



ISSUE 03 | 2025 / 2026

Lagniappe

NEWSLETTER



Welcome

Welcome to '**Lagniappe**', our quarterly newsletter where you can catch up on all things festival. This publication allows you to stay up-to-date on all that the Commission has achieved and gives you a glimpse into what's next on Tobago's cultural calendar.

This issue features highlights from the launches of both the **Tobago Heritage Festival and Tobago Carnival** along with what's coming for the rest of the year.

We hope you enjoy reading and we look forward to providing you with more engaging and cultural content in the future.

HAPPY READING!

Sincerely,
Tobago Festivals Commission Limited

Meet the New Board

of the Tobago Festivals Commission Limited



From left: Ms. Coryse Sober-Roberts, Ms. Terrencia Parks, Ms. Salisha James, Ms. Sherry-ann Bryon, Mr. Steve Jack, Mr. Ken Jones, Mr. Darius Burris, Afesha Lincon, Hyacinth Leander, Rheane Moore, Missing : Dr. Charleston Thomas

Chairman's Address

Mr. Ken Jones



As the newly appointed chairman, I am honoured to extend a warm welcome to you on behalf of the Board of Directors, our Chief Executive Officer, and the entire team at the Tobago Festivals Commission Limited, to our digital platform and to the rich cultural heritage of Tobago. This year signifies a significant milestone in our island's history as we anticipate hosting the Tobago Heritage Festival, Tobago Blue Food Festival, and Tobago Carnival.

As we look forward to the 2026 Heritage Festival, scheduled from July 16 to August 1st and commemorating 39 years with the theme "Leh We Tell De Whole Story," we are dedicated to exploring the depths of our traditions. Our objective this season is to honour the entire spectrum of our heritage and ensure that the community's voice is acknowledged, preserved, and celebrated.

The Tobago Blue Food Festival represents one of the most distinctive and globally recognized

events on the island, held in the village of Bloody Bay. The festival is scheduled for Sunday, October 18, 2026, to commemorate its 28th anniversary. It is distinguished by the innovative use of dasheen, which turns blue upon cooking, resulting in a variety of flavourful dishes, wines, and ice creams.

Nevertheless, our endeavours extend beyond merely preserving history; we are actively shaping it. As October approaches, preparations are underway to commemorate the 5th Anniversary of Tobago Carnival, an event that has swiftly evolved from a pioneering concept into a globally recognized "**Mud, Mas, and Music**" celebration. This milestone exemplifies the resilience of our stakeholders and event partners, as well as the vibrant spirit of our community. Whether you are a returning member of the diaspora, a visitor seeking an authentic experience, or a Tobagonian proud of your heritage, this platform serves as your gateway to the world, as the streets of Tobago's capital, Scarborough, transform into a vibrant stage with thousands of masqueraders.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to our stakeholders, partners, and communities for their unwavering support and commitment over the years. I look forward to continued collaboration this year and in the future.

Here, you will discover not only dates and events but also the stories that define us as The Greatest Little Island On the Planet. I invite you to explore, engage, and join us on all our platforms as we take Tobago's culture to the global stage.

Welcome to the celebration.

Regards,

Ken Jones

Chairman,

Tobago Festivals Commission Limited

***“Innovating
Culture***

-

***Inspiring
Progress ”***

CEO's Address

Mr. Kern Cowan

As we move further into 2026, there is a great sense of excitement and momentum surrounding the work of the Tobago Festivals Commission Limited. Over the past few months, we have successfully launched two of Tobago's flagship festivals; the Tobago Heritage Festival and Tobago Carnival; setting the stage for what promises to be another memorable season of culture, creativity, and community engagement.

On May 8, the streets of Scarborough came alive as we officially launched the Tobago Heritage Festival, celebrating the traditions, stories, and communities that continue to shape Tobago's unique cultural identity. Later, on May 29, we gathered at South Beach, Pigeon Point, to unveil Tobago Carnival 2026, marking the beginning of another chapter in the evolution of one of the island's fastest-growing cultural tourism products. Both launches were met with tremendous support, energy, and enthusiasm, demonstrating the continued importance of these festivals to Tobago and its people.

As we now turn our attention to the Tobago Heritage Festival, which takes place from July 16 to August 1, we look forward to showcasing the rich traditions and cultural expressions that have made this festival one of the most cherished events on our calendar. This year's theme, "Leh We Tell De Whole Story," invites us to take a deeper look at the people, places, customs, and experiences that define Tobago.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and support of our many stakeholders. I extend sincere thanks to our staff, Board of Directors, sponsors, partners, service providers, village committees, cultural practitioners, special interest groups, volunteers, community leaders, the Tobago House of Assembly, and the countless individuals who continue to invest their time,



talent, and resources into the success of our festivals. Your commitment ensures that our traditions are preserved, our communities are empowered, and our cultural products continue to grow.

