

**JAMAICA CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
(JCDC)
BAND COMPETITION 2008**

The Band Competition was a category in the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission Music Competition of the annual Performing Arts Competition. In order to continue to fulfill the mission of the Commission, that is to unearth, develop, preserve and promote the creative talents and expressions of the Jamaican people, the decision was taken to remove this category to:

- offer more participants opportunities to develop technical / performance skills on an instrument;
- encourage the formation of more popular bands across the island;
- encourage existing bands to improve all areas of their presentations, performance skills and techniques;
- create an outlet for young talents;
- increase the cadre of institutions, communities and church bands;

The competition is opened to bands in schools, colleges, universities, churches and community groups.

School Bands - Participants must be registered students of the institution

Church Bands - Participants must be a member of the church

Community Bands - Bands from societies such as Youth Clubs and any other group or organizations other than church and schools

Entries will be placed in classes as follows:

- ⇒ Junior Bands (ages 13-19)
- ⇒ Senior Bands (ages 20 & over)

Age is determined as at September 1, of the academic year of the competition (September 1, 2008).

THE COMPETITION

In this competition:

- ⇒ All bands **MUST** enter the main category and **ONE** (1) of the two (2) optional categories.

- ⇒ Bands will be allowed a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of sixteen (16) musicians.
- ⇒ Each presentation must be a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of eight (8) minutes of performing time.
- ⇒ Dancing will not be accepted, however, simple body movements may be used for visual enhancement.
- ⇒ Chanting may be incorporated however, no singing will be allowed
- ⇒ The Commission reserves the right to accept or reject any entry. An entry will be denied if it does not meet the required specifications.
- ⇒ A non-refundable entry fee of \$500 will be charged for each band.

THE CATEGORIES

All bands must enter the main category and **ONE** of the two optional categories:

Main Category

a. Jamaicans Rhythms

- Ska, Rock Steady, Reggae and Dance Hall etc.,

Optional Categories

b. Caribbean Rhythms

- Mento, Soca, Calypso, Salsa, Meringue, Rumba etc

c. World Beat (not including Jamaican & Caribbean)

- World Beat, Jazz & Blues, R & B, Hip Hop, African Rhythms, Latin American, Big Band etc.

STRUCTURE

There are three (3) levels of competition. These are: Round One, Semi-Finals and National Finals.

- **Round One** - All bands earning an average score of 75% and over will proceed to the Semi-finals.
- **Semi-Finals** - The ten (10) highest scoring entries in each

class will advance to the National Finals. The semi-finals will be held in two parts, one in Ocho Rios to accommodate those entries from the Western and Northern Regions; and in Kingston to accommodate those entries from the Central and Eastern Regions.

NATIONAL FINALS - At this level Bands in each class will vie for Trophies and other prizes.

MARKING SCHEME:

Main category will carry sixty percent (60%) of the marks while the optional category will carry forty percent (40%)

Band will need a combined score of seventy-five percent (75%) in order to move on from Round One

The top three bands (1st, 2nd and 3rd in each class will be awarded.

NATIONAL AWARDS

- 1st Place
- 2nd Place
- 3rd Place

Parish Awards

- Most Outstanding Presentation

(This will be determined by the highest scoring performance in the Parish Finals).

Sectional Awards

- Most Outstanding School Band
- Most Outstanding Community Band
- Most Outstanding Church Band
- Most Outstanding Category Award (x 3)

Other awards will be presented. These will be confirmed before the National Finals.

SCHEDULE

Closing date for all entries will be **Friday, October 31, 2008**

Round One will take in all parishes from November 11 – **November 14, 2008**

Semi-Finals will take place in Ocho Rios on **Tuesday, November 25** and Kingston on **Thursday, November 27, 2008**

The National Popular Band Championship will be held on **Thursday, December 4, 2008.**

Venues to be confirmed.

WORKSHOP

A Developmental workshop will be held on Saturday **November 29, 2008.** All finalists must attend.