



TTSEC 2025 CALENDAR

CELEBRATING THE STEELPAN:
OUR NATIONAL MUSICAL
INSTRUMENT



MESSAGE FROM CEO



Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission (“TTSEC”) is proud to collaborate with Pan Stakeholders and Partners for our 2025 annual calendar which briefly traces the rich history and evolution of the Steelpan.

The Steelpan, designated our national instrument on July 19th 2024, is a symbol of creativity, resilience, and cultural pride. Its rise from humble beginnings to international acclaim parallels the qualities needed for financial resilience: perseverance, innovation, and strategic foresight.

At the TTSEC, we believe that just as the Steelpan has become an enduring symbol of our nation, financial resilience is key to long-term personal and economic growth.

Through this collaboration, we hope to inspire our stakeholders to recognise the importance of discipline and strategic decision-making in both their financial lives and in preserving our cultural heritage.

This initiative also supports our focus on strategic partnerships as we continue to promote financial literacy and investor education across all sectors of society.

Kester Guy
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

EARLY BEGINNINGS: From Drumming to Tamboo Bamboo to Oil Drums

Tamboo Bamboo

Drums or no drums, it was not long before the people took rhythm on to the streets once more. Lengths of cane and bamboo, miscellaneous pieces of wood and beaters, were the basis of the new bands. **Tamboo Bamboo** was the name given to them. It comes from the French word 'tambour' meaning drum.

The variety of sound from Tamboo Bamboo bands was amazing. The bamboo was prepared into all sorts of different forms. It was struck on the ground, banged together, notched and scraped. Different lengths of wood gave different pitches. Tamboo Bamboo bands took over the carnival, and the celebrations were as wild and noisy as ever.

In Trinidad there is a popular sport of 'stick fighting'. Like boxing, this sport is considered an art, controlled by strict rules. Also like boxing, it has its origins in crude, ferocious and often brutal fighting.



Photos Credit: National Archives
Publication - The Steelband by John Bartholomew 1980

www.ttsec.org.tt



The Steelpan

One of the most significant and only acoustic inventions of the 20th century.



Photo Credit: National Archives
Publication - The Steelband by John Bartholomew 1980

Start with a Strong Foundation

Just as the steelpan was crafted from the ground up, your investment journey should begin with a solid foundation. Start by building an emergency fund and understanding your risk tolerance before diving into investing.

JANUARY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



from
congo drum
 to
steelband
 BY Dr. J.D. ELDER M.A. Ph.D.

The African Drums

Dates back to 500AD and were introduced into Trinidad and used for Orisha worship/ ceremonies. It is the first form of communication used in Carnival Festivities.

