



# CULTURE **IN** MOTION

**FY 2014-2015**







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## VISION

A Belize that embraces its diverse cultural heritage, promotes understanding and appreciation of its people, and ensures their growth and development in a global community.

## MISSION

NICH is Belize's premier cultural institution dedicated to creating an enabling environment for the development, conservation and accessibility of culture in all its diversity.

## VALUES

**Respect, Integrity, Tolerance and Excellence** are our hallmarks

**Culture** is central to the overall development of our country

**Education** is fundamental to understanding and appreciating culture

**Culture** contributes positively to building social cohesion and fostering national identity

**Alliance building** is essential for developing our cultural potential

**Promotion of culture** nationally and internationally is an integral part of Belize's development



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS & SENIOR MANAGEMENT

**Minister – Hon. Manuel Heredia, Jr.**  
**CEO – Ms. Tracy Taegar-Panton**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

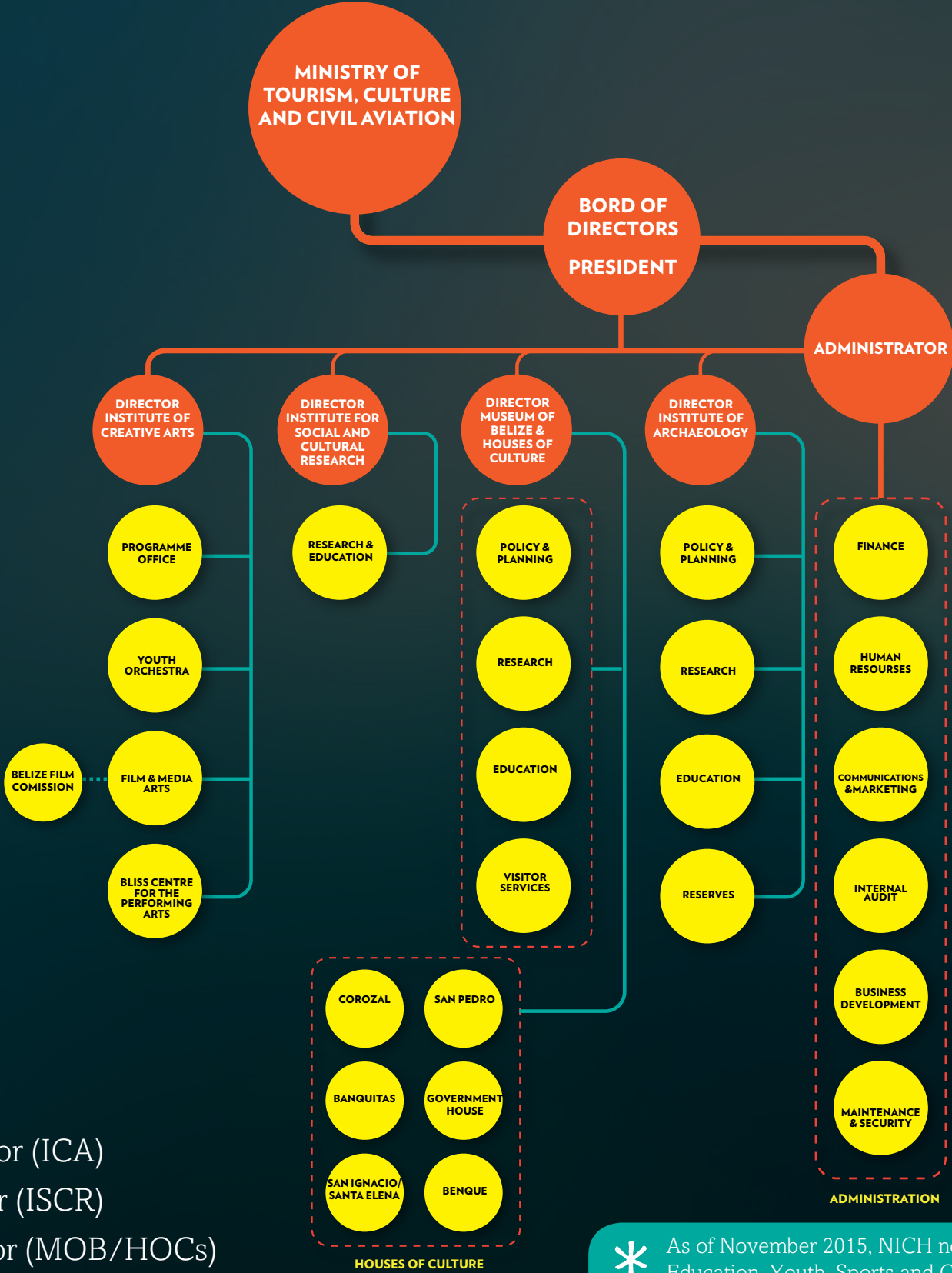
- Ms. Diane C. Haylock, Chairperson
- Ms. Rosita May, Board Member
- Ms. Ena Martinez, Board Member
- Dr. Filiberto Penados, Board Member
- Mr. Omar Ortiz, Board Member
- Mr. Lynn Young, Board Member
- Mr. Estevan Perera, Board Member

