



CARICOM SONG COMPETITION TERMS OF REFERENCE

CARICOM Nationals are invited to submit original compositions of lyrics and music for an official Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Song. The Song will be used at CARICOM ceremonial events nationally, regionally, and internationally.

Background

The 20-member grouping which was established on 4 July 1973 by the Treaty of Chaguaramas was so constituted on the principle of regional integration for national and regional development. Its purpose is to ensure that the benefits of integration are equitably shared through the promotion of economic integration, cooperation in areas of human and social development and coordination of foreign policy.

The CARICOM Song is to be the regionally recognized, official patriotic musical composition that evokes and celebrates the history, traditions and struggles of our Caribbean peoples. It is to be used primarily at ceremonial and Community associated events and is aimed at inspiring regional pride and Caribbean Community identity.

The Competition is being launched to engender full participation of all CARICOM nationals in composing and selecting of the CARICOM Song. The objectives of the Song are to: (i) promote unity and build consensus around Community values; and (ii) inspire Community identity and pride.

The regional CARICOM Song Competition is a CARICOM 40th Anniversary activity that will run for four (4) months with the involvement of the private sector, artists and Directors of Culture of the Region.

Outcome

The outcome of this Competition is an original CARICOM Song to be used at official functions, including the Meetings of CARICOM Heads of Government and at international events. The lyrics and music of the CARICOM Song should:

- (i) Reflect a strong Caribbean Cultural identity;

- (ii) Meet technical specifications; have versatility and lend itself to be played by various instruments (stringed, steel pan, keyboard, percussion, wood wind) and be sung;
- (iii) Have a strong Caribbean cultural flavour and rhythm; and
- (iv) Inspire a sense of regional pride and unity.

The lyrics, in particular, should invoke a blessing and or evoke/celebrate the history, traditions and struggles of our Caribbean peoples, while sounding a call to build Community and to uphold Community values.

Eligibility

The Competition is open to nationals of CARICOM Member States and Associate Members. Groups of persons, organizations or individuals may enter but will be treated as one entity. Employees of the CARICOM Secretariat (including its offices in Barbados, Jamaica and Haiti) and their immediate families are not eligible to participate in the competition.

Technical Requirements

The Technical requirements are appended (page 5).

Selection Process

The Competition shall be coordinated at both the national and regional levels. It will be judged by a panel of experts using selection criteria, which meet affective and aesthetic criteria. **The Competition will be conducted in three phases:**

- (i) The **preliminary round** will be coordinated by Directors of Culture in the Ministries of Culture. **All entries from CARICOM nationals must be submitted through their respective Ministry during the period set for the Competition, between Monday, 22 April – Friday, 28 June 2013;**
- (ii) Each Member State will submit the top entries, **not more than six (6)**, to the CARICOM Secretariat. The **Semi-Final Round** will involve technical and affective judging by a regional panel of five independent experts who will select **ten (10) songs**; and

- (iii) In the **Final Round**, the same independent panel **will select the winning song, the second and third place winners.**

Intellectual property

The winning song will become the exclusive property of the CARICOM Secretariat and runners up may reserve the right to their composition.

Awards

The winner of the CARICOM Song Competition will receive a cash award of US\$10,000. The first runner up will receive US\$5,000 and second runner up US\$2,500. Other participants in the top 10 will be publicly acknowledged.

Rules and Regulations

1. The CARICOM Song Competition is open to CARICOM Nationals of Member States and Associate Members. Employees of the CARICOM Secretariat (including its offices in Barbados, Jamaica and Haiti) and their immediate families are not eligible to participate in the competition.
2. Entrants may submit more than one song.
3. **Each entry must include:**
 - ❑ Completed entry form with original signature;
 - ❑ CD containing one (1) song only, four (4) minutes or less in duration; and
 - ❑ Typed Lyrics and Music Sheet.

Entries from non-English speaking countries should include an English translation of the lyrics.

4. The CD should contain only the entry song and should not have any part of the recording or label which can identify the artist(s), applicant(s), producer(s) or the songwriter (s).
5. The Song should have the characteristics of an Anthem; incorporate a blessing or a prayer which invokes a blessing; have a clarion call to build Community or Caribbean unity; be one that inspires unity and regional pride; be one that evokes and or celebrates the history, traditions and struggles of our Caribbean peoples;

the music must be of Caribbean rhythms and flavor. In addition, the Song should be one that is memorable with popular and emotional appeal.

6. All entries submitted must be original songs and shall not infringe on any copyrights or any other rights of a third party. The Entrant warrants that the entry is an original song and Entrants shall by entering, indemnify and hold the CARICOM Secretariat harmless against any claims inconsistent with the foregoing.
7. Songs which do not satisfy the above criteria and the technical specifications will be rejected.
8. The CARICOM Secretariat reserves the right to decide the method of selecting the winning song and also reserves the right to reject any or all entries submitted.
9. The CARICOM Secretariat will use its best efforts to announce the Semi-Finalists at a designated time, but will not be held liable for any unforeseen delays. Semi-Finalists and the First, Second and Third Place Winners will be notified of their selection by email or telephone.
10. Any number of eligible entries can be submitted to the Ministries of Culture. The Ministries of Culture will use the stipulated selection Guidelines to select no more than six (6) eligible songs from the submissions they receive to forward to the CARICOM Secretariat for technical judging. A maximum of ten (10) songs will be selected as semi-finalists. A maximum of three songs will be selected as finalists.
11. Finalists shall make themselves available, during the course of the Competition, for all promotional activities
12. Entrants agree to release, indemnify, and hold the CARICOM Secretariat, its sponsors, and judges harmless for liability, damages, or claims for injury or loss to any person or property relating to, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, participation in promotional activities.
13. By entering the CARICOM Song Competition, entrants agree to accept and be bound by the decisions of the CARICOM Secretariat and its judges, which are final and binding in all matters.
14. Entrants agree to be bound by all terms of these Rules and Regulations as established herein.
15. The launch date for the Song Competition is **Monday, 22 April 2013**. The deadline for all entries is **Friday, 28 June 2013**.

CARICOM SONG COMPETITION

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS/MODEL SCORING SHEET

| CATEGORY | ELEMENTS | SCORE |
|-------------------------|---|------------|
| LYRICS | Relevance (descriptive of Caribbean challenges, aspirations and history) | 10 points |
| | Caribbean Cultural Appeal (evokes cultural identity, incorporating expressions of the traditions and diversity of the people) | 15 points |
| | Inspires regional pride and unity (Community building, regional integration) | 15 points |
| SUB-TOTAL LYRICS | | 40 points |
| MUSIC | Melody Originality (10) Clarity (5) Appeal (10) | 25 points |
| | Arrangement Use of Caribbean instrumentation (10) Choral work (use of voice) (5) Rhythm (10) | 25 points |
| SUB-TOTAL MUSIC | | 50 points |
| COMBINED | Overall Anthem Appeal | 10 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 100 points |