

THE G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

# THE GOLD NUGGET GAZETTE

[www.goldrushgy.org](http://www.goldrushgy.org)



## EDITOR'S NOTE

Elsie A. Harry

Welcome to a movement that boldly leads the charge to connect the global Guyanese community. Co-founded in 2020 by Guyanese sisters, Sherida and Afia Hinckson, the G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H Association celebrates year 4 on August 15th, 2024!

The acronym G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. means: **G**uyana's **O**verseas and **L**ocal **D**escendants, leveraging **R**esources and **U**nity for a **S**uccessful **H**omeland.

The G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. Association is a non-profit organisation dedicated to fostering unity and excellence within the Guyanese community.

At this critical four-year juncture, G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. is taking stock of the strides that it has made in the arena of diaspora community building, while simultaneously forging connections with Guyanese at home. The Association is also capitalising on

this prime opportunity to acknowledge and offer sincere gratitude to their country women and men who have supported this big dream!

The Guyanese proverb, "Wan Wan Dutty Buil Dam", continues to hold true; this Dam is being built successfully, because of all of you!

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

In this the inaugural issue of The Gold Nugget Gazette, you will receive insight into the Association's previous independent work, collaborations and future initiatives. Look out for:

- Podcast Highlights - P. 2
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# OUR WORK

G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. bridges the gap between Guyana's overseas and local descendants (G.O.L.D) through community dialogue and initiatives that address key issues that impact our country's development.

## PODCAST HIGHLIGHTS

"GYAFF with G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H." is our telephone line between Guyana and the diaspora. This year, our podcast has explored the rich tapestry of Guyanese culture, heritage, and personal stories. Here's a brief recap of our four most recent episodes:

### **Mashramani Unmasked: Exploring Guyanese Heritage & Challenges in a Changing World**

We kicked off the year by delving into Mashramani, Guyana's vibrant festival celebrating the nation's resilience and unity. Hosts Sherida and Afia discussed its historical significance, global celebrations, and addressed recent controversies that have sparked conversations within the community.

### **Guyana's Financial Renaissance: Matthew Gaul Discusses Mastering Money and Financial Literacy**

In our second episode, we sat down with financial expert Matthew Gaul to unpack the evolving landscape of financial literacy in Guyana. Matthew shared his journey from a finance student to a leading advocate for economic education, offering insights into entrepreneurship and personal finance that resonate beyond borders.

### **From Guyana to the Skies: Stephon's Journey to Success - A Migrant Story**

Our third episode featured Stephon, whose inspiring migration story took him from dreaming of the skies in Guyana to a successful career in aeronautical engineering in the UK. Stephon recounted his challenges, triumphs, and his enduring connection to his homeland, providing a heartfelt narrative of ambition and resilience.

### **Awe Story Gat Melody: Creolese, Culture, and Stories**

Most recently, we celebrated the richness of Guyanese Creolese and folklore with the charismatic Mrs. Dion Douglas, also known by her Platform name "Awe Story Gat Melody". She shared her passion for storytelling, the African influences on Guyanese culture, and the experiences of raising US-born children with deep Guyanese roots.

Stay tuned for more enlightening conversations and stories that continue to celebrate and explore the Guyanese spirit!

## GOLDRUSH EVENT SPOTLIGHT

### **RUSH - May 26, 2024 at Rise Caribbean**

A RUSH is an intentional gathering of six or more members of the Guyanese community (and G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. Association) that has united for the purpose of providing direct, financial support to another community member's business or event. We conducted a RUSH on Guyana's Independence Day!



### **Virtual Gold Mining Focus Group Discussion**

**May 29, 2024** Under the theme "Strategies for Strengthening the Guyanese Community", we gathered Guyanese at home and abroad to discuss and plan the way forward.



**THANK YOU FOR  
"GYAFFING" WITH US!**



## COMMUNITY & CONNECTIONS

We are committed to harnessing the collective power of the global Guyanese community and collaborating with other global entities to catalyze development for our people and homeland.

### COLLABORATION CORNER

#### Lending support to the Guyana-American Heritage Foundation (GAHF)

On Friday, June 14, our G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. team volunteered at the Guyana Flag Raising Ceremony, hosted by Lady Ira Lewis, President and Founder of the Guyana American Heritage Foundation (GAHF), in East Orange, New Jersey. This event, celebrating Guyana's 58th Independence Anniversary, has been a cherished tradition at City Hall Plaza for fifteen years.