I also wish to thank those who supported both launch activities, whether through sponsorship, participation, logistics, performances, promotion, or simply by showing up and sharing in the experience. The success of these launches is a reflection of what can be achieved when we work together toward a common vision.

As we prepare for the weeks ahead, I encourage everyone to join us in celebrating Tobago Heritage Festival 2026. Whether you are attending for the first time or returning to a favourite village event, I invite you to immerse yourself in the culture, connect with the communities, and experience the stories that make Tobago special.

Thank you for your continued support, and thank you for being part of the TFCL journey.

Regards,
Kern Cowan
Chief Executive Officer,
Tobago Festivals Commission Limited

Let's Recap the Second Quarter of 2026



Tobago Heritage Festival Launch Event

STORY ON
PAGE 8



Tobago Carnival Launch Event

The Awakening

STORY ON
PAGE 17

Tobago Heritage Festival

Leh We Tell De Whole Story



There are some stories that cannot be told from a stage alone. They must be danced in village squares, sung in calypso tents, cooked in iron pots, spoken in the rhythms of elders, and carried in the memories of communities. That is the spirit behind the Tobago Heritage Festival 2026, officially launched on Friday 8 May 2026 in Scarborough under the compelling theme, "*Leh We Tell De Whole Story.*"

The launch was more than a ceremonial opening. It was a declaration of intent.

Beginning with a lively cultural parade through the streets of Scarborough and culminating at the Esplanade, the event brought together cultural practitioners, residents, visitors, and stakeholders in a colourful public display of Tobago's living traditions. Drumming echoed



through the streets, dancers animated the route, and cultural expression transformed the capital into a temporary stage where heritage was not merely observed, but experienced.

This year's theme carries particular significance. In many ways, it is an invitation to move beyond selective narratives and embrace the richness, complexity, and diversity of Tobago's cultural story. Heritage is not simply about preserving what was;



it is also about recognising whose voices have shaped the journey and ensuring that future generations understand the value of what they inherit.

Tobago Heritage Festival

Leh We Tell De Whole Story

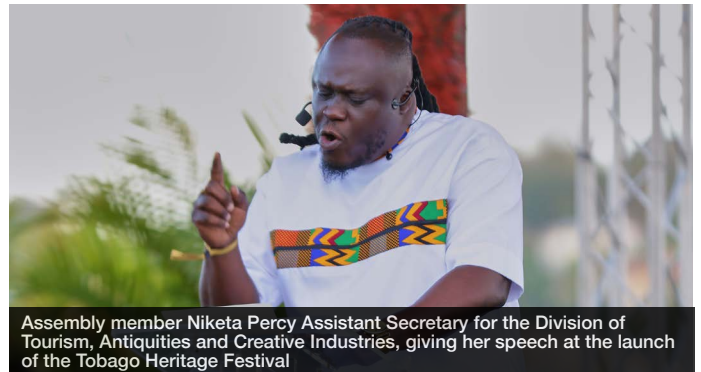
Speaking at the launch, Tobago Festivals Commission Limited CEO Kern Cowan reminded attendees that the Festival reflects



CEO of the Tobago Festivals Commission Limited, Mr Kern Cowan addresses the audience.

something deeply rooted in the island's identity. Rather than being a performance put on for display, he emphasized that Tobago's culture is something carried by its people in everyday life. That perspective was echoed by Assembly Member Niketa Percy, who described the Festival as a living archive where villages become stages, traditions become lessons, and generations come together in pride. Secretary of the Division of Tourism, Antiquities and Creative Industries, Assembly Member Zorisha Hackett reinforced this perspective by reminding attendees that the Tobago Heritage Festival is fundamentally a space where Tobago tells its own story, in its own voice.

Audience response suggests that the message resonated. Feedback from 105 surveyed patrons indicated strong satisfaction with the launch, with an average rating of 3.9 out of 5. Participation reflected wide geographic representation from across Tobago and Trinidad, as well as encouraging intergenerational engagement; evidence that the Festival continues to connect meaningfully with diverse audiences.



Assembly member Niketa Percy Assistant Secretary for the Division of Tourism, Antiquities and Creative Industries, giving her speech at the launch of the Tobago Heritage Festival

Anticipation is already building for signature experiences including the Moriah Tobago Ole Time Wedding, Opening Night Gala, Ms Tobago Heritage Personality Competition, Charlotteville Natural Treasures Day, Folk Fiesta, and the Emancipation Day Parade, events that have become defining expressions of Tobago's cultural calendar.



