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WWW.MIPOINC.ORG

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# 2022 IN REVIEW

*"Planting a seed at a time...building individuals for lifetime."*



*Team MIPO  
Felina Backer  
Founder & President*

*Sandra Nelson  
Program Director, Co-Founder*

*Dr. Max Jean Paul  
Education Affairs Director*

*Jasmine Philema  
Scholarship Coordinator*

*Margarette Tropnas  
Honorary Member*

*Advisors  
Dr. Greta Strong  
Dr. Farnel Backer  
Gerard Cadet*

## LOYAL SUPPORTERS:

Thank you for the comfort you have provided to us in pursuing the mission and vision of MIPO during 2022. You are the rock that sustains us.

All that we were able to accomplish last year was due to the blessings bestowed upon the organization through your financial and human capacity resources. We thank our partners and sponsors for the trust placed in us to impact, inspire and mobilize generations to come.

Happy reading!

Felina Backer, President & Founder

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## Our partners & Sponsors





# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAINING IN LES CAYES, HAITI



## Emergency Preparedness Training

Natural disasters plague Haiti yearly and cause major damage. In August 2022, MIPO and partners, such as **HRA, Moderna, & OneDiaspora**, decided to build capacity of 33 educators from 25 schools in southern Haiti from August 9th to August 12th in order to provide them with the needed knowledge of the risks and tragedy preparedness skills needed, which, in turn, will be transmitted to school children, their peers and family members and, ultimately, the community in which they live. They participated in an intensive training conducted by Dr. Mentor, which included practice sessions. At the conclusion of the four-day session, all participants received an emergency kit that contained over 40 items for their school building.

We believe that we were successful in accomplishing the set objectives based on the feedback received from the participants. They were quite impressive, profound and remarkable. Few of the statements from the participants sealed the overarching reason for this training: "I took a training on "Risks and disasters, psycho-social support" with UNICEF/MENFP already, but this time with this team I got more practice."

"We really appreciated this training where we learned many things and the trainers were of top caliber to host the training. We hope that those in charge would provide continuous training so that we could benefit from topics on risks and disasters."

**Dr. Mentor's** thoughts on the training: "Through this initiative, MIPO and partners have done an incredible contribution towards the safety of several schools in Les Cayes. At the end of the training, the participants are better equipped to participate in the process and establish the appropriate strategies to engage alongside the government in taking risks into account."

## TOPICS COVERED

### Disaster Management

- Basics of Disaster Management and Institutional Mechanism in Haiti.
- National System of Disaster Management
- Cycle of Disaster Management
- Earthquakes and tectonics
- Tsunami, types, causes and signs
- Flood risk in Les Cayes
- Climate-induced disasters
- Physical, social, economic, psychological impacts of disasters
- Vulnerability, vulnerable groups and inclusion
- The importance of developing Family Emergency Plan and School Emergency Plan

### First aid

- The heart, Wound, types and measures
- Hemorrhages, types
- CPR training modules
- CPR for adults
- CPR for children
- How to use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
- Choking/airway obstruction in adults and children











# Summer 2022 S.T.E.W. Camp, Les Cayes, Haiti



MIPO's S.T.E.W. camp provides an exploratory atmosphere for youth to thrive. It is a place for school children to interact in a safe environment, learn, grow and develop creativity skills that will last a lifetime. It is a place that provides an opportunity for children to not only get out of the house for some fun and worthwhile activities and new adventures, but also broaden their perspective and experience a whole new world for their summer break. Our learning beyond the traditional classroom environment can do wonders for the social-emotional growth and development of youth. Participants are sure to leave summer camp with stories, photographs, friendships, life lessons, and memories that will last a lifetime.

This past August, MIPO, Inc. in partnership with Moderna and HRA, held its annual summer camp activities in Les Cayes. As previously mentioned on page 2, in August of 2021, Les Cayes was devastated by an earthquake and many schools were damaged. We wanted to provide school children a bit of relief and a sense of stability. The camp was held at EFACAP Michel Lazare school for a 2-week period where over 180 students participated. The school children, from ages 10 - 17, enjoyed activities such as Culinary Arts/Etiquette, Swimming, Taekwando, Theater, Music and Visual Arts. The older scholars were provided with an opportunity to join the Barbering Certificate Program. Those participants received a barbering certificate and tools to immerse them into entrepreneurship. The camp was a tremendous success! The camp instructors and students wished that the camp was longer. The entire community greatly benefited from the camp as we supported the local economy through purchasing of supplies and goods locally. Students, instructors, support staff members and training participants were all fed breakfast and lunch during the two weeks we ran the summer program.

