

MEDIA RELEASE



**Trinidad and Tobago
Securities and Exchange Commission
57-59 Dundonald Street
Port of Spain**

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Winner of the ‘Young Investors, Creative Expressions’ competition call for youths to think wisely about their future

A humble 1st place winner, Mr. Jason Marcano encouraged his peers and youths of the nation to make a conscious effort to start thinking wisely about how they’re going to achieve their goals, and plan for their future, be responsible, and get involved in saving and investing.

Mr. Marcano was among the seven winners in this year’s ‘Young Investors, Creative Expressions’ competition. The Prize-Distribution Ceremony for the ‘Young Investors, Creative Expressions’ competition, hosted by the Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission (TTSEC), was held on August 10, 2016 at the TSTT Box at The Queens Park Oval.

This Prize-Distribution ceremony was suitably attended by its key sponsors the blink | bmobile Foundation and the Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange (TTSE) and its winners.

Addressing the audience was Mr. C. Wainwright Iton, CEO, TTSEC, who spoke specifically about the need for a more robust securities market and more so boosting our junior market. He said that, “The time is ripe for the TTSE, the market actors, broker-dealers, investment bankers, the Chambers of Commerce and small and medium-sized businesses to take up the challenge and make the SME (Junior) market a reality.” He continued by saying that, “the development of this market must start with effective investor education and understanding of the possible benefits associated with investing in the securities markets”.

Ms. Michelle Persad, CEO, Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange also delivered remarks in support of this Investor Education competition, stating that “... any event that involves investor education is a most worthwhile initiative”. This is the Stock Exchange’s third year contributing to the TTSEC’s competitions and Ms. Persad offered wise advice to the winners. “The importance of good management of your personal finances is a major factor in achieving success in life, from achieving self-reliance as a young adult to financing your basic needs of housing, health and family care, to later in life, your needs for retirement and medical requirements”, said Ms. Persad. She also provided basic 101 insight into the Stock Exchange and the value of leveraging on the stock market to achieve these life’s goals. The TTSE contributed a sum of \$15,000 in towards the Group B (18-30) prizes.

Another key sponsor, the blink | bmobile Foundation was very proud to partner with TTSEC on this project. Ms. Anjanie Ramesar-Soom, Manager Corporate and Community Affairs, reinforced their commitment to contributing to the development of the nation's youth. Also a judge in the competition, she praised the participants for their efforts and also encouraged the winners to share the knowledge they gained from this competition with their friends, families and communities. The blink | bmobile Foundation contributed over \$11,000 in cash and the latest smartphone and tablet devices towards the Group A (14-17) prizes.

Also delivering remarks was Ms. Enid Zephyrine, Madam Deputy Chair of the TTSEC, who indicated that public education, and more specifically investor education, is crucial to an understanding of the securities industry in Trinidad and Tobago. She also encouraged all citizens to become more cognisant of how they spend their hard-earned money, recognise the value in saving, and consider the long-term rewards that can be gained from investing in our stock market.

The Results

CATEGORY	WINNERS	PRIZES
Crowd Choice	Mical John	Hotel package to Tobago for two to Magdalena Grand – Courtesy TTSEC
1st Place: 14-17	Marc Beepath, Naparima Boys College	Samsung Tablet + S6 Edge Plus + \$3,000 Voucher – Courtesy blink bmobile Foundation
2 nd Place: 14-17	Shineque Saunders, Pleasantville Secondary	Samsung S6 + \$2,000 Voucher – Courtesy blink bmobile Foundation
3rd Place: 14-17	Michaela Phillip, St. Augustine Girls High School	Nikon D3300 Digital SLR Camera + \$1,000 Voucher - Courtesy blink bmobile Foundation
1st Place: 18-30	Jason Marcano	\$10,000 voucher– Courtesy TTSE
2nd Place: 18-30	Peterson Mc David	\$7,500 voucher – Courtesy TTSEC
3rd Place: 18-30	Meagan Wong Sang	\$5,000 voucher– Courtesy TTSE

**The winners of Group B (18-30) were given a voucher to be reinvested in the stock market and held for a minimum period of 1 year.*

All winners were asked to share a few words with the audience regarding their experience and all were greatly appreciative of the opportunity to learn about the securities industry and develop their passion in the creative arts. Mr. Marc Beepath, 1st place winner in the Group A category, was particularly proud to take part in this competition. His well-executed puppet concept and one-day production enabled him to take away new knowledge on financial fraud. Mr. Beepath was pleased to walk away with a Samsung Tablet, S6 Edge Plus and \$3,000 Voucher – Courtesy the blink bmobile Foundation.

About the Competition

The 'Young Investors, Creative Expressions', competition aimed to encourage young individuals to learn more about investor education and financial literacy through creative outlets for expression, namely video presentation and spoken word poetry. Participants were required to develop a short video which showcased topics related to the securities industry via the creative arts.

To view the winning videos - visit the Commission's Investor Education website at www.investucatett.com.

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About the Commission:

The Commission is governed by the Securities Act 2012 and is responsible for maintaining oversight of the securities market and for ensuring that fairness, equity and transparency remain common values in the market place. Our vision is to be an effective regulator of the capital market in which stakeholders have confidence.

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