- Mr. Gil Williams, Ex-Officio Member
- Ms. Tracy Taegar-Panton, Ex-Officio Member (Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Civil Aviation)

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT

- Ms. Diane C. Haylock, President
- Mr. Gil Williams, Administrator
- Dr. John Morris, Director (IA)

- Mr. Gregory Vernon, Director (ICA)
- Mr. Nigel Encalada, Director (ISCR)
- Ms. Sherilyne Jones, Director (MOB/HOCs)



\* As of November 2015, NICH now falls under the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture

# INSTITUTIONS' LOGOS AND DIVISIONS MANDATE

**T**he National Institute of Culture and History (NICH) is a statutory body that seeks to encourage Belizeans and persons interested in Belize to better understand our historical and ethnic roots and instil pride in ourselves about our country's unique cultural heritage and shared national identity.



**ICA** is a catalyst for creative, artistic and professional excellence in Belize. It supports and promotes dance, music, theatre, visual arts and creative writing.



**ISCR** aims to promote, retrieve, supervise, document and carry out historical, social, cultural and anthropological research for educational purposes, social planning and human resources development.



**IA** protects, preserves and promotes the rich cultural heritage of our country. Through research, education, planning, policy and marketing, it effectively manages all archaeological and cultural resources in the country.



**MOB** is dedicated to the promotion, documentation, exhibition and understanding of Belize's culture and history.

**HOCs** are dynamic community centers that are meant to inspire and uplift all through the various cultural areas.

Employees of the Year (2014)– Melitza Denis (Admin); Carla Rosado (MOB); Debra Wilkes-Grey (HOCs); Irene McKoy (ISCR); Karen Vernon (ICA); Mauricio Alvarado (IA/Admin); Luis Ramirez (IA/Parks)  
Honorable Mentions – Elizabeth Gomez (IA/Admin) and Bernadette Menzies (MOB)







The institution's 5 year strategic plan was reviewed at the 2015 Strategic Evaluation and Planning Retreat held in January. The core group at the retreat included members of the Board of Directors, Executive and Senior Management, Middle Management and technical officers of NICH. This core group assessed the strategic goals, and initiatives and determined which of these have been accomplished and which are to be prioritized in the final execution year for this strategic plan.

The group concluded that the strategic objectives to 'consolidate the institution's identity' and carry out 'institutional strengthening and sustainability' were completed in their entirety. Therefore, there are no reflections that will be listed under these strategic objectives. Where the strengthening and sustainability of the institution are concerned, the relevant strategic actions have enabled the development of institution wide programs to support the continued advancement of our workforce.







# GROWING, EMPOWERING, AND SUSTAINING A DYNAMIC CULTURAL INDUSTRY

Festivals | Cultural Events | Cultural Celebrations

**Total Investment: \$1,164,153**

NICH invests significant financial, human, and material resources in festivals, cultural events and cultural celebrations countrywide. In addition to our annual signature events, we support a broad spectrum of cultural initiatives like community festivals, music concerts, and cultural celebrations.

Our signature festivals and cultural events include, but are not limited to the following:





# NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS

Now decades old, this festival has grown to include performances at the high school level.

