



*For Immediate Release*

## PRESS RELEASE

### AND THE NOMINEES ARE...

**BRIDGETOWN**, Barbados, March 2, 2009 — One new award categories, the Young and Upcoming Designer Award will be introduced when the 2009 Caribbean Fashion Awards (CFA 2009) is staged in Barbados on April 11.

The dinner style gala event entitled “Fashion Now, Fashion Forever”, will be the central focus of a weekend of activities that will culminate in the presentation of awards to individuals and entities in more than a dozen categories.

Nominees have been drawn from across the Caribbean representing Bahamas, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, St. Thomas USVI, Trinidad & Tobago and host nation, Barbados. The categories in which the nominees will be participating include Male Caribbean Designer and Female Caribbean Designer of the Year, Country Designer, Male Model and Female Model – Runway, Male Model and Female Model – Photo, Make-Up Artist, Hair Stylist, Photographer, and Best Magazine Cover, among others.

In addition, there will be awards for the Best Fashion TV Programme/ Fashion Show or Fashion Week, as well as the Best Fashion Show or Fashion Week attended in the Caribbean. Special awards will also be presented to Caribbean Fashion Icons, while others who have made a significant contribution to the development of the fashion industry in the Caribbean will be presented with Industry Achievement Awards.

“We are extremely pleased with the level of interest in the 2009 Caribbean Fashion Awards,” said Rodney Powers of Unique Productions Worldwide, the Executive Producers of the 2009 Caribbean Fashion Awards. “This year we opened up the nominations process to participation from the people of the Caribbean and it was particularly exciting to note their enthusiastic response to the opportunity to get involved with selecting the persons who would be considered for awards.”

According to Mr. Powers, the goal of Unique Productions Worldwide in staging the Caribbean Fashion Awards is to present another platform from which the development of the Caribbean's fashion industry could take further significant leaps forward.

He noted that the Caribbean's fashion industry has been emerging, albeit slowly, as a viable industry and credited the staging of a number of Fashion Week productions across several territories including Barbados, St. Vincent, St. Kitts, Trinidad, Martinique, Guyana, and Jamaica for having influenced increasing interest in the industry. The introduction of popular, indigenous publications and television programmes, have also had a positive impact on the growth of the industry through their delivery of a hitherto unavailable record of developments and trends in Caribbean fashion.

“The Caribbean Fashion Awards is poised to intensify the spotlight on the region's fashion industry in a manner that not only honours the contribution of individuals, but also draws regional and international attention to the as yet untapped full potential of the industry in the Caribbean,” he added.

“Following on the successes of the inaugural event in 2008, we anticipate that the 2009 Caribbean Fashion Awards will generate greater exposure for the region's fashion designers, photographers, models, hairstylists, and make-up artists, provide an opportunity for the region to celebrate creative diversity and achievement in a global industry that is currently estimated at more than US \$35 billion annually, and further stimulate the establishment of economic, cultural and other linkages between countries both in and outside the region. This is a tremendous undertaking and we're excited to be a part of helping to bring Caribbean fashion to the world.”

Among the many benefits of the Caribbean Fashion Awards are increased exposure for Caribbean fashion via international media, development of a regional database for fashion industry practitioners, creation of online stores for Caribbean apparel and clothing, and acquisition of data manufacturing and low labour cost options for production geared towards export.

# # #

AND THE NOMINEES ARE

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- **Caribbean Female Runway Model**
- Tennille Stoute ( Barbados)
- Sara Collins (Barbados)
- Jaunel Mckenzie ( Jamaica)
- Gaye McDonald (Jamaica)
- Sunna Gottshalk (Jamaica)
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- **Caribbean Male Runway Model**
- Oraine Barnett (Jamaica)
- Russell Wilkinson (Trinidad)
- Kenwyn Millington (Trinidad)
- Andre Clarke ( Barbados)
- Tafari Hinds ( Jamaica)
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- **Caribbean Female Photo Model**
- Tennille Stoute ( Barbados)
- Jaunel Mckenzie ( Jamaica)
- Latoya Woods ( Trinidad)
- Gaye McDonald ( Jamaica)
- Sunna Gottshalk ( Jamaica)

- **Caribbean Male Photo Model**
- Oraine Barnett (Jamaica)
- **Kenwyn Millington ( Trinidad)**
- **Richard Elms ( Barbados)**
- **Luck Rebeiro ( Trinidad)**
- **Fashion Photographer**
- Dave Cox ( Barbados)
- Calvin French (Trinidad)
- Don Thompson ( Bahamas)
- Rick Wayne ( St Lucia)
- Maxim Browne ( St Vincent)
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- **Caribbean Hairstylist**
- Carlos Eversley (Barbados)
- Criag Carter ( Barbados)
- Bally ( Trinidad)
- Adzil Stewart (Barbados)
- Allison Sutherland ( St Vincent)
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- **Caribbean Make-Up Artist**
- Kirk Thomas (Trinidad)
- Greg Williams (Barbados)
- Sandra Hoddad (Trinidad)
- Miyako Johnson ( St Lucia)
- Paulla Desouza ( Guyana)
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- **Caribbean Fashion Designer Award**
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- **Female Designer**
- Claudia Pegus ( Trinidad)
- Kuumba Designs ( St Lucia)
- Michelle Cole ( Guyana)
- Heather Jones ( Trinidad)
- Pat Blackman (Barbados)
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- **Male Designer**
- Kingsley Thorne ( Barbados)
- Francis Hendy ( Trinidad)
- Robert Young ( Trinidad)
- Avark ( Barbados)
- Mill House ( Trinidad)
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- **Fashion Magazine Cover**
- She Caribbean ( St Lucia)
- Posh Caribbean ( St Thomas USVI)
- Shebeau ( Barbados)
- Caribbean Belle ( Trinidad)
- Panache Ja Magazine ( Jamaica)
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- **Best Fashion TV Programme/ Fashion Show or Fashion Week**
- Barbados Amateur Model Search ( Barbados)
- Caribbean Model Search ( Jamaica)
- Synergy Super Model ( Trinidad)
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- **Best Fashion Show or Fashion Week attended**
- Islands Of the world Fashion Week ( Bahamas)
- Trinidad Fashion Week ( Trinidad)
- ACF Fashion Weekend ( Barbados)
- Caribbean Fashion Week ( Jamaica)
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- **Upcoming Designer Award**
- Toni Thorne ( Barbados)
- Andrew Harris ( Guyana)
- Jaumark Pierre ( Trinidad)
- Sha Creations ( St Lucia)
- Tamika Browne ( St Vincent)
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- **Country Designer Award**
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- **Barbados**
- Pat Braithwaite
- Pauline Bellamy
- Andrea King
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- **St Vincent**
- Kimya Glasgow
- Kimon Baptistes
- Deb E. Barbour
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- **St Lucia**
- Kummba Designs
- Sha Creation
- Shazi International
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- **Trinidad & Tobago**
- Zed & Eastmond
- Claudia Pegus
- Mill House
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**For further information, contact:**

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