



# Philanthropy & You

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

University of the Virgin Islands

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## Philanthropy at the Heart of ICMC & Its President

Philanthropy is at the heart of the International Capital Management Company (ICMC), a business management services company overlooking St. Thomas' capital city. With UVI alumnus Cornel Williams '82 at the helm as the president, ICMC's philanthropic work is prevalent throughout the territory. From "Jazz in the Park" to cancer support initiatives, ICMC takes philanthropy to a new level.

Williams believes that philanthropy is an integral part of the culture of the organization. He said that ICMC's close relationship with its client, Cancer Treatment Centers of America (CTCA), helps to stir the passion for philanthropy. The Cancer Treatment Centers of America strive to be the industry leader of integrative and compassionate cancer care. Affiliated organizations also fund cancer research and assist cancer patients with non-medical expenses. "ICMC is driven by that kind of culture and we emulate that culture," Williams said. "It is a mission of the organization that is tied to saving lives."

ICMC sponsors the American Cancer Society Relay for Life on St. Thomas, is a leading sponsor of the Reichhold Center for the Arts, and the "Nana Baby" foster home. The company also



Cornel Williams, ICMC President

has many programs, including "Cancer Support Virgin Islands," which provides financial and informational support to cancer patients. ICMC also sponsors UVI's Entrepreneur Business Institute (EBI). This three-week residential institute is held on the University's St. Thomas Campus and aims to shape and motivate young people to consider entrepreneurship, leadership and business.

*"If we choose what we support very carefully then we could really make an impact in the community."*

Additionally, ICMC employees are currently doing pro bono work for the Schneider Regional Medical Center on St. Thomas. Some of the company's Lean Six Sigma professionals are helping the hospital achieve efficiencies and cost savings in some segments of its operations. ICMC's Information Technology (IT) group will soon conduct an assessment

of the hospital's IT environment. There are also plans to have the ICMC's Strategic Planning group play a role in updating the strategic plan for the hospital.

"There are so many things that the community needs," Williams said. "We made a conscious effort to try to support - not all of them, probably not most of them - but I think that we can support some of them. If we choose what we support very carefully then we could really make an impact in the community. A lot of people in the company feel strongly about it."

Williams has worked with non-profits and been active in the community for many years. "I have a strong interest in community work," he said. Williams served on the board of United Way International and was head of the United Way Caribbean

*- Cornel Williams*

Council. Currently, he serves on several boards including, the Lockhart Companies, VI Montessori School and International Academy, and Virgin Islands Capital Resources. He is also chairman of the St. Thomas and St. John District Board of Directors of the VI Government

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Dear Friends,

Nothing makes the case for philanthropy better than seeing a gift in action. In this issue of "Philanthropy and You," you will read about the real impact that your gifts have on the lives of UVI and its students. Not only do your gifts impact our students, they are also instrumental in allowing UVI to touch the lives of young people in our community.

In recent years, the Reichhold Center for the Arts was forced to stop offering its summer Youth Moviemaking Workshop due to lack of funding. Despite charging "tuition," the workshop was never a money-making endeavor. As you will read, thanks to a generous donor, we have once again been able to offer eleven aspiring filmmakers a truly unique summer experience.

You will also read about the direct impact that corporate partnerships have had on campus life and student experience here at UVI. There is no greater investment than an investment in our future - the future of our territory is linked to the future and success of UVI. UVI counts on your continued support to sustain us on our "Pathway to Greatness"!

Onward and Upward,

Dionne V. Jackson  
Vice-President for  
Institutional Advancement

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Hospitals and Health Facilities Corporation, and is a member of the Reichhold Center for the Arts Foundation Board.

Williams knows that the Reichhold Center is an asset to UVI and to the community. "I believe it would be hard to find a facility such as the Reichhold Center in the Eastern Caribbean," he said. "It is a big part of the University environment." As a board member, he feels the Reichhold should be a touch point for individuals who normally would not be in contact with the University. "It could be a strategic asset in terms of attracting people to not only support Reichhold, but the University itself," said Williams. "It is definitely in need of some upgrades and I know it is something the board is focused on. We have to try as much as possible to preserve it."