1,400

Students impacted at the district level

500

Primary schoolers

350

High schoolers

2000+

Youths attended the national performances



# BELIZE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 9TH EDITION

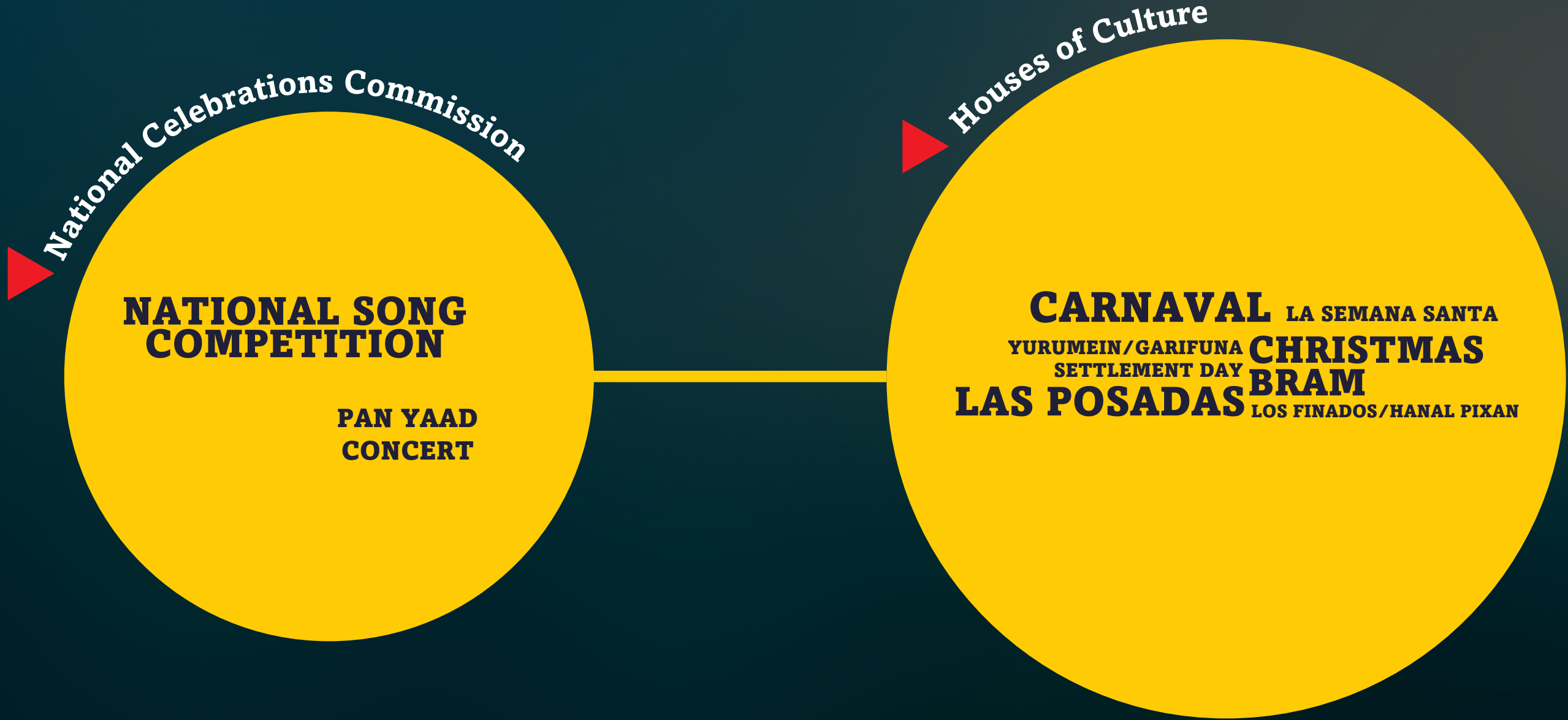
Stimulates local film production through exposure to international films and filmmakers

This festival is maturing at a consistent rate, and has become a signature national event, attracting sponsorship from major stakeholders in the tourism and film industries



# OTHER SIGNATURE EVENTS

We are able to promote and sustain some cultural celebrations through the National Celebrations Commission, which NICH Co-Chairs, and through our Houses of Culture.







## **DANCE X – EXPLORING THE WORLD OF DANCE**

This festival features a multifaceted approach to the art of dance with master classes and performances from a wide cross section of world cultures, where Belize is featured prominently through the local dance companies. This year’s festival also featured a cultural expo, director’s roundtable, and an aerobic workout fundraiser for the Belize Cancer Society.

