

# NGC Docas Lit Fest

South



[www.docaslitfest.com](http://www.docaslitfest.com)



**a weekend of  
celebration and  
exploration**



**FESTIVAL  
GUIDE**



festiv  
OF  
TV  
stories  
and  
ideas



# Empowering a Nation. Inspiring the world.



## NGC. A Global Model of Success

As a valued partner in our nation's natural gas-based energy industry, the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) has a proven model of maximising resources for industrial development and long-term prosperity, applicable far beyond the shores of Trinidad and Tobago.

## National Energy. Building Foundations for Economic Growth

NGC is a diversified, state-owned group of companies with an asset base valued at over US \$7 billion. Among its pioneering subsidiaries are the National Energy Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited, responsible for providing infrastructural and marine asset development for the energy industry, and Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited (PPGPL), one of the largest gas processing facilities in the Americas and a preferred supplier of LPG to the region.



## Fulfilling the Vision of a Sustainable Future

NGC is dedicated to sustainability, its community outreach and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Our Corporate Social Investment (CSI) programme is one of the most extensive in the nation, focusing on the areas of sport, training and education, arts and culture, facilities development, human and social development and the environment. In addition, NGC is conducting a 10-year reforestation programme and applying a 'no net loss principle' by restoring areas of forest equivalent to that cleared during construction activities.



THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY  
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

Orinoco Drive, Point Lisas Industrial Estate, Couva  
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies  
P.O. Box 1127, Port of Spain • Tel: (868) 636-4662 / 4680 • Fax: (868) 679-2384  
Email: [info@ngc.co.tt](mailto:info@ngc.co.tt) • Website: [www.ngc.co.tt](http://www.ngc.co.tt)

## FESTIVAL DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

South-born Samuel Selvon, one of T&T's finest writers, died 20 years ago and we are delighted to celebrate his life and work in our dramatic opening session of this, the second, NGC Bocas Lit Fest South. We have a rich mix of events for everyone during a weekend full of readings, performance, discussion, workshops, music and more. There are both new and prize-winning Caribbean writers and two all-day workshops for children. So all the family can spend a free weekend at the Festival.

Each year you can enjoy 3 exceptional literary festivals - the original NGC Bocas Lit Fest in April, NGC Bocas Lit Fest South in November and NGC Bocas Lit Fest Tobago in March. These are only part of the Bocas project to promote and develop our writers to create even more wonderful literature for us to read, not just in T&T but also in the Caribbean region. Locally, the Courts Bocas Speak Out Tour is making its way around 50 secondary schools, featuring 2 Cents Movement poets; and Bocas is

also partnering with ALTA to host a special reading circle, promoting literacy through literature. Internationally, several partnerships make prizes such as the Burt Award for Young Adult Literature and the Hollick Arvon Prize for emerging writers possible.

And, we have new projects planned for the next year. Keep tabs on the Bocas project, give us your feedback and volunteer.

Marina Salandy-Brown



## WELCOME FROM THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Welcome from The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC)

The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) extends to literary enthusiasts a warm welcome to the NGC Bocas Lit Fest South 2014.

NGC has a mandate to ensure that the wealth derived from our country's natural gas development profits the nation as a whole, and we continue to deliver on this mandate through our significant contributions to government revenues and our Corporate Social Investment (CSI) initiatives. The Company has an extensive CSI portfolio,

through which we support initiatives in sport, youth and community development, the arts and culture, and education, and the NGC Bocas Lit Fest continues to be one of our flagship investments.

As a locally grown company, NGC is honoured to be associated with this trailblazing festival that seeks to showcase the brilliance of our region's literary vanguard and liberate the voices and creative energies of our people. Beyond inspired works and captivating stories, the Bocas Lit Fest gifts the region with a consolidated voice in international literary circles, and has become a hallmark event followed by bibliophiles

around the world. As title sponsors, it gives us great joy to see the festival continue to grow in audience and profile. As we get set to enjoy the offerings at this third big installment of the Bocas Lit Fest for 2014, we at NGC recognize the diligence of the festival's organizers and congratulate them on their resounding success. We remain deeply committed to partnering with them on this most rewarding initiative, even more so as we see the returns on our investment in the form of international recognition for our authors, heightened interest in local literature and, of course, the wide eyes of captive festival audiences.

