TIPAC Festival 2026

Syllabus for Pre-Primary, Primary & Secondary Schools

MAIN THEME
Environmental Sustainability

FESTIVAL DATES
24th–26th April 2026

VENUE
Uganda National Cultural Centre, Kampala

DOCUMENT
Official Syllabus

MAIN THEME: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

THEATRE INITIATIVE FOR THE PEARL OF AFRICA CHILDREN (TIPAC)

TIPAC FESTIVAL OF PERFORMING ARTS 2026

TIPAC offers unique and exciting opportunities for young children to discover, nurture, and develop their talents. It aims to connect children from local communities and schools across various regions of the African continent and beyond, reaching out to a global audience.

TIPAC was born from the visionary ideas of three performing arts teachers who believed in the power of performance to help children discover, develop, and explore their talents. The festival began in 2022 as an inter-campus event featuring the three campuses of Clever's Origin Junior School, with its inaugural celebration held at the Kasokoso Campus. The following year, the festival moved to The National Theatre in the heart of Kampala, where it continued to grow in popularity.

Recognising the increasing demand and interest, it became clear by 2025 that the festival should expand beyond the Clever's Origin Schools to welcome participants from other institutions. To facilitate this growth, the festival was organized under the auspices of the Theatre Initiative for the Pearl of Africa Children (TIPAC), a registered entity in Uganda. Today, the festival proudly invites children from

around the world to showcase their talents, and last year, it attracted a significant number of participants from schools across Uganda.

TIPAC's mandate focuses on promptly identifying and nurturing children's talents, with the goal of fostering their development to high standards. By creating opportunities for children to acquire and enhance essential life skills, TIPAC supports their academic growth and helps shape them into well-rounded, competitive, resilient, and self-sufficient individuals who are prepared for future employment and success in life.

The TIPAC festival of performing arts is an annual event that celebrates children's talent and creativity. This exhilarating experience features young performers taking to the stage to showcase their skills in a manner reminiscent of international festivals. With a rich variety of styles and genres, the performances highlight cultural diversity and are infused with thematic messages that resonate deeply with audiences.

The TIPAC festival is organised around a diverse range of items, encompassing dance, music, drama, and instrumental performances. A vibrant and dedicated team of seasoned experts oversees the festival's operations, ensuring a smoothly run event. Participants are inspired by the competitive nature of the festival, which offers rewards and awards for the most outstanding performances and individual talent.

This esteemed festival takes place at the Uganda National Cultural Centre (UNCC), also known as the National Theatre, located in the heart of Kampala. Spanning three consecutive days, the festival showcases a rich tapestry of cultural expression.

Financial support from partners is crucial to covering the costs of organising the festival, and we welcome additional partners to join us in sustaining this important cultural event.

OBJECTIVES OF THE FESTIVAL

1. To discover, develop and build performing arts talent for children.
2. To promote togetherness, social harmony and cooperation among children from the participating schools.
3. To promote a spirit of positive, healthy competition among participants.
4. To facilitate learner appreciation and preservation of our rich culture.
5. To help learners appreciate the values, traditions and norms of our society.
6. To provide a platform for the young to be exposed to wider performance experience.
7. To expose learners to a variety of world cultures in music, dance and dramatic genres and styles.

ORGANISATION OF THE FESTIVAL

The technical organising committee has the important responsibility of managing and overseeing all aspects of the festival.

Under the leadership of festival committee chairperson Mr Kanaabi Hudson Godfrey, a dedicated team of qualified and experienced trainers will collaborate with the staff from various schools.

The 2026 TIPAC is set to welcome participants across three categories: Nursery, Primary School, and Secondary School.

MAIN THEME: Environmental Sustainability

Environmental damage and destruction have escalated globally, posing a significant threat to our planet. In response to this critical issue, TIPAC has adopted a compelling theme aimed at addressing environmental challenges. The initiative seeks to mobilize communities through the power of performing arts, effectively conveying important messages that resonate with and engage the younger generation.

This theme focuses on three major areas: the conservation and protection of the environment, the transition to renewable energy sources such as solar and hydropower, and waste reduction strategies, including recycling, composting, and minimising consumption.

Participating choirs are encouraged to delve into the theme and creatively interpret it in their compositions. They should provide a comprehensive background of the issue, discuss its effects and underlying causes, propose solutions, and outline the expected outcomes. This approach will help deliver impactful messages to the audience.

PRE-PRIMARY (ECD) CATEGORY

Items for Competition

ITEMS FOR COMPETITION

S/N	ITEM	THEME	STAGE TIME
1	**Action Song**	Free Choice with Educative Message	**4 Minutes**
2	**Contemporary Dance**	Free Choice with a clear Storyline	**5 Minutes**
3	**Role Play**	Free Choice with Educative Message	**5 Minutes**
4	**Poem**	Mandatory Sickle Cell Screening for Newborns: A call to Action	**2 Minutes**

PRIMARY CATEGORY

Items for Competition

ITEMS FOR COMPETITION

S/N	ITEM	THEME	STAGE TIME
1	**Set-Piece**	Pearl Bank	**5 Minutes**
2	**Brain Task**	Based on General Knowledge	**30 Minutes**
3	**Hybrid Drama (Play+Speech+Popstar)**	Main Theme	**20 Minutes**
4	**Poem**	Mandatory Sickle Cell Screening for Newborns: A Call to Action	**5 Minutes**
5	**Folkdance**	From respective cultural region	**8 Minutes**
6	**Original Composition (African)**	Mandatory Sickle Cell Screening for Newborns: A Call to Action	**7 Minutes**

SECONDARY CATEGORY

Items for Competition

ITEMS FOR COMPETITION

S/N	ITEM	THEME	STAGE TIME
1	**Set-Piece**	Pearl Bank	**5 Minutes**
2	**Brain Task**	Based on General Knowledge	**30 Minutes**
3	**Hybrid: (Comedy+ Original Composition (African)+Popstar)**	Main Theme	**20 Minutes**
4	**Contemporary Creative Dance**	With an educative Message and a clear story	**6 Minutes**
5	**Folkdance**	From the respective cultural region	**8 Minutes**
6	**Poem**	Mandatory Screening for Newborns	**5 Minutes**
7	**Advert**	Pearl Bank	**3 Minutes**

Please take note of the following;

1. ONLY two (2) participants shall be fielded by each school for the BRAIN TASK CHALLENGE
2. For the HYBRID item, there is no fixed order of presentation of the three component segments.
3. The ADVERT item is a live performance that may be supported by other tools ie. Technology
4. To register your school for this festival, the following fees shall apply accordingly;
5. All payments are made through the cashier on Mob. No. 0788-409947 / 0750 054361 (NDAGIRE BRENDA) by 31st March 2026
6. A Trainers' workshop shall be held on Friday, 27th February 2026 at the Uganda National Cultural Centre (National Theatre) starting at 8:00 am.

7. For effective planning purposes, each team is supposed to have a maximum number three teachers and

- Pre-Primary Schools: Ushs 200.000
- Primary Schools: Ushs. 250.000
- Secondary Schools: Ushs. 300.000

a). 25 choir participants for pre-primary

b). 40 choir participants primary

c). 50 choir participants secondary

GUIDELINES

1. Only registered learners of an institution are eligible to participate. A school that uses illegitimate learners shall be disqualified
2. Time allocated for respective items shall be observed at all times. A penalty of 2 marks shall be imposed for each extra minute over the stipulated time.
3. Schools shall provide transport to their participants to the festival venue
4. Schools shall provide meals for their participants during the festival days.