



the bajan dream project
sponsoring shelter for the undersheltered
Volunteer Recruitment

Online Bloggers

REF: MKT-ADV/BLOGGER

1. Background

The Bajan Dream Project is looking for voices to join its online advocacy campaign.

Working with other passionate writers, social commentators and everyday people, you will help shape our advocacy messages through your articles on the issues making the news (and the issues that should be making news) in Barbados, the region and globally.

2. What we are looking for

We are looking for a pool of writers from any background, nationality or location, with any level of writing experience, to submit stories to the Bajan Dream Project's blog - whenever you choose. Articles may be features, news items or opinion pieces, and can be based on any of the following themes:

Barbados - News & current affairs

Rewrites of current news headlines or opinion pieces based around them

Barbados - Economy & Politics

Commentary or features based on political and economic developments

Barbados - Social

Articles on poverty, crime, unemployment, youth issues, inadequate housing, etc.

Barbados/Global - Features and human-interest

Know of someone in hardship? Or any other person, prominent or otherwise, who you would like to write about? This is the slot for you.

Caribbean/CARICOM

Articles on the Caribbean Single Market & Economy, the University of the West Indies, or any other social, economic and political themes, as above.

International

Global politics, current affairs, foreign relations, fuel and commodities, economics, etc. Everything on in the North has a follow-on effect in the South.



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3. How it works

Set up a free Wordpress account at www.wordpress.com. Email us at contributors@bajandream.org with your username and a brief write-up about yourself to include on the blog (or, you may choose to be anonymous) and we will add you to our list of writers. That's it.

After that, you may log-in to write articles on your own time, on any of the topics above through the simple Wordpress interface and they will be posted immediately* on our blog and website. There are no timeframes, deadlines or writing assignments - we want you to have complete liberty in what, when and how you write so that our content accurately reflects "the people's voice".

There is one caveat - you should aim to write at least once per month, as writers will be automatically removed after two months of inactivity.

4. What we will do for you

We aim to support writers in any way possible. We can tidy and edit articles, suggest story ideas, provide technical support with Wordpress publishing and provide any background information, statistics or data that may not be easily sourced - especially for international writers.

5. What's in it for you

This is a voluntary post, but we are mindful that everyone needs some satisfaction even after giving time to a good cause. If you are a serious writer, the benefits of this opportunity are great for building your portfolio and interacting with other writers with whom you can share advice and tips - or even just build acquaintances with. Moreover, you enhance your knowledge of local, regional and global affairs the more you write and read - which is always a good incentive. Since starting to count stats three months ago, our blog has recorded nearly 10,000 hits and we intend to grow this number in the coming months... this gives your work a platform to be seen and recognised from visitors the world over.

6. What we cannot accept

We need to be mindful of libel and slander laws, as well as our non-partisan stance. Articles that unevenly bash political parties or figures, or those which defame individuals' characters cannot be accepted. The Bajan Dream Project is not an anonymous campaign and, as such, is more careful in what it can publish. All articles are given a quick check by legal advisors before publishing, and we will contact the writer of any declined article to explain our reasons.

7. About us

The blog is just one aspect of the Bajan Dream Project - a skills and housing provision organization based in Barbados. Run almost entirely by volunteers, we will be starting a new phase of skills/workforce training in mid-2009, with graduates of that programme becoming eligible for subsidised housing and/or workforce placement and microfinance assistance for small business creation. More details on how this phase will work are on www.bajandream.org.



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8. Getting started

8.1. Go to www.wordpress.com and click “Sign Up Now” on the Wordpress homepage.

The screenshot shows the WordPress.com homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Sign Up, Features, Story, and Advanced. The main heading reads "Express yourself. Start a blog." with a sub-link "See our free features →". A prominent "Sign Up Now!" button is highlighted with a red rectangular box. Below the heading, statistics are displayed: "4,220,770 BLOGS, 145,832 NEW POSTS, 35,368,851 WORDS TODAY." and a "Preferred Language: English" dropdown menu. On the left, there is a login section titled "Already Hip?" with fields for Username and Password, a "Remember me" checkbox, and a "Login" button. In the center, there is a "Hawt Post" section featuring an image of a bowl of food and the title "A Test Of Your Game" by Roissy in DC. On the right, there is a "Right Now in Tags" section with various tags like "Art", "Barack Obama", "Books", etc.

8.2. Fill in your desired username, password and email address, and then select “Just a username, please” below.

The screenshot shows the WordPress.com sign-up form. The heading reads "Get your own WordPress.com account in seconds" with the subtext "Fill out this one-step form and you'll be blogging seconds later!". The form consists of several sections: "Username" with a text input field and a note "(Must be at least 4 characters, letters and numbers only.)"; "Password" with a text input field; "Confirm" with a text input field and a note "Use upper and lower case characters, numbers and symbols like !@#\$%^&*() in your password."; "Email Address" with a text input field and a note "(We send important administration notices to this address so triple-check it.)"; "Legal flotsam" with a checkbox "I have read and agree to the fascinating terms of service."; and a radio button selection between "Gimme a blog! (Like username.wordpress.com)" and "Just a username, please.", where the latter is highlighted with a red rectangular box. A "Next →" button is located at the bottom left of the form.



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8.3. Check your email and click the confirmation link in it to finish creating your account. When you have done this, send an email to us at contributors@bajandream.org with your username and the email address you used (if different from the one we have on record). We will use this to grant you access to the blog.

