

Our Angel From Above Still Doing Good Deeds On Earth

Shani



*Welcome to the Third Annual
Shani E. Duplessy Memorial
Fundraising Dinner & Scholarship Award Ceremony
Sunday, March 29, 2015
The Coral House*



The President Message

Our theme for this year is: (Don't talk about it, make it happen), because promises alone cannot help a child in need.

Good evening everyone and thank you for coming. We are honored to have you with us tonight. Tonight we have a treat for you. Leon Dimanche is in the house and he will perform for you later. For the past three years you have been loyal to the cause of the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund. Your caring and sharing principals have solidified our determination to help as many as possible of underprivileged school children in Haiti and to extend our scholarship program to senior high school students bound to college, college and university students here in the United States.

A year ago, I spoke to you about our commitment to continue with the construction of three additional class rooms for the school of Masson Sion in Haiti. Construction has been completed. Because of two grants from the Shani Duplessy Foundation, the school now has a total of five new and modern class rooms. As we promised, the school children will no longer have to sit down under some mango trees or leaky tents to learn.

To David Duchatellier and Roodler Pierre Louis who have been the link between the foundation and the construction project of the school, we say thank you. The foundation will continue to financially support the school, but at a different level from this point.

To all the board members, friends and nurses who traveled to Haiti with us last month for the dedication of the new class rooms and to participate in the medical fair that the Haiti Relief Effort Organization in collaboration with the Shani Duplessy foundation had organized for the first time for the community of Masson Sion, we say thank you. We understand that more than 70% of over 300 patients who attended the medical fair that day, had received some medical care for the first time ever. Think about that.

To all the doctors who kindly responded yes to our invitation to join us for that historic journey to the mountain of Masson-Sion, particularly Dr. Balzora, Dr. Gustave, Dr. Bernadotte and Dr. Constantin, we say thank you from the bottom of our hearts. I am sorry guys if I did not explain to you clearly enough the roughness of that mountain.

Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund

A famous writer once wrote and I quote "Our destination in life is not as important as what we learned and accomplished along the way" end of quote.

It is in the spirit of that principle that the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund strives every day to extend a helping hand to those who are seeking our help along the way to our destination.

The last year holiday toy drive was again a success. We donated gifts and toys to 61 underprivileged children and their families and beyond. A big thank you to everyone who have participated so generously.

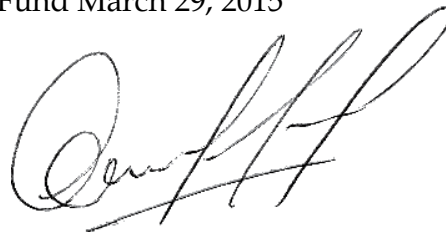
Today, I want to give an idea about the selection process of the recipients for our scholarship. The selection process is based on 4 criteria's that are equally graded by the selection committee of nine board members. The criteria's are: 1 - The academic standing or achievement where the applicant must maintain through the academic year a minimum GPA of 3.00 over 4. We verify this information from the official school transcript of the applicant. 2 - Personal essay, a 500 words or less essay where the applicant describes his or her personal experience in life, his or her hope and aspiration for the future. 3 - Financial need, where the applicant's combined family income is less than \$75,000 a year. We reserve the right to verify this information at any time. 4 - Community service, this criteria is not limited only to the applicant's own community. We accept school, hospital, church volunteer work, help to senior citizens, soup kitchen etc.

Each one of the above criteria's is graded with a mark of 1 to 5 for a total of 20 points for each application. At the end of the grading process, the committee will tabulate these marks. The 3 applicants with the highest marks, win the scholarship.

This year the foundation has selected 3 qualified and deserving students to receive the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund Award 2015, in the amount of \$6,000.00 each. We congratulate them for their excellent academic achievements and their quest to help others and we wish them the very best for a bright and successful future.

Thank you for listening and thank you for your support.

Oswald Duplessy, President
Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship
Fund March 29, 2015



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 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 under privileged 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

The work of your foundation is not a onetime affair where everyone gets together to celebrate your life, but a constant effort to embellish the lives of those less fortunate, especially the children of Masson-Sion.

Love Uncle Guy

The three years have gone by like three seconds for me. I still feel like you just left. You are in my heart and will remain there forever. I miss you Sis! Peace to your soul!