Leh We Tell De Whole Story



JULY 16TH TO AUGUST 1ST 2026

<p>THURS 16</p> <p>OPENING NIGHT GALA Shaw Park Complex 7:00 PM</p> 	<p>FRI 17</p> <p>OLE TIME HERITAGE FAIR Scarborough Esplanade 10:00 AM FREE</p> <p>GOLDEN LANE / MT CULLANE 'COURTSHIP CODES' 7:00 PM</p> 	<p>SAT 18</p> <p>MORIAH 'TOBAGO OLE TIME WEDDING' 11:00 AM</p> 	<p>SUN 19</p> <p>BUCCOO HERITAGE FAIR ALL DAY</p> 
<p>MON 20</p> <p>CHARLOTTEVILLE 'NATURAL TREASURES DAY' 9:00 AM</p> 	<p>THURS 23</p> <p>LES COTEAUX FOLK TALES & SUPERSTITIONS 8:00 PM</p> 	<p>FRI 24</p> <p>PAN - FOLKORAMA "STEELPAN BIN DE DE":</p>  <p><small>Pan Trinbago The World's Oldest Body for Steelpan</small></p>	
<p>SAT 25</p> <p>TOBAGO OLE TIME CARNIVAL J'OUVERT - Plymouth 4:00 AM</p> <p>COCOA IN THE SUN - Plymouth 3:00 PM</p> <p>HERITAGE CALYPSO MONARCH - Plymouth 8:00 PM</p> 	<p>SUN 26</p> <p>SPEYSIDE HARVEST 10:00 AM</p> <p>FOLK FIESTA 1:00 PM</p> 	<p>MON 27</p> <p>ROXBOROUGH BELMANNA RIOTS 9:00 AM</p> 	<p>TUES 28</p> <p>GOODWOOD YAM FESTIVAL 10:00 AM</p> 
<p>WED 29</p> <p>PEMBROKE SALAKA FEAST 7:00PM</p> 	<p>THURS 30</p> <p>MS TOBAGO HERITAGE PERSONALITY 8:00 PM</p> 	<p>SAT Aug 1</p> <p>EMANCIPATION DAY PARADE 5:00 PM</p> 	



DIVISION OF TOURISM,
ANTIQUITIES & CREATIVE INDUSTRIES
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One Vision:
Global Connection



WE WILL BE THERE

Located at Booths #213 & #214



@TTMATIC



@tictt_2026

TRADE AND INVESTMENT CONVENTION

9th-11th July 2026

868-675-TTMA | ticsales@ttma.com | ttma.com/tic



Culture Classroom

Telling De Whole Story

Tobago has always carried a story, one that reaches your ears long before the island comes into view.

You will hear it in the drum calling across the village, steady and sure, like it has something to remind you of. You will hear it in voices rising together at wake and bongo, voices that sound like they remember things older than the moment they are in. You will see it in the dancer who moves not just with the music, but with something deeper, something carried, something passed down.

Every year, the Tobago Heritage Festival gathers these sounds, these movements, these memories, and lays them before us. And we come. We come to watch, to listen, to feel, and to remember who we are. But in 2026, something shifts.

Not in a loud way. Not in a way that breaks what we know. It is quieter than that. It is like sitting beside an elder who begins telling a story you have heard before, and just when you think you know how it goes, they lean in and say, “But you see, that is not all.” This

year, the festival carries a simple but powerful call. *Leh We Tell De Whole Story.*

It is not asking us to start over. It is asking us to look again. To listen again. To make space for what was always there, but not always spoken, because every story has layers.

There are stories we know well. The ones we perform, the ones we celebrate, the ones we proudly pass on. But beneath those are other stories. Stories of the woman who kept the tradition alive when no one was watching. Stories of the village that refused to let something die. Stories of struggle, of strength, of quiet decisions that shaped everything we now celebrate. These stories do not come to replace what we know. They come to stand beside them. To complete them.

So as the festival unfolds across Tobago, from village to village, from stage to stage, something deeper begins to happen. The opening night rises like a story being told around a fire. It moves through time, through memory, through moments we recognise. But just when we settle into what we expect,



Les Coteaux Folk Tales and Superstition performers on stage

Culture Classroom

Telling De Whole Story

something new is revealed. A different voice. A deeper truth. A reminder that what we know is only part of what is.

And in the villages, where the heart of the festival truly lives, the story breathes even stronger. As the drums speak and the voices rise, we begin to hear more. We begin to see the hands that carried these traditions through time. We begin to understand the strength it took to keep them alive. We begin to feel the quiet acts of resistance that made survival possible.

