***MEDIA RELEASE***

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**TSTT provides free WiFi at CARIFESTA 2019**

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad – August 20, 2019

In line with this year’s theme for CARIFESTA XIV, ‘Connect-Share-Invest’, TSTT through its commercial brand bmobile has provided free WiFi at the two main festival areas- the Grand Market and the Envision Youth Village. CARIFESTA participants and visitors can connect with each other and immediately share their experiences at the regional event with their friends and family.

TSTT's Senior Manager Corporate Communications, Marsha Caballero, expressed delight that as one of the main sponsors, TSTT has helped to enhance the regional festival by facilitating the sharing of the connections made at CARIFESTA XIV. "Anyone at both the Grand Market and the Youth Village can log into the free WiFi via ‘Carifesta XIV guest’.  TSTT is pleased to partner with CARIFESTA - a premier regional festival that places the spotlight on the arts and culture. We recognize that the creative industry is a powerful driver of sustainable development through job creation, economic growth and tourism development. We wish for all the participants and visitors at CARIFESTA XIV, an educational and enjoyable experience, filled with meaningful and memorable connections.”

John Arnold, CARIFESTA’s Project Manager, highlighted that this year’s Grand Market themed ‘The Streets of the Caribbean’, is designed to provide an experience from the moment patrons arrive at the event. “Visitors will be immersed in the creative arts as they travel through the Grand Market area” said Arnold. “The presence of WiFi adds to the phenomenal experience. We are already seeing the benefits of having WiFi access because it gives persons access for sharing memorable photos and videos; this helps to raise the visibility and awareness of CARIFESTA, Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean.”

Arnold explained that by bringing the arts and business together, CARIFESTA is also focusing on capacity building. “Corporate sponsors like TSTT have really rallied behind CARIFESTA XIV and have demonstrated their support for the arts community. We would like to greatly thank TSTT for being a contributing CARIFESTA partner because together we will make CARIFESTA XIV a success.”

The ‘Streets of the Caribbean’ in the Grand Market is divided into several sections adorned with façades which represent past CARIFESTA host countries. The various areas feature products and cuisine from across the Caribbean and include a craft village, fashion village, Food Park, trade booths and a literacy area. There is also an entertainment section with performances throughout the day from 11am to 11pm, including ‘Live at Lunch’.

The CARIFESTA Envision Youth Village will feature a series concerts and masterclass workshops in multiple careers in the creative industries from August 17th -24th at the Bishop Anstey High School. Veteran practitioners from Trinidad and Tobago and across the region, in the fields of film, music, fashion, dance, theatre, literary arts, visual arts and culinary arts, will connect with young talent during this period. The Youth Village was designed to function as both a development and networking platform where young creatives can indulge in 8 days of creative and thought-provoking experiences of historic art and culture of the Caribbean.

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