WordPress.COM Home Sign Up Features Story Advanced

Check Your Email to Complete Registration

An email has been sent to kleyah@bajandream.org to activate your account. Check your inbox and click the link in the message. It should arrive within 30 minutes. If you do not activate your account within two days, you will have to sign up again.

Update Your Profile!
If you haven't got your activation email why not update your profile while you wait?

First Name: Kathy

Last Name: Lehay

About Yourself: I'm the Bajan Dream recruiter for Marketing and Editorial roles.

Save Profile --

8.4. When added as a writer, your Wordpress page will look like this, with the Bajan Dream Project appearing in “your blogs”. You will also be given a default avatar (icon) which is not very attractive and which you can change at any time.

WordPress.COM Home Features Support Story Advan

4,220,770 BLOGS, 142,614 NEW POSTS, 34,447,188 WORDS TODAY. Preferred Language

Welcome back, kleyah

Your blogs:

- bajandream

Register another blog --

WordPress News

- Automatic Acquires Intense Debate

Hot Post More --

A Test Of Your Game

Imagine yourself in the following scenario: You're sitting on an antique couch in your local coffeehouse, your feet propped up on the small, knee-high table in front of you, your laptop resting on your legs. You pretend to peck away [...]

Roissy in DC

Hot VIP Posts **Hot Community Posts** More --



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8.5. Whenever logged into Wordpress, you can write to the Bajan Dream Blog by clicking “New Post” in your grey toolbar. You will also notice our “Contributing Writers” sidebar. Your name (and photo, if you choose) will automatically be added here, and becomes clickable when you write your first article. All of your articles are viewable through this link.

My Account My Dashboard **New Post** Blog Info

The Bajan Dream Project

Official social and political commentary blog

Subscribe to feed Home About us Project Manager Vacancies Write for us

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
BDP-ProjectManager

Housekeeping notice - Blog and website

September 13, 2008 in Bajan Dream Project | by BDP-ProjectManager | No comments

The blog has been migrated to blog.bajandream.org. All links to the former address will automatically redirect. The main project website is also undergoing a complete overhaul to refresh content and to add new features to the website. There will be a noticeable, though temporary, lull in activity during this time. Please use the subscription feature to be notified of news and other

8.6. Write your post as normal, and then click “Save” to come back later and edit, or “Submit for Review”, where it gets sent directly to us. We only review for legal reasons before submitting it to the blog. This process usually only takes an hour - but may be less.

My Account My Dashboard New Post Blog Info

Dashboard Howdy, kleshay! Log Out Help Forums Turbo Support

The Bajan Dream Project

Write Manage Comments Upgrades Profile

Post

Write Post

Title: This is my first post!

Permalink: <http://bajandream.wordpress.com/2008/09/26/this-is-my-first-post/> Edit

Post: I am writing on the Baan Dream blog.

Preview this Post

Publish Status: Unpublished

Save

Submit for Review

Draft Saved at 8:08:13 am. Word count: 8



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8.7. At this point you may want to add a photograph of yourself, or something personal. Click on the profile tab in your dashboard (highlighted in image above) and you can change all your personal options here.

Your Profile and Personal Options

Your WordPress.com API key is: `cf346fbf01e3`. Don't share your API key, it's like a password.

Personal Options

Visual Editor Use the visual editor when writing

Admin Color Scheme Classic Fresh

Browser Connection Always use HTTPS when visiting administration pages ([Learn More](#))

Interface language en - English

My Picture

Upload a picture (jpeg, gif, or png) to be used as your photo and avatar across WordPress.com. We will let you crop it after you upload.

8.8. Finally, on a housekeeping note, we need to make all names in the contributors list uniformed. The typical format is Contributor-FirstnameLastname. You can set this on the same profile page along with the photograph. If you have chosen to be publicly anonymous, you may use an alias here. The alias however must be name-like. For example, Jane Smith is acceptable, G.I.Jane is not. Change your nickname here, and when saved, click to 'display name publicly as' your nickname. Some writers choose to be anonymous because their personal views clash with those of their employers or other interests. E.g. Oil company workers against Big Oil profits. However, anonymity should never be used as a way to try to hide and attack others.

Nickname Contributor-KathyLehay

Display name publicly as Contributor-KathyLehay



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9. Terms & Conditions

You, in your post as Online Blogger (“the post”, “writer”), agree to the following terms and conditions (“agreement”) on acceptance of the post. Acceptance of the post is implied on submission of your first article in the manner described above to The Bajan Dream Project blog at <http://blog.bajandream.org>.

This post is voluntarily and carries no remuneration or additional benefits than implied in this document. You retain rights for all written material which you submit to the Bajan Dream Project blog, under the conditions of a Creative Commons License, which are listed at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

The Bajan Dream Project reserves the right to edit articles for clarity and legality, however will not use writers’ articles without full attribution (that is, their name or nom de plume if so provided), and will never use writers’ articles for commercial gain.

The post is of no fixed-term and is voluntary. The voluntary period may be cancelled on either side with written notice. Further to notice being received, the writer will be relieved of access rights to the Bajan Dream Project website. In this instance, the writer agrees that his/her articles will remain on the website - in observance of the Creative Commons license cited in this agreement - and waives any rights, perceived or actual, to request removal. In this instance, the writer will still be given full attribution for writing the article.