

**RAINBOW ART EXPRESSION UNLOCKING CREATIVITY:**  
**CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE EYE OF THE CHILD**

The Rainbow expresses the kindest way of depicting nature. It displays the seven colours of light as identified by the great scientist, Isaac Newton who listed them as Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo and Violet. He also says that the addition of all the colours to produce white while, the absence of colour produces black.

Nature is embodied with great skill and creativity. This could only be unlocked through art expression. This position aligns with the famous Leo Tolstoy's definition of art, as a means of expression.

It therefore connotes that Rainbow depicts nature's locked up creativity which could be unlocked through expression; hence, no better time to do this than the period of celebration like Christmas, when the mind is free and opened up to enjoy, appreciate funfair, love and develop interest in art. It is a period of talent hunt and stimulating the desire to understand and appreciate art.

It firmly actualizes the NGA's mandate of identifying young talented artists, encouraging them to practice art and choose same as career. The event seeks to achieve this through her numerous cultural events which include art competition, where children will produce art works on the spot, folk tales to stimulate imaginative composition, face painting, hat/bead making, display of cartoon characters culminating in balloon tying, dancing and head tying.

All these are geared towards stimulating values, identifying talents, motivating parents to love art and encouraging young ones to choose art as a career. Six cultural stations will be set up with participants exploring the values and aesthetics while getting involved in art practice and production.

These include:

1. The Art Competition

The main aim of this event is to enable participants produce art works from a given theme in a competitive environment. The objectives of this event include:

- a. To identify talented ones among children.
- b. Encourage them to continue to produce art and choose a career in art.
- c. Reward them with gifts for excellent performance.

The event will expose the child's level of creativity, engender the spirit of competition, generate intrinsic perceptual appeal and motivate one to choose art as a career.

## 2. Folk Tale

The aim of this event is to stimulate one's imagination, create an environment that never existed and increase one's level of creativity in art. The objectives of this exercise include:

- a. To develop the idea of critical thinking and reasoning in participants.
- b. Improve on the art of imaginative composition necessary to unlock one's level of creativity.
- c. Make participants to produce art works from imagination.

## 3. Face Painting

The aim of this event is to create fun through the application of non-permanent colours on the faces of participants. The objectives of this station include:

- a. Making participants to love colours and develop painting skills.
- b. Identifying motifs on faces which may be used in future art production.
- c. Creating art through funfair; children will through funfair love and practice art.

## 4. Hat/Bead Making

The aim of this event is to develop a culture of art production through the making of common crafts such hats and beads. The objectives of this event include:

- a. Exposing participants to three directional art of hat and bead making.
- b. Improving skills of participants which could help them develop interest in ceramics and sculpture.

- c. Using funfair in the spirit of Christmas to make participants love to produce art.

Experiences gained from this exercise is necessary for future entrepreneurial development.

#### 5. Head Tying Stand

The aim of this exercise is to make participants learn the art of tying head gears.

The objectives include:

- a. To develop the skill in producing beautiful head gears.
- b. To stimulate creativity in the art practice through the skill of making head gears.
- c. To help our families appreciate the art and new skills learnt from headgear making.

This activity will reduce the commercial cost of making headgears by our families and increase dependence on our talents.

#### 6. Cartoon Characters

The aim of this exercise is to use familiar cartoon characters to stimulate children's interest in producing art, such as balloon tying, dance and visual art.

The objectives include:

- a. To create excitement in children through their loved characters, thereby developing interest in art activities taught at the event.
- b. To make participants develop new skills in balloon making, dance and visual art which creates an all-round experience.
- c. To fish out talented children who excel in various exercises at the event and reward them with gifts through the cartoon characters.

Children love cartoons. This event opens up their eye of understanding and retains lessons learnt at the event over a long period of time.