



SAINT LUCIA NATIONAL TRUST

TEL: (758) 452-5005/31495 P.O. BOX 595 CASTRIES, ST. LUCIA WEST INDIES
FAX NO: (758) 453-2791 Email: natrust@candw.lc Website: www.slunatrust.org

Patron: Her Excellency Dame Pearlette Louisy

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The SLNT's World Snake Day Art Competition Has Concluded, and the Winners Are...

By Joanne Norville

SLNT Programme Assistant- Communications and Advocacy

The Saint Lucia National Trust (SLNT) embarked on an art competition in commemoration of World Snake Day 2020 which is celebrated annually on 16th July. Snakes are an important part of our local ecosystems. They help control rodent populations by hunting pests that could spread diseases to humans. In Saint Lucia we have 5 snake species which the SLNT highlighted on social media during the week of World Snake Day 2020, using information provided by the Division of Forest and Land Resources Development. These snake species are the Boa Constrictor, Fer-de-Lance, Saint Lucia Cribo (extinct), Saint Lucia Racer and Thread Snake. More information on these snake species can be found by contacting the Wildlife Unit of the Division of Forest and Land Resources Development.



SLNT's art competition called on students within the 8-12 and 13-16 age categories to submit photos of paintings and drawings depicting any of the 5 snake species found in Saint Lucia. The artwork submissions were sent to 3 judges, Ted Sandiford, Sharon Germaine and Jovane In Marie, so that they could narrow them down to the best 4 in each age category. The judges' selections were then placed on the SLNT's Facebook for voting to determine the order of winners.

At the end of the competition the winners were Maravilla John in first place, Zaira Cheyenne Cadette in second place, Katlyne Charles in third and Nikolai McDoom in fourth place in the 8-12 age category, and Amichai Modeste in first place, Dashaurn Dandus in second place, Arthur Lee Williams in third place and Anabelle Casimir in fourth place in the 13-16 age category. The photos of the winning artwork can be found at this link <https://slunatrust.org/news/and-the-winners-of-our-world-snake-day-art-competition-are>

Thanks to the generous support of the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, the first place winners each received 8 inch tablets. The SLNT donated school bags containing school supplies to the second place winners in each category and Eco South Tours Inc. also generously donated sketch-drawing kits as well as paint and brush sets for the third and fourth place winners. The prizes were presented to the winners at the Pigeon Island National Landmark on 26th September, which was the SLNT's 45th Anniversary, as well as throughout the following week at the SLNT's Vieux Fort Office. This was a true collective effort to promote appreciation of nature and the snake species which contribute to the ecosystems around us.



World Snake Day Art Competition winners from left to right: Dashaurn Dandus, Anabelle Casimir, Arthur Lee Williams, Maravilla John and Zaira Cheyenne Cadette holding their prizes, along with SLNT Programme Assistants Murlina Murray and Saphira Hunt



World Snake Day Art Competition winners from left to right: Amichai Modeste, Nikolai McDoom and Katlynne Charles along with SLNT Programme Assistant, Saphira Hunt