

## R Kelly, Trey Songz set for Reggae Sumfest 2012

The 20th edition of Reggae Sumfest will see some international flavor added to its bill as a pair of R&B superstars will take to the Catherine Hall stage this July.

Highly acclaimed veteran singer, R Kelly and two-time Grammy nominated R&B artiste, Trey Songz have been confirmed for Reggae Sumfest 2012, which will take place from July 15-21 in Montego Bay. Trey Songz will take to the stage on International Night 1 (July 20) while R Kelly will perform on International Night 2 the following night. R Kelly was due to perform at last year's edition of Reggae Sumfest but had to pull out after complaining of throat pain and later having an emergency operation on said throat. Though Trinidadian-American hip-hop superstar, Nicki Minaj was added to the bill and delivered a memorable performance, many fans were disappointed by R Kelly's absence. However, Sumfest organizer, Johnny Gourzong insists that Kelly felt really bad about his inability to perform at last year's event and hopes to make it up to his Jamaican fans in grand fashion. "R Kelly was so disappointed with not being able to come to Sumfest last year that we spent the whole year trying to work out a make-up date, which was Reggae Sumfest 2012," Gourzong said in a press release. Though not nearly as publicized, Trey Songz was also due to perform at last year's show but was unable to do so due to a scheduling conflict. According to Gourzong, many young music fans have been pleading with him to put the Heart Attack singer on his show.

"Everywhere I go, young people have been saying we need to have Trey Songz on the show and, hence, we decided to make it possible," he said. Gourzong intimated that both artistes are glad to be part of such a meaningful staging of Reggae Sumfest. "Both international acts are excited to be here for Sumfest's 20th anniversary and Jamaica's 50th," he said. For R Kelly, this would be his second career performance in the island while it would be the debut of Trey Songz on Jamaican soil. R Kelly remains a top quality act within R&B circles, known for classics such as I Believe I Can Fly, World's Greatest, I Wish, Ignition (Remix), Bump & Grind as well as Number One (featuring Keri Hilson). Additionally, he's renowned for the popular Trapped In The Closet series, for which he has release 22 chapters and announced this past March that it will continue. Trey Songz has emerged as one of R&B's princes in recent years, with singles such as Love Faces, Sex Ain't Better Than Love and Already Taken. The prominent singer will be releasing his new studio album, Chapter V this summer. Reggae Sumfest 2012 is being sponsored by Pepsi, the Jamaica Tourist Board as well as telecommunications giant, Digicel.