Presentation The Curacao historical canon: update

Challenges for a heritage canon: the case of the Curacao historical canon:

By Rose Mary Allen

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State of the arts regarding history in school
- Children follow history education until the age of 14;
- Elective subject;
- Profile or sectors that do not provide history education

Historical canon: an initiative of the General Faculty UoC
- All citizens should have a good picture of their country's history so that they can participate in political and social life in a responsible way

50 Windows
- People: Brion, Piar, Tula, Da Costa Gomez;
- Important events, turning points in Curacao history: original inhabitants, Spanish period, conquest by the WIC and the arrival of the Dutch, slave trade and slavery, emancipation, the arrival of the oil refinery, Statuut, 30 mei 1969, political developments;
- General development such as Education, Sport, religion, the life of Curacaoans in the diaspora, transport, media, dealing with nature.

Where are we at the moment?
- 50 windows: 30 articles submitted
- Editorial board is now looking at the submitted articles;
- Discussion articles with the stakeholders, such as educational school board;
- The website is being set up; not accessible for public: Some of the members of the committee are learning how to continue operate the website. interactive and with the intention of placing in-depth additional information.

Principles of the historical canon
- Creating more self-awareness by looking at ourselves through a prism of another time in order to understand why we act, think and behave (Frantz Fanon);
- By better understanding ourselves, we better understand the world around us.

Challenges (1): organization
- How is the canon committee set up(top-down); [The recurring debates about who belongs and who does not];
- Who are the members(are they considered representative for the total population)
- Who decides which windows are important?
- How to involve all the others in the set up of the windows?

Challenges (2) : contents
- Problem of working with difficult past;
- History is contested, used by some to divide; post 10-10-10 period
- The issue of multiple narratives; whose narratives?

Challenges (3) : practical:
- Selection of the authors: The pool of local people to write articles is limited;
- Put a lot of information in a text of 400 words is challenging. What to pay attention to and what to leave out?
- How to deal with multiple narratives in the text?
- How to write an inclusive text that includes all social groups?
- How to deal with difficult past such as slavery?

Conclusions

- Involve a large group of stakeholders;
- Have a democratic control over the process; Keeping in control to stay in touch together.'
- Going beyond navel-gazing: transnational history