## **STREET ART FESTIVAL – CELEBRATING ALL THINGS BELIZEAN**

This festival, which featured 50 booths in the heart of downtown Belize City, presents facets of Belizean culture and art from across the country, and continues to grow exponentially in size, popularity, and attendance. The addition of a youth stage featuring contemporary dance and interactive street theatre, live street performances in steel pan, jazz, and a marching band have attracted an extensive range of supporters to this flourishing festival.



# TRAINING FOR CREATIVE AND CULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

A critical component to growing, empowering and sustaining a dynamic cultural industry is to build its capacity.

**National Youth Orchestra** has been providing extensive training for the classical section of the orchestra.

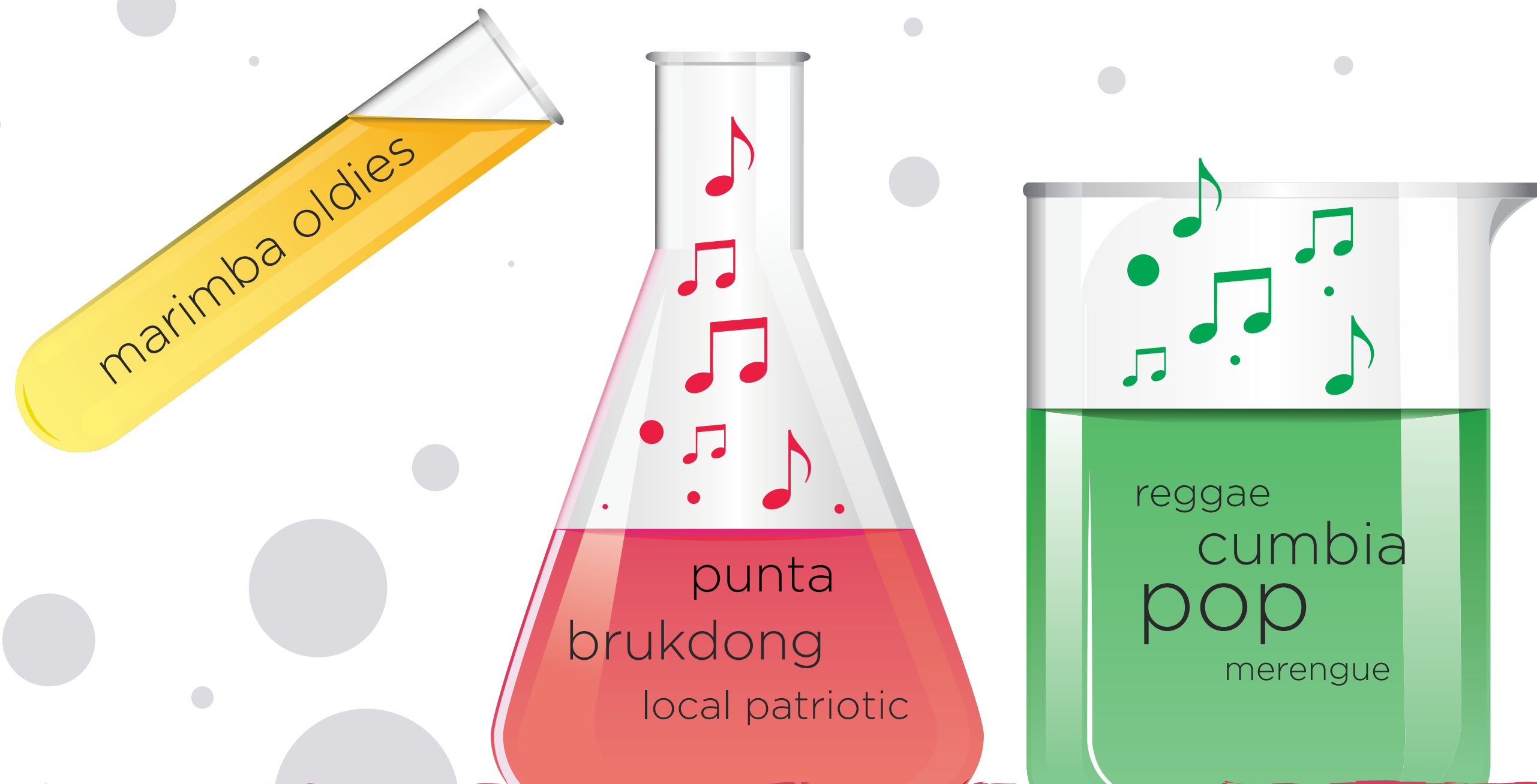
**Pandemonium Steel Orchestra** is a growing phenomenon that is making a difference in the lives of its young members.





