A CALLING, NOT JUST A CAREER

...impact with integrity

A CONVERSATION WITH WENDY H. LEWIS · BY GISELLE HUDSON · 2025

Some people follow a career path. Wendy H. Lewis follows a calling, one too wide, too deep and far too vibrant to be contained by a single title.

She's not confined to a lane. She's an entire ecosystem of possibility. And for Wendy, learning is a lifelong rhythm: curiosity leads to seeking, seeking leads to wisdom, and wisdom invites transformation.

> *"The more I become, the more I seek. The more I seek, the more I learn."*

Wendy doesn't discriminate when it comes to learning. Whether the insight comes from a woman, a child or a quiet moment of reflection, she receives it with the same openness and respect.

A TRAINING GROUND AT HOME

Growing up in 1970s Trinidad and Tobago during the Black Power Movement, Wendy was shaped by a culture where children were expected to be seen but not heard. But in her home, Friday night family meetings were a sacred ritual. Her parents made space for voice, for thought, for questions.

Her father taught her not just to learn a new word every day, but to use it in context. He didn't just encourage her to watch the evening news; he asked her to summarize it, analyze it and form an opinion. Those moments weren't casual. They were formative. They were training ground.

> *"He challenged me constantly. And my mother? She taught me how to listen."*

Her mother's method was subtle but powerful. She didn't lecture; she asked questions that guided Wendy to her own insights. Looking back, Wendy sees how these early patterns laid the foundation for her path as a communications strategist, facilitator and thought leader.

VOICE AS A VESSEL

Today, Wendy is the CEO of The Corporate Training Academy (formerly the T&T School of Protocol), where she helps leaders embody presence: not just with posture, but with purpose. Her influence reaches far beyond the boardroom. She is a:

- Speaker and communications strategist
- Counselor and coach
- Radio and TV host
- Cultural advocate
- Performer
- Protocol and etiquette trainer
- Booking agent

But at the root of it all is her voice.

> *"My gift is my voice. That doesn't mean I only sing. It means I speak. I mentor. I preach. I facilitate. These are all branches of the same tree."*

A WOMAN'S WORTH, RECLAIMED

"I saw a huge problem, and A Woman's Worth became the seed to the solution."

Wendy doesn't believe in talk-shop without tangible outcomes. If you speak on something, she believes, you should be solution-oriented. And when it came to the erosion of women's value, especially in Caribbean cultural and religious contexts, she knew something had to be done.

A Woman's Worth is more than a program. It's a movement to help women:

- Reconnect with their self-worth
- Reclaim their voice
- Reinvent their lives from a place of clarity and power

"So many of our women don't understand their worth," she says. "They accept things based on cultural beliefs, religious pressure, peer pressure. Even our girls in school are becoming victims of bullying because of this disconnect."

Wendy's qualifications in child psychology, counseling, leadership, entrepreneurship and public speaking aren't just for show. They are tools she uses to walk women back to themselves, with strength, structure and soul.

CALYPSO ROOTS AND CULTURAL LEADERSHIP

With over 30 years in entertainment and media, Wendy has carved out a creative legacy as vibrant as it is disciplined. She has been a calypsonian and performer, an artist manager and booking agent, a writer, and, notably, the first woman to win the London Calypso Monarch.

She has also delivered workshops through UTT and TUCO, bringing professionalism and structure to the cultural sector.

"I've always respected the craft," she says. "But I also saw where things could be elevated, where structure could support brilliance."

Wendy doesn't split her identity between the arts and the academy. She sees no boundary between cultural work and corporate development. She lives in the overlap.

When asked how she decides what to say yes to, Wendy doesn't hesitate.

> *"If it doesn't align with who I am and what I'm called to do, it's a no."*

That kind of clarity is rare, and it's what makes her a trusted voice across disciplines. She moves through corporate, creative and community spaces not because it's easy, but because she's clear.

ON ORCHESTRATING SUCCESS

Her concept of success wasn't built in a vacuum. It came through lived experience, and encounters with greatness.

"While living in the UK, I met Sir Richard Branson, who was instrumental in the early days of Notting Hill Carnival. After winning the London Calypso Monarch, I had the chance to speak with him at the victory party."

While others asked for photos, Wendy asked for wisdom. "I said, 'What's the secret to your success?' And he said, 'Multiple streams of income.' That stuck with me."

She also had the immense privilege of working closely with the late Hon. Patrick Manning, former Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago.

"He was my boss, my teacher, and the ultimate strategist. I sat at his feet. I listened. Sometimes I questioned his decisions, but always, I learned."

These moments shaped Wendy's approach to strategy and sharpened her view of leadership. Her definition of success is layered:

> *"When preparation meets opportunity. When integrity meets impact. When presence meets purpose."*

She's an avid reader, a deep listener, and a believer in seasons, knowing that life moves in cycles and that success must be orchestrated intentionally.

"A lot of people don't realize that everything they want in life is already at their fingertips. You are the product. Everyone else is just here to help you package it."

THE WENDY WAY

Having just delivered a powerful message at LOUD25, themed "Orchestrating Success," Wendy didn't speak from theory. She spoke from lived experience.

> *"Success has seasons. At this stage of my life, success is about impact with integrity. It's not about being everywhere; it's about being present where it matters."*

And if you were in the room, you felt it. Wendy didn't just deliver a talk. She stirred minds, challenged norms, and offered real tools for orchestrating success with clarity, courage and intention.

FULLY ALIGNED, FULLY HERSELF

Wendy H. Lewis doesn't just talk about success. She orchestrates it: thoughtfully, intentionally, in full alignment with who she is.

In a world that still pressures women to fragment themselves, Wendy shows up whole. And in doing so, she gives others permission to do the same.

"God is not through with me yet," she says. And I believe her!

THREE TAKEAWAYS FROM WENDY'S SPOTLIGHT

1 *Keep seeking.*
"The more I become, the more I seek." Learning is a lifelong rhythm, and wisdom can come from anyone, if you receive it with openness.

2 *Clarity makes the no easy.*
If it doesn't align with who you are and what you're called to do, it's a no. That clarity is what makes a voice trusted.

3 *Success has seasons.*
Preparation meets opportunity, integrity meets impact, presence meets purpose. Orchestrate it intentionally, and be present where it matters.



Wendy H. Lewis

CEO of The Corporate Training Academy (formerly the T&T School of Protocol), founder of A Woman's Worth, speaker, communications strategist, radio and TV host, and the first woman to win the London Calypso Monarch.

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