

Educating the Heart



“ Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all. ”
Dalai Lama

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- The First Word -

Educating the Heart



Nadia Williams, Social Investment Officer

A quick glance through our second issue of MADE for 2018 and one cannot help but notice the joyful expressions splashed across the pages. So many beautiful smiles were captured at the various events we invested in at the start of the year. From Trinidad Carnival to International Women's Day, from Chowtaal Samelaan to branch projects across Suriname, our partnerships touched hearts across the Caribbean, bringing joy to so many.

"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." These words from the Dalai Lama accurately capture the spirit behind our support of cultural events and traditions. Culture is a unifying force. It joins together individuals of different races, backgrounds and generations. By preserving ancient cultural traditions, we carry the spirit of our ancestors in our hearts and we affirm their importance to our future. For this reason, we believe that education extends beyond what is taught in the classroom. Education of the heart is essential to what makes us human. We cannot think of a more powerful way to build a better society than to bring people together through joy, love and hope.

Nadia

- Power To Learn -

Ancient Traditions Come to Life

43 Schools Compete in Annual Chowtaal Sannelan

The stage at the Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha (SDMS) Headquarters in St. Augustine was transformed into a sea of colour, when the annual Chowtaal Sannelan competition got underway. Students representing 43 primary schools from across the country participated in this year's preliminary round. Performances featured traditional Chowtaal songs accompanied by colourful costumes and eye-catching props. The annual competition, which is part of the Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha schools' Baal Vikaas festival, has been sponsored by RBL for the past nine years.



Did you know?

A Chowtaal is a traditional form of folksong, originating from the northern parts of India. Chowtaals are sung in the lead up to the annual Holi or Phagwa celebrations.

- Power to Learn -

Future of Carnival in Safe Hands

Another Successful Junior Parade of the Bands

Carnival continues to energise, unite and inspire our youth! The 2018 RBL Junior Parade of the Bands was another success with thousands of children taking over the streets of Port of Spain, laying claim to their stake in this vital part of our national heritage.



Festival of the Bats

Our 2018 presentation 'Festival of the Bats' was well received among spectators and marked our tenth year as a band sponsor. This year, we also proudly continued our sponsorship of the NCBA Youth Mas Academy Outreach Programme and Zebapique Productions, continuing our investment in the future of our cherished cultural tradition. Read on to learn more!



- Power To Learn -



Future of Carnival in Safe Hands

RBL & NCBA Team Up for Mas Academy Youth Outreach

Newtown Girls' R.C. and St. Dominic's Boys' R.C. schools on Maraval Road hosted their annual in-school Carnival jump-up. Both schools participated in RBL's Mas Academy Youth Outreach Programme in partnership with the NCBA. The initiative affords children the opportunity to learn the techniques of traditional mas-making artistry from veterans in the business, thus, ensuring that the tradition is preserved. Isa Mohammed, Manager – ITCD, was on hand to celebrate with the youngsters.



- Power To Learn -

Future of Carnival in Safe Hands

Zebapique Productions Takes Junior Carnival by Storm

2018 was a landmark year for our friends at Zebapique productions, who continue to put forward extraordinary carnival productions through a pioneering outreach initiative that targets at risk youth from Port of Spain. The band, which has been sponsored by RBL for the last two years, took 3rd place in the Large Band Category at the Republic Bank Junior Parade of the Bands, 2nd place at Red Cross Kiddies Carnival, and 1st place at the Downtown Children's Carnival Parade.. Zebapique also copped the Junior Carnival Queen title at the Red Cross parade. This year's presentation, titled 'Nah Leaving – T&T Nice', paid tribute to late legendary mas designer and Humming Bird Medal (Silver) recipient, Stephen Derek.



Zebapique Productions, the mas band, is the instrument we are using to change lives. We make costumes, we eat, we old talk, we play mas. We are building relationships and breaking down barriers.”

