

Our Angel From Above Still Doing Good Deeds On Earth



*Welcome to the Second Annual
Shani E. Duplessy Memorial
Fundraising Dinner & Scholarship Award Ceremony
Sunday, May 4, 2014
Verdi's of Westbury*



The President Message

Good evening everyone

Our theme for this year is “DO THE MOST GOOD”

Let me begin by saying welcome and thank you to all of you for honoring our invitation.

Your loyalty to the Shani E Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund gives us the encouragement and the uplifting needed to continue the legacy that Shani had left behind. As she used to say: “life is not about getting, but about giving”

To our Board of Trustees and to all our friends and supporters who have always been there for the foundation, please accept our heartfelt thanks.

A year has gone since we gathered here in this same room for the foundation’s first annual fund raising dinner and scholarship award ceremony. I stood right here on this podium and made a statement that was: in the near future, the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund will extend a helping hand to the needy children of Haiti. Tonight, I am humbled to say that we have kept our promise.

The past year was without a doubt filled with tremendous and memorable accomplishments. The foundation has opened our eyes and ears to new horizon and to better understanding of what a true charitable organization should be.

Most of us here travel regularly to Haiti including myself, but what most of us perhaps don’t know, is that there is another world behind the shadows of glamour and luxury that few of us here and in Haiti enjoy and take for granted too often.

Two months ago my wife and I traveled to Haiti for a specific reason. A group of 12 members and friends of the foundation accompanied us to that journey. A journey that took us to a remote area or village outside of Port-au-Prince called Masson-Sion. We climbed mountains after mountains for two hours through the most torturous roads where no cars, no motorcycles, or bicycles can travel.

Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund

Our mission was the dedication of two new classrooms in Shani's memory that the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund had built and donated to the only primary school in the area. In a few moments we will project some photographs of the school and the students of the school for you to see.

A journey that took us to the presence of 400 underprivileged, but smiling and happy school children of Masson-Sion, where their class rooms are being conducted under some mango trees and leaky tents. A scenery that I would characterize as deplorable, which is a choice of better word to inhuman, because no child should be subjected to that kind of learning environment. They deserve better. However, they all have one thing in common. They all want to go to school, to learn, and to get an education that their parents cannot afford to give them. Did I mention that they don't go to school on rainy days? You already know why. Yes they don't have a choice, but we do. Why don't we change that together? The answer to that is, yes we can.

The Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund is committed to continue to build three additional new and modern class rooms for the school and it is our sincere hope that one day soon, every child in the school of Masson-Sion will have a seat inside a newly built class room and no longer under a tree or a leaky tent to learn.

In our midst tonight is a gentleman from New York who has done so much to support the school, the students and the Community of Masson-Sion that he loves so much. The man who introduced the needy school children of Masson-Sion the Shani Duplessy foundation and by doing so made us believers and supporters as well. Tonight we recognize Mr. David Duchatellier

Now back to New York. Our annual 2013 holiday toy drive was again a success. The foundation had donated gifts and toys to 58 underprivileged children and their parents. To those of you who have contributed so generously to the toy drive, we say thank you.

This year, three deserving and qualified applicants were selected to receive the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund award for 2014, in the amount of \$6000.00 each. Their excellent academic achievements and their services to their community earn them this scholarship. We are proud of them and we wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

In closing, Ladies and gentlemen, we are very thankful as we continue to be extremely grateful for your continued support to the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund. Thank you for listening



Oswald Duplessy, President
Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund May
4th, 2014

Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund

*"And all may do what has by man been done."
~ Edward Young*



THE
SHANI E DUPLESSY
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Mission Statement

The Shani E Duplessy Memorial Scholarship was established in 2011 by her parents in honor of her loving memory.

On April 29, 2011, Shani passed away from pulmonary artery thrombosis due to a rupture in her right achilles tendon while exercising. She was only 31 years old.

Shani was born in Brooklyn, NY, on July 31, 1979. During her early age through high school she began to be heavily involved in the ministries of her second home, St. Boniface Church. She became a cantor, led the youth choir, and participated in and then became a leader of HAYO (Haitian American Youth Organization). She completed her BA in meeting. planning and acquired a Master's degree in hospitality and hotel management at New York University, class of 2006.

Shani left a legacy of good will through her charitable contributions to underprivileged children, her devoted services to her church's youth ministry, her community and to people of all ages.

The Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund is a Tax Exempt Nonprofit Organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The purpose of the fund is to award scholarships to deserving junior and senior students in high school and college (all level) in good academic standing, and with a proven record of helping others within his/her own communities. The fund will also provide a limited quantity of gifts and toys to undreprivileged children during holiday season.