## FESTIVAL BASICS



### VENUE

Rooms 01 - 05, ground floor,  
UTT Campus, SAPA,  
San Fernando

### DATES AND TIMES

Saturday 8 November:  
10:30am - 6pm  
Sunday 9 November:  
10:30am - 5pm

### EATING AND DRINKING

Festival Café: beverages,  
sandwiches, pastries, daily  
lunch menu. Seating and  
performances in the Festival  
Court yard.

### BOOKSELLERS & BOOK SIGNINGS

Books by participating authors  
and others are on sale from  
official booksellers: Paper  
Based, Metropolitan Book  
Suppliers, RIK Services Ltd. and  
Signature Book Distributors.  
After readings, authors will sign  
copies of their books.

### WORKSHOPS

Adult writing workshops cost  
TT\$60.00, payable at the door  
(cash only). Children's all-day  
workshops are free.

### STAND AND DELIVER

All writers can share their  
fiction and poems at Stand &  
Deliver. Sign-up at our Festival  
Reception desk.

### T-SHIRTS AND BAGS

2014 NGC Bocas Lit Fest  
t-shirts and bags are on sale at  
the Festival Reception desk.

### #HASHTAG

Tweeting, blogging or posting  
photos online? Our hashtag is  
#BocasSouth2014

### FEEDBACK

We want your feedback! Please  
leave completed forms at the  
Festival Reception desk, or email  
info@bocaslitfest.com.

### CREDITS & THANKS

The Bocas Lit Fest thanks the  
National Gas Company and  
the Ministry of Planning and  
Sustainable Development for  
their invaluable sponsorship.  
Thanks to all participants,  
suppliers, advertisers and  
volunteers. Special thanks to UTT  
for use of SAPA.

Audio Technician: Cedric Smart  
Electrician: Devon Moses  
Festival Café: Nick & 2J's  
Restaurant  
Décor: Maurice Chevalier  
Marketing: Lonsdale Saatchi &  
Saatchi  
Designer: Richard M. Rawlins  
Photographer: Mickel Alexander  
Printers: Eniath's Printing  
Co Ltd  
Website Administrator:  
James Barber  
Legal Consultant: Clive Pegus  
Insurance Brokers: Agostini  
Insurance Brokers Ltd.

### CONTACT US

Tel: (868) 222-7099  
Email: info@bocaslitfest.com  
Website: www.bocaslitfest.com  
Twitter: @bocaslitfest  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/  
bocaslitfest



**THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY  
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED**

in collaboration with **UTT**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



Copyright 2014 Bocas Lit Fest



[www.sbcs.edu.tt](http://www.sbcs.edu.tt)



# YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE

Whether you've got a career plan or you're exploring your options, talk to SBCS and see the possibilities.

- Four (4) secure, learner-centric campuses with Wi-Fi access throughout
- 24 hour study (Champs Fleurs & San Fernando)
- Student Services – in addition to concerned and helpful course administrators - for support and career guidance.
- Undergraduate and Postgraduate degrees from 5 accredited UK Universities
- 9 Centres covering almost every field of study
- Short courses and corporate training
- Full time, part time and weekend options
- Gate Approved courses



*Yes, it's possible with SBCS*

**Champs Fleurs** Tel: 663-7227   **Trinity** Tel: 640-7090   **Port of Spain** Tel: 622-1993   **San Fernando** Tel: 652-2388

EDINBURGH  
BUSINESS SCHOOL  
HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY



# FESTIVAL PROGRAMME



## SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2014

### OPENING

#### Remembering Samuel Selvon

Celebrating Selvon's life and work on the 20th anniversary of his death. Feature Remarks by Ken Ramchand. Dramatisations by Errol Sitahal and David Sammy.

10.30 – 11.30am

### LUNCHTIME JAM

Browse the stalls, get books signed, grab some lunch to the extempo beats of Black Sage and other specially invited performers.

11.30am – 12.30pm

### WHO'S NEXT?

#### New Writers From T&T

Readings by 4 promising new writers from T&T: Zahra Gordon, Ayanna Lloyd, Jannine Horsford and Kirk Budhooram. Chaired by Shivanee Ramlochan.

