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Caribbean Child Development Centre

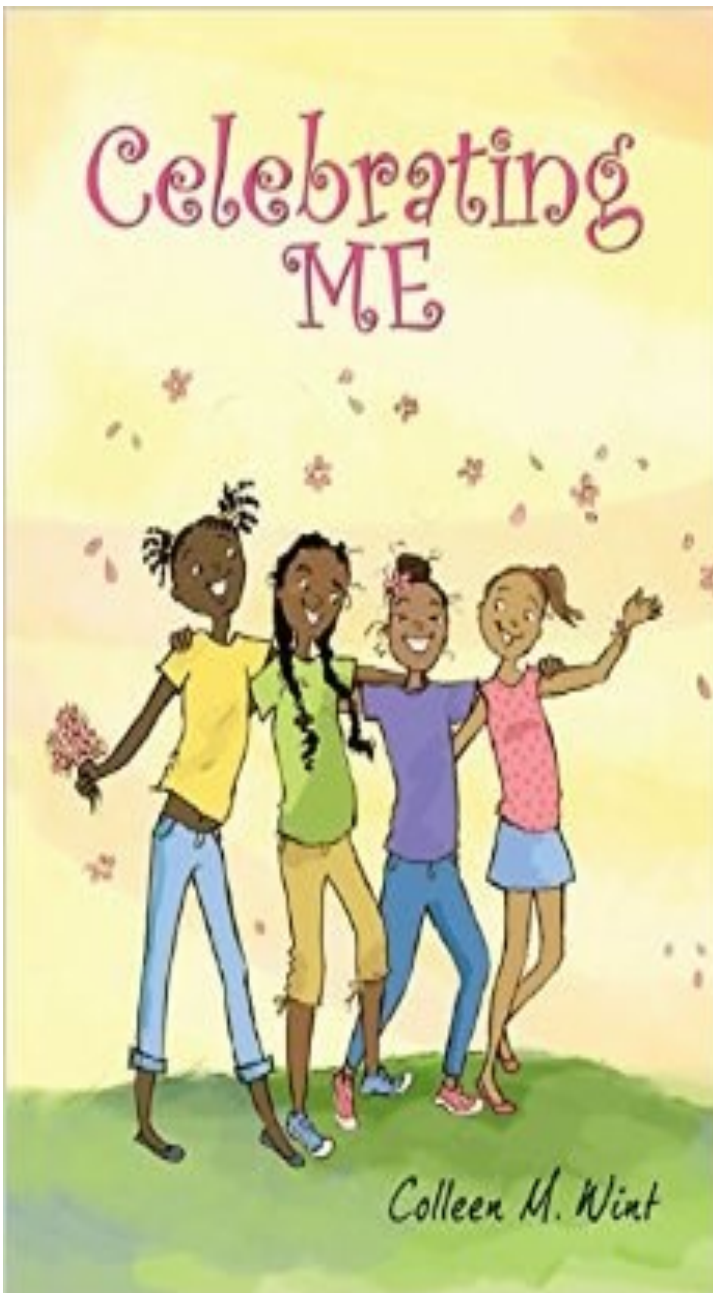
Consortium for Social Development and Research
The University of the West Indies, Open Campus

Quarterly newsletter of the



May – July 2015

“Celebrating Me” Book Launch at CCDC



CCDC hosted the book launch of Colleen Wint’s book “Celebrating Me” on May 12, 2015 in recognition of Child Month.

Colleen Wint is a communications and international relations professional whose relationship with CCDC spans over a decade. The book *Celebrating Me* is Wint’s attempt to start the conversation between parents and their children, especially girls between eight and 13, about the facts of life, particularly menstruation. She uses the story of four 10 to 11 year old girls to explain the changes that occur in a young woman’s body as she matures.

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Photo: Karen Barton accepts a copy of *Celebrating Me* on behalf of the Jamaica Library Service from Author, Colleen Wint during the launch .

Celebrating Me has delightful illustrations by Rachel Wade Moss, which capture the joy (and concerns) of little girls on the brink of being big girls. It is a Caribbean book about girls going through the changes that come with adolescence.

Synopsis of the Book: Preteens Natasha, Gillian, CC, and Tina eagerly anticipate the end of year school barbeque, but on the night of the event, bubbly "life of the party" Tina doesn't make an appearance. Worried by her absence, her three friends wonder if Tina is sick. Tina herself seems unwilling to provide any information, and acts nervous and upset over the phone. When the girls uncover the truth behind Tina's "illness," they find themselves on a journey of discovery. Guided by Natasha's patient older sister, the girls learn about themselves and the women they will soon become. "Celebrating Me" focuses on an important rite of passage for any young girl, sharing Tina's story with both humor and clear, informative language.

See **CELEBRATING ME** Author, Colleen Wint, on CVM at Sunrise - April 21, 2015 at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HSrozdbJIQU>

See more: <http://www.celebratingmecw.com/>

CCDC hosts its first International Early Childhood Practicum Exchange Student



Photo: Ms. Cathryn O'Sullivan, the Early Childhood Company Coordinator, for The UWI Open Campus Early Childhood Centres of Excellence and Mrs Colette Kane, from George Brown College in Toronto,

In June 2015, the Caribbean Child Development Centre (CCDC), hosted its first international exchange student, Mrs Colette Kane, from George Brown College in Toronto, Canada. Mrs. Kane completed her practicum as a part of her Early Childhood Leadership Bachelor of Arts degree programme. Mrs. Kane and Ms. Cathryn O'Sullivan, the Early Childhood Company Coordinator, for The UWI Open Campus Early Childhood Centres of Excellence spent the month developing the structure, protocol and policies that will govern the early childhood centres in the company.

The mission and philosophy for the centres were also developed in an effort to create a cohesive body with a unifying purpose. While each centre will retain its unique feeling, they have the same standards and will be easily recognizable as *The UWI Open Campus Early Childhood Centres of Excellence*.

Emergency/Disaster Preparedness

A fire drill was conducted on May 27th at CCDC. Three officers from the Jamaica Fire Brigade came to observe. Sgt D. Pikes, Constables A. Gordon and S. Smith. The visit was organized by District Officer Bailey-Hall from the Jamaica Fire Brigade.



Photo: Emmanuel Israel, University of Ottawa; Canada; Adewunmi Ogunbase, University of Tampere, Finland; Kisha Sawyers, Caribbean Child Development Centre, University of the West Indies, Jamaica; Wilfred W.F. Lau, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, China and Prof. Emmanuel O Adu, University of Fort Hare, South Africa at EdMedia 2015 World Conference on Educational Media and Technology at Le Centre Sheraton Montreal, June 22-24, 2015

Kisha Sawyers, Librarian, CCDC attended the EdMedia 2015 World Conference on Educational Media and Technology in Montreal, Canada from June 22-24, 2015. The EdMedia World Conference on Educational Media and Technology is an international conference, organized by the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). It is premiere international conference in the field, spans all disciplines and levels of education and annually attracts more than 1,500 leaders in the field from over 70 countries.

Edmedia also hosted a “*conference within a conference*” especially for emerging scholars, such as PhD and Masters students and young scholars in the profession. This provides a platform for academics to interact and collaborate. A numbers of series were held such as: Emerging trends in research methods, emerging and recurring themes in the study of computing and education, professional development in the academic career and post studies.

EdMedia provided a cross-cultural perspective on educational multimedia and technology, by allowing networks with experts and practitioners from other countries such as USA, Canada, Finland, Hong Kong and UK among others.