

Created by: Debra C. Argen

Caribbean State Ball and Awards Presentations

The stunning Grand Ballroom at the Waldorf=Astoria in New York was the setting for the [34th Annual Governments of the Caribbean State Ball and Awards Presentations](#) on June 15, 2007, and of course, Luxury Experience Magazine was there.

Dave Price, CBS News' The Early Show, was the Master of Ceremonies at the Black Tie Event. The evening began on a colorful note as the Danza Fiesta Group of Puerto Rico, gave an uplifting presentation of the Caribbean Governments' flags.



Martinique Group Photograph

Mrs. Jacqueline Johnson, Chairman, Caribbean Tourism Organization Foundation, Inc, and Mr. Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace, Secretary General, Caribbean Tourism Organization, helped create an evening to remember.



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Each year the Governments of the Caribbean presents Awards of Excellence. The 2007 Award Recipients include:

Rita Cabrer Botello

Award of Excellence Honoree

Josser Daniel

Award of Excellence Honoree

Lasana Mwanza Sekou

Award of Excellence Honoree

Wyclef Jean

Award of Excellence Honoree

Earl B. Smith

Special Recognition Award

Reverend Wesley Winfield Hall

Lifetime Achievement Honoree



Josser Daniel and Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace

On receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award, Reverend Wesley Winfield Hall replied, "It is a moment that happens only once in a lifetime, and I wish that this moment could be frozen in time. When you share joy, it is doubled."

Celebrity Chefs Patrick Browne from St. Kitts; Erik Peters, Club Med Corporate Chef; and Executive Sous Chef Jasmine Young of Atlantis in the Bahamas, brought a taste of the Caribbean to the Waldorf=Astoria

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with an enticing island-inspired menu.

The Menu

Appetizer

Grilled Salmon with Truffled Lentil Salad

Grape Tomatoes and Asparagus Tips

White Truffle Emulsion and Herb Oil

Entrée

Chili-Rubbed Beef with Orange Chutney Glaze

Creamy Coconut Rice

Candied Eggplant and Braised Leeks

Mole Sauce



Dessert

Passion Banana Dacquoise

Coconut Dacquoise, Pabana Gelee and White Chocolate Mousse

Passionfruit Sauce

Friandises

Assorted Petits Fours and Lace Cookies



Of course it would not be a Caribbean event without music and dancing, and Franck Muhel of Martinique Sunrise and his partner, Tessa Whitaker, provided dinnertime entertainment. Dressed in period costumes, Franck and Tessa showed the history of the Caribbean through various dances. The Danza Fiesta Group of Puerto Rico also performed a series of dance numbers.

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After dinner, guests danced the night away to the music of Lambert and the Matadors Orchestra, and the energetic, and talented, Nadine Sutherland, who had the guests up on their feet or dancing in their chairs.

For information on the [Caribbean Tourism Organization \(CTO\)](http://www.onecaribbean.org) please visit the website: www.onecaribbean.org.

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