

# Art in the Park can make you a believer

By René Hill

Children turned up in droves to one of two Art in the Park days on Wednesday.

Summer day camps, grandparents and parents brought children to Victoria Park for the Fifth Season of Art in the Park.

The day featured New York's children's entertainer Bart Dentino, who sang a host of songs, which included "I am a Believer".

Organiser Shelly Hamill said next week the event will feature Glenn Colton, who combines singing and magic.

Ms Hamill said she was pleased to have both performers for Art in the Park.

"Live music is so special and especially when it is prepared and performed with little feet in mind!" she said. "We enjoy watching the children dance and sing along."

Ms Hamill began holding the sessions after having a similar experience in the United States.

She said: "When my daughter was two-years-old I was with my parents in Austin, Texas, and the Austin Symphony Orchestra were playing in the park."

"So I said we need something like this in Bermuda and I got a group of other moms together and Bank of Bermuda has been sponsoring it ever since. And so, here we are five years later."

Ms Hamill said she found that many of the summer day camps enjoyed the Art in the Park fun days.

"It is something different for them to do and it is something that keeps the kids entertained."

The Head Start Programme a summer day camp for pre-school children were in attendance.

Instructor Susan Fox said the camp was supposed to have gone swimming, but because of the rain on Wednesday morning they cancelled their trip to the beach.

"But then there was all this sun and we figured we would come to Art in the Park," said Ms Fox, who was attending for the first time. "And we will still come next week as well. It is wonderful. The kids are busy and having fun."

Six-year-old Daelyn Glasgow-Thames, who was a camper with the Diva Girls fun camp, was singing along with Mr. Dentino as he sang, "I am a Believer". Another child from the Diva Girls Fun Camp Dongolla Santucci, ten, was painting a red frame around her graffiti.

Somerset grandmother Annette White was out with her granddaughter Azari Thames.

"I decided to bring her out for a little while," said Ms White.

Six-year-old Azari said she wanted to finish her blue and green flower.

Diva girl Que-Sjonah Outerbridge's pictures blew away.

Camp worker Jennifer Leven said it was really nice, the kids are having fun. "I am enjoying the singing and watching the kids paint and stuff," she said.

Parent Kelly Rowel, who was with her child and a friends two children, said, they have had fun and I will bring them again next week depending on the parents.

"They run into all of their friends from school," said Ms Rowel.



Photo by Tarnell Simons

**Getting Arty:** Children from a variety of schools all took part in Art in the Park's fifth anniversary celebrations yesterday. They listened to Bart Dentino perform songs like "I am a Believer" as they painted, made flowers, danced and sang along in Victoria Park, in Hamilton. The organiser of Art in the Park Shelly Hamill said the event would take place again next Wednesday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. with Glenn Colton children's magic performer. Pictured is Selaah Stephenson and Tré Maxwell from the Head Start Programme from pre-primary aged children.

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