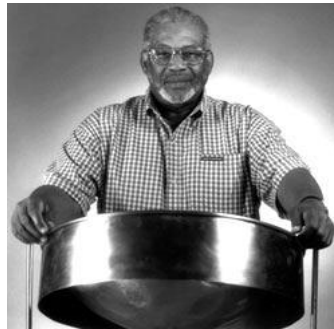


THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, ST AUGUSTINE
Faculty of Humanities and Education
Department of Creative and Festival Arts

Musical Arts Unit

Guest Lectures by
Pan Pioneer and Educator
MR. CLIFFORD ALEXIS



“His role as a pan pioneer”

Wednesday February 15, 2012

4:00 – 6:30 pm

and

“Pan Education in North America”

Thursday February 16, 2012

2:00 – 3:45 pm

Venue for both lectures:
Studio IV, DCFA, Gordon Street, St Augustine

Pan Pioneer and Educator Clifford Alexis will deliver two guest lectures at The University of the West Indies, Department of Creative and Festival Arts on Wednesday February 15, 2012 and Thursday February 16, 2012.

Steel pan legend Alexis introduced the art of pan to the students of the Saint Paul Minnesota School system. The steelpan was quickly received as a novel percussion instrument. Alexis stayed in that school system for 12 years, until he was approached

by Allan O'Connor, Head of Percussion Studies at Northern Illinois University (NIU). Alexis was subsequently appointed as the co-director of the steel band at NIU. The steel band programme at NIU was the first of its kind to be offered at a university. More than 50 universities in both the United States and Canada have subsequently formed their own steel bands. Along with providing influence for the creation of such bands, Alexis has manufactured most of the drums used by these groups. He is a Lecturer as well as a composer at the university.

The program at NIU, honoured as one of the 13 universities with the best curriculum for percussion studies in the May 2002 issue of *Modern Drummer*, is made up of a 35-student orchestra. One of Alexis' calypso pieces was featured during the World Steelband Festival held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad in 2000. There, the NIU Steel band won second place. Alexis was honoured with the *Pan Legend* award in 2001, and was also one of two people instated in the *Sunshine Hall of Fame* in 2002.

For additional information on the lecture please contact Department of Creative and Festival Arts at 663-2141 or email Josette.Surrey-Lezama@sta.uwi.edu or Marissa.Brooks@sta.uwi.edu.