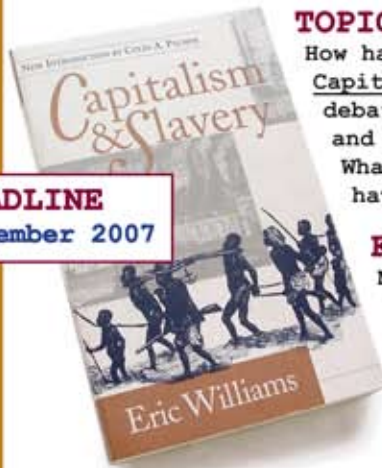




ERIC WILLIAMS "SCHOOL BAGS" ESSAY COMPETITION



"...you carry the future of [the Nation] in your schoolbags." Eric Eustace Williams, August 1962



DEADLINE
15 December 2007

TOPIC

How has Eric Williams' 63-year-old book Capitalism and Slavery shaped current debates on the commerce in African slaves and the abolition of slavery? What relevance, if any, do these debates have for today's student?

FORMAT

Maximum 3000 words, Typed or Microsoft Word, double-spaced, font size: 12 pt.

ELIGIBILITY

Final Year Sixth Form students in the former and current British-colonized Caribbean countries.

INFORMATION

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SUBMISSIONS

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Sponsored by
The Eric Williams Memorial Collection
The University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago
The Jamaica Bicentenary Committee



FIRST PRIZE

Trip to Trinidad and Tobago with approved chaperone includes:

- Airfare and 4-nights double accommodation, breakfast and dinner daily
- Tour of Eric Williams Memorial Collection and University of the West Indies campus
- US \$1,000 educational voucher
- Courtesy calls on President of Trinidad and Tobago, Speaker of Parliament and tour of Parliament
- Framed certificate
- Essay publication
- A Trinidad and Tobago winner will receive a trip to Jamaica.

AWARDS
1st March 2008

SECOND PRIZE

Laptop computer

THIRD PRIZE

US \$500 educational voucher

SCHOOL PRIZE

Trophy, set of Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History

All winners also receive a set of Eric Williams' books.

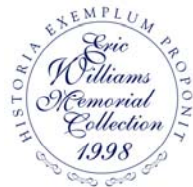
RULES

1. Entries must be students' own unaided effort.
2. Source information must be acknowledged – at least five references.
3. A bibliography must be included.
4. Evidence of plagiarism will result in disqualification.
5. Entries must include: name of student, class/form, name of school, school mailing and email address, school stamp and signature of Principal.



Commemorating the 2007
Bicentenary of the British Abolition
of the Transatlantic Slave Trade





The Eric Williams Memorial Collection

P.O. Box 561631* Miami, Fl 33256-1631* USA * Tel: 305-271-7246 * Cell: 305-905-9999 * Fax: 305-271-4160

Eric Williams Memorial Collection Sponsors Regional Bicentenary 'School Bags' Essay Competition

Port of Spain, TRINIDAD and TOBAGO (October 22, 2007) The Eric Williams Memorial Collection (EWMC) at the University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, announces the inauguration of the “Eric Williams ‘School Bags’ Essay Competition.” In honour of the 2007 Bicentenary of the British Abolition of the Transatlantic Trade in Africans, this regional effort is co-sponsored by the Jamaica National Bicentenary Committee.

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Dr Eric Williams, noted scholar/historian and the first Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, authored the classic Capitalism and Slavery, which is widely considered to have “defined the study of Caribbean History.”

Throughout his life, Williams gave special emphasis to learning. He often said “to educate is to emancipate.” On August 30, 1962, the eve of his country’s Independence from Britain, he exhorted:

“You, the children, yours is the great responsibility to educate your parents, teach them to live together in harmony...To your tender and loving hands, the future of the Nation is entrusted. In your innocent hearts, the pride of the Nation is enshrined. On your scholastic development, the salvation of the Nation is dependent...you carry the future of Trinidad and Tobago in your school bags.”

The contest is offered to all final year Sixth Form students in the former and current British-colonized Caribbean countries: Anguilla, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos. It

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will be held from September 15 through December 15, 2007. Winners will be announced on March 1, 2008. All entries will be based on Eric Williams' seminal work and will discuss two questions: How has Capitalism and Slavery shaped current debates on the commerce in African slaves and the abolition of slavery? What relevance, if any, do these debates have for today's student?

First prizewinners will receive a four-day trip for two to Trinidad and Tobago with airfare, hotel accommodations and two meals daily; a tour of the Eric Williams Memorial Collection and University of the West Indies campus; a US \$1000 educational voucher; courtesy calls on the President of Trinidad and Tobago and the Speaker of the House of Representatives; a tour of Parliament; a set of Eric Williams' books; and a framed certificate. The winning essay will also be published. In the event of a Trinidad and Tobago winner, a trip to Jamaica will be substituted.

Patrons of the Eric Williams Memorial Collection's 'School Bags' Essay Competition are: Caribbean Airlines, Ltd.; Caribbean Development Bank; CARICOM; CL Financial, Ltd.; Digicel Trinidad & Tobago, Ltd.; LIAT (1974) Ltd.; Trinidad Hilton; University of the West Indies. Detailed information and runner-up prizes are listed on the EWMC's website: www.mainlib.uwi.tt/eric.html.

The Eric Williams Memorial Collection constitutes the Library, Archives and Museum of Eric Williams. It was inaugurated by former US Secretary of State Colin Powell in 1998, and named to UNECSO's prestigious *Memory of the World Register* in 1999.

For more information, please contact Erica Williams Connell, Eric Williams Memorial Collection P.O. Box 561631, Miami, FL 33256-1631, USA. Tel: (305) 271-7246; Fax: (305) 271-4160; Cell: (305)905-9999 Email: ewc.suilan@juno.com or Helen Kitty Smith Tel: (214)546-4535; Email: kittismith@earthlink.net. Other website information: <http://palmm.fcla.edu/ew/>.

EWMC