# Benque Marimba Youth Academy

**17 members, ranging in age from 10 years to 42 years old**, engage in the traditional Maya-Mestizo music art form, marimba. The Benque Marimba Youth Academy has not only rescued the traditional “marimba oldies”, but has also incorporated contemporary music genres like reggae, pop, merengue, and cumbia into their repertoire. More importantly, this group has fused the marimba sound with other cultural sounds like punta, brukdong, and local patriotic music. These youths travel throughout the country at the invitation of communities, embassies, businesses and organizations and were able to do 73 performances during this reporting period.



# SUMMER ARTS INSTITUTE

Hosted countrywide in multiple art disciplines including puppet theatre, dance, music, and visual art.



**115**

Youths enrolled in Bliss Centre programs

**100**

Youths enrolled through district funded programs

**SUMMER ARTS**



**PSAST Pilot Project**

**Visual arts training for primary school students**

75 youths trained and able to participate and excel in local and international art competitions



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**Drumming and Storytelling in the Afro-Descendant Community of Flowers Bank**

15 children learned how to make and play a drum and how to tell a story.

\*Funding for this project was received from the CECC-SICA initiative for culture





**Five-day Film School with Stouffer Productions**



**Commonwealth Writers Screenwriting Clinic  
Rich in Resources Video Competition**



**PAH Fest Belize with PAH Nation**



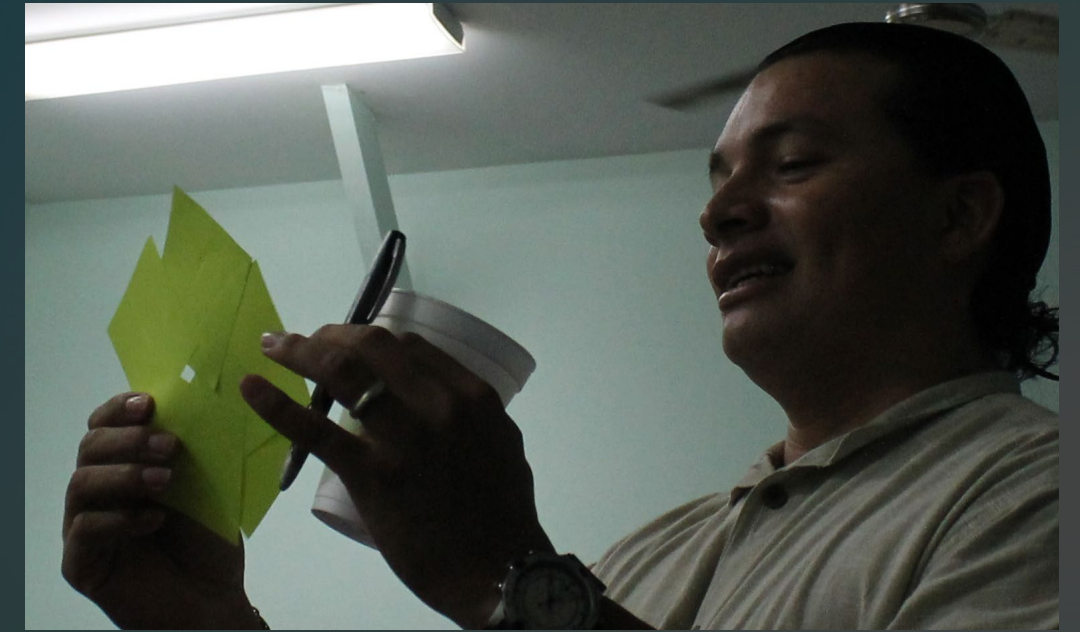




## Grant Proposal Writing Workshop AND Multi-Media Workshop

A cross section of cultural organizations were trained to develop proposals to access grant funding. At the conclusion of the workshop, 14 participants had developed 5 grant proposals.

10 participants were trained in multimedia techniques to inventory intangible cultural heritage in their communities.







**SAFEGUARDING OUR TANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE** through investments in preserving, conserving archaeological monuments, and upgrading visitor's facilities at archaeological reserves.

