

For Immediate Release

Saturday, March 12, 2016

SEDI "Making the CASE" Caribbean-Americas Single Economies (C.A.S.E)

New opportunities for increase trade between the U.S, Latin America & Caribbean - A viable role for the US Virgin Islands to re-emerge as a Commerce, Education & Cultural Exchange Gateway

SEDI JUMPSTART TOURISM INITIATIVE plans to help build St. Croix tourism product and branding. Annually 12.5 million Americans vacation in the Caribbean. SEDI is introducing the Alexander Hamilton Economic Stimulus Plan for St. Croix. SEDI Economic Development Project Proposal (A Major Tourism Attraction): Build a World-Class Caribbean-American History & Alexander Hamilton Museum, and Education Institute (Center for Caribbean Studies & Broadcasting-CPB).

During the 1960's to 1980's the US Virgin Islands was the transient gateway for Caribbean people, particularly for the citizens of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). Caribbean history, its people and culture has been marginalize in US history books and classrooms.

Geopolitical & Socioeconomic Issues, Needs and Merits

Caribbean-Americans: An Invisible Minority Seeking Identity And Affirmation

Caribbean-American Numbering conservatively at some 3 million by the U.S. Census, or just over 9 percent of the total foreign-born population, Caribbean immigrants may be black, white, Latino, East Indian, Chinese, Arab, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, etc, thus it is quite difficult to make broad generalizations of this unique group.

Including long-settled migrants, the total Caribbean population and those of Caribbean descent in the U.S. may be as high as 22 million.

The majority, about 70 percent of Caribbeans and their descendants, live in either New York or Florida, with significant communities found in New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Washington, D.C., among other states.

Cubans, Dominicans, Jamaicans, Haitians, Trinidadians and Guyanese account for the largest Caribbean groups in the country at present.

Caribbean-American History & Alexander Hamilton Museum Project

Project Funding Source for Consideration: Federal Grants, Endowments and BNY Mellon Foundation

Potential Project Site - Christiansted, St. Croix USVI

Initial Estimated Cost - Minimum \$15 million (50,000 SF) to Upper \$30 million (100,000 SF)

On a national scale, museums are economic engines:

- Museums employ more than 400,000 Americans.
- Museums directly contribute \$21 billion to the U.S. economy each year. They generate billions more through indirect spending by their visitors.
- 78% of all U.S. leisure travelers participate in cultural or heritage activities. These travelers—including visitors to museums—spend 63% more on average than other leisure travelers.

- The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis has found that arts and cultural production constitute 3.2 percent of the nation's entire economy, a \$504 billion industry.
- The nonprofit arts and culture industry annually generates over \$135 billion in economic activity, supports more than 4.1 million full-time jobs and returns over \$22 billion in local, state and federal tax revenues.
- Governments that support the arts see an average return on investment of over \$7 in taxes for every \$1 that the government appropriates.

Alexander Hamilton a Caribbean man who should have been a U.S. President. The man who made modern America. He was born in the West Indies (Nevis), and later grew on St. Croix. St. Croix was the boyhood home of Alexander Hamilton. Alexander Hamilton - An American Founding Father (Co-Authored the U.S. Constitution).

- The architect of the American Financial System and the U.S. Federal Government.
- First U.S. Treasury Secretary (He is one of two person who's face appears on a U.S. currency that were Non-Presidents). He created the U.S. Mint and the U.S. Coast Guard.
- Bank of New York - Founder (Now BNY Mellon)
- Federal Reserve/Central Bank

Caribbean people enhance countries and communities with our generations of strong influence and national pride; we know where we're going because we know where we're from. Over the past 5 decades the exodus of Caribbean people from the shores of the islands to the big cities of North America has helped set the stage for the dynamic cultural and economic tapestry of the continent.

However, the neglected demographics of the region that have supplied the US and the World with some of the finest exports of agriculture, minerals, raw material, human resources and an extraordinary amalgamation of music, art, dance and literature has left millions of West Indians throughout the Diaspora without it's own platform to stand firmly upon. Our Caribbean – American community has had to settle for marginal inclusion in the history books, census and contemporary cultural landscape. The most recent events in Haiti and the attention now being given to Haiti's plight of the past century is more than proof of this fact where even the major broadcasters in the US have now acknowledged their lack of coverage and inclusion of the Caribbean in their own newscasts and journalism despite even our close geographical location.

