



## CATHERINE FLON *Symposium*

Cultivating Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Women Economic Empowerment

May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 | 10am - 1:15 pm

United Nations  
UN Trusteeship Council Chamber  
405 East 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017

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Catherine Flon is regarded as one of the symbols of the Haitian Revolution and independence.  
She sewed the first Haitian flag on May 18, 1803

## CONFIRMED SPEAKERS



His Excellency Denis Régis

Permanent Mission of the  
Republic of Haiti to the  
United Nations



Ambassador  
Danielle Saint-Lot

Founder,  
Danielle Saint-Lôt Haiti  
Women's Foundation  
Former Minister of  
Commerce, Industry and  
Tourism of Haiti



Honorable Rodneyse  
Bichotte

Assembly Member and  
State Committee Woman/  
District Leader for  
New York State's 42nd  
Assembly District



Yve-Car Momperousse

CEO and Co-Founder of  
Kreyol Essence (KE)



Marie Gabrielle Aurel

Co-founder - Société  
Agricole de Production et  
d'Elevage du Nord,  
(SAPEN, SA)



Leanna Archer

CEO of Leanna's Inc



Laurence Bigio

Marketing President,  
GB Group and Publisher  
Challenges Magazine



Dr. Marjorie Pierre  
Brennan, MD

NAAHP Advisory Board  
Chair and Co-Chair of the  
Scholarship  
Committee



Serge Renaud, MBA, MSA

President of the  
National Alliance for the  
Advancement of Haitian  
Professionals (NAAHP)



Cleve Mesidor

Global Solutions  
Consultant, RABEN  
GROUP



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HAITIAN PROFESSIONALS

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Danielle Saint Lot  
Haiti Women's Foundation

haitiwomensfoundation.org  
daniellesaintlot@gmail.com | 509.3730.0117  
7, impasse Fleury, Musseau, Petion-Ville, Haiti

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Danielle Saint-Lot Haiti Women's Foundation (DSLW) and the National Association of Haitian Professionals (NAAHP), it is our great pleasure to cordially invite you to the **"Catherine Flon Symposium: Cultivating Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Women Economic Empowerment"** on Saturday, May 18, 2016 at the United Nations headquarters, in New York City.

Celebrating Haiti Flag day and honoring Catherine Flon, one of the symbols of the Haitian Revolution and independence, this inspiring event will convene over 150 participants including public and private sector leaders, entrepreneurs, investors, professionals, development practitioners and friends of Haiti to explore inclusive solutions that create opportunities, innovations, and strategic partnerships for female entrepreneurship enhancement in Haiti and the Diaspora.

Symposium will feature networking and two panel discussions. The first panel focusing on *"Bridging the Gap- How to Fill the Missing Middle"* will discuss how Haitian-American women entrepreneurs and professionals can seize opportunities to create business in the U.S. and/or partner with female entrepreneurs in their homeland. The second panel will feature inspiring women entrepreneurs from Haiti and the Diaspora leading a discussion on *"Innovation, Entrepreneurship and How to Contribute and Help Promote Women's Economic Empowerment"*.

Please access to free registration <https://naahpwomensymposium.eventbrite.com>

Join us to celebrate Haiti Flag Day and female entrepreneurs' creativity. We look forward to seeing you in New York on May 18th.

Sincerely Yours,

Ambassador Danielle Saint-Lot  
**President of the Danielle Saint-Lot Haiti Women's Foundation**  
**Former Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism of Haiti**

Serge Renaud, MBA, MSA  
**President of the National Alliance for the Advancement of Haitian Professionals (NAAHP)**







The **Danielle Saint-Lot Haiti Women's Foundation**, a U.S. based non-profit, advances programs to empower Haitian women through the promotion of social entrepreneurship, leadership skills, and professional development. The foundation's activities include trainings, forums, networking, coaching, and mentoring. Among the topics explored are gender equality and conflict resolution to advocate for greater equal social and economic rights for women. The goal is to give women the necessary tools to help them improve the quality of life of their families and communities. The Foundation's initiatives are implemented in Haiti. For more information visit the foundation's website at [www.haitiwomensfoundation.org/foundation](http://www.haitiwomensfoundation.org/foundation)



Founded in 2011, the **National Alliance for the Advancement of Haitian Professionals** (NAAHP) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization established by a diverse group of forward-thinking industry experts, youth leaders, faculty, public and nonprofit sector professionals from Haiti and its global diaspora. NAAHP is focused on connecting a global community of peers with career advancement resources, as well as, fostering transformative relationships between NAAHP members and committed stakeholders to rebuild Haiti through philanthropy and social entrepreneurship. For more information about NAAHP visit its website at [www.naahpusa.org](http://www.naahpusa.org).