We helped to serve the food, provided through generous sponsorship from Guyanese business **Cleo's Kitchen**, and had the privilege of meeting the Mayor of Georgetown Guyana, His Worship Mr. Alfred Mentore. During the event, Mayor Mentore declared East Orange a sister city to Georgetown and invited Mayor Ted Green to become an honorary citizen of Georgetown during his future visit to Guyana. At that time, he will receive a key to the city.



#### Our Co-founders with Mayor Alfred Mentore

It was a rewarding experience to contribute to this long-standing tradition and strengthen ties within both the Guyanese diaspora and Guyana.

### DIASPORA CONNECTIONS

#### Metemgee's Althea Brown

Owner, recipe developer, and content creator at Metemgee.com, she is the woman behind the Guyanese and Caribbean recipes that we know and love. "Altee", as she is affectionately called by Guyanese, launched her cookbook, "Caribbean Paleo", in October 2023 and we had the esteemed pleasure of meeting her during the launch. G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. salutes you, Althea Brown!



#### DemRoc Music Award's Shawn McAllister

Founder of the annual DemRoc Music & Entertainment Awards - a premier event that celebrates and recognises the outstanding talents and achievements within the vibrant and diverse music and entertainment industry of Guyana. The event showcases the best musicians, artistes, producers, creatives and other professionals who contribute to the growth and enrichment of Guyana's cultural heritage. We were pleased to meet Shawn at the 2023 DemRoc Music Awards. G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. salutes you, Shawn McAllister!



#### Queens College (NYC) Guyanese Student Association



Located in Queens, New York - often called "Little Guyana" or "Region 11" for its dense Guyanese population, the Queens College Guyanese Student Association is keeping Guyanese pride and Guyanese traditions alive. We were thrilled to attend their Grand Jubilee event earlier this year. G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. salutes you, QCGSA!

# STORIES & SUPPORT

Our initiatives and events contribute to the social, professional, and economic vitality of Guyanese people and businesses. We collaborate within our community and with international agencies to engage and support Guyanese both at home and in the Diaspora.

## BUSINESS BOOST



In response to the growing demand for e-commerce in Guyana, BUY.gy has become the leading online marketplace, meeting both consumer and business needs. It offers consumers easy access to thousands of products from local vendors, all from the comfort of their homes. Vendors benefit from increased reach, expanded payment options, and integrated logistics and services.

For the Guyanese diaspora, BUY.gy bridges the distance between their locations and Guyana with seamless local and international shipping, making it easy to send gifts, support local businesses, or enjoy Guyanese culture abroad. More than just a marketplace, BUY.gy is a platform that empowers eCommerce and strengthens the digital business ecosystem.

**Website:** [www.buy.gy](http://www.buy.gy)  
**Email:** [mail@buy.gy](mailto:mail@buy.gy)  
**Phone / WhatsApp:** +592 623-7467

### TAKE A BIKE RIDING TOUR IN GT WITH RIDE ALONG GY

Ride Along GY, aims to promote fitness through biking, bonding between families and friends and engaging all age groups in fun bike riding activities. Our initiatives empower people to take complete control over their wellbeing and transportation needs, while having a sense of community and fulfilling their recreational needs. Come ride along with us today!



**Website:** <https://www.ridealonggy.com>  
**Phone:** +592-616-0701

## FUNDRAISING UPDATES

All initiatives of the G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. Association are currently funded by its Co-Founders. These expenses can be offset by donations and the purchase of G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. Merchandise.

### We currently fund these activities:

**General Operations** - keeping the website, podcast and our other social media platforms running as well as the annual legal filings required by the US Government.

**G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. Community Activities** - RUSHes and community engagements held within the diaspora.

### With your assistance we can fund these activities:

**The GOLD Stream Fund** - aims to facilitate the transfer of financial resources from the Guyanese diaspora to support impactful projects and initiatives in Guyana. The fund is designed to bridge the gap between diaspora contributions and local needs, ensuring that financial support flows seamlessly to drive sustainable development, community empowerment, and growth in Guyana. The Fund seeks to advance key values and initiatives that benefit Guyanese communities at home.

