last but not least, I struggle to find the words to express the love, admiration and profound gratitude that I have for Ms. Joy Caesar, for bringing out a voice in me that I did not know that I even possessed and instilling within me such a sound belief in myself. Aunty Joy, thank you.

To my successor, I wish you all the best as you embark upon one of the most memorable years of your life. Let nothing hinder you from savoring this experience fully. Let your first steps as Miss Hal Jackson's Talented Teen International 2007 be your first steps on a path of great success, for "success is a journey - not a destination". The road is not going to be easy and you will not always see the light, but manipulate every obstacle to your advantage and never lose faith that God is always already ahead of you, illuminating your path. "Let your dreams be wings that fly as far as the stars" – and even beyond, and never underestimate the power of believing in yourself. Farewell and God bless.



Thank You...



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DREAM MAKERS

Edna Hill Sallah, M.D. – Miss Black Teenage America 1972

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*And a Special Thank You to Each and Everyone
Who Made This Week An Unforgettable Experience!*



American Airlines Congratulates The 2007 International Talented Teens Participants.

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THE
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VIRGIN ISLANDS
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"Let's not sleep in a bed tonight mommy, I think we all should sleep right here" under Mr. Sun," she said quietly.
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- School of American and International Studies
- School of Contemporary Arts
- School of Social Science and Human Services
- School of Theoretical and Applied Science

DEGREES

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social Work
- Master of Arts in Liberal Studies
- Master of Science in Educational Technology
- Master of Business Administration

JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS

- B.S. in Biology/Doctor of Physical Therapy (UMDNJ)
- B.S. in Biology/Master of Science in Physician Assistant (UMDNJ)
- B.S. in Clinical Laboratory Sciences (UMDNJ)
- B.S./Doctor of Chiropractic with N.Y. Chiropractic College
- B.S. in Nursing (UMDNJ)
- M.S. in Nursing - Nursing Education (UMDNJ)

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

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- Secondary

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Congratulates **Hal Jackson** on his 37th Annual
Hal Jackson's Talented Teen
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