

Ja promises to rock the world during Reggae Month

Entering its fifth year, the much-heralded Reggae Month is set to attract thousands of music lovers, families and industry professionals to Jamaica next month.

Organised by the Jamaica Reggae Industry Association (JaRIA) in partnership with the Jamaica Tourist Board, the monthlong celebration has grown to include a wide array of events such as concerts, festivals and family-oriented cultural presentations that capture the true essence of Jamaican reggae music. There is an effort to focus on Kingston during the month of February, and all activities for Reggae Month will take place in that city. This year's event is set to be the biggest yet, with artistes, including dancehall superstar, Chronixx; Gospel artiste, Stitchie; Raging Fyah; Pinchers; Chalice and TOK. International acts include UK-based artist, Teejah Prayze; along with reggae legend, David Rodigan, who will also be hosting one of several Reggae 'open universities'. Other events include the monthlong Reggae Wednesdays, a series of live open-air concerts in the centre of Kingston, staged in the birthplace of reggae music; the Jamaica Reggae Industry Association Honour Awards on February 15; and the epic Sound System Explosion on February 22. Music industry professionals can also engage and network at the JaRIA trade shows from February 19 through 21. Reggae Month also features a star-studded tribute to the Crown Prince of Reggae the late Dennis Brown, on February 23. The concert will be held along Kingston's waterfront and will be streamed live to millions around the world. General admissions to all the events are free with the exception of the Jamaica Reggae Industry Association Honour Awards Show and the Sound System Explosion. Music industry professionals who wish to attend the shows should complete the press accreditation form which is available at the website www.jariajamaica.com/accreditation. To watch the live stream and for more information, visit www.jariajamaica.com.