



January to March 2025

FROM THE DESK OF THE AMBASSADOR 51st Anniversary Independence Message

"Independence Message by Ambassador Tarlie Francis On the Occasion of Grenada's 51st Anniversary of Independence



ISSUE

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Fellow Grenadians, friends, and well-wishers,

Today, as we mark the **51st anniversary of our beloved Grenada's Independence**, we stand at a moment of both reflection and renewal. Fifty-one years ago, our forebears took a bold step forward, casting off the remnants of colonial rule to embrace self-determination, charting a course that was distinctly our own. It was a moment of immense pride, responsibility, and vision—one that called upon the strength, resilience, and unity of our people.

Independence was not given to us; it was claimed. And with it came the responsibility to forge a nation that reflects the hopes and aspirations of all Grenadians—those at home and across the diaspora. Through trials and triumphs, we have proven time and again that we are a people of **unyielding spirit and unwavering resolve**. We have built, we have overcome, and we continue to rise.

As we enter this new chapter beyond the milestone of 50 years, we must ask ourselves: *What does independence mean for us today*? It is more than a date on the calendar; it is a call to action. It is the pursuit of economic resilience, the strengthening of our democracy, and the deepening of our commitment to one another. It is about ensuring that **our children inherit not just a proud history, but also a future of boundless opportunity**.

Grenadians at home and abroad, we each have a role to play in shaping that future. Whether through innovation, education, community service, or advocacy, every contribution matters. Our strength lies in our unity, and our progress depends on our collective determination to build a **Grenada that stands as a beacon of strength, sustainability, and success**.

As we celebrate this 51st year of nationhood, let us do so not just in remembrance of our past, but with a bold vision for the road ahead. Let us reaffirm our commitment to nation-building, to lifting each other up, and to ensuring that the ideals of independence remain alive in every aspect of our society.

Happy Independence, Grenada! May we continue to rise, together. God Bless You all! May God richly Bless Grenada Carriacou and Petit Martinique!"



Grenada Promotion Event hosted by H. E. Tarlie Francis

H. E. Tarlie Francis, Ambassador of Grenada to the United States of America kicked off the 2025 Independence celebrations by hosting, in collaboration with the Grenada Tourism Authority, a Grenada Promotion Event. Young Professionals in the DMV and beyond were invited to an evening of information, culture, displays and great food all focused on promoting Grenada. We thank Mrs. Christine Noel-Horsford for her invaluable contribution to the success of this event.



Independence Church Service and Reception

On February 9th 2025, many of the DMV Grenadian Diaspora gathered at the St. John's Episcopal Church in Beltsville, Maryland for the annual Independence Church Service and Reception. The day was one of fellowship and food with one of the highlights being the written gems read by renowned and well accomplished Grenadian Author/Lecturer Dr. Merle Collins.



Independence Dinner and Dance

The Grenada Cultural and Social Association held its Annual Independence Dinner and Dance under the auspices of His Excellency Tarlie Francis, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative to the OAS.



"The Next 50: Embracing a Future of Development, Transformation and Unity"

Embassy of Grenada in collaboration with the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (GWHCC)

The Embassy of Grenada in collaboration with the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (GWHCC) hosted afternoon of engaging an exchange in the areas of trade, tourism, investment and agriculture with a mix of cultural visuals. Presentations were made by H. E. Tarlie Francis, Ambassador of Grenada, Mr. William Eric Linzey, Director of Grants and Programs, GWHCC and Mr. Leslie Mc Queen, Trade Attache, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Grenada, based in Miami. Participants remained late into the evening networking and collaborating while enjoying light refreshments. The evening was a great success!



The Trust for the Americas



Grenada has been selected to be a beneficiary of the "Strengthening the Digital Entrepreneurial EcoSystem" program spearheaded by the Trust for the Americas. The Trust for Americas was established in 1997 by the Organization of American States and the private sector, dedicated to fostering social and economic inclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean. This project will target 300 young Grenadians with focus on digital/technology training, entrepreneurship opportunities and a climate change component which will give beneficiaries the resources to avoid the worst impacts of climate change and the resilience to deal with the impacts of climate change. The Embassy of Grenada to the United States of America is pleased to collaborate with The Trust for the Americas in this initiative.

New Secretary General in the O. A. S.



