

CCC youths hail Sparrow

by MARLENE AUGUSTINE

ALYPSO King Slinger "The mighty Sparrow" Francisco was yesterday seen nodding his head and clapping his hands to the music as young people each performed a verse and a chorus from his repertoire of calypso hits.

The youths performed at the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Calypso and Ole Mas competition in honour of Sparrow at the St John's Ambulance Association, Port-of-Spain.

Sparrow also gave the audience a treat as he appeared on stage performing three of his masterpieces.

Showing the participants and audience how it is done, he performed "Lying Excuses", "This is Madness", and Frank Sinatra's "My Way".

During his performance, members of the audience moved to the front of the stage to have more of an intimate view of the icon.

"The Birdie" was later presented with a plaque as a token of appreciation for his contribution to the art form.

Speaking at the opening of the competition, Lt Rolando Merritt said the CCC programme will continue to try and instill national pride in the youths of Trinidad and Tobago.

Besides singing a verse and chorus of any Sparrow song, the 12 competitors also sang their own compositions.

The topics they touched on included crime, offences against children and the oil spill in La Brea.

Hannah Solomon dressed in a radiant red suit, performed a passionate and powerful calypso on the murders in TT called "Murder Rate". She also performed Sparrow's song "Lying Excuses".

The first-place winner will receive \$1,500 and a phone, the second-place prize is \$1,000 and a phone, and the third prize is \$700 and a hamper.



DAPPER HANNAH: Hannah Solomon performs 'Murder Rate' and 'Lying Excuses' at the CCC Calypso and Ole Mas competition at St John's Ambulance Association, Port-of-Spain yesterday. PHOTO BY ROGER JACOBI

C.C.C. Youths Hail the Mighty Sparrow

At the C.C.C. Annual Calypso and Ole Mas Competition, 2014