

ROYAL ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES POLICE FORCE

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PRESS RELEASE

RSVGPF Launches 2025 Police Band Summer Programme to Empower and Inspire Youth

July 21, 2025 - Kingstown: The Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force (RSVGPF) continues to demonstrate its active commitment to youth development with the official launch of the 2025 Police Band Summer Program, held on Thursday, July 17, 2025, at the Peace Memorial Hall. Under the theme "Harnessing Young Minds During Summer Time," this much-anticipated initiative reflects the RSVGPF's broader mission: to guide young people away from harmful influences and equip them with the tools to become confident, responsible, and service-driven citizens.

Superintendent of Police, Mr. Hesran Ballantyne, delivering remarks on behalf of Commissioner of Police Mr. Enville Williams, underscored the program's impact beyond the realm of music. While participants will receive hands-on instruction in instruments such as the saxophone, steel pan, and clarinet, the real value lies in the lessons of character, cooperation, and discipline. He emphasised that under the mentorship of uniformed officers, children learn not only how to play notes, but how to embody respect, self-control, and teamwork.

In addition to the Police Band Summer Program, the RSVGPF continues to reach youth across the nation through several impactful initiatives. These include the Police Youth Clubs, the Coast Guard Youth Development Programme, and the PYC Summer Camps, all of which foster civic awareness, personal growth, and a sense of national responsibility. Superintendent Ballantyne also offered high

praise to Inspector Vaughn Miller, Band Master and program coordinator, for his leadership and ongoing contribution to youth engagement.

Aimed at children aged 9 to 15, this year's program features a holistic approach that includes music education, sports, and interactive sessions on key social topics such as bullying, substance abuse, and human trafficking. Featured speaker Mrs. Marla Nanton James brought warmth and wisdom to the launch, encouraging participants to listen attentively, try fearlessly, and support one another. She reminded both students and instructors that music is a shared journey, built on curiosity, courage, and community.

As melodies fill the air and children embrace their roles as learners, teammates, and future leaders, the 2025 Police Band Summer Program stands as a shining example of how law enforcement can engage meaningfully with youth. More than just a summer activity, it is a transformative space where talent is nurtured, values are reinforced, and tomorrow's change-makers are shaped through the powerful language of music and mentorship.