

Recognition Awards Dinner 2014

On Saturday, 18 October, 120 guests from the Black community and the corporate sector filled the luxurious ballroom in the Amba Charing Cross Hotel. They were there to honour dozens of professional men and women as they collected Awards in recognition of their extraordinary contributions to Reach Society and our young people.

Everyone heard inspirational messages from Professor Trevor Williams, our Patron, and the guest speaker Richard Flash, Director of Academic Programme, UCFB (University College for Football Business).

Messages of congratulation were also given by the four presenters of the Awards: Ms Donna Fraser, BAME Chairman, EDF Energy; Mr Richard Cooper, Head of Employability Programme, Lloyds Banking Group; Mr John Budu-Aggrey, Director, Alpha BSE Training; and Mr Daniel Norris, Deputy Director in City & Islington College.

Thirty eight professional men and women were honoured with Supporter of Reach Society Awards and five were honoured with Fellow of Reach Society Awards for their unselfish work at the April Careers Conference. These Black professionals encouraged, motivated and inspired around 855 young people and their parents in that extraordinary event.

Special Fellow of Reach Society Awards were presented to Jeremy Adam from Lloyds Banking Group; Paula Neil, the author of the Society's second book; and Rob Neil from the Ministry of Justice - for their exceptional contributions over several months.

Daniel Stone won the first ICE Books Reader Award. He is an Oxford graduate and Ascension Trust manager who impressed the judges with his knowledge of several books on the Index of Cultural Esteem Books (ICE Books, see the Society's website). This project is sponsored by Alpha BSE Training; and the Award was presented by Mr John Budu-Aggrey. We are also delighted to announce that Mr Budu-Aggrey accepted our invitation to become a Patron of Reach Society.

Lloyds Banking Group became the first recipient of the Corporate Champion of Reach Society Award. This was richly deserved because this large firm has become a strategic partner of the Society.

Three Corporate Fellow of Reach Society Awards were received by Alpha BSE Training, EDF Energy and the Royal Navy for their outstanding support. In addition, several community groups and employers received Corporate Supporter Awards for their collaboration with the Society.

The list of honoured professional men and women is given below; they shall be known as the Professional Class of 2014.

Dr Dwain A. Neil, Chairman

The Professional Class of 2014	
Honouree	Profession
Ashton Barnett-Vanes	Medical Postgraduate, Imperial College
Captain David Fielding	Airline Pilot, British Airways
Cornelius Namiluko	Expert Advisor, KPMG
Daniel Stone	Manager Outreach, Ascension Trusts & RARE
Dr Ade Damola	Surgeon, NHS
Dr Chris Imafidon	University Lecturer & Founder of Excellence in Education
Dr Donald Palmer	Senior Lecturer, Royal Veterinary College
Dr Frank Chinegwundoh	Consultant Surgeon, NHS
Dr Keith Davidson	Former Director of Education, SDAC & Author
Dr Koye Balogun	Clinical Scientist, Public Health England
Eric Sterling	Trainee Teacher, Secondary Sector
Frank Munro	Civil Servant, DEFRA
Glaister Anderson	Former Company Secretary, Unilever
Grantley Yearwood	Engineer, British Airways & Youth Worker
Jonathan Lule	Accountant, EDF Energy
Joseph Ogbonna	Coach & Mentor, Westminster University
Joshua Roberts	Undergraduate, Medicine & AC Society Member
Julius Amoah	Advisor, Hackney Jobcentre Plus
Koral Neil	Aviation Advisor, Euro USC & Volunteer
Lee Xavier	Solicitor, De Cruz Solicitors
Leon Neil	HR Expert, Foundation 66
Leroy Logan	Ex Superintendent, MPS & BPA
Liam Daniels	Interventions Manager, Phoenix Futures & Volunteer
Mark Lomas	HR Manager, BBC
Matthew Ubogagu	Business Advisor, Financial Sector & Volunteer
Olu Olufote	Commercial Banking Expert, Lloyds Banking Group
Paul Armstrong	ICT Teacher, Secondary School
Paula Neil	Former Head of Social Care, LBH & Author
Peter Elliott	Group IT Expert, Lloyds Banking Group
Raphael Ani	Expert Advisor, KPMG
Richard Flash	Head of Academic Programme, UCFB
Ritchie Neil	IT Commercial Consultant, Software One
Rob Neil	Senior Civil Servant, Ministry of Justice
Rolston Dennis	Surveyor, Asset Management Sector
Rudi Page	CEO, RAFFA & Director, The COL
Selvyn Brown	Director of Services, Dept for Work & Pensions
Sonia Palmer	Teacher, Primary Education & Volunteer
Sylvester Lennon	Advisor, Streatham Jobcentre Plus
Tony Tiyou	Engineer, Altran UK
Ufuoma Bakpa	Engineer, EDF Energy
Winston Bygrave	Former Deputy Headteacher & Minister
Winston Phillips	Engineer, BBC
Yane Amos	History Teacher & Amos Bursary Volunteer