

MEDIA RELEASE

**Tampa Bay Celebrates Caribbean-American Heritage Month in June**

The general public is invited to join the Caribbean-American community in Tampa Bay in celebrating 'Caribbean-American Heritage Month' during the month of June.

Since the year 2006, US Congress proclaimed June at a month dedicated to the rich heritage that Caribbean peoples have brought within them to the United States.

As declared by President George W. Bush in a statement released on June 05, 2006 :

“ Caribbean Heritage Month as proclaimed by Congress, celebrates the great contributions of Caribbean-Americans to the fabric of our nation and we pay tribute to the common culture and bonds of friendship that unite the United States and the Caribbean countries.”

As such, the Caribbean-American Heritage Foundation of Tampa Bay (CAHFT) was formed earlier this year with the specific intent to co-ordinate Caribbean events during the month of June with the hope that generations of Caribbean-Americans today and tomorrow will develop an appreciation of our rich input in Tampa Bay.

With a clear mission to promote the diversity of Caribbean culture and build awareness within the Tampa Bay area during the month of June and a vision to “highlight, educate, entertain and integrate the growing heritage of the Caribbean in Tampa Bay, the group is proud to invite all to the following events :

**Get a taste of the Caribbean without leaving Tampa – art, fashion, food, steel pan, other music, dance, Caribbean Children’s Corner and FREE giveaways : Sun, June 1st** – Caribbean Cultural Showcase –1pm-7pm, **Location:** Bayanihan Events Center, 14301 Nine Eagles Dr. Tampa, FL 33626 ([www.bayanihandartscenter.org](http://www.bayanihandartscenter.org)) ; \$10 adults, children 13 and under FREE. This is the one that you don’t want to miss ! Call 813.774.8557

**Fri, June 6** - Caribbean American International Panel - **6:00pm - 8:00pm** ; **Location:** USF, Marshall Center, Int'l. Rm #132

**Sat, June 7** - Caribbean American Business Expo - **12:00pm - 5:00pm**; **Location:** Carrollwood Cultural Center Annex, 13335 Casey Rd Tampa, FL 33618

**Sat, June 14th, 11am-10pm ; Sun, Jun 15th 11am-8pm** **Location:** Vinoy Park-Bayshore Dr. & 7th Avenue N.E. St. Petersburg, Fl 33705 (Downtown, St. Pete) CARNIVAL!

**Wed, June 18** - Wide aWoke Wednesday's Topic: Caribbean American Commonalities & Misconceptions ; **6:30pm** **Location:** Mango's 4237 Armenia Ave, Tampa, Fl 33607

**Sat, Jun 21st** - Caribbean American Wellness Health Festival **11am-4pm**; **Location:** Carrollwood Cultural Center /Annex 13335 Casey Rd, Tampa, FL 33618

**Sun, June 29** - Caribbean American Family Olympics - **12:00pm - 6:00pm**; **Location:** Rowlette Park North 22nd Street & Rowlett Dr. Tampa, FL 33604

Please assist in disseminating this information.

Renatta Valere, Event Manager (813) 774-8557

May 14, 2008.

