

Garifuna Wagia Campaign Partners

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Bronx Community Board # 6

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United Garifuna Association, Inc.
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About the Garifunas

The Garifuna story begins in 1665 with the shipwreck of two British slave ships near the Island of Saint Vincent. The ships were carrying Africans to be used as slaves in the British colonies in the area of Martinique, Santa Lucia, Granada, Dominica, and Barbados. The slaves swam to freedom on the island of Saint Vincent.

A subsequent shipwreck in 1675 along with slaves fleeing neighboring islands, especially from the colonial plantations in Barbados, produced a rapid influx of Africans to the island. These Africans rapidly became part of the Arawak Indian society. Soon after, the African men began to marry the Arawak, or Carib, women, mixing the two cultures. From this union come a new population of black Caribbean to compete for land and power with the original Arawak Caribs. This new population of black Caribs is what today is known as the Garifuna people.

In 1795, with the country of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, under the governorship of James Seton, the Caribs began the two years of attack known as the Second Carib War led by the Paramount Garifuna Chief Joseph Chatoyer. Chatoyer was killed on March 14th, 1795 in Dorsetshire Hill. Battles raged throughout St. Vincent over the next year with both sides bearing heavy losses. The final battle took place at Vigie on June 10th, 1796. After a night of arduous fighting the Caribs approach the British with a truce flag.

Submission terms were negotiated and during the next four months over 5,000 Caribs surrendered. The Caribs were exiled to the neighboring island of Balliceaux and in February 1797, the defeated Caribs were loaded onto a convoy of eight vessels and transported to the coast of Honduras, where they arrived on April 12th. From there they spread through out the North Coast of Honduras, Belize, Guatemala and Nicaragua.



***We are Garifunas,
we vote and we Count!***



**GARINAGU WAGIA
Campaign**

Garifuna Pride Our Voice - Our Vision

Garifuna Advocacy Center
391 East 149th Street, Suite 215
Bronx, NY 10455

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The Garinagu Wagia Campaign

The goal of the Garinagu Wagia (We Are Garifunas) Campaign, is to educate and create awareness and appreciation of the Garifuna culture. The Garifuna Coalition Inc., in partnership with other community-based organizations, presents a rich collection of programs through the year that promote cross-cultural understanding and celebrate our history, culture and religion, and their importance in shaping and enriching the City.

The Drama of King Shotaway

Although there is no official record of when the first Garinagu arrived in North America, a New York City theater playbill revealed that Garifunas may have migrated during the nineteenth century. The playbill was for an 1823 play about Garifuna hero Joseph Chatoyer. Playwright William Henry Brown was believed to be a Garifuna from St. Vincent. His play, *The Drama of King Shotaway*, a play which is recognized as the first black drama of the American Theatre, which has as its subject the 1795 Black Caribs Insurrection in the Island of Saint Vincent.

June 20 - Bronx Week Parade

July 12 Voter Registration Drives

July 18– 23, 2009 - Garifuna Reunion in St Vincent and the Grenadines

August 9 Voter Registration Drives

August 10, 2009 - 63 anniversary of the founding of the Carib American Association, Inc.

August 31, 2009 - 50 anniversary of the founding of the Fenix Social Club, Inc.

Saturday, September 5th, 2009 4 PM
Second Garifuna Food/Art & Crafts Expo
South Bronx Neighborhood Center, Inc
955 Tinton, Avenue, Bronx, NY 10456

Sunday, September 13th, 2009
13th Honduran & Central American Parade
Southern Boulevard & 180th Street Bronx, NY

Saturday, September 28th, 2009 - African-American Caribbean One Nation Parade

Saturday, November 14th, 2009
Second Annual Yellow White & Black Gala
The Eastwood Manor
3371 Eastchester Rd, Bronx, NY 10469

Saturday, November 19th, 2009
Garifuna Settlement Day in Belize

Saturday, November 26th, 2009
Garifuna Settlement Day in Guatemala

Thursday, March 11th, 2010 - 213th Anniversary of the Exile of the Garifunas from St Vincent

Garifuna Heritage Month Begins
Garifuna Advocacy Center **1:00 PM**
391 East 149 St, RM 215, Bronx NY 10455

Sunday March 14th, 2010-215th Anniversary of the death of the Garifuna Chief Joseph Chatoyer

Joseph Chatoyer Memorial Mass
St Anthony of Padua Church
832 East 166 St Bronx, NY 10459

Garifuna Food/Arts Expo 2:00

Thursday, March 25th, 2010 7:00 PM
20th Anniversary of the Happy Land Social Club
Fire
St. Augustine Church
1183 Franklin Ave, Bronx, NY 10456

Sunday, March 28th, 2010 at 12:30 pm –
20th Annual Mass in memory of 87 victims
St Thomas Aquinas Church,
1900 Crotona Parkway, Bronx, NY

Monday, April 12th, 2010
213th Anniversary of the Garifunas Settlement in Honduras and Central America
Saturday, May 8th, 2010 12th Anniversary of the founding of the Garifuna Coalition USA

Tuesday, May 18th, 2010 9th Anniversary of UNESCO's Proclamation of the Garifuna Culture as Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangibles Heritage of Humanity.

Saturday, May 22, 2010
10th Anniversary of the founding of the New Horizon Investment Club.
The Eastwood Manor
3371 Eastchester Rd, Bronx, NY 10469

CENSUS 2010

The Garifuna Coalition USA, Inc. is partnering with the U.S. Census, to make sure that Garinagu are counted properly, therefore, we invite you to participate in the 2010 Census and recommend that you answer the questions as follows:

8. Is person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin?

X Yes, another Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin - i.e. Guatemalan, Honduran, Nicaraguan.

If you are from Belize or St. Vincent and the Grenadines, answer:

XNo, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin

9. What is person's 1 race?

X Some other race - Print race. **Garifuna**