At the conclusion of the camp, all participants received a book bag filled with school supplies and toiletries. The following items were in each book bag: glue stick, highlighters, notebook, pack of colored markers, packet folder, pen, pencil, rulers, scissors, sharpener, combs, dental floss, deodorant, small flashlight, body lotion, hand sanitizer, poncho, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, wash cloth, colored pencils, compass, protractor, crayons, markers, eraser caps, flashlights, et cetera. Altogether, we distributed 300 book bags in the southern area (Les Cayes). Some of the beneficiaries were KOCLAT and

The grant received from Moderna through HRA enabled MIPO to provide the educational relief that students and their families needed. As for the restoration of school facilities, we are still in the process of supporting three schools that were selected through an intensive screening process. Additionally, the facility we utilized for the camp is another school we are adopting. That school is in poor condition and in need of repairs.

By Catherine Napoleon  
MIPO, Inc. Liaison (Haiti)

*Congrats!  
Congratulations to  
Catherine for  
completing her  
MIPO Teacher  
Lead Certificate  
program!*

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# PHOTOS S.T.E.W. & SCHOOL SUPPLIES/TOILETRIES DISTRIBUTION

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## S.T.E.W. Camp





# 2022 MIPO Gala Recap



## 2022 Hall of Fame Gala

MIPO's gala was on a halt during the pandemic. After not celebrating our Hall of Famers for about three years, it was a joy to have them in our midst on June 5th, 2022 at the beautiful 26Bridge in Dumbo Brooklyn. There was laughter, great music, delicious food, empowering messages from our guest speakers and the honorees. We were blessed by the presence of Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, NYS Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli, NYC Council Members Mercedes Narcisse and Rita Joseph (also an honoree), Mark Appel, from *The Bridge Multi-Cultural and Advocacy Project*, NYS Assemblymember Monique Chandler-Waterman, former Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe, Paul Vilfranche, from the *Ministry of Communication (Haiti)*, Gloria Stars Kins, who was a founding member of UNICEF's Manhattan chapter and so many others. Our attendees made the gala truly special. Without your presence, it would not have been as great as it was. For this, we say thank you.

We can't wait to see all of you at next year's gala. For those who could not attend last year, start making plans now and also invite everyone you know.



Danielle Jones (Honoree) & NYS Comptroller Thom DiNapoli



Dr. Olugbenga Alaba Ajala (Honoree)



NYC Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse & Dr. Michel Jose Charles (Honoree)



Dr. Max Jean Paul (MIPO Board Member) & Hervé Guiteau (Honoree)



Rolanda Telesford-Hastick (Honoree)



Matthew E. Fink, MD (Honoree)



Giulio M. Posinetti, M.D., Ph.D. (Honoree)



Felina Backer (MIPO Board Member) & Ronald Arbourg (Honoree)



Dr. Jean Eddy Saint Paul (Honoree)





Former National Director of Governmental & Political Affairs at the A.F.S.A.

**Gabriel Galucci**



Biomedical Research Scientist

**Dr. Magalie Emile-Backer**



FAAN, FAHA, FANA; Asst. Dean for Clinical Affairs, Louis & Gertrude Feil Prof. & Chair, Dept. of Neurology, Weill Cornell Medicine - New York Presbyterian

**Matthew E. Fink, M.D.**



Director of Outreach & External Affairs, YWCA

**Rolanda Telesford-Hastick**



President/CEO of Ajala Int'l Organizations, Inc.

**Dr. Olugbenga Alaba Ajala**



Professor of Sociology & Founding Director of the CUNY Haitian Studies Institute, Brooklyn College

**Dr. Jean Eddy Saint Paul**



Assistant Comptroller NYS Comptroller Intergovernmental & Community Affairs

**Danielle Jones**



Architect

**Gilbert Hippolyte**



NYC Council Member

**Rita Joseph**



Retired Sergeant, NYPD; Police Advisor at the UN

**Herve Guiteau**



Chief Creative Officer, MJPD

**Joane Pillard**



Model; Owner and Operator of the Award-winning Alvin and Friends Restaurant

**Alvin Clayton**



Superintendent, District 75

**Ketler Louissaint**



Activist

**Ronald A. Aubourg**



Owner/CEO of MediRootz Medical Group

**Maurice D. Hinson, M. D.**



The Saunders Family Chair and Professor in Neurology; Director, Center for Molecular Integrative Neuroresilience

**Dr. Giulio Maria Pasinetti, M.D., Ph.D.**



Stock Enthusiast

**Evens Blaise**



Internist & Gastroenterologist; V.P. of AMHE

**Michel Jose Charles, M.D.**

**2022 Gala**

*It was an extraordinary evening! We could not have done it without the support of our attendees. This was the first gala since the pandemic hit the world. We thank everyone who came out to enjoy an evening celebrating the contributions of many, especially our honorees.*