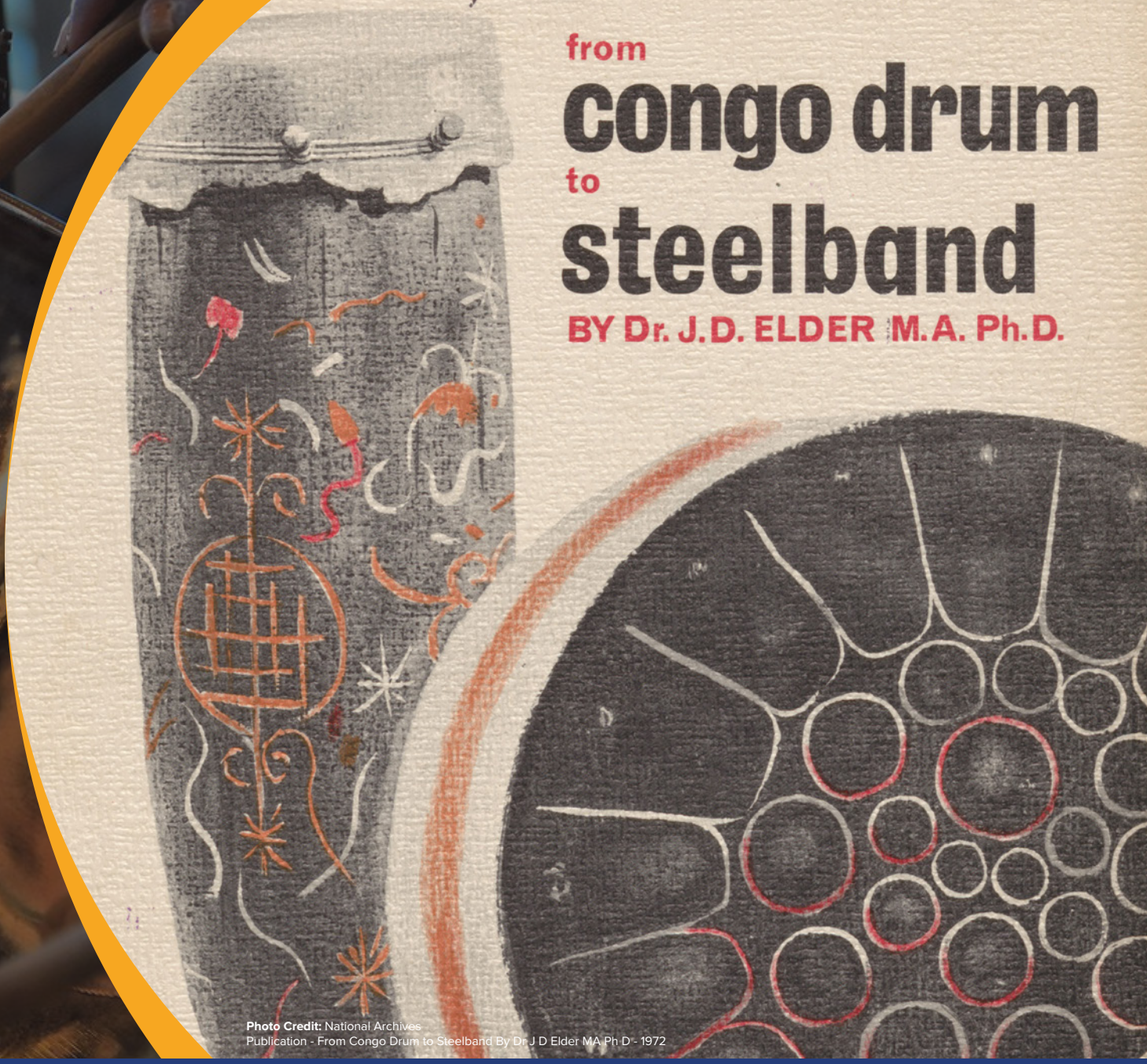


Photo Credit: National Archives
 Publication - From Congo Drum to Steelband By Dr. J D Elder MA Ph D - 1972

Diversify Like the Notes of a Steelpan

The steelpan's beautiful sound comes from a blend of different notes. Similarly, a diversified investment portfolio, combining different assets like stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, can harmonise your financial future.

FEBRUARY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	



**Winston "Spree" Simon
(1930 – 1976)**

- One of the Main Pioneers behind the 'Ping Pong' Pan which evolved into the 'Tenor' Pan.
- First person to perform a full tune on the ping pong pan.



Photo Credit: National Archives
Publication - The Steelband Saga – A Story of the Steelband, The First 25 Years – Sylvia Gonzalez

Patience Creates Masterpieces

The steelpan evolved over time, requiring patience and persistence. Long-term investments, like stocks or real estate, often require time to mature and yield significant returns, so be patient with your investments.

MARCH 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 Carnival Monday	4 Carnival Tuesday	5	6	7	8 International Women's Day
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Global Money Week						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Spiritual Shouter Baptist Liberation Day	31 Eid ul Fitr (TBC)					



**Elliot “Ellie” Mannette
(1927 - 2018)**

- Dubbed the Father of the Modern Steelpan.
- Inventor of the Double Seconds Pan.



