



Royal Bank

19th Annual RBC Royal Bank Primary Spelling Bee Competition, An Overwhelming Success

RBC Royal Bank continues to serve the youngest members of the Cayman community by encouraging, scholarship, education and competition with the annual RBC Royal Bank Primary School Spelling Bee. Children from primary schools throughout the Cayman Islands gathered on Thursday December 8, 2016 to show off their spelling prowess and compete for the chance to be number one.

Omari Corbin, AVP & Country Manager for the Cayman Islands addressed students, parents and administrators at the event saying, "As I observe our participating students, I am confident that the future of Cayman Islands looks bright. RBC Royal Bank is indeed proud to be the title sponsor for this year's National RBC Primary School Spelling Bee. We know that this investment yields great returns for our students, their schools and the wider community, which is why we are passionate about supporting this national initiative."

Liaison and long-time proponent, Mitzie Bailey shared that the Spelling Bee is a great way for RBC to give back to the community. "A large number of the students have been successful in their chosen careers, and have ascribed a part of the success they have enjoyed to having a great start in life with the support of events such as the RBC Primary School Spelling Bee."

Over the years Mitzie said that she has followed and kept abreast of many of the accomplishments of the students who participated in the RBC Royal Bank Primary School Spelling Bee. "It gives me great pleasure to see them continue to do so very well academically and otherwise, she exclaimed."

Furthermore, she added that the Cayman community gets excited about this event on the annual calendar. "Many parents, teachers, educators and members of The Ministry of Education have expressed their appreciation for RBC's involvement in the community. During the 2015 Spelling Bee Finals, the Minister of Education, Miss Tara Rivers publicly expressed her appreciation for the partnership with RBC." Mitzie Bailey added.

The event welcomed eight contestants from BRAC and 41 contestants from Grand Cayman. The students participating in the competition also showed their enthusiasm in true youth style, taking to social media to promote the event and celebrate their friends and comrades who participated in the bee via their respective school websites.

The generous sponsorship by RBC Royal Bank has kept this important initiative thriving for nearly two decades.

Nicki Samuels, Senior Customer Service Officer, The Department of Education Services, (DES) said, "The DES is proud to partner with RBC Royal Bank for the 19th consecutive year in hosting the annual RBC Royal Bank Primary Spelling Bee competition. Together we have seen it grow from its inception 19 years ago, as a platform for our primary aged students to compete, (when it was previously only accessible by secondary students), to the event that we have today, each year building on our strengths and moving forward."

"With stalwarts such as Mitzie Bailey, who has from the very start and continues to hold this competition to heart, and the RBC team who is willing to assist in any way. We look forward to many more years of continued partnership, creativity and growth," concluded Ms. Samuels.

Omari Corbin also took the opportunity to salute Mitzie Bailey on her commitment and zeal toward making the event a success and serving the children involved. When explaining why this cause is so close to her heart Bailey said, "I have been involved with the RBC Royal Bank Primary School Spelling Bee from the inception, 19 years ago. I have worked with the Ministry of Education and the Department of Education Services as the RBC Organizer & Champion of this annual event. I continue to coordinate the Spelling Bee with the RBC employees who volunteer in the Finals, and I have also performed in the following capacities, Judge, Timekeeper, Usher, MC of the event and in the setting up and breaking down of the venue."

"I am very passionate about the RBC Royal Bank Primary School Spelling Bee because this is such a great avenue in which we can strengthen the educational standards of the youth of the Cayman Islands. My employer, RBC Royal Bank is helping our community thrive, by improving the educational standards in our children from an early age," she concluded.