It is not a new story. It is the same story, told more in-depth. Beyond the performances, there are spaces where the story slows down and sits with itself. In the symposium, in the exhibition, voices gather. Elders, scholars, young people, cultural bearers. They come not just to speak, but to ask. What have we not said? Why have some stories been left in the shadows? And what happens when we bring them into the light? Because the story of Tobago has never been just about what happened.

It has always been about the people. It is about those who endured when things were hard. Those who created beauty out of limitation. Those who refused, in quiet and in courage, to disappear. Even when others tried to write the story for them, Tobago kept telling its own story.

In 2026, that telling becomes clearer. Fuller. Stronger. This festival becomes more than a celebration. It becomes a remembering. A reclaiming. A gathering of voices that say, this is who we are, and this is all of who we are. So when you come, do not just watch. Listen.

Listen for the story you know. And listen for the

one you are hearing for the first time, because they are both part of the same telling. And in this moment, in this year, in this festival, Tobago opens its mouth, lifts its voice, and tells its truth.

Leh we tell de whole story.



Sun, Vibes and Good Sense

Your Guide to Festival Life in Tobago

By Cayla Culture, festival lover and seasoned event goer

Every year, **Tobago Heritage Festival** gives us something special. It is one of the few times when the entire island becomes a stage, a classroom, and a celebration all at once. From **July 16 to August 1**, villages across Tobago will once again come alive with stories, traditions, food, music, and performances that remind us who we are and where we come from.

This year feels even more exciting because some of the events many of us have been missing are making their return in one form or another. The **Goodwood Yam Festival** and **Buccoo Heritage Fair** are all back on the calendar, joining beloved staples like **Charlotteville Natural Treasures Day**, **Les Coteaux Folk Tales & Superstitions**, **Roxborough Belmanna Riots**, and the always-popular **Tobago Ole Time Wedding in Moriah**.

The festival journey begins on July 16 with an **Opening Night** showcase produced by the Tobago Performing Arts Company (TPAC) and culminates on August 1 with the vibrant **Emancipation Parade** through the streets of Scarborough. Between those two dates lies a rich tapestry of stories, traditions, and experiences waiting to be discovered.

And speaking of stories, this year's theme, "**Leh We Tell De Whole Story**," promises a deeper and more immersive look at Tobago's heritage than ever before. I've already heard whispers that audiences can expect new production elements, fresh interpretations, and experiences that have never been seen at the Festival before. So if you think you know **Tobago Heritage Festival**, this may be the year to come with fresh eyes.

Now for the practical part.

Many of these events take place outdoors and can last for several hours. Some involve walking, standing, moving between locations, or spending an entire day immersed in village activities. Trust me, preparation makes all the difference.

What to Bring



✓ Comfortable footwear



✓ Lightweight, breathable clothing



✓ Refillable water bottle



✓ Sunscreen



✓ Portable phone charger



✓ Small bag or backpack



✓ Hat or cap



✓ Umbrella (for both sunshine and unexpected showers)



✓ Cash and cards



✓ Camera or fully charged phone for photos



✓ A folding chair or blanket for selected events, where appropriate



✓ And perhaps most importantly...
An open mind and a willingness to learn.



*One of the best things about the **Tobago Heritage Festival** is that every village tells its story differently. You may arrive expecting entertainment and leave having learned something new about Tobago's people, customs, language, food, or history.*

Be sure to take the time to visit the food vendors, interact with community members, and support local artisans whenever possible. Keep an eye out as well for the Festival's collectible merchandise, which will be available throughout the season. If you're someone who likes to hold onto memories, these may become some of your favourite keepsakes from Tobago Heritage 2026.

My biggest piece of advice? Don't rush.

*Tobago Heritage Festival is not the kind of event where you simply show up, watch, and leave. It is an experience that draws you in, and one that truly reflects the Commission's slogan, "**Come for the Culture. Stay for the Experience.**". From the stories and traditions to the food, music, and community spirit, there is always something that keeps you wanting more. Arrive early, stay awhile, ask questions, listen to the stories, and allow yourself to be fully immersed in the culture. The magic often happens in the moments between the performances.*

As always, be respectful of the communities hosting these events, follow the guidance of organizers,

See you somewhere between a folk tale, a feast, a wedding, a riot, and a parade.

Your Festivals' Favourite
Cayla Culture



TOBAGO
BLUE
FOOD
FESTIVAL

OCT . 18TH . 2026

10AM



BLOODY BAY
RECREATIONAL GROUNDS,
TOBAGO



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Tobago Carnival Launch

The Awakening



CEO of the Tobago Festivals Commission Limited, Mr. Kern Cowan, shares remarks at the official launch of Tobago Carnival 2026

The countdown to Tobago Carnival 2026 has officially begun.