Andrew Alleng
Founder, Zebapique Productions



3 THINGS To Know About Zebapique Productions

1. Zebapique Productions is a junior carnival band with an outreach programme that brings together children and their parents from at-risk communities in East Port of Spain to participate in the costume making process.
2. These children are part of the 'Hearts and Minds' programme, which is championed by the Inter Agency Task Force (TTPS and the Army) and focusses on building community relations.
3. The name 'Zebapique Productions' comes from the local herb, zebapique, which is traditionally used to fight fungal infections and the common cold.

- Power To Succeed -



300th School Visit for In Full Flight

It was a milestone occasion for Don La Foucade when he took his In Full Flight motivational programme to Fyzabad Anglican Secondary school marking his 300th school visit. Since launching in 2013, the motivational tour has touched the lives of tens of thousands of secondary school students, addressing topics such as self-esteem, responsibility for one's choices and development of a "can do" mindset, among others. Local Olympic Sailor, Andrew Lewis, also attended the session, lending his support to In Full Flight by sharing his own life experiences with the enthusiastic students. Both Andrew and Don are partners of The Power to Make a Difference programme who seek to positively influence young people by sharing their personal life stories and lessons.

We congratulate Don on this achievement and look forward to our continued partnership in uplifting our nation's youth!

It's a priceless opportunity that I cherish, to be able say something and a life forever changed for the better. The journeys are long and my body aches at times, but no journey is too far to go, to see youngsters believe in themselves.

Don La Foucade
Founder, In Full Flight



There are two gifts we
should give our children.
One is roots and
the other is wings.

Author Unknown

- Power To Care -



Horses Helping Humans Host 3rd Family Fun Fair

Event Raises Funds for Hippotherapy

Scores of families flocked to the MovieTowne Carousel Park to participate in the third annual Horses Helping Humans (HHH) Rainbow Family Fun Fair. The day featured an array of entertaining activities for families and their little ones including a petting zoo, face painting, puppet show, magic show and kiddie yoga session, set against the backdrop of the park and its various attractions. RBL staff volunteered alongside HHH staff to manage the activities throughout the day.



3 THINGS You Need to Know About Hippotherapy

1. Hippotherapy is the use of horse riding as a therapeutic or rehabilitative treatment.
2. It is a form of therapy commonly used in treating children with autism and other special needs because it stimulates and improves coordination, balance and strength.
3. It has also been proven to reduce stress, anxiety and depression in both children and adults.

Interested in learning more? Visit the Horses Helping Humans website at: www.hhhtrinidad.weebly.com or contact them at 768-6394.



- Power To Succeed -

RBL Supports International Women's Day Activities

Women in Trinidad and Tobago joined in solidarity with their sisters across the world to celebrate International Women's Day 2018 with a number of empowering events. We were proud to once again support one of this year's feature activities - the Women's Rights Rally and Walk - which took place at the Queen's Park Savannah. Thousands of women participated in the walk which ended in a rally that featured guest speakers and support services for attendees. Our Tobago branch also commemorated the occasion by hosting its second mortgage education seminar for women at our Auchenskeoch branch. Our Loan Delivery Centre Manager, Wilma Williams, headlined the day's agenda and educated the attendees about the mortgage process. Attendees also enjoyed a motivational session led by Indira Crouch and a talk on interior design by Robyn Grell.



Speaking your truth is the most powerful tool we all have.

Oprah Winfrey

What does it mean to have women's rights?

The women's rights movement dates back to the nineteenth century with the demand by some women reformers for the right to vote, known as suffrage, and for the same legal rights as men. The first country to allow women the right to vote was New Zealand in 1893, with the most recent being Saudi Arabia in 2011. In Trinidad and Tobago, women were granted the right to vote in 1928 when the voting age was 21.

