



CONSULATE GENERAL OF BELIZE

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Consulate of Belize in California Hosts Opening Reception

Fine Arts Photography Exhibit



(Los Angeles) On Saturday February 12, the Consulate of Belize in Los Angeles hosted an opening reception to launch its Cultural Desk with the first of a series of Fine Art Photography exhibits at its offices in the mid-Wilshire District of Los Angeles. In his opening remarks, Hon. Roland Yorke, Consul General of Belize, related how he derived the idea from the Brazilian Consulate in establishing a Cultural Desk.

The inaugural exhibit features works from five Belizean professional photographers residing in and around the Los Angeles area: Francis Estrada, Clyde Gillett, Roy Jex, Norman Reneau, and Curt Sanchez. Altogether, the fifteen photographs in this exhibit depict the rich multicultural heritage of the Belizean people, and include images of historical monuments and well-known sites in Belize.

The opening reception was well attended and applauded by Belizeans and friends of Belize, including officials: the Consul General of South Africa, the Honorable Cyril Ndaba; Honorary Consul General of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Dr. Cadrin Gill; and the Deputy Chief of Protocol from the County of Los Angeles, Mrs. Lourdes Saab. "I feel at home...we are all in the Diaspora together...and I'm happy to be here," remarked the Hon. Cyril Ndaba. Also in attendance was award-winning photographer and J. Paul Getty Fellow, Dennis Callwood.

Guests were treated to a deliciously light meal and intermingled as they listened to pleasing music from DJ Logan prior to the start of the evening's program. The Consul General of Belize, Hon. Roland Yorke, unveiled the photographs while Ms. Helen Laurie, Exhibit Coordinator, remarked on

the images. Immediately following the unveiling, Belize's famous folk singer, Brad Pattico, entertained guests with a story and his renditions of old folk songs.

The event was live streamed over the Internet by broadcaster Wil Johnson via Radio Belizemix online at belizemix.com. The recorded event is also scheduled to be broadcast by Love FM radio in Belize in the near future.

The inaugural exhibit runs from February 12 through March 8 at the offices of the Consulate of Belize. Thereafter, each photographer will display his work for a month as follows:

- March 12 – April 12:Francis Estrada**
- April 16 – May 17:Norman Reneau**
- May 21 – June 21:Curt Sanchez**
- June 25 – July 26:Roy Jex**
- July 30 – August 30:Clyde Gillett**

Everyone is encouraged to view the exhibit during the Consulate's normal working hours, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office is closed weekends and during Belizean and American holidays. Provisions are being made to have viewings outside of the Consulate's regular office hours.

The Consul General of Belize, the Hon. Roland Yorke, extends sincere gratitude and thanks to everyone who attended and supported this historical event.

For additional information, please contact the Consulate's office or visit the website.