On Saturday, May 30, patrons, stakeholders, cultural practitioners and members of the public gathered at the iconic Pigeon Point Heritage Park for “The Awakening”, the official launch of Tobago Carnival 2026 and the start of the festival’s fifth anniversary celebrations.

Against the stunning backdrop of Tobago’s coastline, attendees were immersed in an evening that celebrated the spirit, energy and cultural richness that have become synonymous with Tobago Carnival. The launch featured a vibrant mix of traditional carnival elements, live performances, masquerade, steelpan music and cultural showcases, offering a glimpse into what patrons can expect for the 2026 season.

In her feature address, Secretary of Tourism, Creative Industries and Antiquities, Assemblyman Zorisha Hackett reflected on the remarkable growth of the festival over the past five years, describing Tobago Carnival as a celebration that has evolved into an important part of Tobago’s identity and tourism landscape. She highlighted the festival’s contribution to economic activity across the island, creating opportunities for businesses, vendors, artists, designers and communities.

Chief Executive Officer of the Tobago Festivals Commission Limited, Kern Cowan, also reflected on the journey of Tobago Carnival, noting that the festival was built on a vision to create an authentic cultural product rooted in Tobago’s traditions and inspired by its people. Today, Tobago Carnival continues to position the island as a premier festival destination while generating opportunities throughout the creative and tourism sectors.

Tobago Carnival Launch

The Awakening

Throughout the evening, patrons enjoyed several signature Tobago Carnival experiences including the Rhythm Yard activation, Mud Ceremony, traditional carnival characters, masquerade presentations and performances from some of Tobago's leading entertainers. Junior Calypso Monarch 2025 Koquice Davidson, Tobago Soca Titans top 3 finalists Verrse, Kedane and TamTam energized the audience before headline performances from Nadia Batson, Bunji Garlin and Fay-Ann Lyons brought the night to an unforgettable close.

As Tobago Carnival enters its milestone fifth year, excitement is already building for what promises to be another season of culture, creativity and celebration. Residents, members of the diaspora and visitors alike are encouraged to prepare for an experience that continues to showcase the very best of Tobago to the world.

Tobago Carnival 2026 takes place from October 30 to November 1, 2026.



Tobago Soca Titans top 3, from left Kedane, Verrse, and TamTam performing at the Launch of Tobago Carnival.



Nadia Batson performing at the launch of Tobago Carnival.



Presentation of tokens to Bunji Galin and Fay-Ann Lyons by CEO of the Tobago Festivals Commission Limited, Mr Kern Cowan and Assembly member Zorisha Hackett Secretary for the Division of Tourism, Antiquities and Creative Industries.



Performers showcase their skill and agility during a limbo performance.

TOBAGO CARNIVAL

MUD MAS & MUSIC





Oct 30 - Nov 1
2026



SAVE
THE
DATES



TOBAGO
CARNIVAL

**MUD
MAS &
MUSIC**



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Tobago Sound Check

Verrse “Paradise”

(Written by Triston Andrews & Jahiem “Verrse” Thomas | Produced by Badjohn Republic & Chryston Floyd | Guitar by Chryston Floyd | Background Vocals by Karyce Marciano | Mixed & Mastered by Badjohn Republic)

From the very first beat, “Paradise” explodes with the kind of energy built for the road, the stage, and the spirit of Tobago Carnival itself. Bright percussion, melodic guitar accents, and a forward-driving power soca pulse immediately pull listeners into an atmosphere that feels both celebratory and deeply rooted in identity.

But beneath the infectious rhythm lies something more intentional. Verrse doesn’t simply deliver another fete anthem he paints Tobago as an experience. The lyrics move beyond generic party

imagery, grounding the music in culture, pride, and place. Every section of the production feels carefully designed to balance raw road energy with enough vocal clarity to let the message shine through.

The chant-ready hook and steady build make “Paradise” feel almost inevitable in a live setting. Whether on trucks, stages, or inside packed fetes, the song creates the kind of communal release soca is known for while still

Artist Snapshot

Jahiem “Verrse” Thomas has quickly established himself as one of Tobago’s most exciting and commanding soca voices. A two-time Tobago Soca Titans champion, Verrse is recognized for electrifying performances, crowd control, and an ability to merge high-energy competition soca with meaningful cultural storytelling.

What makes Verrse stand out is his understanding of performance beyond music alone. His records often reflect Tobago’s identity, spirit, and evolving Carnival culture, positioning him as part entertainer, part cultural ambassador.

With every release, he continues to push Tobago’s sound into larger regional conversations while staying rooted in authenticity.

As his catalogue grows, so does anticipation around what he will deliver next — and if “Paradise” is any indication, Verrse is only getting started.