On Monday, March 10, 2025, The Organization of American States elected the first Caribbean General Secretary for the period 2025 – 2030. The Honourable Albert Ramdin, Suriname's Foreign Minister was elected by acclamation, signaling the support of the Organisation for Minister Ramdin. Hon. Ramdin thanked and encouraged the OAS to unify and dialogue on the many issues high on the organization's agenda.

"The Next 50: Embracing a Future of Development, Transformation and Unity"

Washington Intergovernmental Professional Group, LLC (WIPG)

H. E. Ambassador Tarlie Francis was hosted by the Washington Intergovernmental Professional Group, LLC (WIPG) at an evening reception on March 24th in the World Trade Centre. This event afforded Ambassador Francis the opportunity to share with business leaders, congressional and federal agency staff members and other prominent guests, Grenada's current climate on issues of trade, tourism and investment. The Embassy was honoured to have Mr. Damian Dolland, Lead Consultant on the Project POLARIS, present on the new hospital project to the attendees. Mr. Dolland gave a very clear and concise presentation, which engaged many in the room especially some of our specially invited guests, Dr. Haideh Sabet and her group of students from Georgetown University. The evening was an engaging one, with a short question-and-answer session and a collaborative/networking opportunity that ended the day. The Embassy took the opportunity to display some of Grenada's signature products of chocolates, spices, condiments, and tourism and investment products.



New Artist in Residence 2025 – Mr. John Henry



John Henry is a young, self-taught Grenadian artist from Westerhall, St. David's. John discovered his love and passion for visual arts at the age of 12. In 2015, John started a serious path to Art by partaking in different art exhibitions in Grenada, including the Grenada Contemporary Art Show which provided exposure for the young artist. Acrylic mediums are his favourite for capturing his ideas on canvas. His inspiration comes from nature, music, people and carnival, especially J'Ouvert and often paints one J'Ouvert piece every year.

John is an Art Teacher, a part time photographer / videographer, and paints for guests at local hotels as requested. John is the fifth of seven siblings. He aspires to do book illustrations and own his art studio in the future. The Embassy of Grenada is proud to introduce the 2025 Artist in Residence – Mr. John Henry!

GIRL SCOUT TROOP MARKS WORLD THINKING DAY WITH GRENADA

We were pleased to receive this message from our friend Tina Marie Carmona (Tina Marie/TMC) Girl Scout Troop #2156 Leader |Proud Parent Volunteer:

Dear Mrs. Agnes,

We hope this message finds you well! Please excuse the delay in following up, but we couldn't wait to say how incredibly grateful we are for your support at our **2nd Annual World Thinking Day Celebration**.

Our Girl Scouts were absolutely captivated by learning about Grenada's vibrant culture and spices. It was incredibly special to have my nephew serve as a **Student Ambassador**, sharing his personal experience growing up in Grenada. My husband, JR, also enjoyed sharing fun facts and distributing the amazing items you generously provided. The Scouts were fascinated and engaged thanks to your contributions.

Enclosed are some great **photos** / **videos** highlighting this memorable experience. Thank you for making such a meaningful impact. We can't wait to connect again soon!



Some of Ambassador's Engagements during the First Quarter of the Year



MARCH 10TH 2025 SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY – Photo Credit Juan Manuel Herrera/OAS



Courtesy / Introductory meeting with Dr. Miguel Burnier, Legal Counsel, PAHO



Meeting with Mr. Khairy Mosbah-Charge de Affairs, Embassy of Libya



Meeting with Gyneth McAllister, Ministry of Trade, Trinidad and Tobago



Courtesy Visit from The Ambassador of Malawi, H. E. Justice Esmeralda Fynet Chombo



Protocolary meeting with Ambassador of Peru, Ambassador Luis Sardon

The Americas for Peace encounter and prayer on the occasion of the World Day of Peace

The Americas for Peace encounter and prayer gathering at the beginning of the year on the World Day of Peace was organized by the Permanent Observer to the Holy See to the Organization of America States. The Service was let by Msgr. Juan Antonio Cruz Serrano, Chief Celebrant, was His Excellency Evelio Menjivar, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, H. E. Reverence Tarlie Francis, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Grenada served with the clergy. Several Ambassadors / Permanent Representatives to the OAS also participated in the Service.





Annual Independence Dinner and Dance



Grenada Tourism, Trade and Promotion Event Hosted by H.E. Ambassador Tarlie Francis



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