

# Sandals celebrates in a big way, treats valued guests

**AS a part of their 25th anniversary celebrations, Sandals Barbados Resort and Spa and Sandals Royal Barbados hosted a big celebration on the grounds of the resort Tuesday night.**

During his delivery of remarks, General Manager Ferry Zievinger expressed that he was absolutely delighted to have the guests there to celebrate their 25th annual celebrations, which was also a part of their Reunion Week.

"You travelled long distances and this shows how important you are to us, our most valued Sandals Resort guests. We have a lot of first timers here with us and we are so grateful to have you here to celebrate this fantastic re-

union week," he said.

"The entire team has been brainstorming for the event and tonight is a little different. Normally you are accustomed to a sit down dinner, but because of the size of the two resorts, tonight you are going to have a fantastic array of buffet items."

The team at Sandals also took the time to give back to their guests through awarding them with pins and awards based upon the number of nights they paid to stay at the resort.

32 guests were awarded the Sapphire Award as they would have recently paid for their 25th night at the resort. The Emerald Awards were given to guests who would have paid for their 45th night at the resort that week,

and guests who would have paid for their 70th night, received a free week from the resort.

Meanwhile, Ralph and Debra Paquin were considered to be the big prize winners of the night as they would have recently paid for their 254th night at the resort.

In addition to the tasty food and the awards to the guests, the Resort also treated the guests to incredible performances by local song bird, Kimberly Inniss and her band.

When The Barbados Advocate asked the guests their thoughts on the evening, many, if not all of them, commented on how content they were and impressed with the way the Resort included them in their 25th anniversary celebrations.



**Ralph and Debra Paquin being congratulated by one of the managers of Sandals Barbados Resort and Spa after getting an award for spending an accumulative 254 nights at the resort.**



**Roseann Myers, President of the Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association as she delivered a few remarks.**

# Visitors lauded for making country No. 1

**Stories by Cara L. Foster**

**BASED** on a recent study done by the Destination Satisfaction Index in 2017, Barbados is currently the No. 1 tourist destination in the world.

This information was revealed by Roseann Myers, President of the Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association, as she delivered brief remarks during the 25th Anniversary reunion week celebrations, held at Sandals Barbados Resort and Spa on Tuesday night.

She extended a heartfelt thank you to the guests, as it was the comments and feedback of 70 000 guests that pushed Barbados to the No. 1 spot.

"I want to say thank you for the comments, because that is what makes Sandals strong and what

makes the Barbados destination strong, listening to our consumers and responding to all of those comments. If you simply left us and never told us how you feel about your vacation, even when it is not all positive, you would have done us a disservice," she said.

"We were not only voted the No. 1 destination globally in terms of customer satisfaction, but there were 20 different criteria used, including beaches, culture, food and accommodation and Barbados was the No. 1 listed destination in terms of satisfaction with the accommodation product as well."

Going forward, she assured that they were committed to improving the tourism sector through working towards improving their product in every possible way, every chance

they received. She believed that even though Barbados would have received the No. 1 spot, it was not a time to rest on our laurels as there were some improvements that needed to be made.

"In Barbados, the BHTA works very closely with the Government. We are absolutely a piece of paradise, but we are not perfect and we have many things that, together, we know we can work on. We know that there is work to be done," she said.

"We feel that we are committed and Barbados is very proud of the fact that we operate as a social partnership; that is a partnership between the private sector, the Government and the unions in a tripartite. We feel very passionate that that is the only way to survive in this economy."



**Some of the guests that came out to enjoy the evening's events.**