Youseline Cherfilus

May the light of shani's touching life continue to shine among us and illuminate the path of the youth here and elsewhere forever. Love

From Gisele & Pierre Goin

Dearest Shani, you are missed for your love that you gave and the kindness you shared. You are one of a kind an angel on earth. Now that you rest in the arm of the Almighty forever in piece. Love you

Rosita Bernadotte

I have your heart and you have mine. The strength of these hearts will continue to watch over us and guide us to do our best for the kids. I love and miss you very much Sha-nou.

Forever your sister
Danielle

In Memoriam *From The Duplessy Family*

In Loving Memory of Michel Debrosse

In Loving Memory of Jean Claude Candio

In Loving Memory of Micheline Delsoin

In Loving Memory of Roger Hilaire

In Loving Memory of Calixte Clerisme

In Loving Memory of Delicia Romulus

In Loving Memory of Joseph Larochel Valmont

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www.shaniduplessymemorialfund.org

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Loving Caring Sharing

Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund



Aidan Patrick Dennis

Elmont Memorial High School, NY

Aidan is currently a senior at Elmont Memorial High School in New York, graduate in June 2015. He maintains a grade point average of 93.04 over 100 through the entire academic year. He will be attending Babson College in Massachusetts in the Fall 2015, with a proposed major in International Business. Aidan was fifteen years old when he lost both his parents on the same day. But he did not let that tragic event that made him an orphan at a so early age be a deterrent in his pursuit of academic excellence. In a letter of recommendation, here is what the Chairperson of Pupil Personnel Services at Elmont Memorial High wrote: Aidan is a very bright and hardworking young man He has scored exceedingly well on various Advanced Placement Exems and had earned numerous accolades and awards for his academic successes and humanitarian spirit.

While I could continue to expound upon the endless aspects of Aidan's academic profile and personal characteristics that made him an outstanding candidate for admission to your collegiate institution. I would like to take the opportunity to highlight the depth of his character. In January 2013, Aidan lost both of his parents in a tragic and horrible manner. At that time he was in the 10th grade, the sole child living in the home, as his older brother and sister were away in college. The circumstances were such that the average student may have understandably faltered academically and personally. Aidan did the opposite. He demonstrated great will, determination and resilience, ending the 2012-2013 school year with a 92 average. Aidan is a phenomenal human being with an intrinsic motivation to be successful.

In his letter of intent of the use of this scholarship, Aidan wrote: I am extremely grateful and appreciative to be a recipient of this scholarship. I would like to extend thanks to the Duplessy family for providing this scholarship and for their contribution to the community.

By awarding me with the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship, my financial burden has been lightened and it allows me to focus on learning in school, not struggling to make ends meet. The generosity of the scholarship has given me inspiration to help others and give back to the community. I intend to use this scholarship to supplement my university costs and push my dream of directing nonprofit organizations.

Sincerely

Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund



Cynthia Devendran

Stony Brook University

Cynthia is currently a freshman at Sony Brook University starting in the Fall 2014, majoring in biology on the Pre-Dental track. She graduated from Sewanhaka High School in Floral Park, New York in June 2014 with high honor and a GPA (Grade Point Average) of 4.0 over 4.0. During her years at Sewanhaka, Cynthia was involved in a multitude of extra curriculum activities including but not limited to Vice President Model United Nations, President of Senior High Orchestra, Editor in Chief of the Sewanhaka High School Newspaper; just to name a few. Her involvement in her St Boniface community services and beyond was simply exemplary.

In her letter of intent of the use of this scholarship, Cynthia wrote: I am currently a biology major on the Pre-dental tract at Stony Brook University. My goals are to complete undergrad at Stony Brook University and then continue on to dental school of my choice, Stony Brook University School of Dental Medicine. As a pre-dent, my goal is to promote awareness of the importance of oral hygiene and health. Receiving this scholarship helps me to alleviate financial weight whilst making the road toward my aspirations easier. The money that I am receiving will help in means of tuition, books, and other financial burdens that I will experience as a full-time college student. The scholarship I am receiving is a constant reminder that I am being rewarded for my accomplishments through high school. It makes me strive to achieve, in terms of extracurricular activities and academics in university as well. I wish to spread the wealth and make a difference for another person when I am given that chance.

