

# Investing in our Performing Arts

**Patrons and performers of the Arts are benefiting from a \$900,000 investment from the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago in the San Fernando Creative Arts Centre.**

The Creative Arts Centre, which now incorporates full air-conditioning, improved lighting and impressive multi-purpose space for visual, performance and creative arts, received rave reviews from guests at the formal unveiling on July 5th at its 97C Circular Road, Mon Repos location.

Antonia Lucky, Manager, Corporate Communications (Ag) stated, "NGC warmly and open-heartedly supported this venture when called upon because we view it as an opportunity to help creative arts become a powerful catalyst of expression, a focus for our young people, and a passion to live by for all."



Antonia Lucky and Torrance Mohammed shake hands as the commemorative plaque is unveiled. Also in photo are: Senator Embau Moheni, Minister in the Ministry of the Arts and Multiculturalism and Zabeedah Hosein-Abidh, School Supervisor 111, Victoria Educational District Office, Ministry of Education.



The new signage on the external wall of the Creative Arts Centre.

Dyna Force Construction Services Limited, DAD Comfort Cooling and Trans Caribbean Electrical Services Limited were the major companies employed for the project.

The unveiling of the \$900,000 upgrade marks another strong commitment by NGC in its support of arts and culture. NGC is also the major sponsor of the SANFEST festival, also staged annually by the San Fernando Arts Council which has been the catalyst behind some of the country's major artistes, including Machael Montano, Joanne Foster, Liam Teague, Sherma Andrews, Atiba Williams, Michael Zephryne, Leon Foster-Thomas and Faye Ali Bocus among many others.

Also attending the unveiling were the Honourable Embau Moheni, Minister of Arts and Multiculturalism, Councillor Jason Williams, representative on behalf of Her Worship, the Mayor of San Fernando, and representative from the Ministry of Education, Zabeedah Hosein-Abidh, School Supervisor 111, Victoria Educational District Office.

Torrance Mohammed, Chairman, San Fernando Arts Council, emceed the formal proceedings, noting the "long and gratifying" relationship between NGC and the Creative Arts Centre.

Senator Moheni remarked, "While the Ministry is committed to doing its part, it is important that organisations in the sector continue to develop partnerships and strategic relationships to assist in achieving their goals and objectives." He further stated,

"The achievement of the San Fernando Arts Council proves that given the right opportunities and the support from government and corporate citizens, great things can happen to make dreams come true. As a result of this initiative, more programmes can be implemented at the Centre to uplift the standards of performing arts in Trinidad and Tobago."

Underscoring the widespread impact of NGC's Corporate Social Responsibility, Councillor Williams said, "NGC has transformed communities and touched the lives of persons across our country."

Mr. Mohammed asserted that the "timely intervention" of NGC six years ago to sponsor the National Junior Arts Festival involving both Primary and Secondary Schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago has led to its phenomenal growth and general improvement. "We extend our sincerest thanks and appreciation to the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago. Junior Festival Directors past and present namely James Lee Wah, Joyce Kirton, Eric Butler, Walid Baksh and Winston Bramble, must also be applauded for their significant contribution to the development of the Festival thus far," he said in his vote of thanks.



Torrance Mohammed, Chairman, San Fernando Arts Council welcoming guests to the unveiling of the Arts Centre.



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