If you would like to help the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund you can make a donation to help applicants get a better education.

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined."

~ Henry David Thoreau~

Reflection

Even though Shani is not with us in her physical form we still feel her presence all around us. Now that the people of Haiti also know how amazing she was as many school children see her name and feel her spirit everyday as they prepare for classes at the Shani Duplessy Memorial new classrooms at Masson-Sion school sponsored by the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Rosita Bernadotte

To my beloved-Princess and future Angel

I am certain, you are smiling upon the members of your foundation for their extensive work to keep your memory alive. On this occasion I want you to know that you are always in my mind. Love,

Uncle Guy

Shani, you are missed and always will. As "Angel of Hearts" choir is celebrating the 10th anniversary this year, I believe you as an Angel are there to sing with us. Thank you for the legacy you left us in HAYO. I love you and you will always be in my heart sister.

Youseline Cherfilus

I still miss the laughs & hugs we shared to encourage one another. I remember those times fondly now to give me strength through this difficult time. Your work is not done. I will continue to make you smile. I miss and love you Shanou!

Danielle

May the light of Shani's life continue to shine always

A token of love from Gisele & Pierre Goin

In Loving Memory of Marie Jose Lesperance, by Gaetjens Nestor

In loving Memory of Annette Theagene, from the Duplessy Family

In Loving Memory of Dominic Bocchino, by his wife Rose & by Caroline Noto

In Loving Memory of Raymond Felix, from the Duplessy Family

In Loving Memory of Antonine Labonne, from the Duplessy family

*SHANI E. DUPLESSY MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP FUND*

<http://www.shaniduplessymemorialfund.org>

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March 10, 2014

Mr. Oswald Duplessy, President
Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund
C/O Oswald & Marie Duplessy
P. O. Box 237
Garden City, NY 112530

Dear Mr. Duplessy,

Kudos to the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund for “Doing the most Good”, sharing and caring to make a difference in the life of the children and communities we serve.

It is difficult when life events affect your families and it's especially challenging at Christmas when you are unable to provide for the children in your families. How many children do you think had a joyous Christmas morning because the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund cared enough to participate in The Angel Tree Program? Too many to mention even in these difficult economic times.

By the time you read this letter, the children would have had a memorable Christmas because of gifts they received.

On behalf of the families in the communities we serve and The Salvation Army we offer our heartfelt thanks to the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund for its generous support of the Angel Tree Program.

“The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.”
Proverbs 22:9 (NIV)

Sincerely,

Dolores Charles
Social Ministries

.... there is no reward equal to that of doing the most good to the most people in the most need.

A bequest to The Salvation Army will perpetuate your interest.



Luc Riche

Stony Brook University

Luc graduated with honor “Magna Cum Laude” from Queens College, New York in May 2013 with a Bachelor of Science, Majoring in Nutrition and Exercise Science. He has been admitted at Stony Brook University at the entry Level Doctor of Physical Therapy program for summer 2014.

To a question on the scholarship application: Describe something that you have accomplished that you are particularly proud of.

Luc replied “Graduating from college with honor is the biggest accomplishment in my life thus far. I am most proud of this accomplishment because of its personal ties with my parents and myself. Graduation day was an important day for my parents because neither one of them graduated from college. Graduating “Magna Cum Laude” was especially important for me because of how far I’ve come from my first semester of college, which I finished with a 2.8 GPA. Going from academically underperforming to graduating within the top of my class reflects my strong ethic, perseverance, and the maturity that I have developed over the years”.

In his acceptance letter for this scholarship, Luc wrote:

Dear Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund

I am writing this brief letter to formally accept the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund award 2014. It is an honor to have been chosen for this award, especially because I had the privilege of knowing Shani personally. I am looking forward to being a part of the award ceremony. Thank you for choosing me as one of your recipients.

Sincerely
Luc Riche

Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund



Mykelle Richburg

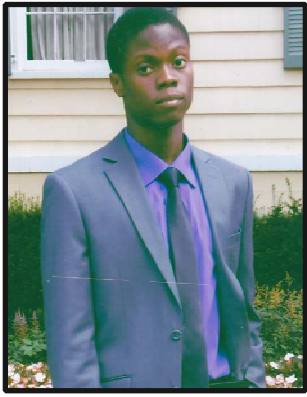
Senior Elmont Memorial High School

Mykelle Richburg is currently a senior at Elmont Memorial High School in Elmont New York, graduating in June. She will be attending Howard University in Washington DC in the Fall of 2014. In a letter of recommendation her social studies teacher wrote: Mykelle is a dedicated student and thus far her grades have been exemplary 93.00 out of a scale of 100. In class, she has proven to be a take charge person who is able to successfully develop plans and implement them. During Mykelle time at Elmont Memorial High School she has been an active member of the Students against Destructive Decisions (SADD), Big Brother / Big Sister, SCHSD band, Elmont Memorial Marching Band, Cheerleading team where she is captain and Volleyball where she is also a captain.

