

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

----0----

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

4611 Tutu Park Mall Suite 300 St. Thomas, VI 00802 (340) 774-3320

45 Mars Hill, Frederiksted St. Croix, VI 00840 (340) 773-1082 dpnr.vi.gov



Office of the Commissioner

CONTACT: Jamal Nielsen, Media Relations Coordinator jamal.nielsen@dpnr.vi.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, April 22, 2024

"VOICES OF CHANGE" STUDENT ART SHOW ON DISPLAY AT FORT FREDERIK

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources is pleased to announce that the Fort Frederik Museum will host the "Voices of Change" Student Art Exhibition, opening on Thursday, April 25th, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. This annual educational outreach initiative was first launched by the Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums (DLAM) in November 2021 honoring the legacy of David Hamilton Jackson's activism.

The annual DLAM student exhibit prompts students to step into their power as agents of change in their communities by using their artistic voice through creative expression. This year's exhibit features social justice collages, symbolic self-portraits, and linocuts depicting Virgin Islands' heroes, created by students from the St. Croix Central High School and the Good Hope Country Day School (GHCDS).

Over the school year, DLAM Chief Curator Monica Marin visited several schools to conduct art workshops such as the *I am David Hamilton Jackson* social justice collages lesson with GHCDS students and symbolic self-portraits with St. Croix Central High School Students. Marin also developed and led a week-long Mini-Gusto intensive entitled: *Future Culture Bearers and Storytellers* with GHCDS students who met with important Crucian historians and culture bearers at historic sites and then created artworks. This year's art exhibit is the culmination of all those projects with Central and GDCS students as well as a series of prints made by Central students.

The student art show is open to the public from 9 am- 4:30 pm Monday-Friday and free of charge for students and \$10 for adults. "The Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums looks forward to showcasing the brilliant talent of our young people at Fort Frederik", said DLAM Territorial Director Amy DeSorbo.

For more information, contact, DLAM Territorial Chief Curator Monica Marin at monica.marin@dpnr.vi.gov or call Fort Frederik Museum at 340-772-2021.