



**TOURISM CORPORATION BONAIRE RECAPS 2005 SUCCESSES AND
ANNOUNCES NEW TOURISM PRODUCTS AND DEMA SHOW 2005 RAFFLE
AT ON-ISLAND EVENT**

- TCB Selects Official 2006 Bonaire Calendar and Introduces at Event -

Kralendijk, Bonaire – (September 29, 2005) – On Friday, September 23, 2005, the Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) presented several new products and services available to the tourist.

Opening the evening's presentation, Ms. Ronella Croes, General Manager of TCB, presented some of the highlights and successes of 2005, including a 5% increase in overall tourism in the first six months of the year. Other notable achievements included the guarantee of additional funding which will be used to enhance and expand Bonaire's marketing and promotions, as well as the agreement with Continental Airlines to begin non-stop Houston-Bonaire weekly flights on December 16, 2005. Also highlighted was Bonaire's cruise tourism industry and the forecasted increase of close to 100% for the 2006-2007 Season.

Following her presentation, Mr. Burney el Hage, Commissioner of Tourism, provided his comments on the successes achieved to date, and congratulated Ms. Croes on her many accomplishments since January, when she accepted the position as General Manager of TCB.

The evening's presentation continued with the premier of the new, Official 2006 Calendar of Bonaire, produced by Bonaire Creations. The Official 2006 Calendar of Bonaire is a large, high-quality wall calendar featuring gloss varnish-protected images of Linda Richter's oil paintings and Jake Richter's digital paintings on art quality paper (six from each artist). Each month features Bonairean, Antillean, Dutch, American, and Canadian holidays and the back page of the calendar provides a translation between

Papiamentu, Dutch, English, and French for the months of the year and days of the week.

The 2006 Bonaire Creations Calendar will be selling for \$25 and is available from several local Bonaire merchants, as well as at the Cinnamon Art Gallery (www.cinnamonartgallery.org). The calendar is also available via the new online Caribbean Art shopping site, www.CaribbeanArt.com, for those in North America and Europe. For those attending DEMA Show 2005 October 4 – 7 in Las Vegas, NV, the artists have donated eight autographed copies which will be given away in a raffle each day during the Show (two per day).

The evening closed with the airing of a sample of the new Mega FM Bonaire Tourism Radio. Geared to keeping tourists abreast of current happenings while they are on Bonaire, the new Tourism Radio will be aired in English at various times of the day and will include current news as well as tourism happenings and events. Tune into Mega FM, 101 FM and listen in.

Located eighty-six miles east of Aruba, the Dutch Caribbean island of Bonaire offers year-round sunshine, pristine coral formations and the most thriving fish population in the Caribbean. Ideal for adventurers, explorers and sun-worshippers alike, Bonaire offers myriad eco-adventure activities including world renowned scuba diving and snorkeling, windsurfing, kiteboarding, mountain biking, kayaking, nature tours, hiking, bird watching, sailing and fishing. And with a selection of accommodations ranging from full-service oceanfront resorts and condominiums to guesthouses and small inns, Bonaire has something for every lifestyle and budget. For more information on Bonaire, contact the Tourism Corporation Bonaire in the U.S. at 1-800-BONAIRE or visit Bonaire's official website at www.InfoBonaire.com.

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