In her acceptance letter of this scholarship, Cynthia wrote:

To the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dear Mr. Duplessy

I am writing this letter to accept and thank you for the \$6,000.00 scholarship I am being offered. I applied for this scholarship in hope that it would not only help me financially, but also motivationally. Receiving this scholarship reminds me that I am able to do things that I did not think I was able to. Thank you again for choosing me to be a recipient of this scholarship. I appreciate the opportunity you are opening up to me as a freshman at Stony Brook University. One day I wish to do the same as the purpose of this scholarship; give those who are financially struggling and want to make a difference through education.

Sincerely

Cynthia Devendran

Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund



Fabrice Fleurimond

Sewanhaka high School

Fabrice is currently a senior at Sewanhaka High School in Floral Park, NY maintaining a point average of 92 over 100. He will be attending New York Institute of Technology in the Fall 2015. We received several impressive recommendations on Fabrice behalf. But we are not going to read them to you. We prefer to let you hear Fabrice himself from his personal essay. Here is what he wrote to us:

This is how I see; blackness, blurriness; without covering my eyes, images disappear. How would you feel if someone told you that you would not be able to see the world anymore? When I was in the 7th grade in Haiti I couldn't see the blackboard. When I told my mother about the problem with my vision, she took me to see the eye doctor who told me that he didn't know what was going on with my eyes. As a result my mother sent me to and eye doctor in Florida. Unfortunately, this doctor told me that I have an inherited, degenerative disease that causes severe vision impairment and often blindness. After telling me this bad news, he warned me not to let anyone know about my vision. His thoughts were that people might use it to take advantage of me or possibly harm me. After this scary prognosis, my mother sent me to New York for another doctor's opinion, the diagnosis was the same. However this doctor added that I might be blind by the time I turned 30 years old. My mother made me stay in the US so that I could finish my education. My school at first didn't want to put me in regular classes not only of my vision disability, but because I didn't speak English.

To overcome these problems, I decided to work harder in school than everyone else. Working harder and maintaining good grades helped assure my mother that I would be fine, as she was consumed with concerns for my future. When the school administrator realized that I was at the top of my class, I was then assigned Regents and later AP courses. My school counselor told me it was the first time she had seen a student who was in special education make it into advanced classes. I was proud of my accomplishments and now I want to be a role model for other kids with visual disabilities.

Presently I am applying to many colleges and I have a 92 average including AP courses. My goal of becoming a senior and graduating from high school has been achieved. My future goal is to complete college and obtain my Master's Degree in Math and Science.

In his letter of acceptance of the scholarship award, Fabrice wrote: Your letter informing me that I will receive the Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund Award has simply overwhelmed me. I was very happy and appreciative to learn that I was selected as a recipient of your generosity. It is with deep gratitude that I accept this award.

I plan to pursue a career in engineering at NYTT, upon my graduation from Sewanhaka high School in June this year. Thanks to you, my goal of obtaining a college degree will be made even more reachable. By awarding me this award, you are lightening my financial burden which will allow me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning.

