

Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

MEDIA RELEASE

July 4, 2022

Dear Editor / Head of Department,

Laventille-Morvant Schools speak out on Gender-Based Violence

The students of the Morvant Laventille took to the school's stage today, July 4, 2022, to showcase their talents and potential through an Integrated Arts Project (IAP), pivoting on the Health and Family Life Education theme of '*Gender-Based Violence*'. This project forms part of the two-day Integrated Arts Programme under the Laventille-Morvant Schools Improvement Project where day two will feature the Success Laventille Secondary school.

Each school's production, put on for a live audience at their school's auditorium, integrates Dance, Drama, Music and Visual Arts, as original pieces with the guidance of their school's teachers and external tutors. The pieces reflect some of the harsh realities in the lives of these students and the challenging experiences within their communities, even as young teens.

Speaking at the first day of the programme, the Honorable Lisa Morris-Julian, Minister in the Ministry of Education, was elated by what she saw and commended the principal and teachers of the Morvant Laventille Secondary School, telling them, "you set the tone, what you see here is a reflection of you, it was pure inner beauty." The Honourable Minister encouraged those present to keep searching for joy and implored that they look towards taking their talent on a national level.

The Laventille-Morvant School Improvement (LMSIP) Project is an intervention exercise to support the growth and development of several schools in the Laventille/Morvant area. This is now being done through an After School Remediation Support Programme with a targeted focus using the Community Recovery Operational Framework.

By staging a theatrical performance together, the expectation is that the cast would have built positive and harmonious bonds of friendship and become more receptive to constructive feedback during the rehearsal process as they honed their performance skills. Indeed, these seemingly soft skills are imperative for their personal success and in the world of work.

The IAP therefore continues the development and support of students with the aim that they would be empowered to flourish into inspired, confident and creative learners. Both personal growth and national development are key factors throughout the IAP.

Corporate Communications Ministry of Education Corporate.communication@moe.gov.tt 622-2181 Ext 1355, 1427