



## GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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### DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **DPNR AND NOAA HOST STUDENT ART COMPETITION ON MARINE DEBRIS**

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources announces that the Division of Coastal Zone Management will be dedicating this November's **SCIENCE SATURDAY PROGRAM** to the overwhelming global problem of marine debris.

Commissioner Oriol invites all students to come to **LATTES IN PARADISE IN AMERICAN YACHT HARBOR** on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 10AM to create and submit original artwork to be featured in the annual NOAA Marine Debris Program Calendar. The theme of the artwork created should address the issue of marine debris in the Virgin Islands, and what we can do to help prevent it.

In an effort to raise awareness about the problem of marine debris, DPNR and NOAA's Marine Debris Program have partnered for this event. *"We're looking for original and inspiring artwork from students around the territory to feature in the annual National Marine Debris Program calendar"*, said Commissioner Oriol.

Art supplies and submission forms will be supplied as well as visits from local artists.

There will also be a competition, where the winning prints will be selected to be displayed throughout government offices. The competition will include any VI student up to the age of 18. Winners will be selected by a panel put together by VINE (Virgin Islands Network of Environmental Educators). For the K-8<sup>th</sup> grade students a NOAA awards panel will collect all entries and select 13 winners based on the proportion of entries received from different grade levels and one overall winner. Entries (artwork and description) will be judged on the creativity, artistic presentation, and relevancy to the theme.

Students must work individually. If you are a teacher in the Virgin Islands and would like to do this activity in your classroom before November 9<sup>th</sup> you may bring your completed artwork and submission forms to the event and DPNR-CZM will mail in your submissions for you.

#### ARTWORK & DESCRIPTION REQUIREMENTS:

1. One entry per student
2. The entries must be on a single sheet of 8.5" x 11" paper, landscape.
3. Use white, non-glossy paper; do not laminate.
4. Any art medium may be used (e.g., colored pencils, crayons, paint); however computer graphics will not be accepted. Artwork must be hand-drawn by the student.
5. Artwork must be flat (e.g., no glued pieces or glitter) and able to be scanned.
6. Avoid labeling debris items with any brand names in the artwork.
7. A description of no more than 75 words must accompany the artwork (space provided on the entry form).
8. Teachers may send in as many entries as they would like.
9. Label each entry on the back in pencil (marker bleeds through the artwork) with student's name, age, and grade, along with the teacher's name, school name, address, and telephone number.

For more information or questions please contact Kitty Edwards at [Kristina.edwards@dpnr.vi.gov](mailto:Kristina.edwards@dpnr.vi.gov).