In her letter of acceptance for this Scholarship, Mykelle wrote: First and foremost I would like to thank the Duplessy family for allowing me to apply for this scholarship to be used to better myself by furthering my education. Being the recipient of this scholarship affords me the opportunity to enroll at the college of my choice where I will work tirelessly to see my dreams come to fruition. The financial award helps make it possible for me to earn a bachelor's degree with a major in Psychology and minor in Biology. In the future I will continue in a graduate program pursuing a medical degree in psychiatry. I will be able to serve those in my community and help those with mental disorders

I cannot begin to express the gratitude I felt in receiving such a generous gift. It is my great hope that my future successes will make you proud.

Sincerely
Mykelle Richburg



Moskova St Julien

*Sophomore
Hunter College*

Moskova St Julien is currently a second term sophomore at Hunter College, New York City, maintaining a Grade Point Average of 3.9 over 4. He plans to graduate in June 2016.

In a letter of recommendation, Moskova's College Adviser and Social Studies Teacher at Jamaica High School where Moskova graduated with honor in June 2012, wrote "Moskova St Julien was a very highly motivated student at Jamaica High School. I had the privilege to work with him in the college office as a college adviser. Mr. St Julien was the top ranked academic student in the senior class. He graduated as the school's Valedictorian. But even this distinction does not even begin to tell the story of how motivated he was to overcome any obstacle to be a successful high school pupil. I enthusiastically recommend Moskova St Julien for any scholarship he is looking for. He will be an asset to any school community that he chooses to attend".

In his acceptance letter for this scholarship, Moskova wrote: "I am writing to convey my sincere and profound gratitude for selecting me as a recipient of \$6000 dollars scholarship from the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund Award 2014. I intend to use this scholarship to cover my educational expenses. It is a step forwards my devotion to finalize my collegiate education and be a productive member of society. I hope to pursue a master's degree in Public Health / Health Management post-graduation. My ultimate career path is to become a lawyer and be at the service of my community. This scholarship will lessen the burden of my financial predicament and help me re-direct my focus. It inspires me to do the same once I am able to. I would like to say thank you to the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund for this act of benevolence. I will forever be grateful."

Sincerely, your appreciative recipient

Moskova St Julien

From This...



...to This



New construction of the school of Masson-Sion Haiti, sponsored by the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund.



Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund



Michelle and Oswald offer encouraging and heartfelt words to the school's students about the importance of education, and their future civic duty of one day returning to their school and community what has graciously been upon them: the power of education.



"A change is brought about because ordinary people do extraordinary things." -Barack Obama

this
is what
LIFE is all
about



In Loving Memory...

Shani

You Traveled the World Sharing Your Smile and Laughter You are Forever in Our
Hearts.



SHANI E. DUPLESSY was born in Brooklyn, NY, on July 31, 1979. During her early age through high school she began to be heavily involved in the ministries of her second home, St. Boniface Church. She became a cantor, led the youth choir, and participated in and then became a leader of HAYO (Haitian American Youth Organization). She completed her BA in Meeting Planning and acquired a Master's degree in hospitality and hotel management at New York University, class of 2006.

Shani left a legacy of good will through her charitable contributions to underprivileged children, her devoted services to her church's youth ministry, her community and to people of all ages.

Dedicated on Friday, February 28th, 2014

Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund

"And all may do what has by man been done."

~ Edward Young



THE
SHANI E DUPLESSY
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Make a Donation

If you would like to help the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund you can make a donation to help applicants get a better education.

You may pledge your donations by including the name which you are pledging for with your donation. The Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund is a Tax Exempt Nonprofit Organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and all donations are tax deductible.

Donations by checks should be made to **The Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund**, and mailed to:

The Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund
PO Box 237
Garden City, NY 11530

You may also send your donations to the Shani E Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund by credit card, debit card or electronic check via PayPal. Click on Donate below and follow instructions.

[Donate](#)



On behalf of all of Shani's family and friends, we thank you in advance for your donation.