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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The University of the West Indies Press is pleased to announce that *The First Black Slave Society: Britain's "Barbarity Time" in Barbados, 1636-1876* by Hilary McD. Beckles, *Tell My Mother I Gone To Cuba: Stories of Early Twentieth-Century Migration from Barbados* by Sharon Milagro Marshall, and *The UWI Gender Journey: Recollections and Reflections* by Joycelin Massiah, Elsa Leo-Rhynie and Barbara Bailey have been recognized as finalists in the nineteenth annual Foreword INDIES Book of the Year Awards.

As part of their mission to discover, review, and share the best books from small, university, and indie publishers (and authors), independent media company Foreword Reviews hosts its annual awards programme each year. Finalists represent the best books published in 2016 and submitted to Foreword Reviews for award consideration, and were narrowed down by Foreword's editors from over 2,200 individual titles spread across 65 categories.

"Choosing finalists for the INDIES is always the highlight of our year, but the choice was more difficult this time around due to the high quality of submissions," said Victoria Sutherland, publisher of *Foreword Reviews*. "Each new book award season proves again how independent publishers are the real innovators in the industry."

According to Joseph B. Powell, general manager of the UWI Press, "These books represent important social issues and also symbolize the type of publishing that we at UWI Press want to encourage and foster for public discourse"

INDIES finalists are moved on to final judging by an expert panel of librarians and booksellers selected specifically for each genre. The judges determine the books that will be awarded Foreword INDIES Book of the Year in each category. Winners in each genre, along with Editor's Choice winners and Foreword's INDIE Publisher of the Year, will be announced during the 2017 American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago on 24 June 24, 2017.

About Foreword: Founded in 1998, Foreword Magazine, Inc., doing business as Foreword Reviews, is an independent media company featuring a Folio: Award-winning print magazine, a stable of e-newsletters and an online platform. Foreword exclusively covers small, university, and independent (non-"Big 5") publishers, the books they publish, and the creators they work with. Foreword is based in Traverse City, Michigan, USA, and has employees and writers all over the world.