- Power To Make A Difference -

Across the Territories Spotlight on Barbados

RBL Barbados launches 2017-2018 Power To Make a Difference Programme

RBL Barbados stood firm on its commitment to the people of Barbados when it launched the 2017/2018 tranche of its Power to Make a Difference Programme. The programme was first launched in Barbados in 2009 and has contributed over BD\$7 million to a wide range of initiatives over the past 8 years. This year's beneficiaries included NGO's and advocacy groups involved in health, education, culture and sport.



2017/2018 Power To Make a Difference Beneficiaries

Power to Care

- Transplant Links Community

Power to Learn

- Christian Learning Clinic
- Sunshine Early Stimulation Centre
- Barbados National Youth Symphony Orchestra
- Marlon Legall Voice Project
- Barbados Dance Project

Power to Succeed

- Barbados Golf Association – Junior Golf Programme

Building societies is not only the purview of governments. It is the responsibility of all citizens, both corporate and individual.

Anthony Clerk
Managing Director & CEO
Republic Bank Barbados



- Power To Make A Difference -

Across the Territories
Spotlight on Guyana

Power to Succeed Top Academic Performers Rewarded

The top academic performers for 2017 were rewarded for their outstanding achievements at Republic Bank Guyana's Annual Power to Make a Difference Academic Achievement Awards Ceremony.

Monetary gifts, plaques and tokens were presented to the most outstanding students in the National Grade Six Assessment (NGSA), Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) and Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE) along with the Best Graduating Students with a Bachelor's Degree in the Faculty of Social Sciences and a Diploma in Banking and Finance from the University of Guyana.



Power to Learn

Young Pannists Delight at Mashramani Competition

Winners of the Large Band Category are pictured here during their performance at the 10th Annual Republic Bank Guyana Mashramani Panorama Steel Band Competition. The competition which judges young talented pannists across seven categories has become a mainstay at Guyana's annual Anniversary celebrations.

- Power To Make A Difference -

Across the Territories
Spotlight on Suriname

Power to Help
Suriname Staff Show the True Spirit of Volunteerism

Our colleagues in Suriname have been busy in their communities over the past few months, uplifting and enriching the lives of those in need. Here is what they've been up to:

Customer Care & Service Unit

Who: Elim van de Heer, a home for 34 special needs children between the ages of 3 and 14 years
What: Repainting of three sleeping areas along with donations of toys, clothing, food and other items.



Thanks to the wonderful cooperation of our team and the warm-hearted feedback of the staff and children, we enjoyed giving back as a team.

Nicole Moeljoredjo
Customer Support Officer



Besides our daily occupation as a bank employee, it feels good to make a positive contribution towards a foundation who helps children that need extra attention and care.



Disbursement, Collateral & Insurance and Risk Special Loans Unit

Who: Stg. Claudia A, a home for children infected with HIV
What: Refurbishment of the home, focusing on cleaning, painting and upgrading the lighting of the dining room which also serves as the reading / leisure room. The team also cleared the front yard and levelled the driveway. After the day's work, the team treated the children to an enjoyable afternoon of games and a meal.

- Power To Make A Difference -

Jozef Israel Straat Branch

Who: O.S.Geyersvlejt Primary School

What: The staff refurbished the school's playground, which was in a state of disrepair. They cleaned up the garden area and constructed a walkway made of sand. The swing set and all the playground equipment received a fresh coat of paint. Repairs were also done to the sewer system.

Noteworthy: The staff raised their own funds for the project through a bake sale at the school and combined the proceeds from the sale with their Community Based Initiative (CBI) 2017 cash prize to purchase all materials for the repairs.



We believe that it is very important for children to play, as it contributes to their physical and mental development. Investing in our youth means investing in our future. This was the opportunity for us to make a sustainable change.

Dorothy van Russel
Account Manager

Kernkampweg Branch

Who: Siembah Elderly Home, Commewijne

What: Purchase of new seating and a wall fan, along with general cleaning of the interior and exterior of the home.



We have the ability and power to make a difference in the lives of other people. Use this opportunity to take care of the people in need.

Raoel Powel
Senior Account Manager