**\$918,275 invested**

\*Approximately 66% of this investment was made through the Making Tourism Benefit Communities Adjacent to Archaeological Sites (MTBCAAS) Project and represents only a fraction of NICH's total contribution to this initiative.



# CREATING EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

## Heroes & Benefactors Exhibit

**6,000+ youths visited this exhibit in 2014-2015**

Each year, at least two national figures are added to historic display

This exhibit features the following Belizean heroes, patriots, and benefactors:

1. Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price
2. Philip Stanley Wilberforce Goldson
3. Julian Cho
4. Thomas Vincent Ramos
5. Gwendolyn Lizarraga
6. Antonio Soberanis
7. Nicholas Pollard Sr.
8. Cleopatra White
9. Samuel Haynes
10. Henry Edward Ernest Victor Bliss
11. Felipe Santiago Ricalde
12. Sir Isaiah Morter
13. Robert Sydney Thurton
14. Clifford Betson
15. Lee Richardson

16. Vivian Seay
17. Dorothy Bradley
18. Jesus Ken





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**THROUGH THE HOUSES OF CULTURE THESE OTHER EXHIBITS WERE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC:**

**Photography and Art Exhibitions:**

San Pedro (1940s-1960s)  
Caribena Cooperative & Fishing Industry  
Milestone



Oil and Acrylic (San Pedro HOC)  
Stacey Rodriguez  
The Cayo Collection  
Cayo West Art Exhibit  
Hombre en Arte  
Women in Art  
Artists from Corozal



**Historical & Cultural Exhibitions:**

The Rastafari Vision & Culture  
The Golden Age  
Carnaval  
Hurricane Hattie  
Treasures of the Past  
The Battle of St. George's Caye



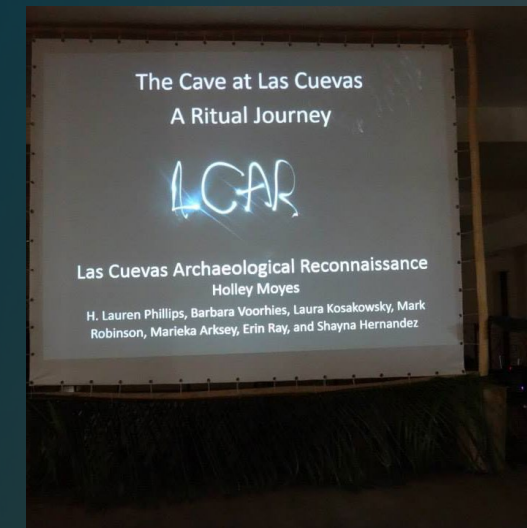
## Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) Conference

- Hosted in collaboration with the East Indian Councils of Belize
- 19 research papers presented over 7 days in Corozal and Toledo Districts
- Connected different East Indian communities from the Corozal, Orange Walk, Belize, and Toledo districts

## Belize Archaeology and Anthropology Symposium

12 papers presented on Anthropology and History

**Throughout the year, the IA and ISCR delivered educational presentations to primary, secondary and tertiary level institutions across the country.**





# BUILDING NATIONAL IDENTITY AND SOCIAL COHESION

## **Empowering the Belize History Association and its 38 members**

- BHA Executive elected:
  - Francis Humphries, Chairman
  - Gian Vasquez, Vice Chairman
  - Myrna Manzanares, Senior Member
  - Fred Hunter, Senior Member
  - Ifasina Efunyemi, Junior Member
  - Nigel Encalada, Ex-Officio Member (NICH/ISCR)
  - Dr. Herman Byrd, Ex-Officio Member (Belize Archives and Records Services)
  - Brenda Armstrong, Ex-Officio Member (Ministry of Education)
  - Tanya Hulse, Ex-Officio Member (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

- Articles and Memorandum of Association drafted and approved
- Hosted its first public lecture on the Battle of St. George's Caye
- Logo developed through local competition
- Work plan developed for FY 2015-2016

[www.belizehistoryassociation.org](http://www.belizehistoryassociation.org)

