

Structure

- The day to day management and administration of the NYSO is directed by Keron Valentine
- The musical director and conductor of NYSO is Seon Gomez
- Arrangers and tutors are appointed to the various regional orchestras and are involved in all aspects of the building of the NYSO's repertoire and concert performances.

Developing Programme of Music Education

The history of the playing of the steelpan in Trinidad and Tobago is one of learning by habitual repetition or rote. Since the invention of the instrument, local pannist were literally revered and viewed with amazement for their ability to play the music of the steelpan without any reference to even the rudiments of formal music literacy. That outlook has however changed drastically and there is now the ever increasing and continuing clamour for pannists to become musically literate. The NYSO is fully supportive of this realisation and will be developing a programme of sustained music education for its membership. And while there has been an upsurge of musically literate pannist in Trinidad and Tobago over the past five years or so, one of the NYSO major objectives in the short to medium term is the acquisition of formal advanced music education and certification for all members of the NYSO. This is of fundamental importance since another main objective of the NYSO is to encourage our members to acquire the competence of playing the corresponding conventional instrument to that of their steelpan instrument of choice. The NYSO is committed to the provisioning of continuous music education within our communities, our organization and beyond. Music education will help our members to learn teamwork, develop a greater sense of responsibility and self discipline. Through music education our membership will gain immense self confidence, develop positive qualities and attitudes that will lay the foundation for the rest of their lives.

Description of Responsibilities of the Executive Director – NYSO

- Select, manage and direct administrative staff and other personnel associated with the NYSO.
- Manage the promotion, public relations and fund raising activity of NYSO.
- Become a visible and active participant in the Steelpan community.



Mr Seon Gomez was appointed Musical Director and conductor of the NYSO by the Executive Committee of Pan Trinbago. **Mr Gomez** is a graduate of the Northern Illinois University in the USA and is a trained professional musician and educator. **Mr Keron Valentine** is the chairman/director of NYSO. He is in charge of Youth Affairs in Pan Trinbago and serves on the board of the Trinidad and Tobago Pan Works. Limited as its Market Study and Research Officer. and is also a member of the National Junior Festivals committee.

- Participate in promotional activities of the NYSO by being available for public appearances and speaking engagements.
- Attend official functions and corporate receptions etc on behalf of the NYSO.
- Develop a positive public image of the NYSO in the national community.
- Engage concert audiences through brief remarks of repertoire during concert performances.
- Attend and chair meetings of the Management Committee of the NYSO.
- Develop programmes of the NYSO for the submission to the Executive Committee of Pan Trinbago.
- Submit an annual review and evaluation of the activities of the NYSO to the Executive Committee of Pan Trinbago.
- Oversee the financial management of the NYSO
- Develop and promote the educational mission of the NYSO.
- Attend meetings of the Executive Committee of Pan Trinbago when necessary.
- Liaise with musical director and conductor with respect to the engagement of guest performers and conductors.

Description of Responsibilities of the Musical Director and Conductor – NYSO

- Prepare repertoire for concert season for discussions with the Executive Director and Regional Tutors and conductors.
- Prepare schedule of rehearsal dates.
- Responsible for developing the artistic quality of the orchestra.
- Arrange training programmes for members of the orchestra.
- Co-ordinate the tutoring and rehearsal activity of the regional orchestras.
- Conduct and supervise auditions, select musicians for concert performances.
- Arrange playing positions of instrumentalist for concert performances.
- Arrange for the provision of music scores/sheets to regional tutors and arrangers.
- Liaise with Executive Director to identify and select competent resources to assist in the regional activity of the NYSO.
- Evaluate the musical competence of members of the NYSO.
- Responsible for the appointment of instrument leaders.