12.30 – 1.30pm

### FICTION: BRINGING THE PAST TO LIFE

Writers Michael Cozier, Vashti Bowlah and Lisa Allen-Agostini put their own spin on stories from Trinidad's past. Chaired by Nicholas Laughlin.

1.45 – 2.45pm

## LIFE STORIES

Traveller, Jan Westmaas, and The Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha Secretary General, Sat Maharaj, together with his biographer Dr. Kumar Mahabir, discuss their lives and inspirations with Marina Salandy-Brown.

3 – 4pm

## WORKSHOP

An introduction to speculative fiction, with Karen Lord. Award-winning author Karen Lord introduces a most popular contemporary genre. A workshop for all prose writers keen to experiment with and master the specific challenges of writing alternate histories and worlds, sci-fi, fantasy, dystopia and post-apocalyptic narratives. 2 - 5pm

Pre-registration required.

\$60 cash at the door.

## POETRY

Tanya Shirley of Jamaica talks to Nicholas Laughlin about her newly released collection, *The Merchant of Feathers*.

4.15 – 5pm

## 2 CENTS PRESENTS

Performances by the best young spoken word and musical talents.

5 – 6pm

## SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2014

### WORD PLAY

From letters, to words, to stories, don't get left behind by the Pierrot Grenade's word play.

10.30 – 11am

### HISTORY UNEARTHED

Researchers, Hazel Manning and Eric Lewis, explore their on-going work in preserving the history of the South with historian Angelo Bissessarsingh.

11 – 11.45am

### CRIME AS FICTION: WORSE THAN REALITY?

Fiction writers, Barbara Jenkins, Cynthia Birch and Elisha Bartels read from short stories about crime in T&T; and Caron Asgarali shares her true-life account of being attacked at gunpoint in La Romaine. Crime reporter Gyasi Gonzales asks the question, how does fiction compare to the everyday reality of crime?

12 – 12.45pm

### STAND & DELIVER

Calling wordsmiths of all kinds, new and experienced, poet and novelist, to present their work at the NGC Bocas Lit Fest South! Register for your spot on the day.

12.45 – 2pm

## WORKSHOP

Poetry in Progress, with Tanya Shirley. An introductory workshop to help poets unlock their imaginations and take their work to the next level. Pre-registration required. **2 - 5pm. Pre-registration required. \$60 cash at the door.**

## SPECULATIVE FICTION

RSA Garcia (Lex Talionis) and Karen Lord (The Best of All Possible Worlds) read from new novels, and discuss the rise of speculative fiction and the experience of writing and publishing from at home in the Caribbean. Chaired by Shivanee Ramlochan.

**2 - 2.45pm**

## ONE-ON-ONE

Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw reads from her latest novel, Mrs. B, loosely inspired by Flaubert's Madame Bovary, about the life of an upper middle-class family in contemporary Trinidad. Chaired by Nicholas Laughlin.

**3 - 3.45pm**

## PEPPERPOT: BEST NEW STORIES FROM THE CARIBBEAN

Published by Peekash. A pan-Caribbean anthology of the very best Commonwealth Short Story Prize entries. Following its launch at the NGC Bocas Lit Fest in April, Pepperpot comes to San Fernando with readings by K. Jared Hosein, Kevin Baldeosingh and Sharon Millar. Presented by Anna Lucie-Smith, with music by Pauliana Padmore. **4 - 5pm**



## NGC CHILDREN'S BOCAS LIT FEST TWO FREE INTERACTIVE, CREATIVE ALL-DAY WORKSHOPS

**SATURDAY 8  
NOVEMBER  
10.30- 4.30**

### DOWN WITH BULLIES

with Lylah Persad. A Children's Anti-bullying Day that uses storytelling, drama, improvisation, movement, reading and creative writing for up to 20 children of all ages. At the end of this unique day participants will each have their own script on the topic of bullying and a journal of their experiences.

**SUNDAY 9  
NOVEMBER  
10.30- 4.30**

### THE LITERACY WORKSHOP

with Auntie Thea. In this special day for children, the focus is on how to create our own stories and improve literary skills, using storytelling, role-playing, discussion and debate. Children will have great fun crafting and sharing their own tall tales.

