



**Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago**  
**Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Senator the Honourable Randall Mitchell, Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts offers condolences on the passing of Ms. Joy Caesar**

Senator the Honourable Randall Mitchell, Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts is today expressing condolences on the passing of one of the southland's most revered cultural icons Ms. Joy Maria Ann Caesar. Joy Caesar made her mark on Trinidad and Tobago's musical landscape as Musical Director and Conductor of the Southernaires Choir of San Fernando for over twenty years. Ms. Caesar's direction to the sweet voices of this group saw them perform for regional and international audiences and visiting dignitaries such as Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Ms. Caesar also played a role in developing the cultural sector and made significant contributions to the fraternity as a member of various community and cultural boards. In 2003 Ms. Caesar was awarded the Chaconia Gold Medal for her stellar service to Trinidad and Tobago in the field of Music & Community Service. Minister Mitchell says, "This week Trinidad and Tobago's cultural fraternity and certainly the City of San Fernando has indeed been made poorer with the recent passing of its son in Dennis 'Sprangalang' Hall and now a distinguished daughter of the soil in Ms. Joy Caesar. As a fellow Southerner and Trinbagonian, I can truly say that the field of Culture and the Arts was made richer by the contributions of these two cultural icons."

Minister Mitchell extends his deepest condolences to the family, friends and loved ones of Ms. Joy Caesar.

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