



## **The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited**

### **Media Release**

#### **Launch of NGC SanFest 2014 Remarks by Winston Bramble Festival Director**

**September 14<sup>th</sup> 2014  
Creative Arts Centre, San Fernando  
5:00 p.m.**

Today, we officially launch the 44th Edition of the National Junior Arts Festival (now referred to as NGC Sanfest), and where greater and lesser organisations have fallen by the wayside, NGC Sanfest continues to stand out as a beacon of hope for the youth of Trinidad and Tobago. Throughout the ages, arts and culture is where human beings turn when they want to expand their minds and their horizons.

NGC Sanfest therefore offers the opportunity for our young people to explore their creative ability by providing them with a festival with which they can develop their God- given talents in order that they may make a significant contribution to the benefit of Trinidad and Tobago. The theme chosen for 2013 was- “The Arts Essential to Life”. The term embodies creative thinking and critique, which encompasses the analyses of contemporary visual culture alongside other arts forms i.e: visual arts, literature, music, theatre, dance, drama, etc...

It is therefore a tribute to our founding fathers who conceptualized the idea of a Festival of this nature- a festival which we hope in the not too distant future, will have the kind of impact and recognition which it deserves, and which, perhaps will bear some comparison to other festivals such as- Edinburgh Festival of Scotland...

Sanfest 2013 had its fair share of challenges, but with the help of the Almighty, as well as the hard-work and dedication of a committed Sanfest committee, we were able to overcome the many trials and tribulations associated with such a festival.

The 2013 Edition of NGC Sanfest was launch on the Sunday 15th September. Many new features were introduced, including:

- Open- Air Concerts at Brian Lara Promenade and Harris Promenade.
- Additional incentives to schools, teachers, and students including 40” T.V Sets, Kindle Fires, I-Pods, etc...

The Preliminary Round of competition was held at venues throughout Trinidad.



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These included: Creative Arts Centre (Victoria and Caroni); Prince Town West Secondary (South Eastern) City Hall (Port of Spain), Fyzabad Secondary (St. Patrick), Arima West Primary (St. George), Guaico Secondary (North Eastern).

Unfortunately, Tobago could not be with us due to unforeseen circumstances. A total of one hundred and thirty- one (131) schools participated in Sanfest 2013-sixty four (64) Primary and sixty seven (67) Secondary.

Competition in all disciplines was extremely keen and this festival has the potential to reach even greater heights. For this, we congratulate our Principals, Teachers, Supporters, Chorographers, Arrangers, Students for making Sanfest “a joy to behold”.

Some of the outstanding features of Sanfest were:

Steelband Ensemble:

A total of nineteen steelbands participated in this competition which was held at Skinner Park, in San Fernando as it had outgrown its original moorings at the Creative Arts Centre.

The eventual winners were:

1. Primary Schools: Forest Reserve A.C
2. Secondary Schools: St. Benedict’s College.

Mr. and Ms. Sanfest:

This attracted a large audience at the Naparima Bowl in San Fernando.

There were- delegates and each possessed a wealth of talent that was clearly demonstrated by the manner in which they impressed the judges.

Criteria was based on the following:

Self- Expressions, Talent & Graduation wear. In addition to the valuable prizes received, delegates, paid courtesy calls on His Excellency, the President, our Sponsor- the National Gas Company of Trinidad & Tobago, Wack Radio etc...



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The eventual winners were:

1. Ms. Sanfest- Marina Mohan- Naparima Girl's High School.
2. Mr. Sanfest- Rondell Mungal- Naparima Boy's College.

Music & Dance:

These disciplines continue to attract the most entries of the festival. Students blessed our hearts with stellar performances, which we hope will redound to the benefit of not only those who were fortunate to experience them but the nation as a whole.

The curtain came down on 2013 Sanfest with Command Performances at the Naparima Bowl on 15th & 19th November as well as Highlight Performance at the Learning Resource Centre, Couva.

Special thanks go out to all who have laboured in the vineyard to ensure the success of NGC Sanfest to which for many of us it is not just an ordinary festival but a way of life.

We were indeed extremely fortunate to have as our worthy sponsor- the National Gas Company of Trinidad & Tobago. They have indeed been a source of inspiration and encouragement to us. Their involvement in NGC Sanfest has been a tremendous plus and we truly owe them a debt of gratitude. Thanks to their representative Mr. Fofi George & Ms. Christine Punnett.

Once Again we express our sincere and profound thanks to the Ministry of Education, The National Gas Company of Trinidad & Tobago- our worthy sponsor, principals, teachers, parents, Sanfest Committee Members, students and other stakeholders for continuing to make NGC Sanfest a 'joy to behold'.

Yours in Service  
Winston Bramble  
Festival Director