

Rodney Small graduates

LAST YEAR, Rodney Small featured in three concerts staged December 28, 29, and 30. Those were part of his first year project at the Edna Manley College of Visual and Performing Arts in Jamaica.

This year, Small is stepping up the presentation. It will be a one night escapade at the Russell's Theatre Auditorium. While Small is the link, the show will feature a variety of artists and cultural enthusiasts.

Some of them were at the media launch to this year's event dubbed Steel Expressions. President of the Youlou Pan Movement Onika

Morgan indicated that persons will hear different aspects of the creative arts and their impact on Rodney Small at the event.

La Gracia Dancers will add to the programme, and if there was doubt about the collaborative efforts, Maxine Browne, founder of La Gracia Dance Group gave the assurance that the show will be a blessing.

Orande 'Bomani' Bowman, President of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Music Professionals, endorsed the episode. He and Small will renew acquaintances. Bomani, the 2004 Soca

Monarch and Road March winner, is looking forward to working with Small.

This production will be broad in scope, and Saeed Bowman, a St. Vincent Grammar School student, is on the list of performers.

Two former Ministers of Culture, John Horne and Rene Baptiste, are endorsing the event. Horne did not hide his amazement at Small's repertoire.

Baptiste, Culture Minister from 2001 to 2010, introduced Small at last Tuesday's media launch.

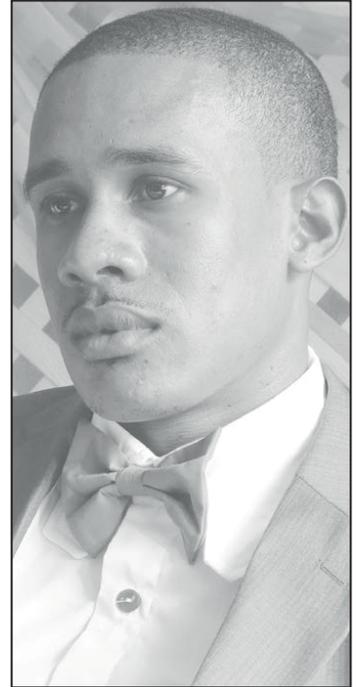
Bank of Nova Scotia's manager Basil Alexander echoed his company's

willingness to help "any meaningful project which has as its mantra development."

Alexander declared his institution's support for youth, and pledged that "we are here to support any youth development."

Kishore Shallow, Caricom Community Youth Ambassador, commended Small for becoming an entrepreneur. As far as Shallow was concerned, Small is a 'role-model.'

Small's persistency was noted by pan enthusiast Francis 'Pres' Llewellyn who admitted that Small is an inspiration to him.



Rodney Small is moving on to bigger and better things.

Three complete Richmond Vale Academy stint

by **KENVILLE HORNE**

THREE PERSONS have successfully completed a one-month scholarship stint at the Richmond Vale Academy (RVA) under the Climate Compliance Program.

Vincentians Shanda Corke and Romique Hooper, along with Venezuelan Annelie Surewitz, an Accountant manager, all received Certificates of Appreciation last Friday.

The Climate Compliance Program covered; Global Warming, Climate Change, Actions for Food Security, Energy Security, Pollution and Waste Prevention.

Corke described the experience as a good one. "The most enjoyable aspect was getting to know people and learning from them," she indicated.

The 19-year-old Rose

Bank resident got to know about the program by an individual in her community. She contacted the RVA and was accepted.

She believes her experience will benefit her community, since she can assist farmers to produce their own manure, thereby saving money.

Surewitz who lives in the Venezuelan capital Caracas, inquired from a friend about Voluntary work in St. Vincent.

She was told about RVA, and the rest is history. She



The scholarship recipients listen attentively to a lecturer at RVA as he talks about Organic Compost, which is made by animal manure and vegetation.

learnt alternative medicine, how to grow her own food, and animal rearing. She intends to use her knowledge when she returns home.

Hooper, also from Rose Bank, heard about the program via the media. A friend from his community introduced him to one of the facilitators at the academy. He presented the requirements to the Academy and gained acceptance. He said the experience was wonderful, and he received information on a range of areas.

The students were allowed to stay on the campus, but because the academy is close to their home, Corke and Hooper journeyed to

their village after every session.

Hooper declared that his newly acquired knowledge will assist his community. "I can show people what I have learnt. I could take the knowledge and create my own Bio gas."

One of the Lecturers at RVA, Selwyn Patterson told THE VINCENTIAN "the knowledge that they (Scholarship recipients) gained I am sure that they would apply it wherever they go."

Patterson said the relationship between students at the Academy was family friendly.

In February 2014, two more Vincentian will be awarded a one-month scholarship to the Academy.

Besides the Climate Compliance Program, RVA conducts 'The Fighting Shoulder to Shoulder with The Poor' program.'



L-R: Romique Hooper, Annelie Surewitz, Shanda Corke. Standing Selwyn Patterson.

Scrunter cruising

OWEN JOHNSON, known in entertainment circles as Scrunter, will be the main performer at a Parang Soca Party carded for the Cruise Ship Berth December 14.

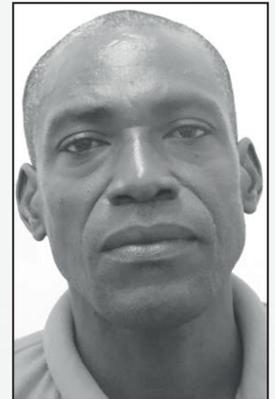
The man behind the promotion is Trinidad born David Jackson popularly referred to as the 'Doubles Man.'

Jackson prides himself as an original member of the group Drags: (Dynamic Rhythm and Arts Groups in Solidarity) which functioned in West St. George in the early 70s.

Jackson is proud of his Caribbean Heritage. Born of Vincentian parents, Jackson has the benefit of dual citizenship and commutes between the two territories.

Local cast including Shernelle 'Skarpyon' Williams, the Bowman family, Shrevrell 'Candy Man' McMillan along with Too Cool Chris and Donovan Crick and the Exclusive Sounds will add to the production.

A suckling pig, ready to eat, will be awarded to the best dressed couple.



David Jackson