



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

## MEDIA RELEASE

July 5, 2022

Dear Editor / Head of Department,

### **AMCHAM TT and First Citizens support MOE Mural In Schools Project**

The Ministry of Education (MOE), the American Chamber of Commerce Trinidad and Tobago (AMCHAM TT) and First Citizens joined hands to provide a unique experience for students and teachers to express their artistic talents and creativity, and at the same time beautify their school environment, through the Mural in School's Project. The project, was officially launched today, Tuesday July 5, 2022, at MOE's head office.

Speaking at the event, Education Minister, Dr. Gadsby -Dolly said the project, which falls under the Ministry's "Adopt-A-School", a MOE programme to facilitate public private partnerships, is another example of engaging communities and stakeholders to provide a platform of expression for children and schools across Trinidad and Tobago.

The Honourable Minister said, "This initiative offers many opportunities for the personal development of students, a main objective being the bringing of ideas to life and the strengthening of leadership abilities in students, as they must take responsibility for the planning and execution of the mural project." The Honourable Minister lauded AMCHAM TT for bringing the idea to the table and thanked First Citizens, represented by Gillian Benjamin, Head, Brand and Marketing (Ag), for their support of the project. "it takes a village and stakeholders play a critical role in the educational landscape of Trinidad and Tobago."

AMCHAM TT CEO, Nirad Tewarie, thanked the Honourable Minister for her immediate reception of the idea and leadership in ensuring it was brought to fruition. He stressed the importance of projects such as these for the business community in giving back to Trinidad and Tobago. In delivering her remarks, First Citizens, Head, Brand and Marketing (Ag), Gillian Benjamin, reinforced her company's commitment to the arts and its continued role in the supporting youth development and education especially as Trinidad and Tobago approaches its

60th Anniversary of Independence.

The 'Mural In School Project' was birthed in October 2021, when AMCHAM TT donated a mural created by local graffiti artist, Zinnia Li to the MOE. The inspiration Mural was previously displayed at the National Academy for the Performing Arts (NAPA) Mass Vaccination Site, with a message urging citizens to become vaccinated. A call for submissions for the Mural in Schools project was issued to both primary and secondary schools with an estimated twenty-seven schools being selected. These schools will be expected to paint and install their School Mural between July and September 2022.

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