

Honourable Rex Nettleford, O.M.

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Professor of Extra-Mural Studies – University of the West Indies

The Honourable Rex Nettleford is Professor of Extra Mural Studies and Head of the Trade Union Education Institute at the University of the West Indies where he studied History before going on to Oxford to pursue post-graduate work in Politics as a Rhodes Scholar. He was also the Issa Scholar for 1957.

He is known as a leading Caribbean scholar and "renaissance" figure since his activities also include work as a creative artist. He is the founder, artistic director and principal choreographer of the internationally acclaimed National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica and is a leading cultural historian and adviser on cultural policy not only in Jamaica but in other countries of the Caribbean.

A radio and television commentator in Jamaica, Professor Nettleford is also known internationally for his work as a founding Governor of the Ottawa-based International Development Research Centre, as Chairman of the London-based Commonwealth Arts Organisation, as a consultant to UNESCO and the Organisation of American States and as a Director of the Academic Council for Latin and Caribbean Studies of the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C.

He is recipient of the rare and high national honour of Order of Merit and the Gold Musgrave Medal of the Institute of Jamaica. He has published extensively and is the editor of the UWI Journal of Caribbean Quarterly. He has also lectured all over the world on Caribbean politics, history and culture and has led several cultural missions abroad on behalf of Jamaica.



Mutual affair

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