



2006 OECS Junior Pan Competition A Success

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The first OECS Junior Pan Competition gets two thumbs up. You should make plans to attend next year's event immediately. You will not be disappointed.

PR9.NET May 06, 2006 - Roseau, Dominica - The brainchild of Ms. Anna Raffoul - president of the Dominican Steelpan Association - was a resounding success. The savvy Dominican business woman with a fiery passion for the steelpan instrument spearheaded and witnessed an historical event that was the first of its kind in Dominica. Ms. Raffoul's bubbly and outgoing personality provided a veneer for the shrewdness and determination that was pivotal in the success in pulling off this type of event with no government involvement. The country's Botanical Gardens provided a great outdoor setting for the inaugural pan competition, which started at its scheduled time of 2:00 PM. The event ran like clockwork, with no delays or stoppages.

Billed as the OECS (Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States) Junior Steel Pan competition, six Caribbean countries competed for a prize purse, trophy, and an additional surprise reward - a trip for the winning steel orchestra to perform at an OECS gala to be held in St. Kitts in June 2006. Musicians in the steel orchestras were aged seventeen and under with a maximum complement of twenty.

Antigua & Barbuda topped the competition, followed by Dominica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Kitts/Nevis and Montserrat. St. Lucia was invited as the seventh country and had been scheduled to participate in the competition, but subsequently withdrew.

Orchestras performed arrangements of two pieces. First was the competition test piece, Pan Earthquake, composed by the late Lord Kitchener, aka the Grandmaster. The second was a tune of choice, with the only stipulation being that it was composed by an artist from one of the eastern Caribbean countries.

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About When Steel Talks

When Steel Talks is dedicated to pan worldwide with particular emphasis on Pan In New York. The purpose is to highlight the genius and beauty of the instrument, its music and the people who play, support, and love this art form without compromise.

Website: <http://news.panonthenet.com>

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