

## **Emancipation Expressions: Airports Authority in Collaboration with the ESC Launches Airport Exhibits**

**July 29, 2009:** The Emancipation Support Committee today announced the launch of exhibits to commemorate Emancipation at the Piarco and Crown Point International Airports. The exhibits, based on the theme *Celebrate Emancipation: Expressions of Freedom, Strength and Beauty*, have been commissioned by the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago as part of its celebration of Emancipation. The Piarco exhibit, which includes a 12-foot pyramid as the centrepiece, is located in the airport's atrium. In Tobago, banners commemorating the celebration have been mounted across the length of the airport including in the arrivals area.

The theme for the exhibits, *Celebrate Emancipation: Expressions of Freedom, Strength and Beauty*, highlight the richness of African culture and history. The 'expressions' are woven into the exhibit using a variety of media including art, photography, and artefacts. The 12-foot pyramid centrepiece is inspired by one of the greatest civilizations of Africa – Egypt – more specifically, the Pyramids of Giza. Each face of the pyramid highlights a different expression – 'Strength,' symbolized by interlocking hands; 'Beauty,' embodied in the Egyptian Queen – Nefertiti and 'Freedom,' from the artistic expressions of African dance and percussion.

The works of noted artist, Makemba Kunle and photographer, Mariamma Kambon are featured throughout the displays. Three works were specially chosen from Makemba: *Laventille Devotions*, *Paradise Heights* and *Out of this World*; from Mariamma, three portraits of females were selected – one each to represent strength, beauty and freedom. Posters and displays of African





artefacts are also interwoven into the exhibit to highlight particular aspects of African history – slavery, rebellion and freedom – to showcase the triumph of the African spirit in the face of adversity. The exhibits were designed and installed by Colthrust PR Ltd. on behalf of the Emancipation Support Committee, and will be on display until August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**For more information about the ESC's Emancipation celebrations, please visit [www.panafricanfestival.org](http://www.panafricanfestival.org).**

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