Although ICMC is setting a standard for Philanthropy in the Virgin Islands, Williams is less concerned with the legacy that he and ICMC will leave behind and more concerned with the work at hand. "I think I have a job to do here with this company," he said. Williams plans to continue to serve ICMC's clients and the community through philanthropy, outreach programs and working with nonprofit organizations.

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## UVI Nurtures Student's Passion for Chemistry

For University of the Virgin Islands Junior Khalin Nisbett, science has always been her passion. "At the tender age of eight-years-old I fell in love with science," she said. "I always wanted to know why things happened and it was interesting to me how mixing two very different substances could give a completely new product."

In high school she realized that chemistry was the aspect of science she truly loved and decided to develop it into a career. The next step was choosing a college and attending UVI was the logical choice. "My interest in UVI peaked when I discovered that UVI offered advanced programs for a variety of majors that are connected to Ivy League universities," she said. "The size of the campus and the student-teacher ratio, 14-to-one, was also extremely attractive as this allows teachers to focus attention on students that may still need it."



Nisbett is currently enrolled in one of many programs offered by the UVI Emerging Caribbean Scientists (ECS) Programs. ECS programs help aspiring STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) students excel at the University

and go onto successful careers worldwide. Nisbett is enrolled in the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Program. SURE gives STEM students the opportunity to apply research methods and techniques by working closely with faculty on challenging scientific problems.

This summer Nisbett has been working with UVI Assistant Professor of Chemistry Dr. Bernard Castillo. "I did not expect to grow this much as a result of this program," Nisbett said. "This has been an awesome experience. The research I have done this summer with my

*"Diligence goes a long way and will always be compensated. Be passionate about your passion." - Khalin Nisbett*

chemistry professor, Dr. Castillo, developed my love for research and gave me a great look into the career I am pursuing." She plans to use items grown in the Caribbean to make products that can be used worldwide. Nisbett said that through SURE, she has continued to advance. "My interactive and organizational skills continue to increase," she said. "Academically, I have learned new skills that I will use one day when I become a chemist and much of the theory I learned during my previous school years has become more real to me. I am more enthused and even more passionate about chemistry as a subject and as a career."

ECS Programs are made possible by generous donors. The Cane Bay Partners LLP,



**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:**  
*Khalin Nisbett*

a management consulting company, has donated \$46,795 to the ECS programs since 2010. "Because of the generous support received from Cane Bay Partners, the University is able to provide research opportunities to our students that are as challenging and rewarding as any program available throughout the country," said UVI Major Gifts Director Mitchell Neaves.

Nisbett has many plans for the future. "My long term goal is agro-chemical where I plan to research the tropical plants of the Caribbean to find the active and useful chemicals in most of the fruits and seeds produced," she said. "I strongly believe that there is a wealth of antidotes, cosmetics and therapeutic chemicals that will be engineered into useful products once invested into. This is my dying passion."

Where ever Nesbitt goes in life she always looks to the Bible's Proverbs chapter six, verse six – "Go to the ant O sluggard, consider his ways and be wise." "Diligence goes a long way and will always be compensated," she said. "The rewards of laziness are unconvincing. Be passionate about your passion."

# Brabson Foundation Gift Revives Reichhold's Moviemaking Youth Workshop

This summer, the Reichhold Center for the Arts' Youth Moviemaking Workshop (YMW) opened its doors to 11 excited students who had the opportunity to create their own movie. From writing the script to creating video effects, these young people were ecstatic about creating their first film. The Reichhold Center's YMW was made possible in part by a \$15,000 donation from the Brabson Library and Educational Foundation.

"The Brabson Foundation is a small family foundation that reflects the family's passion for bold, innovative ideas that may have a significant and long-term impact, especially in education and the arts," said UVI Director of Corporate, Foundation and Government Relations Richard Cleaver, who was instrumental in securing the donation. Brabson Foundation board member Ben Brabson said the board decided to make a gift to the Reichhold Center because the YMW will educate students outside of the normal bounds of school education and the board felt the Reichhold Center would have maximum impact on students' lives. "We felt that the Reichhold Center has sincere compassion for the students who will benefit from this project," said Brabson.

