

**Introducing our 1st
Scholarship Winner.**
Scholarship Awarded on
August 31st, 2013 at the SPBS
Annual Banquet in NY



I am **Sharine Hodge**, a proud citizen of St. Kitts and Nevis who grew up in the town of Sandy Point. I am married to a devoted husband, Garfield Hodge with whom I share two sons, Jamal and Josiah. Growing up, I always had a drive to pursue a higher level of education. Being the second of seven siblings, as I grew older, it seemed as though this dream would never be fulfilled. My relationship with God and being an active member of the Sandy Point Apostolic Faith Mission from a tender age has helped to direct my life in a positive spiritual direction. Being the youth president and serving as worship leader for many years enabled me to utilize my God given leadership potential throughout my life. My mother Heather Blake, who has always been a source of strength physically, spiritually, and emotionally helped to pave the way to my solid educational foundation. My father Elvis Woodley, now deceased always reminded me of my dream of going off to college. The humble beginnings from which I come have being the fuel of the proud successes of my ongoing career.

Mention must be made of my high school principal, the legendary Mr. William Hodge, who has always encouraged excellence through discipline and perseverance. His hard work and dedication to the success of his students went far beyond the call of duty to bring out our fullest potential. Both my high school and primary school teachers have made invaluable contributions to my journey by granting me the best educational background ever. I always boast of the fact that God must have handpicked the best set of teachers for me to meet in my life because they have all shaped me into the person I am now. For which I am eternally grateful.

After completing high school and college I was employed by the Ministry of Education where I taught at the primary level for eight years. Within those years I went on to pursue an Associate's Degree in Elementary Education from the University of the West Indies at the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College (CFBC). I strove for excellence which resulted in me receiving an award for Excellence in Science teaching at the graduation ceremony. The drive for me to pursue my Bachelor's Degree arose two years after. Such an unexplainable drive had to be fulfilled, and both my husband and I took the leap of faith to pursue degrees at Cameron University.

I am majoring in Elementary Education as I have a deep desire to see the youth of my country grow successfully. It is my passion to bring out the best in each of them in their foundational years. Such a passion is priceless to the heart and soul. I can hardly wait to return home with the added strategies and skills acquired (and needed in our education system) to continue changing lives of young leaders in our Federation.