

What's It All About?



Youth Empowerment Through Literacy Access

Trinidad and Tobago Consul General in New York, Dr. Harold Robertson, will join the New Brunswick, New Jersey based Global Literacy Project, members of the Rutgers University community and Ms. Jane Young-Anglim to launch an effort to establish academic resource libraries and multimedia labs in some thirty Tobago schools over the next four years. The Consular General will be present to send off the first 20 foot sea container with nearly 20,000 books and a dozen computers.

“Several Tobago schools suffered damage from the recent hurricanes so this is a particularly opportune time for this shipment as it offers a vision of optimism and hope for the receiving students,” said Denniston Bonadie, GLP vice president. The initiative was inspired by Ms. Young-Anglim who single handedly established eight libraries and three computer centers in Tobago. The Global Literacy Project will be expanding these initial computer centers as well as creating new ones to go along with every library installed. Each year GLP also hopes to send volunteer college students and other community members from the USA to Tobago to assist in the setting up of the new libraries.

Dr. Olubayi Olubai, GLP president, has noted that “The impact of creating libraries and multimedia centers in every school in Tobago will be enormous, and will continue to impact Tobago children for decades to come.”



Trinidad & Tobago are the last islands in the southern Caribbean. They were discovered by Columbus on his third voyage. They form a Republic and received independence from Great Britain on the 31st August, 1962. The population of the combined countries is approximately 1.3 million with Tobago having some 50, 000 residents.

The Global Literacy Project (www.glpinc.org), working with their Tobago point person, Ms. Jane Young-Anglim intend to establish small resource libraries and multimedia labs in some thirty Tobago schools over the next four years.

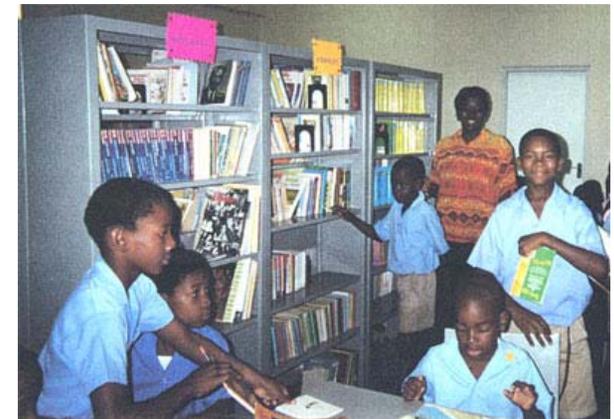


GLP will be looking to assist other Caribbean islands during the following years. Namely, the organization intends to reach out to the devastated island of Grenada with an offer to aid in re-stocking its Public Library when restored and to also set up resource libraries in several of the island's 57 primary schools and 19 public secondary schools beginning in 2005.



www.glpinc.org

Join Us to Kick off of the
**Tobago:
Libraries for All
Schools Project**
12 noon, Saturday,
October 9th, 2004

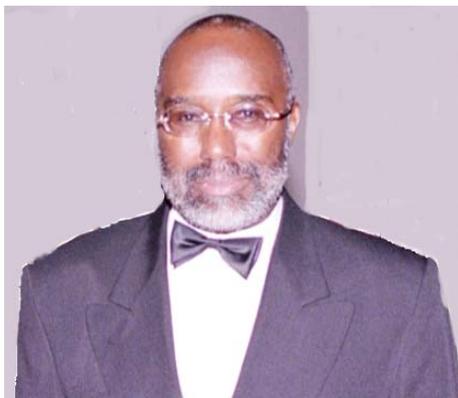


96 Warehouse Road, Piscataway, NJ
Rutgers University's Livingston College Campus

**Special Guest: The Honorable
Dr. Harold Robertson**
Trinidad and Tobago Consul
General in New York

Dr. Harold Robertson

Trinidad and Tobago Consul General in New York



Dr. Harold Hampden Robertson is Consul General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in New York. A trained teacher, he studied Economics and History at the University of the West Indies, Trinidad, earning the Bachelor of Arts degree with Upper Second Class Honors. His M.A. (History) and Ph.D. (History) were both secured from Dalhousie University, Canada.

He taught History at the University of the West Indies before entering the diplomatic service of Trinidad and Tobago in 1980. He has served in a variety of management and policy positions at the headquarters of the Foreign Ministry and in diplomatic missions in the Caribbean, Europe, and Africa, including as Acting High Commissioner (Ambassador) to Barbados, and Acting High Commissioner (Ambassador) to Nigeria, with accreditation to Ghana, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, and Cameroon.

Dr. Robertson also has written several scholarly articles and book chapters on issues of History, Geography, and Politics.

The Global Literacy Project

The Global Literacy Project is a nonprofit and tax-exempt [501 C (3)] organization committed to fostering community-based literacy initiatives throughout the world. Illiteracy, as a cause and effect of poverty, reinforces long-term underdevelopment in many countries. For example, people who are unable to read have limited access to opportunities at the workplace. By acquiring the skill of literacy, people can empower themselves to better negotiate the practical demands of everyday life as well as the abstract world of ideas, two important arenas of struggle.

Through literacy, GLP helps individuals gain access to their own rich cultural, literary, and historical traditions, as well as those of others. Seen as the ability to read, write, and evaluate ideas, literacy can change the way people view themselves and others by broadening their world of experience and building self-esteem in a world increasingly dominated by text.

Literacy opens doors to fields of specialized knowledge, such as the sciences, public health, engineering, and technology. *We are also particularly concerned about the problem of the digital divide that looms large in the developing world.* By removing certain barriers to representation, literacy can assist in the development of a genuine civil society.

The GLP initiative began in 1999-2000 with Dr. Olubayi Olubayi from Kenya; Mr. Denniston Bonadie from St. Vincent & the Grenadines in the Caribbean; Ms. Diana Dade, Dr. Thelma Tate and Ms. Sivan Yosef from New Jersey, USA; Dr. Edward Ramsamy, originally from South Africa; Dr. Emeka Akaezuwa from Nigeria; Ms. Kavitha Ramachandran, an Indian-American; and Mr. Wendel Thomas, from St. Croix and Dominica in the Caribbean.

GLP was recognized in February 2002 through a New Jersey State General Assembly resolution commending the organization for its literacy activism.



In 2002 GLP was recognized for its literacy activism
From left to right: Edward Ramsamy, GLP Secretary; Thelma Tate, GLP Vice President-Outreach; New Jersey Assemblyman Upendra J. Chivukula; Olubayi Olubayi, GLP President; Sivan Yosef, GLP Volunteers Coordination; Denniston Bonadie, GLP Vice President-Program Development

Help us stay in touch with you!!

Email us at: feedback@glpinc.org

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Email: _____

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