

**Remarks to be delivered by  
Ms. Kiva Clarke, Acting Permanent Secretary  
at the Art Exhibition entitled “ *This is my Mexico*”,  
hosted by the Embassy of the United Mexican States (Mexico)  
at the National Library and Information System Authority  
(NALIS),  
in Port of Spain, on February 23, 2026**

*¡Buenas Noches a todos!*

This evening, I am pleased to be here with you, on behalf of the Honourable Sean Sobers, Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs who regrets his inability to be here to celebrate the launch of this special Art exhibition hosted by the Embassy of Mexico; as part of your activities commemorating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and the United Mexican States.

We gratefully recognize that this evening’s exhibition showcases selected pieces, which were sent to Trinidad and Tobago from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, following their annual children’s drawing competition “Este es mi Mexico”.

Now in its 30th year, I was happy to learn that this competition is an avenue for creative expression and the nurturing of youth talent. Significantly, it has attracted participation from both Trinidad and Tobago and Mexican artistes resident in this country.

Ladies and gentlemen, the creativity possessed by our citizens is infinite and as those of you lucky enough to have witnessed or participated in what has been dubbed the “Greatest Show on Earth” – the Trinidad and Tobago Carnival. You may be inclined to agree, that there is no other showcase of cultural and artistic expression than our national celebration.

Our Carnival is renowned for blending music, fashion, performance, tourism, and entrepreneurship into a multi-billion-dollar cultural ecosystem. It not only generates significant revenue locally, but also serves as a model for diaspora carnivals around the globe.

That's why we need to continue to encourage our children to participate in initiatives such as this Mexican art competition (**Concurso de arte**), to give them visibility, exposure and opportunities that are beyond our borders.

As a result of "Este es mi Mexico", I expect our talented youngsters and schools, to benefit from cooperation with the Embassy. Importantly, increased participation can open the door for the possibility of an exchange of artistes and the promotion and growth of the Spanish language in Trinidad and Tobago, which the Government has indicated it intends to make a compulsory second language.

This cooperative attitude is the usual approach our countries adopted since we established diplomatic relations on April 29, 1966, wherein our cultural and artistic similarities have blended seamlessly with our mutual interests.

As we get ready to view this exciting exhibition, I take this opportunity to extend sincere appreciation, to Ms Paula Greene and her

team at the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS) for your contribution to the strengthening of relations and people-to-people linkages through your alliances with the Diplomatic Community resident in Trinidad and Tobago.

In closing, I am excited to experience what 60 more years of diplomatic relations between Trinidad and Tobago and Mexico will bring. I now look forward to viewing “Este es Mi Mexico.”

*¡Gracias y disfruta!*