“Framing Tobago itself as a cultural destination.” Verrse



Follow Verrse:

Instagram: @verrse_official

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@verrse-wn4mz>



Tobago Sound Check

Juby — “Elevator”

(Written by Jumaane “Juby” Cox, Hasani Taylor, Kory Hart & Kevon Hart (Fullblown) | Produced by PA Productions | Mixed & Mastered by NMG Music)

With “Elevator,” Juby delivers a track that understands exactly how Caribbean parties move. Not just physically, but socially and emotionally. The song thrives on interaction, rhythmic repetition, and a gradual build that mirrors the energy exchange between DJ, artist, and crowd.

Built within a bouyon-influenced soca pocket, “Elevator” leaves space for participation instead of overcrowding the rhythm. The production breathes, allowing every chant, response, and crowd reaction to become part of the experience. Rather than relying solely on speed or intensity, the track builds momentum through engagement, creating a live-performance atmosphere even before it reaches the stage.

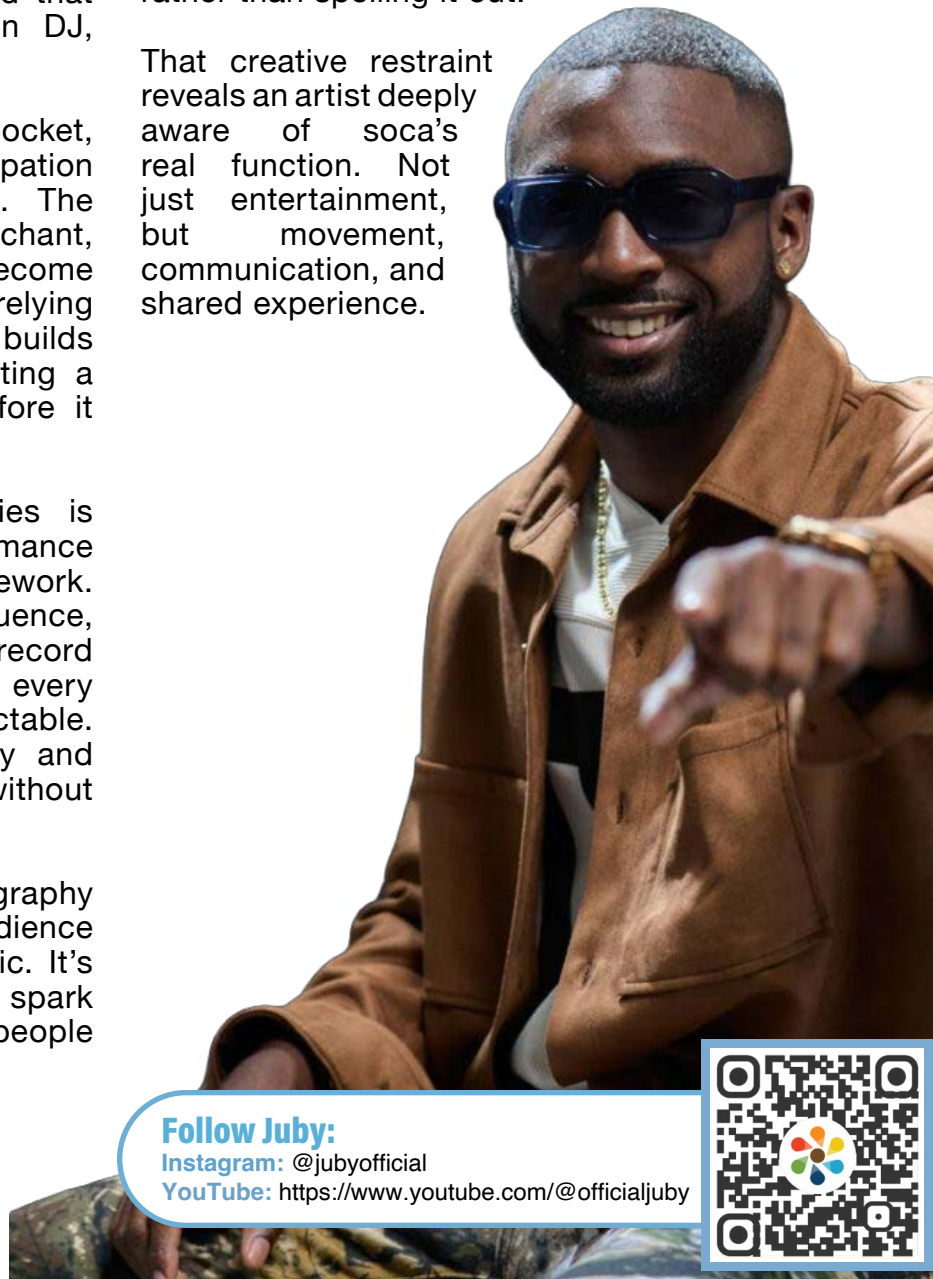
One of the song’s strongest qualities is Juby’s use of traditional calypso performance techniques inside a modern soca framework. His freestyle instincts, lavway influence, and improvisational delivery give the record personality and spontaneity, making every performance feel alive and unpredictable. The songwriting cleverly uses imagery and suggestion, adding playful energy without sacrificing sophistication.

