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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPNR TO HOST FIFTH ANNUAL "I AM DAVID HAMILTON JACKSON" STUDENT ART EXHIBITION

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol invites the community to DPNR's fifth annual **"I AM DAVID HAMILTON JACKSON: Art for Activism" Student Art Exhibition**, Thursday, October 27, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Fort Frederik Museum.

The evening will include a 6 p.m. presentation by Virgin Islands historian and educator Gerard Emanuel on Black-led newspapers throughout the territory.

Presented by DPNR's Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums in partnership with the Department of Education's Division of Virgin Islands Cultural Education, the exhibition features original works by students in grades 7–12 inspired by the legacy of David Hamilton Jackson.

Using political cartoons, editorials, satire, and other creative forms, students explored Jackson's advocacy for freedom of the press, workers' rights, human rights, and self-governance while addressing social and civic issues affecting their communities today.

"This exhibition celebrates the creativity, courage, and voices of our young Virgin Islanders," said DLAM Director Amy Parker DeSorbo. "It reminds us that art can spark meaningful conversations, challenge injustice, and inspire positive change."

DLAM Chief Curator Monica Marin added, "Students learned that freedom of speech is not only a fundamental right, but also a powerful tool for inspiring change and holding power accountable."

The exhibition will remain on display through the end of January. **OPENING-NIGHT ADMISSION IS FREE.** Regular Fort Frederik Museum admission is free for students, $10 for adults, and $5 for local residents. Museum hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fort Frederik Museum will be closed Nov. 1 in observance of David Hamilton Jackson Day. For more information, contact Monica Marin at monica.marin@dpnr.vi.gov.