Photo Credit: Pan Trinbago

Tune Your Portfolio Regularly

Just as a steelpan needs regular tuning, your investment portfolio needs periodic reviews. Review your portfolio to ensure it aligns with your financial goals and risk tolerance.

APRIL 2025 Financial Literacy Month

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
					Good Friday	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Easter Sunday	Easter Monday					
27	28	29	30			



**Dr Anthony Williams
(1931 - 2021)**

- Invented the “spider web” layout of the steelpan which is considered as the blueprint for all tenors.
- Williams was also the first Band Leader to put steelpan on wheels.

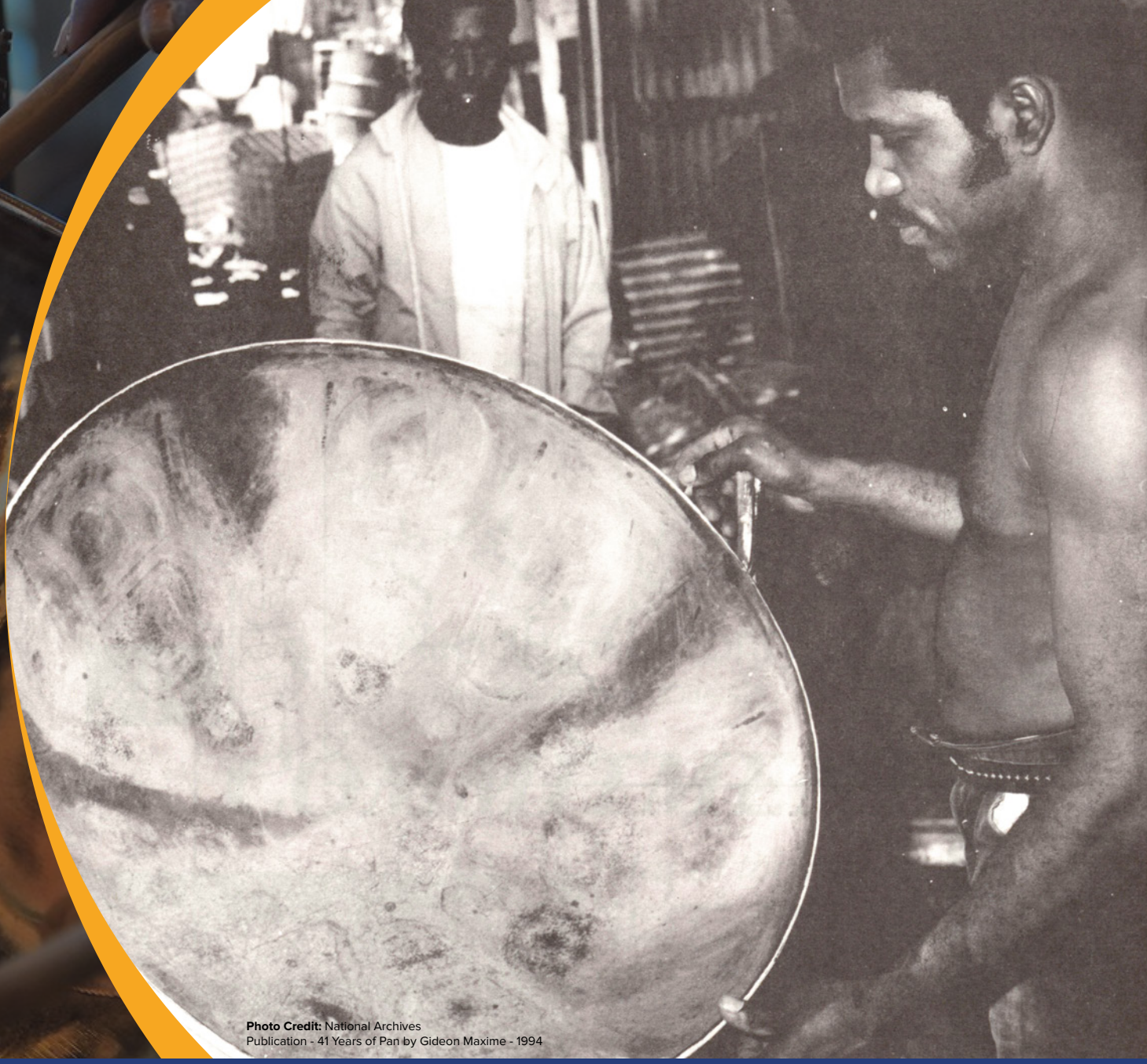


Photo Credit: National Archives
Publication - 41 Years of Pan by Gideon Maxime - 1994

Understand the Beat of the Market

A skilled pannist knows the rhythm of the music. Similarly, understanding market trends and cycles can help you make informed investment decisions. Stay informed about market movements and adjust accordingly.

MAY 2025 Investor Education Month

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
					TTSEC 28th Anniversary	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
					Indian Arrival Day	



Among the First Female Icons in Steelpan was Dr. Patricia Bishop. Also known as “The First Lady of Pan.”

Other Female Pioneers include:

- Daisy James-McClean
- Merle Albino-de Couteau
- Michelle Huggins-Watts
- Vanessa Headley
- Beverley Ramsey-Moore



Photo Credit: Pan Trinbago

Invest in What You Know

Pannists often play music close to their hearts. Similarly, consider investing in industries or companies you understand well. This familiarity can give you an edge in making sound investment choices.

JUNE 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Corpus Christi & Labour Day



*The Steelpan is designated
Trinidad and Tobago's
National Musical Instrument.*

Fourth Session Twelfth Parliament Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago



REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Act No. 13 of 2024

[L.S.]

AN ACT to provide for the designation of the Steelpan as
the national musical instrument of the Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago and for related matters

Source: www.ttparliament.org [Assented to 19th July, 2024]

Stay Committed to Your Goals

