

**The Garifuna Heritage Foundation**  
**In collaboration with**  
**University of the West Indies Global Campus**  
**St. Vincent and the Grenadines**  
**Presents**  
**13<sup>th</sup> International Garifuna Conference (Hybrid)**  
**2026**  
**March 11th – 13th, 2026**  
**University of the West Indies Global Campus Conference Room**

**Kingstown, St. Vincent, and the Grenadines**

**“Sacred Grounds, Strategic Goals: Inclusion , Reparations, Balliceaux and the 2030 Pathway to  
Garifuna Empowerment”**  
**PROGRAMME**

**CONFERENCE DAY TWO**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2026 –**

**Registration 8:00 AM**

**Welcome Remarks- CHAIRPERSON : Mr. Fitzgerald Providence**

**THEME: Initiatives to promote the Garifuna Heritage and culture among the Youth in SVG**

**PANEL #1**

**Introduction of Panel - Moderator – Ms. Gloria Williams**

**9:00 Am - PRESENTATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS ESSAY COMPETITION FINALISTS-**

**9:30 Am- DISCUSSION – Moderator :**

**THEME: Supporting the development of Educational Materials on the History and culture of the  
Garifuna**

**PANEL#2**

**Introduction of Panel - Moderator – Mrs. Julitta Edwards**

**10:00 Am - Topic: “ Garifuna Language training in Schools - The experience of Belize –  
Potential for Replication in St. Vincent and the Grenadines”**

**Presenters : Dr. Gwen Nunez Gonzalez , Mr. Darius Martinez and Dr. Albertina Team Belize , Garifuna  
Language Commission.**

**Topic: "Designing STEM with Culture: Insights from Garifuna Learners"**

**Presenters: Dr. Nelson Guity – Dr. Johana Thomas Guity (Honduras/Australia)**

**Topic: "From archives to classrooms: French sources, Garifuna Resistance and Educational  
Empowerment”**

**Presenter: Ms. Vanessa Demirciyan, Anthropologist (France/SVG)**

11:00 Am: **DISCUSSION: Moderator \_**

12 Pm: **LUNCH BREAK / Screening of Indigenous Short Films. / Akley Olton**

**THEME: The role of Garifuna Heritage in developing a culture of resistance**

**PANEL # 3**

1:00 Pm: **Introduction of Panel - Moderator – Mr. Marlon Joseph**

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS:**

**“ This Island’s Mine , by Sycorax, My mother: Garifuna Women, Memory Work and Caribbean Gender History”.**

Presenter : Professor Dr. Melanie Newton – Professor of History, University of Toronto, Canada.

**“Linked Histories: Native Genocide and African Enslavement in St. Vincent and the Grenadines”**

Presenter : Dr. Garrey Michael Dennie, Associate Professor, History, St. Mary’s College of Maryland, USA

**“One knot after another: Weaving a history of hospitality, captivity, and dispossession through the hammock in the eastern Caribbean, 1619-1685”**

Presenter : Ms. Heywot Tadesse – PHD Candidate, University of Toronto, Canada

2:30 Pm – **DISCUSSION - Moderator –**

4:00 pm - 6:30 pm : **Garifuna Film Series : Mr. Akley Olton**

**INDIGENOUS SHORT FILMS**

**CONFERENCE DAY THREE**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2026**

**REGISTRATION : 8:00am**

**Welcome Remarks- CHAIRPERSON - Mr. Vincent Reid**

**THEME: Balliceaux – Sacred Grounds, Strategic Goals and Inclusion of the Diaspora**

**PANEL # 4**

**Introduction of Panel - Moderator – Mrs. Deborah Dalrymple**

**9:00 am: Topic: “The Garifuna Exile and its complexity in the Collective Imagination”**

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Dra. Mirta Colon, President, Central American Black Organization (ONECA)**

**“Retracing the Footprints of my Ancestors through Pilgrimage in search of Reconciliation and Healing”**

**Presenter : Dr. Esther Dawn Nunez, Professor, Medgar Evers College, City University of New York, New York, USA**

**10:30 - Presentations by Garifuna Delegations from the Diaspora**

**11:30: DISCUSSION - Moderator**

**12:00 pm - LUNCH BREAK**

**THEME: Reparation for the Garifuna – Historical basis relating to establishing a case for Reparation for the Garifuna**

**PANEL #5**

**Introduction of Panel - Moderator – Mr. Maxwell Charles**

**1:00 pm -Topic: “Securing Garifuna Collective Land Rights to Balliceaux within a Reparatory Justice Indigenous Rights Framework”**

**Presenter: Dr. Marcus Goffe, Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of the West Indies, Jamaica.**

**1:20 pm: Topic: “Afro-Caribbean and Garifuna Identities: Continuities and Resistances in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines”**

**Presenter: Dr. Andreina Bermudez di Lorenzo, Researcher, Venezuelan Institute of Culture and Cooperation, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.**

**1:30 pm “Genocide and Reparations: The story of the Kalinago and Garifuna People”.**

**Presenter: Dr. Adrian Fraser, Historian, St. Vincent and the Grenadines .**

**2:00 pm : DISCUSSION - Moderator**

**3:00 pm : CLOSING STATEMENT & MEDIA BRIEFING.**

**PHOTO SESSION**