

## PRESS RELEASE

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

### Ministry of Education Endorses Allen Prize

**PORT-OF-SPAIN, September 11, 2010:** The Ministry of Education's Curriculum Division has endorsed the activities of the new NGO The Allen Prize for Young Writers. The Allen Prize for Young Writers is a new not-for-profit organisation dedicated to giving encouragement, training and rewards to Trinidad & Tobago's writers aged 12-19 years.

Ms Gaynelle Holdip, Acting Director of Curriculum Planning and Development, said in the endorsement letter, "Literature is an integral part of the Language Arts programme at both primary and secondary levels. Additionally, writing in all three literary genres is encouraged.

"We note your interest in engendering a love of writing among young writers as well as your plan for educational seminars and developmental workshops. Such a venture will compliment the work currently being done at our schools."

The Allen Prize will hold a competition from September 1-November 30, 2010, and a series of writing seminars, the first scheduled for October 3, 2010, and two others to follow in the coming terms. Winners of the competition will be invited to a two-day writing workshop where they will have the chance to be critiqued and mentored by experienced writers.

The head judge of the Allen Prize competition is Judy Raymond, a senior journalist and the author of *Meiling: Fashion Designer* and *Barbara Jardine: Goldsmith*.

The competition is open to residents of Trinidad & Tobago and there is no entry fee. Winners will take home cash awards and their work will be published by The Allen Prize for Young Writers.

Submissions guidelines and entry forms for The Allen Prize competition are online at the Web site <http://allenprize.org>. For more information, e-mail: [info@allenprize.org](mailto:info@allenprize.org).

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