



HARLEM *Syncopators*



EVERY YEAR SINCE 1999, THE SWEET SOUNDS OF HARLEM SYNCOPATORS FILL THE AIR AT THE SINGLE PAN PANORAMA COMPETITION IN TRINIDAD & TOBAGO. THIS DYNAMIC GROUP OF YOUNG MUSICIANS WAS FOUNDED IN SEPTEMBER 1998, BY PAN DISCIPLE DAISY JAMES MC CLEAN AND HERMAN "THREE A'S" ANDALCIO.

The orchestra lives by a motto of "LOVE WITHOUT POSITIVE ACTION HAS NO MEANING" and provides a place for young people to socialize and enjoy their culture while developing self-discipline, responsibility and the self-esteem in "Harlem" a community of Quarry Street, East Dry River, Port of Spain Trinidad and Tobago. As early as December 1998, Harlem Syncopators had their first official performance at the St. Roses Girls Roman Catholic School Home for the elderly. They continue to perform at many charitable events.

Daisy, the sister of pan historian Ancil "Sonny" James, spent all her years involved in the steel band movement and earned the distinction of being one of the first female pannists in Trinidad and Tobago. Daisy captain's the Orchestra but also wears the hats of treasurer, mentor, mother, teacher, advisor and friend. Herman, the Manager gives his financial resources, strength, love and wisdom, reminding them always to "use all opportunities as stepping stones to enhance their lives". Together they are enthusiastic about steel pan music and exercise iron fists of pride to maintain discipline and respect among the membership of Harlem Syncopators

Herman Andalacio resides in Chicago, USA but his heart and soul is pure Trini. Herman's generous spirit is commendable and extends beyond the boundaries of Harlem Syncopators. His living principles of "Attitude, Aptitude and Altitude" has helped elevate the steel pan art form in the lives of so

many young people who became well traveled successful musicians after their introduction to steel pan music. He gives significant financial support to help the band procure its instruments, set up and maintain its pan tent. This springs from a heartfelt desire to promote his culture while giving back to his hometown.

Gerald "Bellies" Charles steadies the musical mast of Harlem Syncopators. His musical arrangements over the years have provided excitement for and attraction to steel band music. This never-ending musical stimulation is the synergy that keeps Harlem Syncopators on track to maintaining their goals of developing in the young, a love of steel, respect for their culture, discipline and responsibility. Many of have moved on to play with large conventional steel orchestras and to pursue careers in music.

By Vanessa Clarke

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Herman Andalacio (left)
Daisy (right)

