

## **For Immediate Release**

*Source: The St. Lucia Hotel and Tourism Association*

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## **MISS SANNYU JAMES OF SANDALS RESORTS INTERNATIONAL CROWNED MISS SLHTA 2010**

Castries, Saint Lucia - *Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2010: **Sannyu James of Sandals Resorts International crowned MISS SLHTA 2010.*** The MISS SLHTA 2010 Show was held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 at the Gaiety-on- Rodney Bay.

Miss James is currently employed as a Suites Concierge Agent with Sandals Grande St. Lucian Spa & Beach Resort. She is also no stranger to pageants having won the Miss St. Lucia Talented Teen Pageant in 2004, participated in the Miss Haynes Smith Caribbean Talented Teen Pageant in 2005 and winning the St. Lucia Carnival Queen Pageant in 2006.

The competition included 5 young ladies who hailed from the tourism sector including hotels and Destination Management Companies.

The contestants were Consuelo Dupal who represented the Destination Management Companies (**second runner up**); Galair Charlery of Windjammer Landing Villa Beach Resort & Spa (**first runner up**); Okizzy Eugene of Rex Resorts St. Lucia and Jamara Smith of Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa.

All contestants contended in four areas of competition namely Promotional Speech, Talent Presentation, Exhibition of National Wear and onstage Question & Answer Segment.

Sannyu James the now reigning **MISS SLHTA 2010** won as her top prize a full scholarship to Monroe College; in addition Galair Charlery (**first runner up**) and Consuelo Dupal (**second runner up**) were awarded half scholarships to the same institution.

The judges were top professionals in tourism businesses, fashion and culture, namely, Ms. Joyce Auguste, Mrs. Marie Piazza, Ms. Cheryl Skeete, Mr. Jacques Compton and Mr. Rodinald Soomer.

A portion of the proceeds of the MISS SLHTA 2010 Show will be used to award scholarships to children of hospitality employees residing in areas most distressed by Hurricane Tomas.

At the event Mr. Bob Hathaway, Marina Manager from The Marina at Marigot Bay acknowledged Mr. Troy Blanchard, Dock master for his significant contribution to the in-house relief and business recovery efforts during and after the Hurricane Tomas.

The SLHTA also presented a token of appreciation to the St. Lucia Electricity Services Limited, LUCELEC in recognition of the company's consistent invaluable support and outstanding commitment to the Association. LUCELEC was also applauded for providing outstanding support during the post-hurricane recovery efforts.

Mr. Ross Stevenson, the General Manager of Cap Maison was also awarded by the Association for his outstanding leadership demonstrated during the post hurricane recovery efforts.

**About the SLHTA:** As the principal tourism private sector agency in St. Lucia, the SLHTA is responsible for facilitating tourism sector development and management in St. Lucia. The SLHTA is a private non-profit membership organization that functions as the "official organization and national spokesperson" for the hospitality Industry and its wide membership. The Association has a grouping of over two hundred members covering a wide segment of the economic spectrum of St. Lucia to include the tourism, manufacturing, agriculture and services sectors. The SLHTA is dedicated to representing, informing, educating and upholding the interests of its membership in the tourism industry, which has earned it the reputation as the "Voice of the Hospitality Industry". Its stated vision is: "To serve as the leading catalyst for developing St. Lucia as the best island destination in the world".

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