CPBC is a direct product of the relentless efforts and persistent pursuit to fill this immense void and give Caribbean people at home and abroad a unified voice.

It is also a viable entity by which our numbers, statistics and demographics can be documented and accounted for. Our legends, pioneers and heroes now have a place where their groundbreaking works and innovations can be respected and celebrated. Our corporate contribution and socio-political views can be heard and embraced by our own people and acknowledged by those who wish to explore our fascinating culture and burning issues.

The common and individual experiences of the Caribbean unites us as a region; from the vibrant festivals in the streets to the natural resources buried deep beneath our rich soil, from the breathtaking beauty of our shores to the devastation faced by mother nature's swift hand. Whether we are manufacturing the best quality rums and spices or Nobel Prize winning writers, Grammy Award winning singers and the fastest sports heroes in the World we are one people, now represented by one great legacy.

Caribbean Region

Geopolitically, the Caribbean islands are usually regarded as a sub region of North America and are organized into 30 territories including sovereign states, overseas departments, and dependencies.

Population (2009)39,169,962

Ethnic groupsAfro-Caribbean, White Caribbean,Indo-Caribbean, Chinese Caribbean,Middle Eastern-Caribbean, Arawak (Kalinago,Taíno)

LanguagesSpanish, English, French, Dutch,French Creole, English Creole,Caribbean Hindustani, among others

Government 13 sovereign states,17 dependent territories

Largest citiesList of metropolitan areas in the West Indies

Santo Domingo, Havana, Port-au-Prince, Santiago de los Caballeros, Kingston, Santiago de Cuba, San Juan, Holguín, Cap-Haïtien, Fort-de-France, Port of Spain

NEW YORK (AP) — It's a fine time for history geeks with a thing for Alexander Hamilton. A hip-hop-and-history musical called "Hamilton" — inspired by an 800-page biography — just opened off-Broadway and is sold out for months. Fans of the man, book or musical can visit a variety of places connected to Hamilton, from his Harlem home to the New Jersey waterfront where he was shot in a duel.

NYTimes - President Obama has been quite clear about how much he likes the new musical "Hamilton." And last week, he managed to boost its grosses past those of Broadway's longtime leader, "The Lion King."

"Hamilton," the hip-hop musical about Alexander Hamilton and America's Founding Fathers, grossed \$1,772,253, slightly above the \$1,764,832 grossed by "The Lion King," Disney's ever-popular global hit, according to figures released Monday by the Broadway League for the week ending Nov. 8.

BNY Mellon Foundation - Grant requests are reviewed and awarded throughout the year. All requests must demonstrate impact in either or both of the focus areas: workforce development or basic needs provision.



Mr. Gerald Hassell

Chairman and CEO at BNY Mellon

"As the Chairman and CEO of The Bank of New York Mellon, I'm constantly reminded of Hamilton's

foundational impact on our country. Back in 1784, he created the company I now run. His descendants remain clients of ours. A conference room near my office even overlooks his gravesite.

In my company's day-to-day operations, and across the land, Hamilton's fingerprints are everywhere. He is the architect of our country's financial system. He was the principal writer of the Federalist papers, which ensured ratification of the Constitution. He created the U.S. Coast Guard. He was George Washington's most trusted aid during the Revolutionary War. He established the national mint and our official currency—he is the last person who should be stripped off of it".

The Bank of New York Mellon

Financial services company · bnymellon.com

The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation, commonly referred to as BNY Mellon, is an American worldwide banking and financial services corporation formed on July 1, 2007, as a result of the merger of

Stock price: BK (NYSE) \$37.75 +0.88 (+2.39%)

Mar 11, 4:00 PM EST - Disclaimer

Headquarters: New York City, New York, United States

CEO: Gerald Hassell

Assets under management: 1.72 trillion USD (2015)

Founded: 2007

Founders: Alexander Hamilton

Revenue: 15.69 billion USD (2014)

For further details regarding this press release please contact Anthony Weeks, Managing Director of SEDI, Tel. (914) 574-1213. To learn more about SEDI VISION 2020 click here http://sedivision.com/SEDI_Vision_2020.html

This official press release will be announced Monday, March 14, 2016 on the Economic Roundtable Business Forum Show at 12:30pm. Tune in live at http://sedivision.com/SEDI_Vision_2020.html