Culturally, “Elevator” reflects the choreography of Caribbean nightlife itself where audience participation becomes part of the music. It’s a song designed to activate a crowd, spark interaction, and create moments people remember long after the music fades.

As Juby explains:

“The concept is straightforward, but getting it right without slipping into gimmick was the real challenge... we used imagery and suggestion rather than spelling it out.”

That creative restraint reveals an artist deeply aware of soca’s real function. Not just entertainment, but movement, communication, and shared experience.



Follow Juby:

Instagram: @jubyofficial

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@officialjuby>



Tobago Sound Check

Artist Snapshot

Jumaane “Juby” Cox represents a new generation of Tobago soca artists blending traditional calypso roots with modern performance culture. Known for his freestyle ability, commanding stage presence, and natural crowd engagement, Juby has built a reputation as a performer capable of turning any event into an interactive experience.

Emerging through Calypso Tents and competitive performance spaces, he developed a strong foundation in storytelling, improvisation, and audience connection — skills that now shape his modern soca identity. What separates Juby is his ability to combine technical lyrical skill with genuine stage charisma, creating performances that feel spontaneous, authentic, and highly engaging.

As Tobago’s sound continues evolving, Juby is proving himself to be one of the voices helping define where that evolution goes next.

“It builds momentum through engagement, not just tempo.”



**Tobago
Festivals**
COMMISSION LTD.



In recognition of Autism Awareness Day, staff members of the Tobago Festivals Commission Limited proudly wore blue in April, showing their support for diversity, inclusion, and the unique qualities that make every individual special.



ABOUT US

Imagine an island where the rhythm of **soca** fills the air, colourful **costumes** dance through the streets, and every village has a story to tell. Welcome to Tobago, where **festivals** are the celebrations of our **culture**, creativity, and community. At the heart of these celebrations is the Tobago Festivals Commission Limited (TFCL), bringing Tobago's biggest **events** to life while showcasing the **island** to the world.

The excitement starts with **National Carnival**, where lively **parades**, music, and masqueraders fill the streets of **Scarborough**. Up next, the Tobago **Heritage** Festival, where **villages** showcase their unique forms of **dance**, **storytelling**, **cuisine**, keeping Tobago's cultural **traditions** alive. In **Bloody Bay**, the Tobago **Blue Food** Festival reveals the culinary diversity of the crop **dasheen**, transformed into mouth-watering dishes. Tobago closes the global Carnival calendar with **Tobago Carnival**, a spectacular celebration of **Mud**, **Mas** and **Music**, marking its **Fifth Anniversary** in 2026. This event is filled with lively street parades of masqueraders in vibrant costumes, soca music, and **performances**.

'Come for the Culture, Stay for the Experience and Return for the Memories'

Word Search

Instructions: Using the words highlighted in yellow from the passage above, complete the word search below.

D	E	M	Y	F	F	Z	V	Z	L	G	J	P	N	R	U	T	E	R	E	M	O	C
A	S	T	A	Y	I	L	R	Y	A	S	V	S	E	M	U	T	S	O	C	K	B	P
S	B	O	R	A	F	N	K	R	V	N	W	Q	O	U	A	E	C	H	Z	M	L	L
H	A	B	O	C	T	V	J	E	I	O	F	Q	Y	M	P	Z	A	E	E	D	U	S
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I	O	A	L	A	A	E	U	Y	T	P	S	S	T	N	E	V	E	F	S	L	X	S
L	T	L	B	S	R	W	K	F	A	Y	P	S	N	P	S	Q	Z	Y	L	S	C	E
U	S	D	W	B	Y	G	Q	Q	N	S	T	N	O	I	S	S	I	M	M	O	C	C



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DIVISION OF TOURISM, ANTIQUITIES & CREATIVE INDUSTRIES
TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



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TFCL FAQs

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TOBAGO FESTIVALS COMMISSION LIMITED

Q: What does TFCL stand for?

A: Tobago Festivals Commission Limited

Q: Where is the TFCL office located?

A: TFCL'S office is located at GNV Place, Wilson Road, Scarborough, Tobago.

Q: In what year was TFCL incorporated?

