

Rose Hall Craft programme launched

In collaboration with the Prince of Wales School of Traditional Arts and Rose Hall Developments, nine craftsmen from the Success Craft Market, Montego Bay and twelve potters from Rose Town, Kingston have been given the opportunity to further hone their creativity and

boost their earning potential with the establishment of the Rose Hall - Rose Town Craft Programme.

Michele Rollins, Chairman of Rose Hall Developments joined Dr. Khaled Azzam, Director of the Prince of Wales School of Traditional Arts to launch the craft programme

at an elaborate exhibition on Saturday, May 21 where the exquisite pieces produced were displayed in the majestic surroundings of the Rose Hall Great House.

Dr. Azzam flew in from London specifically to witness firsthand the progress of the artisans and share in their incredible success. Accompanying him were the tutors who share responsibility with the artisans for their great progress and have traveled from London every other month to Rose Town and Rose Hall.

He remarked that, "This is an interim stage, successful enough for their products to be on display and to generate income for the craftsmen while they strive for a museum quality product."

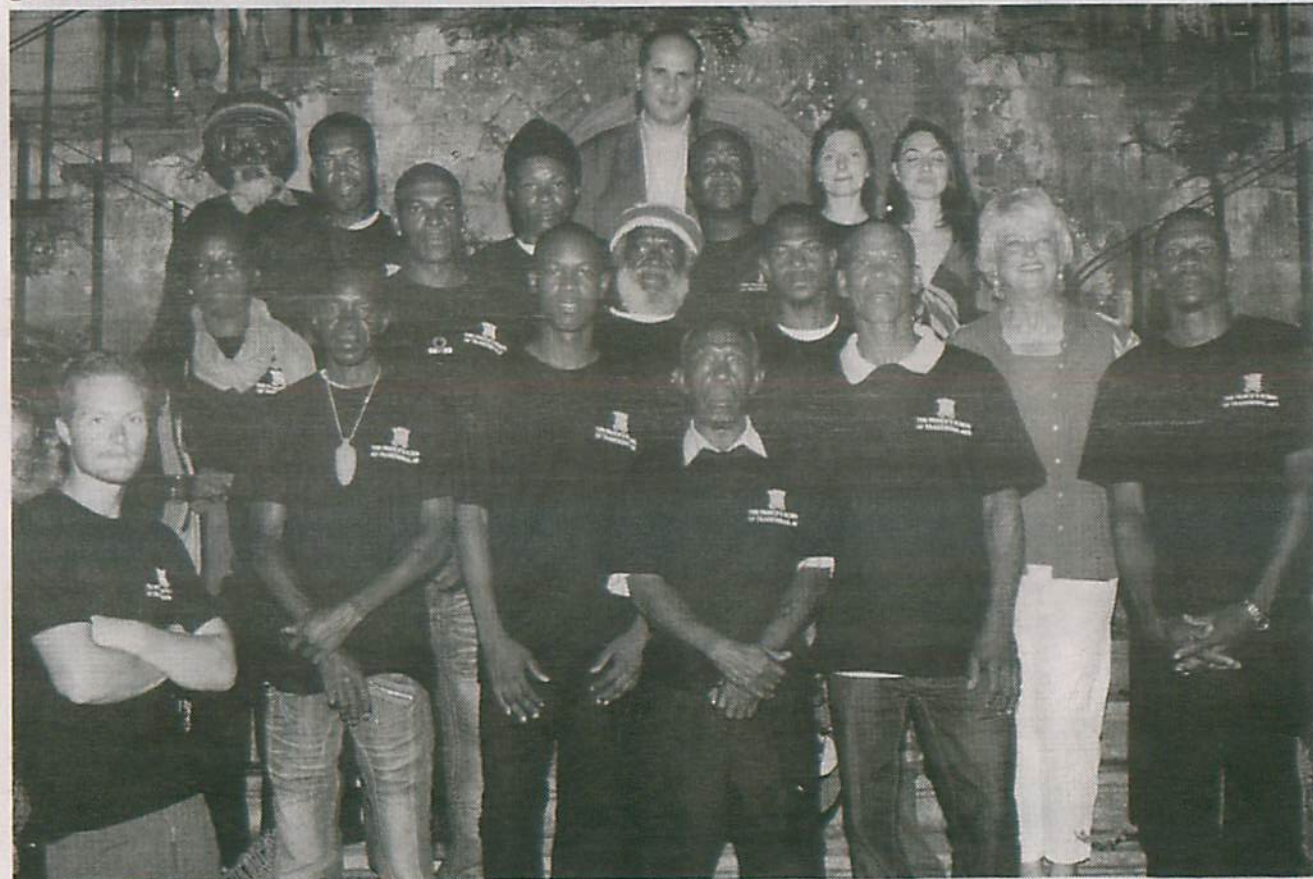
The visibly impressed guests had high commendations for the artistic pieces of the potters and carvers. Much to the guests' delight, the carvers demonstrated their use of the lathe and hand tools on the back verandah of the Great House. The potters meanwhile demonstrated to guests the intricate skills and techniques involved in making hand built clay pots.

The Rose Hall Craft Programme is an offshoot of the Prince of Wales Rose Town Project, which is an ambitious initiative to regenerate the community of Rose Town. The members of Rose Town helped to construct the library and the community center when former Ambassador Brenda Johnson solicited Ambassador Mary Ourisman and Michele Rollins to help with the project.

In 2009 the Prince of Wales agreed to allow his School of Traditional Arts team to partner in this venture to create a craft product that would reflect the vibrancy and uniqueness of 'Brand Jamaica'.

"This is a very special night for all of us" said Michele Rollins....."a great beginning!"

-Contributed



ART: Michell Rollins, Chairman of Rose Hall Developments Ltd (second row, right) and Dr. Khaled Azzam, Director of the Prince of Wales School of

Traditional Arts (background) pose with members of the Rose Hall Carvers and the

Rose Town Potters on the front steps of the Rose Hall Great House in Montego Bay, Jamaica following the launch of the Rose Hall Craft