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Haitian women are the pillars “poto mitan!” of the Haitian society, however, although this is widely believed and accepted as fact, based on economic analysis, one can conclude that Haitian women’s roles as entrepreneurs is greatly under recognized. Women generate income, provide employment and improve their own conditions as well as that of their families, communities and countries. While recognized for their strong presence in the informal economy and the poor population, no value/importance is placed on Haitian women’s economic activities as a strategy for economic development. Haitian women continue to be driven by the desire to overcome their conditions and set out to fulfil this desire by establishing businesses primarily in the agricultural sector and in trade.

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, there are about 8 to 10 million formal Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) with at least one woman owner in developing countries. Women make significant contributions to household incomes and to economic growth. Women’s economic participation has become a benchmark for economic progress in developing countries; and Haiti’s private sector is the key to unlocking the country’s economic potential as well as driving economic growth.

#### First Panel: Bridging the Gap- How to Fill the Missing Middle

Since economic growth worldwide is driven by the development of SMEs, The Danielle Saint-Lot Haiti Women’s Foundation (DSLH) seeks to bridge the gap to fill the ‘missing middle’ and grow the creative economy by empowering Haitian women, whether in Haiti or abroad, through the promotion of social entrepreneurship, leadership, social skills and professional development.

The New York State Assembly passed several pieces of legislations during the 2015 Legislative Session. The intent was to promote minority and women-owned businesses, as well as other small businesses, and assist these businesses to grow and thrive. How can Haitian American women entrepreneurs or professionals seize these opportunities to create businesses in the US and/or partner with Haitian women entrepreneurs in their homeland?

#### Second Panel: Innovation, Entrepreneurship and How to Contribute and Help Promote Women’s Economic Empowerment

We tend to think of entrepreneurship as a one way street, the innovative way of developing and managing a start-up, whereas there are many facets to entrepreneurship. A lawyer who has his/her own practice or a doctor who operates his/her own clinic is an entrepreneur. An employee who develops a new and innovative management plan within his/her company is also an entrepreneur.

During this section of the symposium, we seek to engage in a conversation that discusses the various challenges faced by women entrepreneurs. These include the issue of why, whether in the US, Canada or Haiti, there are fewer women owned businesses than those of their male counterparts, and what we, as individuals, can do, through the various avenues that exist, to contribute and promote Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment for women.



# CATHERINE FLON

## Symposium

### Wednesday May 18, 2016 United Nations Headquarters, New-York City

Theme:  
Catherine Flon<sup>1</sup> Symposium:  
Cultivating Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Women Economic Empowerment

Time	Event	Room
8:30 am	Registration Check-In Begins	
9:30 am - 9:50 am	Speakers/Panelists Gathering	
10:00 am - 10:10am	<b>Opening Remarks:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ambassador Danielle Saint-Lot: President of Danielle Saint-Lot Haiti Women's Foundation (DSLH)</li> <li>Serge Renaud: President of the National Alliance for the Advancement of Haitian Professionals (NAAHP)</li> </ul>	Trusteeship Council Chamber
10:15 am - 10:45 am	<b>Opening Keynote Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>His Excellency Ambassador Denis Régis, Haiti Permanent Representative to the United Nations</li> <li>Other prominent keynote speaker to be confirmed</li> </ul>	Trusteeship Council Chamber
10:50 am - 11:50 am	<b>Keynote Speakers Panel:</b> Bridging the Gap- How to Fill the Missing Middle <b>Moderator:</b> Cleve Mésidor, Global Solutions Consultant, The Raben Group <b>Keynote Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ambassador Danielle Saint-Lôt, President of Danielle Saint-Lot Haiti Women's Foundation (DSLH)</li> <li>Honorable Rodneyse Bichotte, New York State Assemblymember, Chair of the Subcommittee on the Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises to be confirmed</li> </ul>	Trusteeship Council Chamber
11:50 am - 12:00 pm	<b>Break</b>	
12:05 am - 1:05 pm	<b>Panel:</b> Innovation, Entrepreneurship and How to Contribute and Help Promote Women's Economic Empowerment <b>Moderator:</b> Ambassador Danielle Saint-Lôt, President of Danielle Saint-Lot Haiti Women's Foundation (DSLH) <b>Speakers/Panelists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leanna Archer, Founder &amp; CEO Leanna's Inc.</li> <li>Laurence Sarah Bigio, Executive Vice President GB Group and CEO of Caribbean Media</li> <li>Yve-Car Momperousse, Co- Founder &amp; CEO Kreyol Essence</li> <li>Gabrielle Vincent, Co-Founder &amp; CEO Société Agricole et de Production et d'Élevage du Nord S.A. (SAPEN S.A.)</li> </ul>	Trusteeship Council Chamber
1:05 pm - 1:15 pm	<b>Closing Remarks:</b> Dr. Marjorie Pierre Brennan, MD: NAAHP Advisory Board Chair and Co-Chair of the Scholarship Committee	UN Trusteeship Council Chamber

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# Thank You



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