The steelpan's rise to national prominence took dedication and vision. Similarly, stay committed to your long-term financial goals, even during market volatility. Consistent investing can lead to significant rewards over time

JULY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



1940: The Steelpan made its first public appearance during Carnival. Innovations led to different tonal ranges and the formation of modern steelbands.



Photo Credit: National Archives
Publication - Independence Steelband Music Festival

Innovate and Adapt

The steelpan is a symbol of innovation, born from creative problem-solving. Be open to new investment opportunities and strategies. Consider alternative investments or new markets as part of your portfolio.

AUGUST 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
					African Emancipation Day	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	UN World Steelpan Day	International Youth Day				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Independence Day



The First Junior Panorama Competition for Schools (1976).



Photos Credit: National Archives
Publication - The Steelband by John Bartholomew 1980

Celebrate Small Wins

Every note in a steelpan arrangement contributes to the final performance. Likewise, celebrate the small gains in your investment journey. Reinvesting these gains can compound over time and lead to bigger successes.

SEPTEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 International Literacy Day	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Republic Day	25	26	27
28	29	30				



**Rudolph Valentino Charles
(1938 – 1985)**

- Inventor of Signature “Rocket Bass” as well as a leading pioneer in the development of the nine-bass and triple tenor pans.
- Credited for leading Desperadoes Steel Orchestra to 10 various victories from 1965 to 1985.



Photo Credit: National Archives
Publication – F.I.R. Blake Steelband History Evolution

Protect Your Investment Legacy

Just as the steelpan is a cherished cultural legacy, protect your investments for future generations. Consider estate planning and ensure that your wealth is preserved and passed on according to your wishes.

OCTOBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 International Day of Older Persons	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	World Investor Week					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
					International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Divali (TBC)					
26	27	28	29	30	31	



G-Pan: Invented by Professor Brian Copeland.

