



PRESS RELEASE

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2011 Joanna Clarke Award Application Process Officially Open, Announces DMS

GEORGE TOWN, Grand Cayman – Celebrating its fifth year, dms Organization Ltd. (DMS), is delighted to announce that the 2011 Joanna Clarke Excellence in Education Award (JCA) application process is officially underway, whereby DMS grants up to \$12,000 KYD annually to a worthy education initiative(s). With applications being accepted until April 1st, the foundation of this award is to publicly acknowledge the efforts of all persons and organizations that contribute to education in the Cayman Islands.

DMS Vice President, and JCA Committee Member, Krista Pell commented, “Being in its fifth year, the local community is becoming increasingly familiar with the requirements and foundation for this award. We are proud to officially announce our call for applicants and we very much look forward to seeing what the community puts forth – we continue to be impressed both with the applicants who we receive each year, as well as following up on the success of the initiatives that have been award grantees in the past.”

Adding to that, namesake of the award Ms. Clarke said, “A marvelous accomplishment – one of our winners last year was Cayman Prep and High School for its marine science programme, and they went on to achieve educational excellence! Two of the students within the programme received the ‘Top of the World’ exceptional performance awards from the University of Cambridge International Examinations for gaining the highest marks in the world in Marine Science at AS-Level in June 2010!”

She added, “There is nothing more rewarding than knowing that this award contributed to the programme – it’s our way of showing support for all their hard work, and they took this opportunity and capitalized on it to outperform all their peers. We are so incredibly proud of them.”

For more information on this press release please contact Laura-Anne Howard, Corporate Communications Coordinator, dms Organization Ltd., at 749-2458 or lhoward@dms.com.ky.

Applications are currently being circulated throughout Cayman Islands' schools and are available at the award website www.joannaclarkeaward.ky. All reputable organizations with a not-for-profit educational pursuit are eligible for consideration including, but not limited to: charitable organizations, teachers, students, Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) and schools.

The JCA criteria are:

- Contribute to and promote excellence in education in the Cayman Islands
- Be sustainable and measurable
- Contribute to increased parental and/or community involvement in education
- Be affiliated with a reputable educational institution or organization
- Demonstrate a proven history in successful education projects and/or teaching
- Contingency for leadership

The JCA Committee will carefully review all applications submitted, and if several worthy projects are identified, they may provide grants to multiple organizations up to \$12,000 KYD in total.

Added Mrs. Pell, "Investing in our nation's youth has always been of fundamental importance to our business practice. We look forward to seeing what deserving initiatives are put forth this year - it can be incredibly challenging narrowing them down! What is important to remember is that we invite applicants who may not have been chosen last year to apply again, as well as of course welcoming new initiatives for consideration. In addition to winning, there is also the opportunity to bring awareness to your programmes - we encourage the education community to apply."

Recognizing the importance of private sector support for education, DMS introduced the award to honour local educator Ms. Clarke in 2007, seeking to bring awareness to the contributions of local educators and encourage others to also demonstrate their support.

Last year's winners were Cayman Prep and High School for its marine science programme, George Town Primary School for its Digital Visual Media Club and John Gray High School for its Scuba Diving Club.

For further information and to obtain an application contact Tara Tvedt-Pearson, DMS Project Coordinator, at 749-2407 or ttvedt@dms.com.ky.

dms Organization is a business conglomerate engaged in the financial services, real estate and media industries.

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