



YOUNG, GIFTED & BLACK®  
ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARDS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**2022 YOUNG, GIFTED & BLACK™ (YGB) ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARDS**  
**HONOREE ANNOUNCEMENT**

**New York, New York— (Monday, January 10, 2022)** The Young, Gifted & Black™ (YGB) Entrepreneurial Awards is celebrating its 17<sup>th</sup> year as a national program to highlight the achievements and journeys of “**Unsung Heroes & Heroines**” within their communities and industries. This year the team has compiled another outstanding group of individuals who continuously **Strive Towards the Continued Pursuit of Success**. The annual **Black Tie Awards Dinner & Reception** is scheduled to be an in person event while also streamed virtually to accommodate guests who are not COVID-19 vaccinated which is the New York City mandate for restaurant event spaces:

**EVENT: 2022 YGB BLACK TIE AWARDS DINNER &  
RECEPTION  
17th YEAR CELEBRATION**

**DATE: Wednesday, February 23, 2022**

**TIME: 5:00PM – 10:00PM**

**LOCATION: TO BE ANNOUNCED**

**TICKETS/TABLES** [www.ygbawards.com](http://www.ygbawards.com) or  
[2022ygbblacktiedinner.eventbrite.com](https://2022ygbblacktiedinner.eventbrite.com)

**DONATIONS:** [www.ygbawards.com/donation](http://www.ygbawards.com/donation)

**MEDIA CREDENTIALS** <https://www.ygbawards.com/press>

The Young, Gifted & Black™ (YGB) Entrepreneurial Awards program is a simple measure of giving recognition, highlighting and showing appreciation towards one's peers. The awards program creates a platform that brings exposure to people, who represent positive role models to their peers, and provides an opportunity for others to be inspired and motivated.

The 2022 Honoree class will feature a pool of entrepreneurs, activists, community leaders, business professionals and artists / entertainers across several disciplines. Mr. Carl O. Gray, Founder, states that "this program seeks one singular goal...to identify individuals whose stories bring a level of inspiration and motivation to everyone within their social circles."

The program also features in its second year of existence the Caribbean ICON Hall of Fame to induct each year five (5) iconic artists who are selected by a public voting poll to choose an artist whose musical body of work has impacted their industry and community. The following artists were selected by public poll, however, we are currently awaiting their acceptance and confirmation:

**2022 YOUNG, GIFTED, & BLACK™ (YGB) ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARDS UNCONFIRMED NOMINATIONS**

YGB Caribbean ICON Hall of Fame			
<i>Roots/Reggae/Dancehall</i>		<i>Soca &amp; Calypso</i>	
			
<b>Buju Banton</b> <b>Mark Anthony Myrie</b>	<b>Capleton</b> <b>Clifton George</b> <b>Bailey III</b>	<b>Rita Marley</b>	<b>Alison Hinds</b>
YGB Caribbean Music Impact Artist of the Year			
		<b>Koffee</b> <b>Mikayla Simpson</b>	

**YGB Caribbean Music Impact Artist of the Year:** Inaugural award to identify the new trendsetters within Reggae/Dancehall/Soca/Calypso/World/Lation/Zouk recognized for their musical body of work that influences their industry wherein the overall success story impacts society and continues to embrace an entrepreneurial spirit

See table below to view a complete list of all 2022 honorees & nominations.

Through the **YGB Cares & Educational Assistance Program** ([www.ygbawards.com/donation](http://www.ygbawards.com/donation)), charities selected by an honoree will receive a percentage of the proceeds from purchases made on their behalf towards VIP tickets/tables and advertisement buys. The YGB Entrepreneurial Awards will also provide donations towards our 501 (c) 3 non-profit fiscal partner charities: **The Christopher Rose Community Empowerment Campaign** ([www.crcec.org](http://www.crcec.org)) and **The American Foundation for The University of the West Indies** ([www.AFUWI.org](http://www.AFUWI.org)).

Tickets are available online at [www.ygbawards.com](http://www.ygbawards.com) and processed through Eventbrite. Sponsorships, advertisements and/or donations, in addition to questions or inquiries, can be answered by contacting us at the YGB Entrepreneurial Awards service line at **347.875.7601** or by sending an email to [ygbawards@gmail.com](mailto:ygbawards@gmail.com).

## BACKGROUND

In 2006, the **Young, Gifted & Black™ (YGB) Entrepreneurial Awards** program was created with one goal and mission in mind:

To positively empower individuals and communities by highlighting the achievements of the “Unsung Heroes” whose stories can help inspire others towards making future goals attainable.

## MISSION

P.O.W.E.R. -N- M.O.T.I.O.N.

Providing Opportunity With Effective Resources

Networking

Motivates Optimizes Transcends Inspires Organizes Nurtures

The **Young, Gifted & Black™ (YGB) Entrepreneurial Awards** program places an emphasis on individuals that continue to reach levels of success through hard work and determination. There isn't a formal selection criterion to receive this award; rather the program is designed for peer-to-peer acknowledgement of their Talent, Ambition and Achievements toward the “Continued Pursuit of Success “outlined by where they have been in life to where they are now as ambassadors of the entrepreneurial spirit.

Best Regards,

**Carl Gray****President-CEO****The NetLinkz Group, Inc.**

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**Founder****Young, Gifted & Black (Y.G.B.)****Entrepreneurial Awards**

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The NetLinkz Group, Inc. is a management consulting organization making a conscious effort to bridge concepts, ideas, lifestyles, professions, likes and passions within a professional and entertainment forum.



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Founded in 2006 by Carl O. Gray, President and CEO, The NetLinkz Group, Inc., and Founder of Unified Network of Business Professionals, in honor of Black History Month, The Young, Gifted & Black Entrepreneurial Awards is designed for peer-to-peer acknowledgement for their Talent, Ambition and Achievements toward the Continued Pursuit of Success.