## ADULT WORKSHOP LEADERS



**Tanya Shirley** was awarded an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Maryland, USA. She currently teaches in the Department of Literatures in English, UWI, Mona, where she is also a PhD Candidate. Her debut poetry collection, She Who Sleeps With Bones (Peepal Tree Press) was a Jamaican bestseller in 2009. Her second poetry collection, The Merchant of Feathers (Peepal Tree Press) is due out in November, 2014. Tanya Shirley is a Cave Canem Fellow.



Barbadian research consultant and author **Karen Lord** is known for her multiple award winning novels Redemption in Indigo (Frank Collymore Literary Award 2008, OCM Bocas Prize 2011) and The Best of All Possible Worlds (Frank Collymore Literary Award 2009). Her third novel The Galaxy Game will be published in January 2015.



*Be Inspired*

at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus



**UWI**  
ST. AUGUSTINE  
CAMPUS

## Masters of Fine Arts Creative Writing (Fiction)

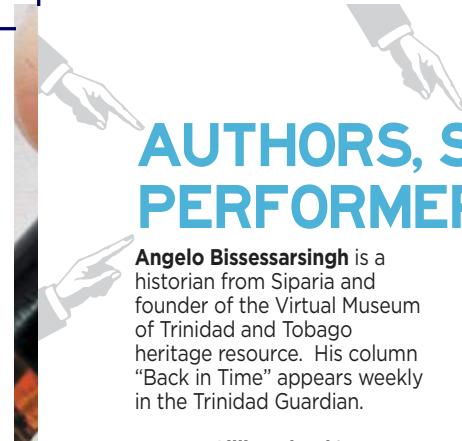
---

Download the Faculty of Humanities and Education undergraduate and postgraduate booklets at [www.sta.uwi.edu/fhe](http://www.sta.uwi.edu/fhe) for details on this programme and others like it.

For application information, visit

[www.sta.uwi.edu/admissions](http://www.sta.uwi.edu/admissions)

**2015/2016 Applications Open**  
**November 10, 2014 - March 31, 2016**



# AUTHORS, SPEAKERS, PERFORMERS

**Angelo Bissessarsingh** is a historian from Siparia and founder of the Virtual Museum of Trinidad and Tobago heritage resource. His column "Back in Time" appears weekly in the Trinidad Guardian.

**Ayanna Gillian Lloyd** is an essayist and fiction writer. She is a Cropper Foundation Residential Workshop alumna and was shortlisted for Wasafiri's 2014 New Writing Prize, Life Writing.

**Barbara Jenkins** is the winner of multiple literary awards, including the 2013 Hollick Arvon Caribbean Writers Prize. *Sic Transit Wagon* is her debut book.

**Caron Asgarali** is a Chemistry teacher from Vistabella. Her memoir *From Lion to Lamb* tells the story of being the victim of a violent crime, of her recuperation and spiritual renewal.

**Cynthia Birch** began writing fiction after a 1-day crime-writing workshop at NGC Bocas Lit Fest 2014. David Sammy is an actor and the Principal of Tableland High School.

**David Sammy** is Principal of Tableland Secondary and an actor. He is South's reigning King of Jouvert 2013, 2014

**elisha efua bartels** is a writer, editor, teacher, performer, stage manager and director. Her writing appears in *Trinidad Noir*.

**Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw's** debut novel, *Mrs B*, was launched at the 2014 NGC Bocas Lit Fest. Her debut short story collection, *Four Taxis Facing North*, appeared in 2007.

**Eric Lewis** researches pre and post-colonial Moruga and the activities of the First Peoples in the area. He founded the St Vincent Ferrer Society (SVFS) in 2005, helping to revitalise the St Peter's celebration.

**Errol Sitahal**, an international film and TV actor whose T&T drama roles include Sookdeo in Victor Edwards's *Ire Theatre* production of Samuel Selvon's *A Brighter Sun*.

**Felix Edinborough**, a former school principal, is also Trinidad's best-known practitioner of the traditional Pierrot Grenade Carnival character.