*For those who did not make it in 2022, we look forward to you joining us in 2023.*

*The Honorees received Proclamations/Citations from the following Elected Officials:*

*Council Member Rita Joseph  
Council Member Mercedes Narcisse  
Council Member Crystal Hudson  
NYC Public Advocate Jumaane Williams*

*Assembly Member Elect Monique Chandler-Waterman  
Assembly Member Mathylde Frontus  
Assembly Member Kimberly Jean-Pierre  
Assembly Member Michaelle Solages  
Assembly Member Latrice Walker*

*Senator Zellnor Myrie  
Senator Kevin Parker  
Senator Roxanne Persaud*

*Congressmember Yvette D. Clarke  
Congressmember Hakeem Jeffries*



September 2019

# GALA RECAP

Vol 1 Issue 21

June 2022  
@ 26 Bridge in Dumbo



**2023  
HERE  
WE  
COME!  
MAY 28**

*Contact us  
for tickets.*





# YOUTH SUMMIT<sub>2022</sub> & SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

## Youth Summit & U.S. Scholarship Pitchers

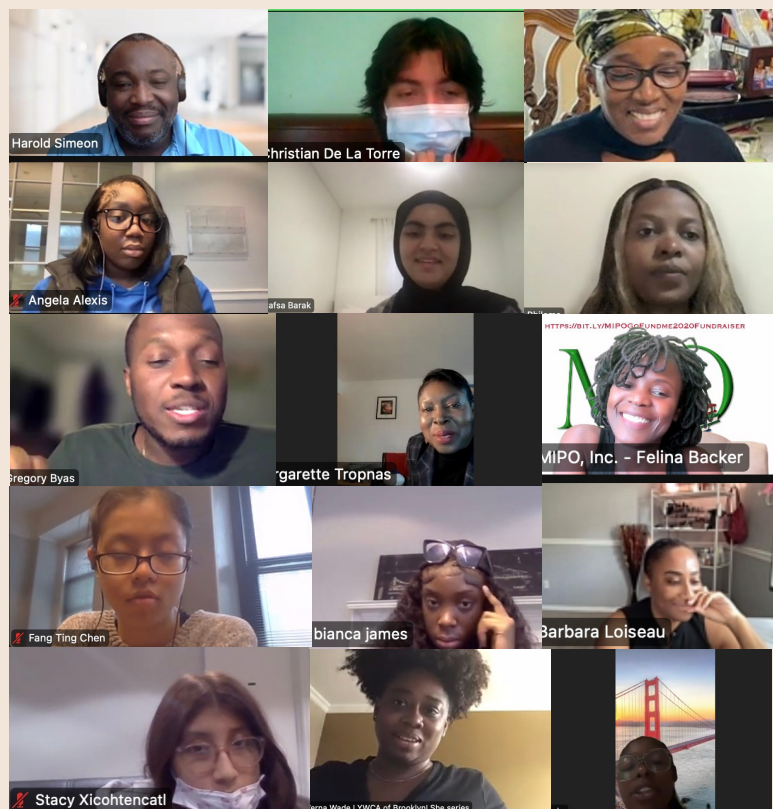
Our annual youth summit was held virtually on November 11th 2022. As usual, it was a success. We welcomed students and families from around New York. Attendees participated in the following workshops: Accessing the Secret of College Resources by Nikitta Johnson; Finding Your Innermost Motivation presented by Gregory Byas; Technology and Media by Barbara Loiseau; Investment & Financial Freedom by Harold Simeon; Mock Admissions Committee by Verna Wade; and Engineering presented by Andy Exceus. The workshops were very inspiring. We thank the presenters and attendees for many this year's summit an exceptional one.

This year, five seniors were the recipients of the 2023 "Pitch On the Spot" scholarship. Our scholarship has help many youths in the metropolitan area overcome financial burden that could have impacted their education journey. We look forward to awarding this new group of scholars. Congratulations!

There is still time for others to apply. See link below.

### FAMIP - USA Application

<https://bit.ly/2023MIPOIncFAMIPScholarship>



## Caribbean Scholarship

In late 2021, we launched the MIPO FAMIP scholarship International in Guyana. We received an overflow of applications from students around different parts of the island. After reviewing all applications, the scholarship committee voted on two finalists. On August 19th of 2022, a ceremony was held to award the two students in their home country. Present at that celebration were the following individuals: Ms. Volika Ramkissun-Deputy Chief Education Officer (D), Ms. Carol Benn- Assistant Chief Education Officer(HFLE), Tiffany Harvey-Assistant Chief Education Officer (S), Ms.Stembiso Grant- Regional Education Officer Region # 4, Senior Education Officers, Education Officers, Staff from the HFIE Unit and the Department of Education, and parents of the awardees.

