



# NAFEST NEWS

NAFEST.....the festival that unites the nation

VOL 4. No. 12

Thursday 27 October, 2011

FREE

## NAFEST 2011 ..... NASARAWA WINS FOR THE 5TH TIME RUNNING!

**U**nbeatable, you may call them, Nasarawa state has once again clinched the number one position in the 25th edition of the National Festival of Arts and Culture held in Calabar, Cross River State from Saturday 22nd to Friday 28th October 2011.

Judging by their performance, you can bet that they have no intention of giving up that position anytime soon. And one may ask, what makes Nassarawa state most outstanding?. Well, you do not need to look hard or think deep to know the answer because it is quite glaring.

Of all the participating states, Nassarwa proved to be the state that has put in more energy and commitment in the promotion of their culture as was demonstrated during the week long festival. They took active part in virtually all the NAFEST competitive events bearing in mind that aside celebrating their culture, there is the need to be unique and outstanding.

This was exhibited during the Food Fair Competition where they emerged winners.

And in Traditional Wrestling Junior category, Nasarawa state, determined not to be left behind came fourth position.

However, Nasarawa demonstrated their pride and commitment in promoting their culture when they yet again took the first position in the Traditional Furnished Apartment competition, Akwa-Ibom followed closely, while Ogun came third and FCT took the fourth place.

Taking a step further, Nasarawa went on to say, it is not all about traditions and culture when one of their sons, Benjamin Moral won the Children's Essay Writing competition and bagged the first position, followed by Master Faith Ayodeji, Kwara state and then Tete Amarachi from Enugu state who came third and Grace Iro Agalachi, FCT was fourth.

Indeed, Nasarawa state, the unbeatable,

**take a serious and deeper look at its objectives** which are :

An avenue for talent hunt; an avenue to display creativity, exchange of ideas, skills and techniques acquisition and development; an avenue for promoting our much cherished value of common understanding, peace, love and national unity; an avenue for celebrating the best of our collective heritage and an avenue for job creation and



\* L-R Duke and Imoke presenting the NAFEST Gong to Mall. Mohammed Angye, Director, Nassarawa State Council for Arts and Culture, overall winning state, while Maidigu smiles in excitement

came, saw and of course conquered.

Nasarawa, five times running, has done the state proud in Benué 2007, Enugu 2008, Niger 2009, Uyo 2010 and Calabar 2011.

We should borrow a leaf from Nasarawa by putting in more and paying huge attention to packaging and presentation of our rich cultures. Their content was pretty rich. they say **"Culture defines a people"** and **"is the DNA of a people"**.

We must also begin to see **NAFEST beyond the celebration of culture and**

economic empowerment.

It is in view of these objectives that NAFEST theme and events are carefully chosen.

NAFEST 2011 with the theme **"Traditional Music: A Vehicle for Economic Transformation and Unity"** was declared Officially Closed by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria ably represented by the Executive Governor of Cross River State, Senator Liyel Imoke on **Friday 28th October 2011 at the U. J. Esuene Stadium by 7:45pm.**

It was a NAFEST with a difference!

