

DISCOVER THE HEART OF Carnival in Lauderhill



From costumes to steel pans, celebrate the craftsmanship and tradition of South Florida's Caribbean Carnival at this year's spotlight events in Lauderhill.

Celebrating its 35th anniversary, Carnival 2019 is back with a colorful calendar of festivities in Lauderhill. Leading up to the road march finale, carnival aficionados should head straight to Lauderhill for a slew of signature events. This year the City will host the ever-popular Junior Carnival, Panorama Competition, and J'ouvert Parade.

For many, these tentpole celebrations "are all about embracing our heritage and celebrating Caribbean arts and culture," say the event organizers.

These events attract fans from across the globe, "and with this year's milestone, we expect a great turnout from our loyal fans coming through to show their love for the event."

"Last year alone brought in over 65,000 attendees over the 5-day

Carnival celebration," says Yvette Harris, a director of Miami Carnival. "People come for the Caribbean music, food and most of all Caribbean culture. And this year's concert will include more artists than ever."

The countdown to Carnival has begun, and as time ticks closer towards the highly anticipated week of events, attendees both near and far can explore all the season has to offer in Lauderhill. The festivities culminate with the final grand parade on Sunday, Oct. 13 at the Miami-Dade County Fairgrounds.

**Learn more event details
and purchase tickets at
miamicarnival.org**



Greet the sunrise in a riot of color and fun at carnival's messiest celebration.

If the main Carnival event is all sequins and sparkle, consider J'ouvert its wilder cousin — the purest expression of the season's rebellious spirit. At these uninhibited celebrations, set in Lauderdale on October 12 at the Central Broward Park and Broward County Stadium, revelers skip the feathers and sequins in favor of t-shirts and shorts—perfect for getting drenched in gallons of paint, dye, and mud.

J'ouvert is “all about letting one's hair down and completely leaving everything behind,” say the organizers about the iconic event. In contrast to carnival's other events where participants vie for a title, “there's no competition, as everybody becomes one for J'ouvert. It's all about having the greatest time possible without being judged.”

The word J'ouvert stems from the French word for “daybreak,” as

the celebrations traditionally begin before sunrise. The festivity traces its roots to carnival's earliest days, gathering before dawn to celebrate the start of the carnival season. In the Caribbean, the event incorporated West African music and mythology, and after emancipation, it became a deeply symbolic celebration of freedom and creativity. Today's J'ouvert still features a host of

mythical characters, including the iconic devils. They are hard to miss among the crowd, sporting horns and covered head to toe in vivid color.

Revelers can join any of the 26 participating bands, including Bajan Fuh Evah, Generation X, Island Gems, Ju Ju Nation, Natural Disasters and One Island Band.

While at the festival, attendees will have the opportunity to purchase authentic Caribbean food and beverages. And for those who want to take a piece of carnival home with them, vendors will also be selling traditional arts and crafts.

October 12
Doors Open: 7 a.m.
Central Broward Park
3700 Northwest 11th Place
Tickets: \$25
Learn more event details
and purchase tickets at
miamicarnival.org





Kids Steal The Spotlight

See the blossoming talent of our next generation of masqueraders at Junior Carnival.

At Miami Carnival, the subtle art of 'playing mas' (short for masquerade) isn't only for adults. Young revelers can enjoy their own spotlight at the annual Junior Carnival, set for Oct. 5 at the Central Broward Park. Children ages 14 and under can join the 12 bands participating at this year's festivities.

Though small in stature, these masqueraders boast big imagination, showcasing the amazing creativity of junior bands like Break Awae Kru, China Kids, D'Junction, Party Room Squad, Royalty Kids and Wassi Babes. Behind each sequin and wire loop lies hours of research and planning to cre-

ate breathtaking costumes that will not only wow the judges, but also capture the imagination of the next generation.

Just like the grown ups, these juniors will compete for top performance prizes, including Junior Band of the Year, Junior Queen and King of Carnival, and Junior Female and Male Individuals of the Year. "The separation between the adult and junior showcases allows children to grow and develop in their own age group," says Kashunda Flatts, the registration coordinator for Royalty Kids. "Here they get to truly learn the ins and outs of carnival on their own terms."

Beyond the feathers and fun, Junior Carnival also seeks to help children gain a deeper understanding of their island roots. "Junior Carnival lets kids learn not just how to play mas, but also learn about their heritage, and the importance of Carnival in our culture," says Harris.

October 5

Doors Open: 12 noon

Central Broward Park

3700 Northwest 11th Place

Tickets: \$10 (all children under the age of 12 enter free)

Learn more event details and purchase tickets at miamicarnival.org

Catch the Rhythm at Panorama

Watch the best steel pan bands compete for the crown at this annual musical showcase.

The Miami Carnival season never feels complete without the sounds of steel pan music in the air, as South Florida's finest bands battle in Lauderhill for the top spot at the annual Panorama competition. This year's musical showdown is set for Oct. 11, at Central Broward Park.

This year, five steel pan bands are scheduled to vie for the coveted title of Best Band of the Year. All contenders must try to outstyle the reigning champions who tied for first place—the local Lauderhill Steel Ensemble, and New Generation Branches Steel Orchestra from Orlando. Other outstanding groups include the Miami Vibe Steel Orchestra, the Resurrection Steel Orchestra and Stick 'N Tones Inc. All groups will be judged on their mastery of craft, musical creativity and bold visual impact.

The signature event “represents a very special element of carnival,” say the organizers. “The competition is a fierce one. These orchestras are so committed to the music, practicing all year long to hone their artistry.”

The competition, however, goes beyond sheer bragging rights. For these bands,



Panorama helps secure the music's future among a new generation of pan players, while honoring the steel pan's Trinidadian roots.

That's why continuing this musical legacy is a labor of love for master players like Dr. Selvon Nanan, president of the Lauderhill Steel Ensemble, which was first founded in 2003. “Our mission is to cultivate cultural awareness of the sound of the Caribbean with people in the local community” notes Nanan.

This musical showdown will also include a live performance showcase by the famed

Massy All Stars steel orchestra from Trinidad and Tobago. The acclaimed band has been consistently among the top three orchestras at the premier Trinidad and Tobago Steelband Panorama.

October 11
Doors Open: 4 p.m.
Central Broward Park
3700 Northwest 11th Place
Tickets: \$15 (all children under the age of 12 enter free)
Learn more event details and purchase tickets at miamicarnival.org