Financially supporting students to help fulfill their educational journey is an investment that MIPO is proud to undertake. The youth is our future; and, we in believe in building individuals for a lifetime.

This is a yearly scholarship and we encourage scholars to go on our website to apply.

### FAMIP - Caribbean Application

<https://bit.ly/2023FAMIPScholarship-Caribbean>





## Moderna

In 2022, through the advocacy of HRA, MIPO, Inc. was the recipient of a grant from Moderna to support the educational work that we are engaged in in Haiti. With their financial support, we were able continue to fulfill some of the goals for 2022 in Haiti, specifically in Cayes and St. Marc. We are forever grateful to HRA and Moderna for partnering with us and trusting us to doing the work of empowering and building individuals for a lifetime.

## S.T.E.W. Camp (Haiti), Les Cayes

Despite the negative media images over the past year and unstable government in Haiti, it was rewarding to go back to Haiti and assist with a successful summer camp (S.T.E.W.). The summer camp was sponsored by HRA and Moderna Inc. The MIPO team trained teachers and students over a two-week period. Students were provided with apprenticeships in barbering, cooking, and art.

Everyday, students took part in various classroom activities at EFACAP Michel Lazare des Cayes. The energy, enthusiasm, and curiosity the students brought everyday was positive. The teachers were educationally nourished with knowledge and new content on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness and received emergency kits with over 40 items for their school. It was wonderful, safe and beautiful to see. I look forward to my return next year.

*Dr. Max Jean Paul*

## Digicel Foundation Partnership

Through MIPO's efforts, we were able to foster a partnership between HRA/OneDiaspora and Digicel Foundation. This partnership has been signed and sealed! We look forward to the amazing projects we will collaborate on in order to provide scholars and educators with learning environments that are conducive to supporting excellence.

## MBIA Foundation Matching Gift

We wholeheartedly thank MBIA for selecting MIPO, Inc. as one of the organizations to receive a matching fund donation made by Maleata Carson through Herold Simeon who knows of meaningful work that MIPO does. We are honored to know that the work we are engaged in is noticed by others.

## Donors of the year

Thank you to all donors who supported our vision last year. We want to mention the following individuals for remaining consistent in our quest to inspire and be a beacon of light to others:

- Miriam Blemur-Orneas
- Raymond Graham
- NYS Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli
- Dr. Greta Strong, MIPO's Advisor
- Wilny Missial
- Marie Ange Lodescar-François

## Donation to School

In late 2022, we were pleased to make a donation to Mortel High Hopes for Haiti Foundation who operates in Saint Marc, Haiti. They serve over 600 children with programs such as fish, poultry and general farming, ESL and adult education. This is what the director said: "Your contributions will make a world of difference."

## Summer Camp Haiti Team

Thank you to the summer camp instructors for their commitment and devotion to supporting the children during the 2022 camp in Cayes, *Gyrlaine Bernard, Rachele Jean Bonne-Année, Jean Rony Dorvil, Sander Joachim, Junior Lionel Fleuranvil, Stephen Jean Louis, Esther Jacques* and all other support staff members. You worked diligently to ensure that all participants had a fantastic and memorable time. We also want to thank *Jean Mirvil, Jaquelin Alcuis and Catherine Napoleon* for their steadfast in planning and helping with the execution of the 2022 Haiti programs.

## MIPO at Work Team

I could not have done anything without God guiding me and your unwavering commitment.

FOREVER THANKFUL!

*Felina Backer*







## CONNECT WITH US!

Want to know more about MIPO? Please visit us on the website.



[www.mipoinc.org](http://www.mipoinc.org)

Leave us a review @  
[http://bit.ly/ LeaveMIPOaReview](http://bit.ly/LeaveMIPOaReview)

*Connect with MIPO on social media*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Hall of Fame  
Award Gala 2023  
May 28th!

Youth Summit & College/  
Resource Fair • November 2023

Healthy Eating Series, Financial  
Wellness Series, Etiquette & Modeling  
Series

Contact us for additional information.



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Join our English language learning class today or refer someone.

<https://bit.ly/EnglishLanguageLearnerApplication>

Let's Learn  
English





*Planting a seed at a time... building individuals for a lifetime.*



JOIN MIPO IN THEIR QUEST TO INSPIRE