CENTRAL BANK OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

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Central Bank Museum Reopens with Vibrant Open Day Celebrating 220 Years of Chinese Heritage

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad and Tobago, October 22, 2026 | The Central Bank Museum reopened on Sunday, October 11, 2026, with a free, family-friendly Museum Open Day. The event drew over 600 visitors to a full day of culture, creativity and community, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Open Day coincided with the national community's commemoration of 220 years of Chinese culture and heritage in Trinidad and Tobago. An exhibition by the Heritage Library Division of the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS) documented the Chinese immigration experience and the contribution of pioneers in the fields of creative and visual arts, education, medicine, politics and the economy. Tribute was also paid to the late William "Willi" Chen (1934–2026), the celebrated artist whose work is part of the Central Bank's Art Collection. Visitors got the opportunity to reflect on his lasting contribution to Trinidad and Tobago's artistic and literary heritage.

Patrons enjoyed a vibrant programme of activities celebrating Chinese culture, including traditional tea-pouring demonstrations, Tai Chi sessions, Chinese stilt-walking, calligraphy, ink painting experiences and live streaming of dragon boating. Families were engaged in creative activities and storytelling with Tiffany's Creative Corner, Let's Read TT and the UWI Centre for Language Learning, respectively. The event also featured live dance and cultural performances.

The Central Bank Museum thanks all the institutions and facilitators who partnered with us to ensure a very successful day. For the coordination of the overall event, special thanks go out to Ms. Jamie Lee Loy in the capacity of Guest Curator. We also wish to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of the Chinese Embassy of Trinidad and Tobago, the Heritage Library Division, NALIS, the UWI Centre for Language Learning, the UWI East Asian Culture Club, the Chinese Art and Culture Society, Let's Read TT, the Trinidad and Tobago Dragon Boat Federation, #1000 Mokos, Wushu Association of Trinidad and Tobago, Sifu Rahman Khabir, Nicole Tang Studio, Yun Wan Mai Gourmet, Danielle Mitchell, Helen Lee, Sincere's Grocery, House of Chan, Chef Bernard Long, Shay Shay Tien, Richard Ahong, DJ Arion Hercules and Maria Nunes. The Museum is also grateful to every member of the public who helped make the reopening a success.

The Museum is open to the public Tuesday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, call 235-2288 ext. 2829 or email museum@central-bank.org.tt

END

Selected event photos: Photo 1, Photo 2, Photo 3, Photo 4, Photo 5, Photo 6, Photo 7, Photo 8, Photo 9, Photo 10