

PASSAAT FOUNDATION (STICHTING PASSAAT)

Where it started

Student Association Passaat (Studenten Vereniging Passaat) was founded in September 1997 by students from the Erasmus University Rotterdam, coming from the Dutch Caribbean islands. Their goal was to create a space where members and students from these islands could connect with others from their home cultures while living and studying abroad. The association organized a range of events focusing on social connection between members, as well as workshops and career fairs focused on the professional development of students and Young Professionals.

About the foundation

The Passaat Foundation (Stichting Passaat) was founded in 2014 after being named the beneficiary of Student Association Passaat. Three former board members and committee members of the former student association now serve on the foundation's board. The board of the Passaat Foundation: Aisha Doran (chair), Amedee Wever (secretary), Silvia-Monica Semeleer (treasurer) and Claire Edwards (general board member). The goal of the foundation is to provide financial and advisory support to other active organizations focused on serving the Dutch Caribbean community in the Netherlands and on the Dutch Caribbean islands, similar target group as the former student association. This goal is achieved by supporting organizations, activities and initiatives based on the following principles:

- Introducing youth, students and Young Professionals to the Dutch Caribbean culture and strengthen the bond between these groups;
- Encouraging the social, personal and professional development of Dutch Caribbean youth, students and Young Professionals in the Netherlands;
- Represent the interests of the Dutch Caribbean community in the Netherlands.

Over the past 7 years, the Passaat Foundation has supported initiatives from several organizations, including sporting events, seminars, educational trips and programs focusing on creative and social development in the Netherlands as well as the Caribbean.

Going forward the foundation looks forward to supporting initiatives that will reflect the current challenges that youth, students and young professionals are facing in an ever-changing environment. Would you like to know whether your organization is eligible for (financial) support from the Passaat Foundation? Please visit <http://stichtingpassaat.com/> Under 'Applications' you will find all information about what we can do for your organization, the conditions and the application procedure.