**Cultural Legacy Fund** - aims to support initiatives that connect the overseas Guyanese diaspora with their cultural heritage. It will fund future networking events and programs, such as summer camps and community activities, designed to engage all age groups in learning about and celebrating their heritage while connecting with one another.



**Purchase G.R. Merch!**



# LOOKING AHEAD

## COMMUNITY MEETING SUMMARY

On May 29th our GOLD Mining event brought together Guyanese from the diaspora and Guyana, sparking powerful discussions about how we can unite and improve our homeland. Following that meeting here is how we suggest that we can strengthen our Guyanese community:

- Connect with your friends and family members and (re)learn their reasons for migration.
- Research upcoming Guyanese events in your area such as galas, conferences and festivals and ATTEND! There are so many Guyanese diaspora events across the world and so many conferences in Guyana that offer the opportunity to both network and connect with members of our global community. Below we've given you a headstart!
- If you're a business owner/entrepreneur and you are interested in connecting with either Guyanese in Guyana, or the diaspora, please share your business information with G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. so that we can be sure to boost information about your work within our network.

**GOLD MINING FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION 2024**

**COMMUNITY MEETING SUMMARY**

**Community Connection:**  
There's a strong desire for our community to come together without barriers. People are eager to connect and share feedback, even on serious topics. Our role is to create the platforms for these conversations.

**Cultural Networking:**  
We want to honor our culture in a low-pressure, yet structured setting. Think "backyard time" with purpose—where we network and make real progress together.

**Diaspora Engagement:**  
Many in the diaspora want to connect with those back home but don't know how. We need to bridge this gap and facilitate meaningful interactions.

**Respecting Elders:**  
While there's a reverence for our elders, younger generations feel excluded from important discussions. We must capture and practice our rich traditions and ensure everyone is included in conversations of change.

**Mentorship Opportunities**  
Millennial leaders like Metemgee (Althea Brown) and Shawn DemRoc McElister are eager to inspire and engage with the younger generation. We need to meet the youth where they are and create pathways for their involvement.

**Heritage Preservation:**  
There's a discussion on passing down our heritage and stories. We must ensure that younger generations have a deep and meaningful relationship with their roots.

People are enthusiastic about our association and love what we're doing. They feel comfortable partaking in a conversation they believe our community should've had long ago. The hope is for more events like this in the future.

Thank you to everyone who participated. Let's continue to build these connections and work together for a brighter future. 🌟  
#GuyanesGold #GOLDRUSHAssociation #HeritageAndFuture

## UPCOMING EVENTS

For more information regarding a specific event, please email us at [info@goldrushgy.org](mailto:info@goldrushgy.org)

### GUYANA

1. Curl Fete Natural Hair Expo - Aug 17 & 18
2. Miss Jamzone International - Aug 25
3. Uncapped Marketplace - Aug 31- Sept 1
4. Indigenous Heritage Month - Sept 1- Sept 30
5. Cricket Carnival - Sept 19-Oct 6
6. International Business Conference - Oct 15- Oct 17

### DIASPORA

1. G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. Day - Aug 15 (US)
2. RUSH with GR - Aug 17 (US)
3. ACG Festival - Aug 17 (CA)
4. Notting Hill Carnival - Aug 25 (UK)
5. Kweh Kweh Night - Aug 30 (US)
6. West Indian Day Parade - Sept 2 (US)

## THANK YOU NOTES

We are truly grateful to everyone who contributed to our success during our 4 years of existence. Special thanks to the more than 15 supporters who purchased T-shirts or volunteered during the 2024 work year, our loyal supporters – Ann-Marie J., Datz Deli, Ms. Holly-Anne B., Kaiana and Shaka of the Liming and Healing Podcast, Mrs. Kelly M., Melissa Noel of Mel&N Media, Naudia Jones Bell, and our editor, Elsie, at the This Is YOUR Life Social Enterprise. To all of our collaborators and partners who believed in our mission and supported our growth, thank you for making a difference!



Connect with us  
by scanning our LinkTree  
QR Code



GOLDRUSH

- Sherida, Afia and The G.O.L.D.R.U.S.H. Team