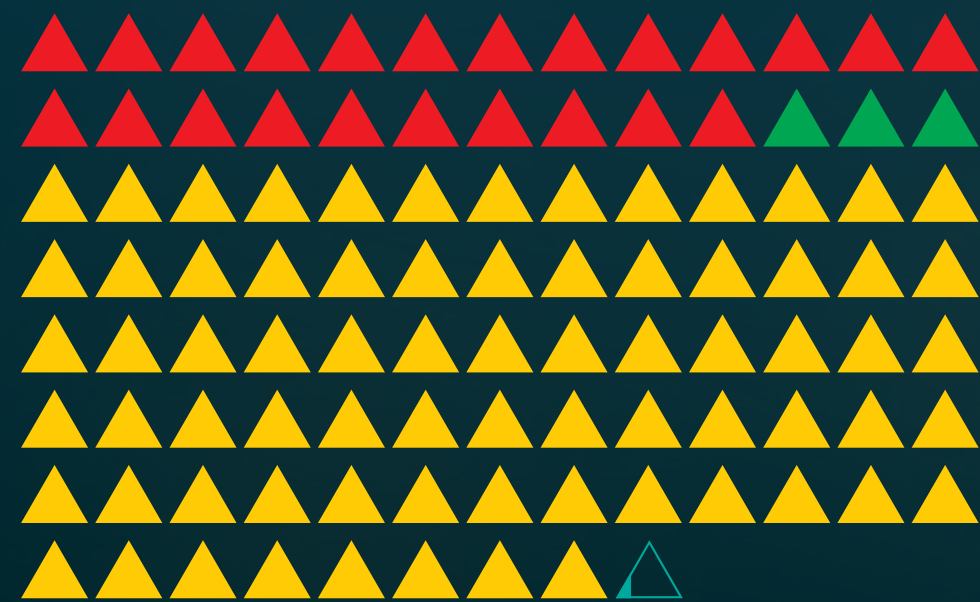






# SUMMARY OF INCOME

TOTAL REVENUE: \$8,564,582



- ▲ **Government of Belize Subvention:** \$1,963,810 (23.7%)
- ▲ **Government of Belize Cap.2 Subventions:** \$289,825 (3%)
- ▲ **General Revenue:** \$6,281,725 ( 73%)
- ▲ **Other:** \$29,222 (0.3%)

# SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE

TOTAL EXPENDITURE: \$7,468,674



- ▲ **Operational:** \$4,759,907 (64 %)
- ▲ **Strategic:** \$2,016,293 (26%)
- ▲ **Other:** \$692,474 (10%)







# SIGNATURE NICH EVENTS

## **APRIL - JUNE** **Research** **Competition**

This competition is an annual event hosted through the Institute for Social and Cultural Research and aims to promote research amongst tertiary level students countrywide.

## **International** **Museum Day**

This event is celebrated through the Museum of Belize and the Houses of Culture. Activities are designed around the theme selected by the International Council of Museums and underscores how museums contribute to the community and national development.

## **National Festival of** **Arts**

A national performance showcase that features the top golden entries from the Primary School and High School District Festival of Arts. This week-long event also highlights the culinary arts, and typically includes a street parade and youth concert.

## **JULY - SEPTEMBER** **Summer Arts** **Institute**

A series of workshops and training sessions for artists and other interested persons of all ages and varying proficiencies. This program promotes professionalization in an artistic or creative talent and is available in each district through the Houses of Culture and ICA District Committees.

## **Carnival Season**

The three-month Carnival Season kicks off with the Instigate Fete and includes a junior and senior Pageant, a Disc Jockey Face Off, the King and Queen Competition, Ninth Night Soca Concert, Jouvert, Road March, and concludes with an award ceremony.

## **Belize Archaeology** **and Anthropology** **Symposium**

This highly anticipated intellectual gathering brings together archaeologists and anthropologists from around the world to present research findings about Belize.

## **National Song** **Competition**

An annual song contest featuring junior and senior entries in the Patriotic and Carnival Song categories. The competition is designed to nurture the musical talent of musicians and vocalists on all levels and promote excellence in Belizean music.

## **National** **Celebrations**

A month of official activities to commemorate the country's anniversary of the Battle of St. George's Caye and Independence Day. The calendar of events is managed through the National Celebrations Commission, which has representation from various government bodies, with NICH serving as the secretariat,

and the NICH President serving as the co-chairman of the Commission.

## **OCTOBER – DECEMBER** **International** **Archaeology Day**

Hosted through the Institute of Archaeology to raise awareness about archaeology and its importance. Visitors have the opportunity to participate in archaeological activities and gain meaningful insight into the many archaeological wonders found throughout Belize.

