

# Friendship Civic Ceremony

Master of Ceremonies

Kirk Johnson  
Host, Matter of the Heart

National Anthem

Royal Bahamas Police Force Pop Band

National Pledge

Everyone  
*Including the students and teachers from the Center for the Deaf*

National Song

"God Bless Our Sunny Clime"

Invocation

Rev Ranford Patterson  
*President of The Bahamas Christian Council*

Music

"If I Can Help Somebody"      Nikita Wells

Welcome and Remarks

Barrington H. Brennan  
*Chairperson, National Friendship Committee*

National Friendship Pledge

Everyone

National Friendship Anthem

Everyone

Friendship Poem

Stephanie Darville

Music

Antoine Munroe  
*School for the Blind*

Acrostic

Friendship

Remarks

His Excellency Sir Arthur A. Foulkes  
*Governor General, The Commonwealth of The Bahamas*

"I Vow to Thee My Country"

Everyone

Vote of Thanks and Benediction

Pastor Paul A. Scavella  
*President of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*

# The Bahamas Friendship Anthem

Friendship Cords

Lyrics and Music by Marguerite Samuel (c) 2011

Let all the nation join us in love and friendship chords,  
For each of us was given a life to share his love.  
Be kind to those who do you wrong, and smile to cheer their day.  
This simple act of grace will change the pattern of disgrace.

We cannot let our quarrels and preconceived ideas,  
Erase divine compassion, benevolence and grace.  
For in our sin God ransomed us, defeated every grave.  
But if we love beyond ourselves, our problems He will take.

When someone seems too angry and their frustration stings,  
Make sure to think beyond their present so distinct.  
Reach out to them; don't mind the sting, for God's love conquers all.

Your kind embrace will melt disdain on our Bahamian shores

# The Friendship Pledge

Driven by the spirit of friendship for my family, neighborhood and country,  
I pledge:

My out stretched hands to serve and protect you  
My attentive ears to care and listen to you  
My winsome smiles to cheer and warm you  
My rightly spoken words to inform and guide you  
My time, efforts and motives to do to you  
as I would have you do to me;

So together, under God we remain one people, UNITED.

*Written by Patrice Williams-Gordon  
Member of the National Friendship Committee (c) 2011*

# Bahamas National Anthem

March On Bahamasland

By Timothy Gibson

Lift up your head to the rising sun, Bahamaland,  
March on to glory, your bright banners waving high,

See how the world marks the manner of your bearing;  
Pledge to excel thro' love and unity.

Pressing onward, march together, to a common loftier goal;  
Steady sunward tho' the weather  
Hide the wide and treacherous shoal.

Lift up your head to the rising sun, Bahamaland,  
'till the road you've trod lead unto your God, March on Bahamaland

# The National Song

Words by Dr. Philip Rahming

Music by Timothy Gibson and Clement Bethel

God Bless our sunny clime, spur us to height sublime.  
To keep men free, let brothers, sisters stand  
Firm, trusting hand in hand, throughout Bahamaland  
One brotherhood, one brotherhood.

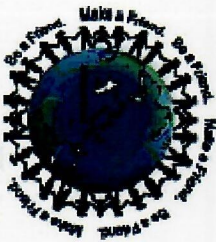
Let gratefulness ascend, courageous deeds extend  
From isle to isle. Long let us treasure peace,  
So may our lives increase, our prayers never cease.  
Let freedom ring! Let freedom ring!

Not for this time nor for this chosen few alone  
We pledge ourselves. Live loyal to our God.  
Love country, friend and foe, oh help us by thy might!  
Great God our King! Great God our King!"



# National Friendship Day

Be a Friend. Make a Friend.



**What is Friendship Day?** It is a time to honor friends and to encourage people to be kind and friendly to all. It is also a time to remember the importance of showing courtesy by saying "good morning," "thank you," may I help you," etc. The National Friendship Committee realizes that the diminution of friendliness and acts of kindness over the years have impacted negatively the social fabric of our nation.

Since it is true that "friendship is the best medicine," the National Friendship Committee is calling all residents of The Bahamas to foster a spirit of friendliness on every, island, in every neighborhood, residence, institution, and business. Let everyone "be a friend and make a friend." The Committee is calling on all residents to make an effort to develop a circle of friendship in their neighborhoods. Residents can do this by getting acquainted and showing acts of kindness to three neighbors on the left and right sides of their homes and three neighbors in front of their homes.

We are asking that all residents show respect, honor, kindness and tolerance to everyone regardless of race, nationality, language, religion, political affiliation, age, gender, sexual orientation, and disability.

**Thank You:** Special thanks are extended to the supporters and sponsors of the National Friendship Day—South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Aquapure, Dr. Charles Diggs of the Ministry of Education, Department of Social Services, and Trade Winds Transfer Company, Robert d'Albenas of d'Albenas Agency Ltd., Keili-Ann Sands, designer of the Friendship logo.

**National Friendship Committee Members:** Barrington Brennan, *Chairperson*; Rochell Cox-Hill, Genevieve Brown-Richards, Melonie Zonicle, Marie Kelly, Kenny Deveaux, Patrice Williams-Gordon, Cannon Harry Ward, Ida Poitier, Pastor Ranford Patterson, Sgt Christlyn Skipplings, Pastor Patrick Paul, Kirk Johnson,

## The National Pledge of The Bahamas

"I pledge my allegiance to The Flag and to The Commonwealth of The Bahamas for which it stands one people united in love and service."

## I Vow to Thee My Country

Words by Cecil A. Spring-Rice

Music by Gustav T. Holst

I vow to thee, my country—all earthly things above—  
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;  
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,  
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;  
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,  
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago—  
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;  
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;  
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;  
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,  
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.

Be a Friend. Make a Friend.



# National Friendship Day

Civic Ceremony  
Southern Recreation Grounds  
Wednesday, November 23, 2011