



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Trust for the Cayman Islands Launches Youth Advisory Committee

26 February 2026 – The National Trust for the Cayman Islands is proud to announce the formation of a new Youth Advisory Committee, marking an important step in ensuring that young people have a meaningful voice in shaping the future of the organisation in protecting the country's heritage. This new committee will sit alongside the Trust's established Environmental Advisory Committee and Historic Advisory Committee, strengthening inclusive and forward-thinking decision-making at the Council level.

Recognising that today's young people will be the future custodians of Cayman's natural and historic heritage, the National Trust felt it was imperative to formally include youth perspectives in its work. The Youth Advisory Committee will provide insight, ideas, and guidance on issues that matter most to younger generations, helping to ensure the Trust remains relevant, responsive, and resilient for years to come.

Katie Ebanks remarked that, "As the chairperson of this new committee, I am honoured to be guiding these passionate young people along this new path within our National Trust Council. They are an impressive group of mission-driven environmentalists, conservationists, and young professionals with the core of Cayman culture at heart. I have no doubt that this YAC will inspire other young people of the Cayman Islands and the wider Caribbean region, to rise up and take action for what is right regarding our environment and their heritage."

The National Trust looks forward to collaborating with members of the Youth Advisory Committee as they contribute fresh perspectives and innovative ideas to support the Trust's mission of protecting what is special about the Cayman Islands for present and future generations.

Alex Flores, YAC member and secretary says, "Being part of the Youth Advisory Committee fills me with so much hope for the future of the Cayman Islands. It's uplifting to sit among young people who truly care about our environment, our culture, and the legacy we're leaving behind. I hope this committee becomes a space where youth feel seen, heard, and confident enough to step forward, speak up, and protect the Cayman we love."

The inaugural Youth Advisory Committee members are Aijulon Thomas, Alex Flores, Anne Veeder, Cassandra McDowell, Chaiz Frederick, Charlotte Webster, Connor Childs, Dani Seales, Fiona Ryan, Rickeem Lashley and Tahiti Seymour, with Katie Ebanks serving as Chairperson. The National Trust encourages other young people to follow their lead and get involved by becoming members. Youth memberships are available at a special



reduced rate of just \$15. To join and help protect the future of Cayman's heritage, visit:
<https://nationaltrust.org.ky/get-involved/become-a-member/>.

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MEDIA CONTACT

Frank Roulstone / Executive Director
National Trust for the Cayman Islands
Tel: 345 927 6766 Email: director@nationaltrust.org.ky

About the National Trust for the Cayman Islands

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands is a non-governmental organization whose mandate under the National Trust Law (2010 Revision) includes the preservation of the historic, natural and maritime heritage of the Cayman Islands for present and future generations.

About the Blue Iguana Conservation Programme

The Blue Iguana Recovery Programme began in 1990 with only 30 dedicated Blue Iguanas and the primary goal to restore the wild population to 1,000 Blue Iguanas, encouraging viable population in the long-term. Having met its primary goal in 2018, the initiative formally transitioned to the Blue Iguana Conservation Programme in 2019 with a new focus of sustainably conserving the native species of Grand Cayman.

About the National Trust's Environmental Programme

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands' environmental programme was founded on the concept that the protection of native plants and animals is best achieved by protecting the natural areas on which they depend.



About the National Trust Conservation Programme

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands' conservation programme strives to protect Cayman's native species and the habitats in which they live, and includes the endemic Blue Iguana of Grand Cayman, the Sister Islands Rock Iguana and Cayman's native bat species.

About the National Trust Historic Preservation Programme

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands introduced the launching of its *Historic Preservation Fund* at its Annual General Meeting in September 2021 for the purpose of inviting increased support of its continuing efforts to encourage the preservation and protection of historic homes and buildings for present and future generations of the Cayman Islands.