

# TOURISM HOSTS FAB VIP RECEPTION AT TYLER PERRY'S STUDIO!



●SUPER-STAR: Actor/producer Tyler Perry with Ambassador Nicole Avant



●BEVY OF BEAUTIES: Beauty queens at the 'Bahamas In Atlanta' VIP reception

★ U.S. AMBASSADOR to The Bahamas, *Nicole Avant* was the keynote speaker at the "Bahamas In Atlanta" VIP reception hosted by the Minister Of Tourism, *Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace* in conjunction with *Tyler Perry's Studio* in Atlanta.

Over 400 guests—including international dignitaries, local elected officials, business leaders and A-list celebrities—were invited to experience "all things Bahamas".

The event was designed to encourage travellers and investors to consider The Bahamas as their choice of vacation destination. The evening included art, music, Junkanoo performers and gourmet delights courtesy of Bahamian Chef *Andrew Moss*. And the highlight of the night was an appearance by acclaimed actor-writer-producer-director, *Tyler Perry*.

In her remarks, Ambassador Avant highlighted the beauty of the 700 islands and cays that make The Bahamas, a unique tourist destination. She noted that Tyler Perry used the aquamarine coloured-ocean as the backdrop in his film, "Why Did I get Married Too?". Perry, who is a frequent visitor to The Bahamas, offered his studio in Atlanta for the promotional event in support of Ambassador Avant's participation in the "Bahamas In Atlanta" evening.

"One of the best decisions President *Barack Obama* ever made was to appoint *Nicole Avant* as Ambassador to the Commonwealth of The Bahamas," Minister Vanderpool-Wallace said. He outlined Ambassador Avant's steadfast support of government initiatives that enhance ties between The Bahamas and the U.S.

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●THREE'S COMPANY (L-R): Bishop Neil Ellis of Mount Tabor Full Gospel Baptist Church; Katherine Forbes-Smith, Bahamas Consul General to Atlanta and Minister Of Tourism Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace at VIP reception



●MUSIC-MAKER: Junkanoo trumpeter



●SUPER SPELMAN: Spelman College's Dr Beverly Tatum & Arlene Cash



●HAVE A HUG: Bishop Neil Ellis of Mount Tabor with Xernona Clayton, founder of The Trumpet Awards



●FAB FOUR (L-R): Consul General to Atlanta Katherine Forbes-Smith; Minister Of Tourism Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace; Ambassador Nicole Avant & Andy Ingraham, President, NABHOOD (National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators & Developers)



●SHE'S RUSHIN': Junkanoo free-dancer delights crowd



●LOVELY LADIES (L-R): U.S. Ambassador Nicole Avant with Consul General to Atlanta Katherine Forbes-Smith



●DYNAMIC DUO (L-R): Minister Loretta Butler-Turner and Consul General in Atlanta Katherine Forbes-Smith



●GOOD TIME (L-R): Anita Johnson-Patty, Ministry Of Tourism; Xernona Clayton, Trumpet Awards; Consul General Katherine Forbes-Smith and guest



●WHAT'S COOKING: Chefs who prepared the Bahamian culinary delights at the 'Bahamas In Atlanta' event pose for a photo



●FAB FUNCTION: Invited guests with Minister Loretta Butler-Turner



●TOP OFFICIALS: Minister Of Tourism Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace & U.S. envoy Nicole Avant



●MEET THE MINISTER: Arlene Cash with Minister Loretta Butler-Turner



●SUPER STUDIO: Guests with Consul General Katherine Forbes-Smith and Minister Of Tourism Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace at Tyler Perry's film studio