



## **Press Release**

### **‘Curaçao Meets Jostiband’: Music Connects, Inspires, and Surprises**

**From Friday, October 3rd to 12th, 2025, Curaçao will be introduced to the Jostiband. Thanks to initiatives from the island, the Jostiband has made an inspiring musical and educational visit to Curaçao possible. With the project ‘Curaçao Meets Jostiband,’ the orchestra demonstrates that people with intellectual disabilities are often capable of much more than they think and that making music is primarily about fun, connection, and possibilities.**

In the Netherlands, the Jostiband, part of Ipse de Bruggen, has for years been the living proof that music is a powerful tool for showcasing the talents of people with intellectual disabilities, stimulating personal growth, and pushing boundaries. Various organizations in Curaçao have long felt the need to share these experiences on the island. Thanks to various funds and the efforts of many organizations on the island, the Jostiband is able to share their positive experience with the Caribbean part of our Kingdom.

### **Music for everyone**

During the visit, 50 orchestra members and accompanists will organize a series of activities for all ages, and for people with and without disabilities. Everything revolves around making music together, learning, having fun, and breaking down prejudices.

### **Workshops Music-Making with Colors:**

The Jostiband uses a specially developed musical notation system that emphasizes both notes and colors. This makes making music accessible and fun for everyone. Two free workshops at the music school in the Emmastad Cultural Center are designed for people with disabilities, their families, and caregivers. Together, they discover how easy and enjoyable it is to make music themselves. There is also a workshop specifically for music teachers on the island, so they can continue to educate people with disabilities using the Jostiband's unique color notation system.

## Schools project:

Schools—including those for special education—are also involved. They too will be offered workshops. No fewer than 100 music boxes containing instruments and teaching materials will be made available. All instruments will remain on the island so that the musical enjoyment can continue after the visit: a lasting investment in the creative development of Curaçaoan children, with or without disabilities.

## Concerts for everyone

The Jostiband also gives three different concerts:

- A fundraising concert on October 5th at 7:00 PM at Landhuis Brakkeput Mei Mei to support future music projects on Curaçao. Tickets are available from Rotary Curaçao.
- A private concert in the Governor's Palace Gardens as a thank you to everyone involved.
- A free public concert on Thursday, October 9th at 7:00 PM at Rif Fort in Willemstad for the local audience.

## Building opportunities together

Lyan Verburg, orchestra leader of Jostiband: “The Jostiband has been asked several times if they can contribute to Curaçao. With this project, we can show that joy, talent, and possibilities are universal, and that inclusion is not only important but also beautiful to see and hear.

With support from Corendon and the Rotary Club Curaçao, among others, this special project is becoming a reality. Music touches, connects, and opens doors – in Curaçao just as much as in the Netherlands.”

For more information, visit [www.jostiband.nl/en/curacao](http://www.jostiband.nl/en/curacao)

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*Ipsede Bruggen is one of the largest healthcare providers in South Holland. For over a hundred years, we have been there for people with mild intellectual disabilities or multiple disabilities. They often have complex care needs. Thanks to our experience and expertise, we have developed into a robust healthcare organization with a coordinating and connecting role. We believe that everyone can do more than they think, no matter how small an extra step may be. Ipsede Bruggen. Always more possible.. [www.ipsedebruggen.nl](http://www.ipsedebruggen.nl)*



Jostiband

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