## **Dance X**

This annual dance festival takes place in November and features local and international dancers from a wide range of genres such as folk, modern, and ballet.



### Belize International Film Festival

One exciting week filled with red carpet events, film screenings countrywide and presentations by visiting international filmmakers, industry symposium, and a number of social events geared towards networking in this rapidly growing creative industry.

### Mr. Peetaz Brokdong Bram

A cultural trademark, this Creole Christmas celebration, was named after the King of the Brokdong genre, Mr. Wilfred Peters. The annual festival features Creole delicacies

from the Belize River Valley and highlights cultural traditions like storytelling and live music by the brokdong bands in Belize.

### JANUARY - MARCH Street Art Festival

Spanning Albert Street between its Orange and Prince Streets junctions, this festival provides a national forum for artists of all genres. Main festival highlights include live body art, street murals, handicraft displays, culinary art, storytelling, and live music and dance performances.

### Women in Art

A series of activities that pay tribute to novice and established artists in all the creative disciplines.

### Heroes and Benefactors Day

Formerly recognized as Baron Bliss Day, this National Holiday now honors all heroes and benefactors of Belize. The ceremony is organized through the Institute for Social and Cultural Research.

### THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Art Exhibits

Cultural Displays

Outreach & Education

Lecture Series

Training for the Creative Sectors

Cultural Festivals

Music Concerts

Cultural Celebrations



# CONTACT INFORMATION

## PRESIDENT’S OFFICE

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Email: [gil.williams@nichbelize.org](mailto:gil.williams@nichbelize.org) |  
[accounts@nichbelize.org](mailto:accounts@nichbelize.org) | [hr@nichbelize.org](mailto:hr@nichbelize.org)

## INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

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Social media: [www.facebook.com/Institute-of-Archaeology](http://www.facebook.com/Institute-of-Archaeology)

## INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RESEARCH

Cor. Culvert Road and Mountain View Blvd, Belmopan City

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Email: [iscr@nichbelize.org](mailto:iscr@nichbelize.org)

Social Media: [www.facebook.com/Iscr.nich](http://www.facebook.com/Iscr.nich)

## INSTITUTE OF CREATIVE ARTS

Southern Foreshore, Belize City

**Tel: (501) 227-2458/2110**

Email: [ica@nichbelize.org](mailto:ica@nichbelize.org)

Social Media: [www.facebook.com/ICA](http://www.facebook.com/ICA)

## MUSEUM OF BELIZE

Gabourel Lane, Belize City

**Tel: (501) 223-4524**

Email: [mob@nichbelize.org](mailto:mob@nichbelize.org)

Social Media: [www.facebook.com/MuseumofBelize\(NICH\)](http://www.facebook.com/MuseumofBelize(NICH))

Twitter and Pinterest: Museum of Belize

## COROZAL HOUSE OF CULTURE

1 Avenue, Corozal Town

**Tel: (501) 422-0071**

Email: [corozal.hoc@nichbelize.org](mailto:corozal.hoc@nichbelize.org)

Social Media: [www.facebook.com/CHOCNICH](http://www.facebook.com/CHOCNICH)

## SAN PEDRO HOUSE OF CULTURE

Angel Coral Street, Ambergris Caye, San Pedro Town

**Tel: (501) 226-5100**

Email: [sp.hoc@nichbelize.org](mailto:sp.hoc@nichbelize.org)

SocialMedia: [www.facebook.com/SanPedroHouseofCulture](http://www.facebook.com/SanPedroHouseofCulture)

## BANQUITAS HOUSE OF CULTURE

Hospital Crescent, Orange Walk Town

**Tel: (501) 322-0517**

Email: [banquitas.hoc@nichbelize.org](mailto:banquitas.hoc@nichbelize.org)

Social Media: [www.facebook.com/Banquitas](http://www.facebook.com/Banquitas)

## SAN IGNACIO/SANTA ELENA HOUSE OF CULTURE

San Ignacio Town

**Tel: (501) 824-0783**

Email: [sise.hoc@nichbelize.org](mailto:sise.hoc@nichbelize.org)

Social Media: [www.facebook.com/SISEHOC](http://www.facebook.com/SISEHOC)

## BENQUE HOUSE OF CULTURE

64 Joseph Street

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Social Media: [www.facebook.com/BenqueHOC](http://www.facebook.com/BenqueHOC)