

## JCDC invites entries for 2014 Gospel Song Competitions

The Jamaica Cultural Development Commission (JCDC), an agency of the Ministry of Youth & Culture is now accepting entries for the 2014 Jamaica Gospel Song and Jamaica Children's Gospel Song Competitions.

Leighton Jones, Subject Specialist, Gospel & Church Services, notes that this is the perfect avenue for our writers and performers to expose their talents to wide cross section of people. Our children also stand to benefit from the exposure at this level, as it can only complement their growth in becoming outstanding citizens. Our participants will also have the chance to win over a million dollars in cash and prizes. The Jamaica Gospel Song Competition seeks to inspire and foster spiritual development, while encouraging writers and vocalists to challenge themselves in thriving to become the best new artiste/writer of the year. It is a two pronged competition which encourages song writers and performers to express themselves utilizing any genre of music to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. The participants each year are exposed to a series of workshops addressed by professionals within the Gospel Music industry that help to provide them with the necessary grooming and training. Entries must be original and open to solo and ensemble of not more than five persons who are Jamaican citizens and persons who reside in Jamaica for a period not less than two years at the closing date for entries. Children's Competition

The Jamaica Children's Gospel Song Competition aims to bring about higher levels of interest and participation from children between the ages of 6 and 15 years; in expressing themselves by utilizing any genre of music to spread the gospel. The competition accepts both covers and original songs. Participants from schools, churches and community groups across the country compete in the solo, choir and ensemble category. Deadline for entries for the Gospel Song Competitions is Friday, January 17, 2014. Entry forms are now available online at [www.jcdc.gov.jm](http://www.jcdc.gov.jm), at the JCDC Head Office located at 3-5 Phoenix Avenue, Kingston 10, and all JCDC parish offices island-wide. The JCDC in celebrating 50 years of cultural excellence remains true to its current mission, to unearth, develop, showcase and promote the talent of the Jamaican people. The Commission has provided many of its participants with career opportunities from the exposure and training they received through these competitions.