**Gyasi Gonzales** is a crime reporter with the Trinidad Express newspaper.

**Hazel Manning**, former Cabinet Minister, is a board member of the Merikin Ltd. Foundation and is revising her father's book on the history of the "Companies" of black American soldiers, Merikins, who settled in Trinidad in 1812.

**Jan Westmaas**, linguist, teacher and global traveller chronicles 40 years on the move, in his new book, *Out of the Box: Tales of Travel*.

**Jannine Horsford**, Tobago-born poet and short story writer. Her poems have appeared in *Susumba's Bookbag* and *The Caribbean Writer*.

**Karen Lord**, multiple award winning Barbadian author of *Redemption in Indigo* and *The Best of All Possible Worlds*. Her third novel *The Galaxy Game* is published in January 2015.

**Kenneth Ramchand**, distinguished literary critic, South-born author of *The West Indian Novel and Its Background* (1970). Professor Emeritus of UWI and former president of UTT, he received the 2014 Bocas Henry Swanzy lifetime achievement award.

**Kevin Baldeosingh**, newspaper columnist and author of several short stories, a play, and three novels, most recently, *The Ten Incarnations of Adam Avatar*. Former regional Chair of Judges, Commonwealth Writers Prize.

**Kevin Jared Hosein's** short story "*The Monkey Trap*" appears in *Pepperpot: Best New Stories from the Caribbean*. *Littletown Secrets* is his debut book.

**Kirk Budhooram**, MFA in Creative Writing from UWI, is the author of two novels. *Roots Run Deep* and *Other Stories* is his work in progress.

**Dr. Kumar Mahabir**, academic and author of the authorized biography *Sat Maharaj: Hindu Civil Rights Leader of Trinidad & Tobago*.

**Lisa Allen-Agostini**, writer of fiction and poetry, co-editor of *Trinidad Noir* (2008), Trinidad Guardian columnist and editor of the Sunday arts supplement. She is working on an historical novel based on two 19thC Scottish immigrants to Trinidad.

**Marina Salandy-Brown** is founder and Festival Director of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest. Her honours include an honorary doctorate from UWI in 2013.

**Michael Cozier** is a writer from Icacos. His latest novel, *Putting Up A Resistance!*, is the story of an Indian boy and African girl who tackle the colonial "divide and rule" system on a coconut estate in deep south Trinidad.

**Nicholas Laughlin**, Programme Director of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest, editor of Caribbean Beat and *The Caribbean Review of Books*, and writer on Caribbean literature and art.

**Pauliana "The Pauls" Padmore**, singer/songwriter with The 2 Cents Movement, The Empress Foundation and Quays: the Vibesquad. She is currently competing in the 2014 Digicel Rising Stars Competition.

**Philip Murray**, aka Black Sage, is a calypsonian renowned as a master of extempo.

**RSA Garcia's** debut novel *Lex Talionis*, a sci-fi mystery, won a starred review in Publisher's Weekly and advanced praise. She lives and works in Trinidad.

**Satnarayan ("Sat") Maharaj**, influential religious and cultural leader of T&T Hindus and Indians, is Secretary General of the

Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha. His biography, *Sat Maharaj: Hindu Civil Rights Leader of Trinidad and Tobago*, is just published.

**Sharon Millar**, MA in Creative Writing from Lesley University, Massachusetts, won the 2013 Commonwealth Short Story Prize; her story is published in the new Peppercot anthology.

**Shivane Ramlochan**, book blogger, literary critic, arts reporter, fiction writer and poet. She was shortlisted for the 2012 Small Axe Literary Competition and was a 2013 NGC Bocas Lit Fest New Talent Showcase writer.

**Tanya Shirley** is a Jamaican academic and poet with an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Maryland. Her poetry collection, *The Merchant of Feathers*, is just published.

**Vashti Bowlah** writes short stories and articles. She won The Caribbean Writer's David Hough Literary Prize, and is a Pushcart nominee. Her debut short story collection, *Under the Peepal Tree*, was launched at 2014 NGC Bocas Lit Fest.

**Zahra Gordon** is a poet from La Brea. Her work has appeared in literary journals *Amistad*, *Mantis* and *Phati'tude*. She is a 2010 winner of the Furious Flower Poetry Competition.