A: The Tobago Festivals Commission Limited (TFCL) was incorporated in April 2019 as a company under the purview of the Division of Tourism Culture, and Transportation charged with the responsibility for "cultural expressions, festivals and activities indigenous to Tobago as well as National Festivals", that is, the hosting and elevating of National Festivals to stage Tobago as a Festivals' destination.

Q: What is TFCL's Mission Statement?

A: A resilient and adaptable TFCL, in partnership with its stakeholders, will embark on a passionate pursuit to promote and showcase world-class festivals, encourage innovation, and enrich the cultural and socioeconomic landscape of Tobago, within a framework of competency, productivity, inclusiveness, transparency and accountability.

Q: What is TFCL's Vision Statement?

A: To be internationally recognized as the mecca for festivals in the Caribbean region with year-round authentic Tobago cultural experiences.

Q: Where can I get branded merchandise?

A: Currently, TFCL and branded event merchandise are available for sale physically at our events and our office located at GNV Place, Wilson Road, Scarborough, Tobago. You can contact **639-4441** or tobagofestivals@gmail.com for more details.

Q: How can I register for news about upcoming events?

A: Sign up for our newsletter on our website : www.tobagofestivalscommision.com or click the link : <https://forms.gle/fFv72tZXHewvTZuy8>

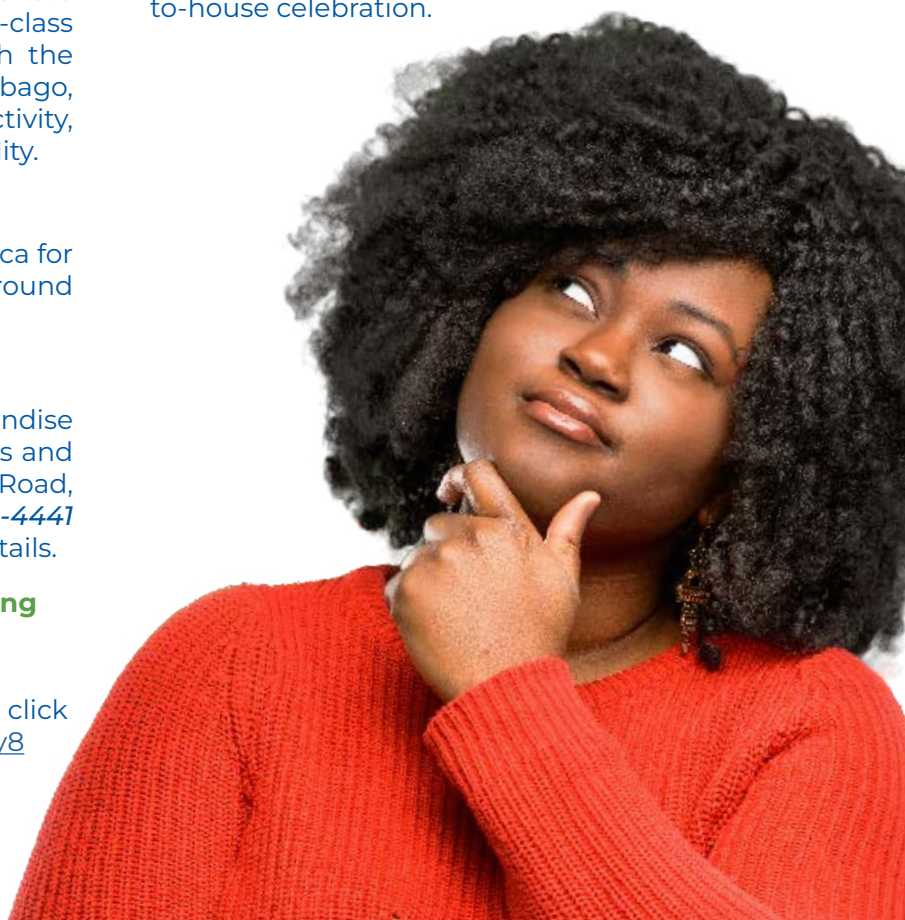
Q: What events fall under the purview of TFCL?

A: TFCL is mandated to provide managerial support and strategic direction for cultural expressions, festivals and activities indigenous to Tobago, as well as National festivals. These include but are not limited to:

- **National Carnival**
- **Tobago Heritage Festival**
- **Tobago Blue Food Festival**
- **Tobago Carnival**
- Other Community festivals as approved by the *Division of Tourism, Antiquities, and Creative Industries*.

Q: Is the TFCL responsible for village Harvests in Tobago?

A: No. The Harvest traditions/celebrations are observed throughout the year in various villages on the island to recognize the significance of food in Tobagonian culture. In this unique experience, many villagers cook and share food and drinks with friends, family and strangers in this house-to-house celebration.



Come for the **Culture**
Stay for the **Experience**
Return for the **Memories**