“In the midst of all the merrymaking that carnival is supposed to be; that handling of the minor key makes you remember those two masks... One mask is smiling and one mask is weeping. His minor always had this terrible, gut-wrenching quality about it. The tragic underside of the human condition. Nobody can do it like that - I don’t know that anyone ever will... And it seemed to embody everything that I think Mr. Bradley was, that he knew life as - brilliant and he knew it as tragic. And his music said that, and in that way it became almost a mirror of Trinidad life...”
- **Pat Bishop** - World Steelband Music Festival winning arranger

“There is only one Clive Bradley who gave us exceptional music. Clive is my friend... He was a very sharing man and a very private man. It is a great, great loss. I have lost my friend... for me he used to create magic...”
- **Ella Andall** - international performing artist

“Clive was - as we say - one of the greatest arrangers in pan. He was a mathematician - he was able to subtract and divide and add to the music, and do with the music whatever he thought needed to be done; and he knew sometimes that silence was golden. We need to continue, and do the best we can to make him smile. We need to continue to create - and the bands, Desperadoes, then Pantonic, D'Radoes and Metro in New York - and all the other bands he arranged for. We must continue to celebrate his life and be joyful, and not be sad, because he would not have wanted us to do that.”
- **Robert Greenidge** - panorama-winning arranger & world-renowned panist

“A great musician. A great loss to the pan world for sure. There is only one Clive Bradley. There is no one who does a panorama tune like Clive Bradley. He has his style which was very effective. He looked at a song and lyrics and used that. The guy is genius - a top-of-the-line musician.”
- **Jit Samaroo** - panorama-winning arranger for Renegades

“The world’s lost a musical genius, and the steelband in particular has lost its best arranger. It hurts a lot but we’ve got to move on. I’ve known Mr. Bradley for over 25 years and he was always a pleasant person. Sometimes he gave you a little trouble but he always made you laugh in the end, always made you happy at the end... It’s been a pleasure working with him, I must say...”
- **Keith Roberts** - past captain & current arranger of Pantonic Steel Orchestra

“The pan movement all over world has lost one of its great arrangers and composers. He will surely be missed. I can’t even imagine a panorama without him. Bradley’s arrangements were unique. This year [2005] he won in New York; he came 1st and 2nd [in the New York Panorama competition]. He won Pan In The 21st Century [in Trinidad]... The world’s mourning a great, great guy...a genius.”
- **Patrick Arnold** - President of Pan Trinbago

“It’s a tremendous loss to the whole steelband movement throughout the entire world. Clive Bradley has touched the lives of all of us as young arrangers in so many prolific ways - listening to his music and listening to him speak. It is a tragic loss. And while we mourn his passing, I in particular, and the steelband movement am real happy that we were able to enjoy... his concepts and ideas in music and harmonization and so on - he inspired us to work for higher heights.”
- **David ‘Peck’ Edwards** - panorama-winning arranger; manager for Grenada’s New Dimension Steel Orchestra

“He was the consummate musician, not only in his sense of craftsmanship - his ability to put sounds together in interesting ways.. - but conceptually in terms of what he thought about what he was doing - and how he intended to match it to the people that he was working with. Truly, truly, an extraordinary man in that regard. For me, I saw this as just an extraordinary opportunity to try to connect with someone who clearly is a giant at what he does... We use this word ‘genius’ all too frequently, and often it is mis-applied. But here is a person, who I think that the term is absolutely à propos... His music was just simply stunning...”
- **Dr. Robert Stephens** - Professor of Music at University of Connecticut, USA

“Sir Bradley indeed did make his contribution to the steelband movement....a very valuable one indeed...!! A lot of arrangers who started after him (including myself), benefited tremendously from the high standards that he set for us.... May his soul rest in peace.....!!”
- **Leon “Smooth” Edwards** - panorama-winning arranger - Trinidad All Stars

“Antigua’s Gemonites Steel Orchestra has always favored and respected Clive, Boogsie and Jit as arrangers, but my personal favorite is Clive. Quite effortlessly, Clive has managed to achieve, through his music, a level of consistency and satisfaction. He has also made arranging seem so easy. The world feels the void that his passing has created but let us dwell, not on what we have no control over, but on all the wonderful music and experiences he shared with us all.”
- **Robin Margetson** - panorama-winning arranger & manager for Gemonites Steel Orchestra

“I hear his musical expression as a vibrant present rooted in a golden past --- a past which includes Bertram Innis, Vasso Defreitas, Otmar Devlught and others. Expression which invites a spirit of daring..... daring to introduce novel ideas and fresh techniques to audiences, rather than simply re-present the familiar.”
- **Frankie McIntosh** - arranger, composer, musician

“Bradley is the greatest steelband arranger that ever passed through in our time - he was a boss!”
- **Len “Boogsie” Sharpe** - panorama-winning arranger for Phase II Pan Groove.

by **When Steel Talks**