*"We felt that the Reichhold Center has sincere compassion for the students who will benefit from this project"*

*- Ben Brabson*

The students enrolled in the workshop ranged from ages 12 to 16. Each used their skills to create "The Chase"—an action film that premiered on Aug. 10, at the



*YMW students getting direction to create their own film*

Reichhold Center. Leah Trotman, 13, was the director and had a clear vision of her first movie. Originally, Trotman was not excited about the workshop. Her mom signed her up, but after three weeks in the program she became fully invested. "At first I was not too excited because I didn't know what was going to happen in the camp," said Trotman. "I was a little scared, but as I ventured into the camp I started liking it." She also assisted in writing, was an extra in the film and helped to scout shooting locations.

VerNelle Callwood, 12, was looking forward to the YMW from day one. In her spare time, she uses her dad's iPhone to create videos. "It really interests me,"

she said. When her mom told her about the camp she signed up. "I used to do a video show on my phone and I sent that in with the

application," said Callwood, who wants to either be a fashion designer or a movie producer. She enjoyed her time at the YMW. "It's teaching me a lot of stuff," Callwood said. "It was hard at first – when you really get into it, it's really fun."

Several of the YMW students plan to work in the movie industry. Micheal Browne, 13, wants to be a comedic actor and to own his own movie studio. Anthony Brown, 13, plans to be an actor, and Michael Neal, 13, wants to be a videogame cinematographer.

"The class is providing them with an opportunity to hone their skills," said Reichhold Center Senior Technical Director Denise Humphrey. "We try to provide them with as close to a feel for them to get to what it takes to create a film." She has been overseeing the YMW since 2001. Humphreys said the YMW has not been consistently available due to funding constraints.

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## Ways to Give to the University

There are many ways to support the University of the Virgin Islands. Most donors make gifts and pledge payments by check, credit card, or automatic bank drafts. Donors can also take advantage of tax savings that come from giving appreciated stocks, shares of mutual funds, or real estate. Donors contribute gifts-in-kind, such as works of art, antique furnishings, or rare books and manuscripts for the library. Regardless of the way you make your gift, the University is committed to using these resources to enhance campus life.

Whether in the form of annual giving, endowment support, or funds for capital projects, outright gifts make an immediate impact on the University. The gift may be designated for any academic program, or left entirely unrestricted to give the University the greatest flexibility to direct funds where they are needed.

### Annual Giving

Annual gifts provide a constant stream of flexible income that can make the difference between a good education and a great one. These funds support increased student aid, the purchase of books, equipment, technology, and academic and athletic programming. UVI's annual giving program raises private gifts on behalf of the University's academic divisions and other areas such as athletics, university libraries, the Reichhold Center and Student Affairs.

### Endowed Gifts

Benefiting the University community in perpetuity, endowment gifts are invested to generate a steady stream of income for professorships, scholarships, fellowships, lectureships and many other purposes. Donors may also create unrestricted endowments, which produce resources that can be used where the need is greatest.

## Moviemaking Workshop *continued from page 3*

The YMW is operational this year due, in part, to the Brabson Foundation grant. “The \$15,000 grant from the Brabson Foundation has allowed RCA to reduce the cost of tuition to the YMW this year and also provide scholarships,” said Reichhold Center Director Nissa Copemann. “The usual fee is \$750 for the seven-week program, but we wanted to reduce it to \$550 to make it affordable for more families. With the Brabson grant, we were able to do that and also provide students with free lunch. For summer 2013, 50 percent of YMW participants have been granted full or partial scholarships to the program. Without funding from Brabson, this might not have been possible.”

“The revival of YMW delights me beyond measure,” said UVI Assistant Professor of Communication David Edgecombe, who is the former director of Reichhold Center and YMW founder and creator. “The program is great for

*“YMW not only provides students with a creative outlet but also helps them to gain and develop marketable skills that are critical to pursuing careers in digital media production.”*

*- Nissa Copemann*

students because they get to exercise their creativity and have fun learning to make movies, as they practice discipline and collaboration—skills that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.”

Copemann said many former YMC students are working in the film industry. “The YMW

not only provides students with a creative outlet but also helps them to gain and develop marketable skills that are critical to pursuing careers in digital media production,” she said. “We are proud to share that many YMW

alums have gone onto promising careers in film and television with companies such as MTV, Disney, and even our local CBS affiliate, TV2.”

*For more information contact the University Development Office at: (340) 693-1040.*