It is difficult to express how much your thoughtfulness means to me. Thank you

A Special Thank You Note

From

The Duplessy Family

To

McVeigh Associates, Staff & Personnel

For your Dedication and Unparalleled

Contribution to the Shani E. Duplessy

Memorial Scholarship Fund

We owe you a Monumental

Debt of Gratitude

Thank You

Sincerely

Oswald & Michelle Duplessy

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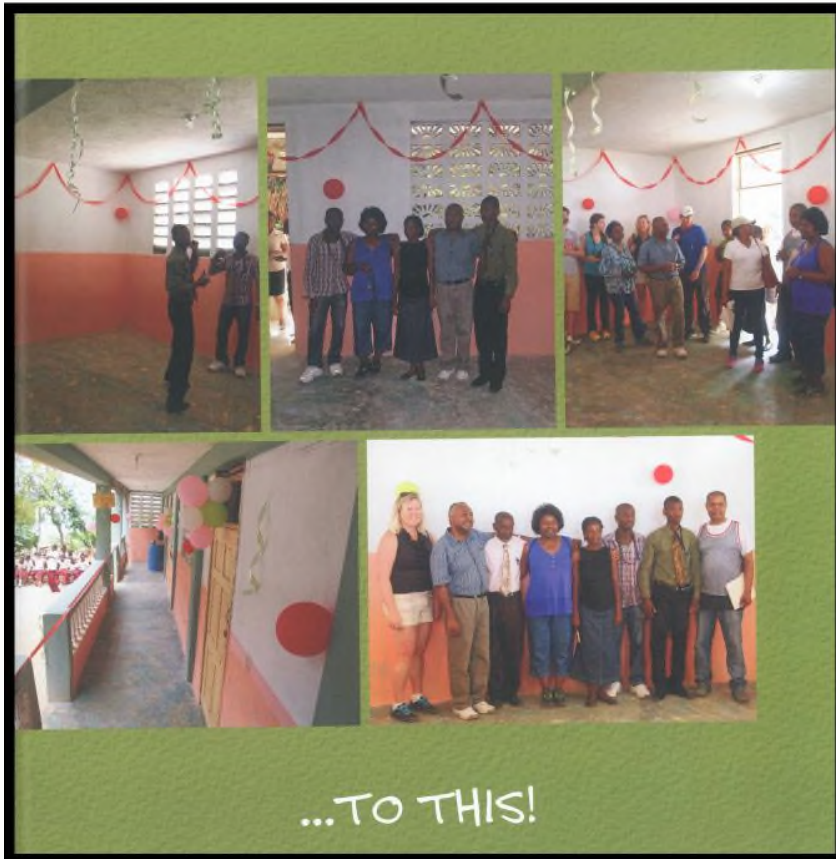
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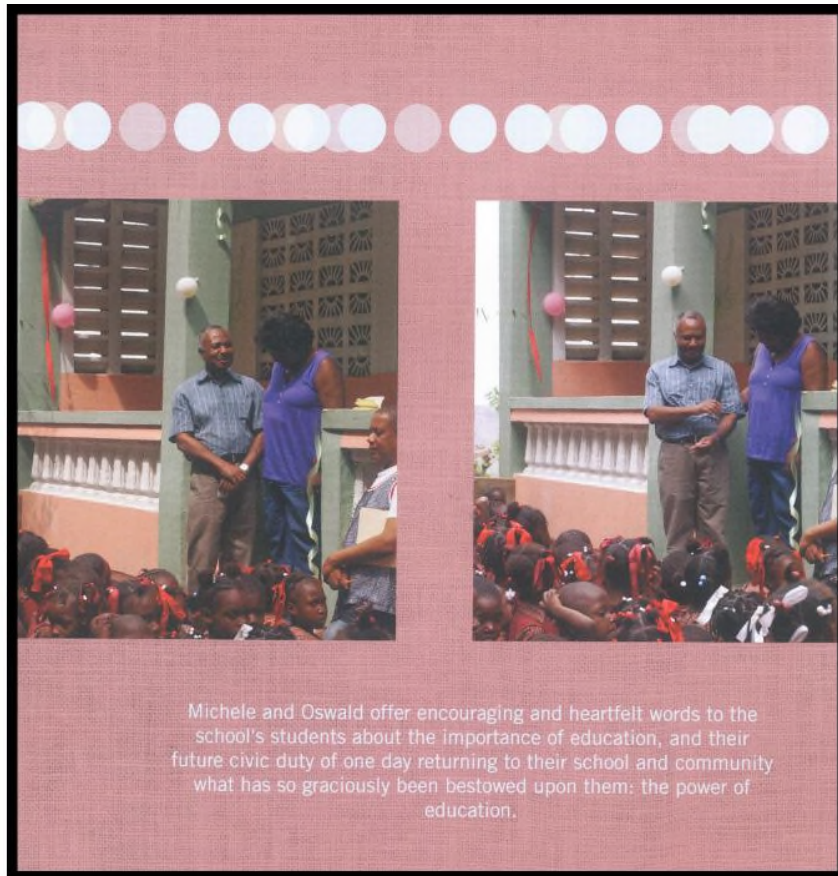
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From this...



...TO THIS!

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CONGRATULATIONS

To the 2015 Recipients of
THE SHANI E. DUPLESSY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Scholarship Award.

Aidan Denis, Cynthia Davendran and Fabien Fleurimond

Haiti Relief Effort

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Haiti Relief Effort is committed to promote the gift of education to
the Children and Community of ("Morne") Masson-Sion, Haiti.



Shani E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund

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

~ Edward Young



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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.

Mission Statement

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

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In Loving Memory...

Shani

**You Traveled the World Sharing Your Smile and Laughter
You are Forever in Our Hearts As Our Family, Friend and Co-Worker**



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