

**For Immediate Release**

**CIBC FIRSTCARIBBEAN LENDS A HAND TO TEATRO BULABANDA TO BUILD ITS CORNERSTONE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF EMPOWERED FUTURE CITIZENS: KAS DI TEATER**

Willemstad March 29, 2023 - Teatro Bulabanda sees itself as a catalyst for the development of talented youth of Curaçao. A major part of the theatre's work is to facilitate in their development as performers, artists and writers, with the intention of creating empowered citizens who are in charge of their own destiny.

According to Teatro Bulabanda, theatre should not only be our instrument to entertain, but should also facilitate discussions, however difficult the topic might be. The cornerstone of this innovative approach towards nation building is the '*Kas di Teater*' (Home of Theatre) located in the former building of '*Casa Moderna*' in the heart of Punda.

CIBC FirstCaribbean lent a helping hand to Teatro Bulabanda to help ready the new home base for the theatre group as it works to fulfill its mission to develop many talented youth, irrespective of the roles or professions they undertake in the future.

The '*Kas di Teater*' of Theatre Bulabanda has been created for the youth who want to hone their skills during their free time. Teatro Bulabanda also supports organizations that cater towards young adults with educational challenges, young single mothers or youth in rehabilitation.

Theatre is an ideal means to develop and empower citizens whom it is hoped will ultimately come together to create a better Curaçao. The former '*Casa Moderna*' in Punda was considered ideal for the '*Kas di Teater*'. Located in the heart of Punda, it fits into the general ambience of the business district, modern midtown living and artistic renaissance history.

During the announcement of the bank's support to '*Kas di Teater*', Timba Engelhardt, Country Manager for CIBC FirstCaribbean, said "CIBC FirstCaribbean is delighted to have rolled up its sleeves to tangibly support Teatro Bulabanda in order to convert '*Casa Moderna*' into '*Kas di Teater*'. This place represents an overall ambition of being the centre of all activities for the development of empowered citizens and future leaders, along with the development of their artistic talent. CIBC FirstCaribbean, as a neighbour of the Punda district, welcomes '*Kas di Teater*' and hopes to have a longstanding association with Teatro Bulabanda, as together, we create a better future."

Albert Schoobaar, Artistic Director of Teatro Bulabanda noted: 'With *Kas di Teater*, we will create, through drama and theatre, a motivational environment for young people to expand their curiosity, stimulate their imagination and foster critical thinking. *Kas di Teater* will be an artistic safe space where they can explore, play, take risks, get it wrong and start all over again.'

Ends



Caption: Mr. Albert Schoobaar (Artistic Director Teatro Bulabanda), Mrs. Jeanette Juliet-Pablo (Chairman of the Board) and Ms. Timba Engelhardt (Country Manager CIBC FirstCaribbean)

#### **About CIBC FirstCaribbean**

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of banking is changing throughout the world and CIBC FirstCaribbean intends to lead these changes with the expertise, integrity and knowledge gained from banking in the Caribbean since 1836.

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