

BUSINESS

Island Villas still best in Caribbean

FOR THE SECOND consecutive year, leading local real estate company Island Villas has secured the top prize at the prestigious Americas Property Awards.

The glittering awards ceremony, held on November 27 and hosted at the Lancaster London Hotel in England, welcomed leading property professionals from around the world.

Facing stiff competition from across the region, Island Villas proudly took home the five-star award for **Best Real Estate Agency - The Caribbean.**

"We are extremely pleased to once again receive this five-star award," said managing director Richard Eames who collected the honour on behalf of his team.

"Our team has worked tirelessly and their efforts have enabled us to maintain the impeccable customer service standards that Island Villas has become known for, even in light of challenging global economic times.

"As a small Barbadian business, we are honoured to be recognized by the **Americas Property Awards** as the best in the Caribbean," he said.

Much of the judging was carried out by the **International Property Awards'** panel of judges at the London offices of **Bloomberg Television**, but entries were also outsourced to leading experts worldwide.

Judges included Luke McKend, industry head property markets of Google UK; Peter Bolton King, group chief executive of the National

Federation of Property Professionals; Christopher Hall, president elect of FIABCI; Thijs Stoffer, International Consortium of Real Estate Agents Association (ICREA); Fiona Nixon, chairman of the Australia Institute of Architects; Hendrik Nelde, president of FIABCI Belgium; Helen Shield, editor-in-chief of **International Homes Luxury Collection** magazine and Sven Johns, CEO of the German Real Estate Association.

The awardees were praised by Stuart Shield, chairman of the **International Property Awards.**

"In our quest to find the most outstanding projects and property professionals from around the world, we were fascinated to discover that the total value of the award-winning projects was over \$100 billion. This helps to contrast with the 'bear' market approach to the property market in general," he said.

"There are some incredibly strong roots being established for the future growth and generation of properties that are more attractive to look at, safer, kinder to the environment, smarter and able to deliver a better quality of life for those who live and work in them."

Island Villas considers this award as motivation to continue its success in the new year.

"Right now, we are looking forward to a busy season and are planning to expand our environmental and philanthropic efforts," said Eames. (PR)

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