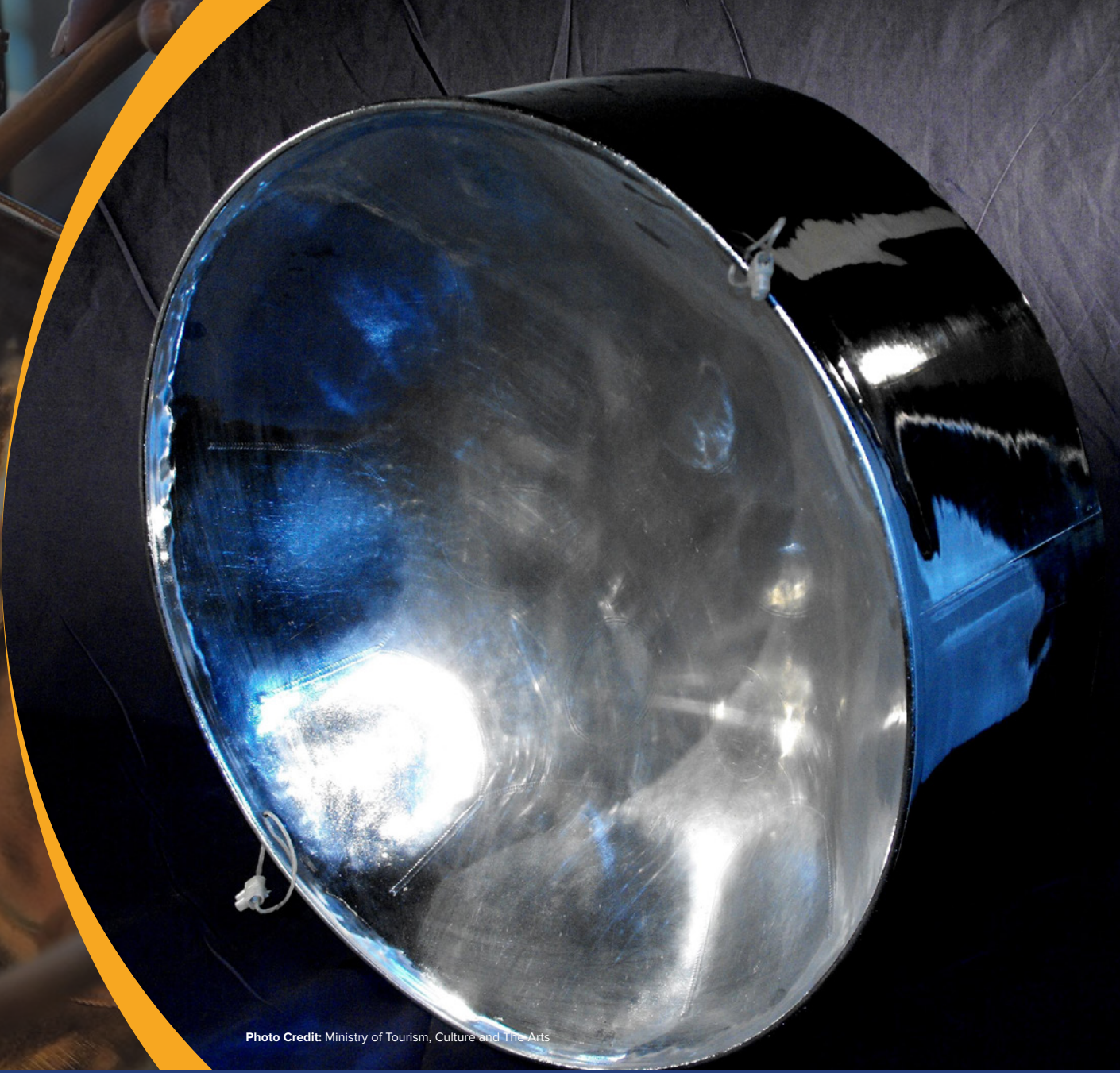


Photo Credit: Ministry of Tourism, Culture and The Arts

Learn from the Past, Invest in the Future

The history of steelpan teaches us about resilience and growth. Similarly, learning from past market experiences can guide your future investment strategies. Use historical data to inform your decisions.

NOVEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			International Men's Day			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



The Joint Winners of National Panorama Finals Competition 2024.



Bp Renegades Steel Orchestra



Massy Trinidad All Stars

Photos Credit: Pan Trinbago

Give Back to the Community

The steelpan represents unity and community spirit. Consider using a portion of your investment returns to give back to causes you care about. Charity can be a fulfilling part of your financial plan.

DECEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				Christmas Day	Boxing Day	
28	29	30	31			



Robert Greenidge



Winston "Spree" Simon



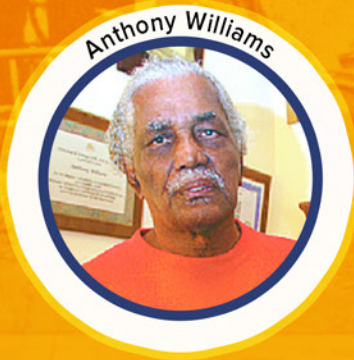
Elliot "Ellie" Mannette



Hugh Borde



Dr. Jit Samaroo



Anthony Williams



Rudolph "The Hammer" Charles



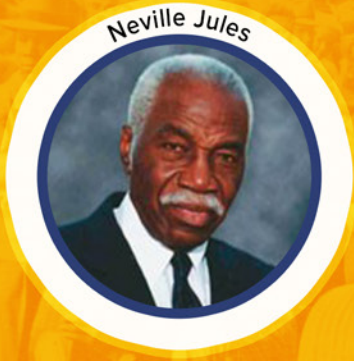
Dr. Pat Bishop



Ray Holman



Bertram "Bertie" Marshall



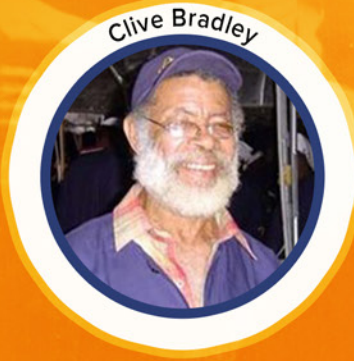
Neville Jules



Dr. Len "Boogsie" Sharpe



Beverley Ramsey-Moore



Clive Bradley



Ken "Professor" Philmore

Photos Credit: Pan Trinbago

OUR PAN PIONEERS



Making steel drums

The job of making a steel drum is a big one. It takes an expert a whole day; someone making their first one might spend a week and still not get it right.

A youngster interested in making one for his or herself *must* get the help of an adult. Certain parts of the work can be dangerous and should not be attempted without adult assistance.

It is heavy work. You would probably get blisters.

It is noisy work, with lots of hammering. You need to make it in a place where neighbours will not be disturbed.

If you are not put off by these difficulties you will find detailed instructions on the next few pages. If you are, then the account at the top of each page will be enough to tell you the main stages by which the job is done.

Sinking the pans

The first stage is **sinking**. This means hammering the end of the drum so that it becomes a smooth concave basin (the surface on to which the notes are put). The highest pans—the ping pongs—are sunk the deepest, and the depths become less until you come to the bass which is only sunk a small amount. This probably has to do with stretching the metal tighter to gain higher notes, just as you would with the strings on a guitar or violin.

Photo Credit: National Archives
Publication – The Steelband by John Bartholomew 1980



Photo Credit: National Archives
Publication – The Steelband by John Bartholomew 1980



2026 CALENDAR

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9



Credits and Acknowledgements listed in *alphabetical order*

- Ministry of Tourism, Culture and The Arts
- Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited
- National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago
- Pan Trinbago Inc.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

You Invest. We Protect. Everyone Benefits!

Levels 22-23, Tower D, International Waterfront Centre, 1 Wrightson Road, Port of Spain 101605, Trinidad, W.I.

Phone: (868) 624-2991 | Fax: (868) 624-2995 | Corporate Website: www.ttsec.org.tt

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