**2 Cents Movement** is a youth group, using spoken word and music to encourage youth to think deeply, speak boldly, care selflessly and act decisively to address social issues.

# Open a Book, Open Your World



*R.I.K. Services Ltd.*

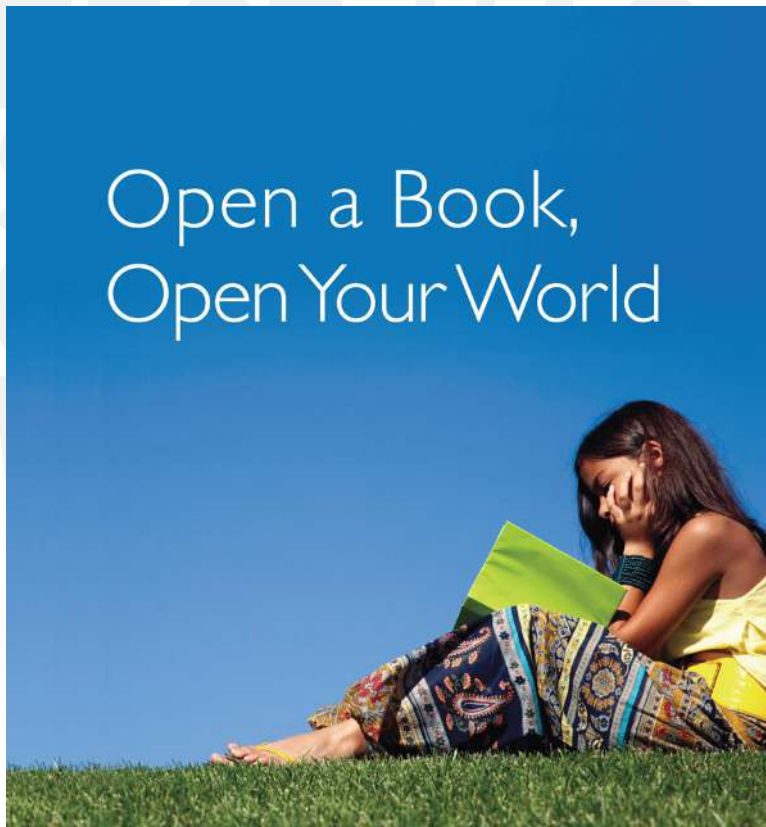
High Street  
San Fernando  
223-1137/1138/1139

Queen Street  
Port Of Spain  
223-1132/1133

Trinity Mall Trincity 223-1135    Grand Bazaar Valsayn 223-1156    Gulf City La Romaine 223-1128

Long Circular Mall St James 223-1131    Price Plaza North Chaguanas 223-1134

**Books for all occasions**





THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

EDUCATION FOR EMPLOYMENT,  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# Thinking about University?

*Success stories start here.*

Whether you're looking to invest in your future, advance your career or start a new one, or open your own business, UTT offers over 50 dynamic Undergraduate and Postgraduate programmes including:



Information and  
Communication  
Technology

Biosciences  
Agriculture  
Food Technologies

Biomedical  
Engineering

Marine  
Science

Maritime

Engineering

Education

Fashion

Performing Arts

Sports

Security &  
Public Safety

Post-Graduate  
Studies

Environmental Science  
and Management

Health Administration

Entrepreneurship



Choose **UTT** and  
achieve the personal and  
professional success you  
seek through our diverse  
industry-relevant degrees,  
and our cooperative job  
placement for work-ready  
graduates.

Come **explore** our multi-campus facilities, state-of-the-art laboratories  
and simulators and acquire the **skill sets for the future!**

To book a Campus Tour or School Visit,

complete the form at [www.u.tt/recruitment](http://www.u.tt/recruitment) or email us at [student.recruit@utt.edu.tt](mailto:student.recruit@utt.edu.tt)

UTT – the NATIONAL University of Trinidad and Tobago with International Reach...  
preparing a new generation of scholars to be future global leaders

UTT is an Agency of the

Ministry of Tertiary Education  
and Skills Training

**TEST**



UTT Accredited by ACIT in DEC 2010

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:  
642-8888 or 223-4888 option 3





# ONE CARIBBEAN MEDIA LIMITED

Supporting and Celebrating Caribbean talent

