



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

## Virgin Islands Council on the Arts

Email:  
[vicastt@hotmail.com](mailto:vicastt@hotmail.com)

Website:  
[www.vicouncilonarts.org](http://www.vicouncilonarts.org)

Tel: 340-774-5984

340-773-3075

Fax: 340-774-6206

340-719-0786

  
*Virgin Islands Council on the Arts*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT \_\_\_\_\_ 3, 4, 5

GRANTS \_\_\_\_\_ 6, 7, 8, 9

Annual \_\_\_\_\_ 6

Discretionary/ Mini \_\_\_\_\_ 7

Technical Assistance \_\_\_\_\_ 8

Final Reports \_\_\_\_\_ 9

SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT \_\_\_\_\_ 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Special Projects/ STT \_\_\_\_\_ 10, 11, 12, 13

Special Projects/ STX \_\_\_\_\_ 14, 15

# EXECUTIVE REPORT

Greetings!

I am so excited to share with you our 2018-2019 Annual Report! At VICA, we strive to put our best foot forward every day to serve the public in the most efficient and effective ways possible. In this year's Report, we are highlighting many, though certainly not all, of the Council's accomplishments and activities to advance our vision ensuring that everyone within our reach is exposed to arts and culture.

VICA accomplishes its goals and objectives by partnering with various government agencies, non-profit, national and regional organizations and individuals.

In FY 2019 VICA received an NEA grant in the amount of \$300,380 which was matched with \$87,000 local appropriation to support Territory wide programs; the NEA grant is awarded for the following components: State Art Plan, Poetry Out Loud, Arts Education, Arts in Underserved Communities.

The Board of Directors and staff reviewed one hundred and twenty- six grants with requests for funding totaling \$683,220. As always during the course of a year, grantees may cancel or not be able to execute their projects and funds are returned. As there are continuous requests for funds during the year, these funds are re-granted in the form of discretionary/mini grants not to exceed \$1,000. This also enables VICA to give more support to a wide range of projects to include the recording of cd's and videos, documentaries, art education programs, instruction in the making of traditional costumes and local crafts, book publication, jazz/music and arts festivals, the annual Music Series, multi-disciplinary arts programs for at risk and disabled children, cultural/living history programs and tours, calypso competitions, professional development for teachers and individual artists and support to all arts presenters in the Territory.

Some of VICA's annual projects are listed below:

**Poetry Out Loud:** VICA concluded all components of state level competitions of Poetry Out Loud on March 9, 2019. This year VICA had 10 schools participating in Poetry Out Loud. Poetry Out Loud is a national initiative that encourages students to learn about great poetry through memorization and performances. Beginning at the classroom level, winners advance to school wide competitions then move on to state competitions and ultimately to the National Finals in Washington, D.C.; approximately 325,000 students participate annually. This year

the Virgin Islands territorial winner was Mahlana Graham, a seventeen-year-old senior at the St Croix 7th day Adventist school. The National finals took place on April 28th-May 2nd.

**The Congressional Arts Competition:** High school students in both school districts compete to have their paintings, photos and drawings exhibited in the nation's capital. This program is done in partnership with the Office of the Delegate to Congress, Stacey Plaskett. VICA coordinates the competition and awards prizes to the top three winners. VICA also sponsors the winner and chaperone's trip to Washington, D.C. in June to take part in the national exhibit hosted by the U.S. Congress. The winner this year was Ms. Alayna Carabolla from St. Croix Central High School.

**Virgin Islands Presenters Initiative:** VICA successfully executed this initiative in partnership with Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation (MAAF). MAAF provides grants to Virgin Islands presenters for performances by artists from the Mid-Atlantic region. This year The Forum, United Jazz Foundation and St John School of Arts received grants from MAAF.

**Audience Development:** Through this program VICA provides tickets for senior citizens, students, at risk youth and others who would otherwise not be able to attend VICA funded activities such as concerts and performances.

**Artists' Residencies:** In partnership with Reichhold Center, The Forum, Island Center, Pistarckle Theater and the Department of Education, artists who are contracted to perform in the Territory, conducted lecture demonstrations and interacted with students. Annually, approximately 4,500 students have the opportunity to dialogue with professional artists.

**Arts and Education Project:**

Math and Fusion- VICA partnered with Chunikwa George to create a pilot project at the Addelita Cancryn School that incorporated arts and math. The objective of this project was to demonstrate that the study of math is also the study of art. Students were taught that mathematics has a direct correlation to art, designs, and graphics. They used their understanding of art and angles to create a radial art inspired art show. They also were able to identify the parts of a parabola and use different geometric angles to create string art designs on campus. This project will be implemented again next year. Teachers were very pleased, and students showed a renewed interest in mathematics and were eager to learn.

**Arts Resiliency Training (ART) Workshop-** Reichhold Center for the arts, Virgin Island Caribbean Cultural Center, and the Council partnered with Cerf+ the Artists Safety net to bring a series of artist resiliency training workshops to help the territories artist develop a plan of action to mitigate disasters.

Below is a listing of our special projects and exhibits.

Special Projects:

Christmas at the Dorsch STX

Spooktacular STX

Arts and Humanities Month Celebration

Made in the USVI POP Up Shop

Exploring our Island -summer camp activity

Art Exhibits:

A Love Letter to Black Women (VICA Sponsored)

Exhibit on Canvas and Timber by the VIPR Friendship Committee

Black History Month Period! By Notnu

Youth Art Month Exhibit

Herman E Wallace Bombadeen Display

“Stitches and Time” Book Signing by Kim Lyons

Multi Media Art Exhibit by Karen Samuel

Water Color 2019-UVI Student Class

Caribbean Art Galleries-Dawuud Nyameke

“Reintroduction:-Jasmine Lindquist

As we continue to provide leadership and support for arts and culture Territory-wide as well as expand efforts to assist underserved craft persons, culture bearers, artists, and teachers, and staff with economic development, professional, artistic and arts & education training. We will continue to expand partnerships with policy making organizations to further assist in the development of fine arts departments in our public schools and Develop and coordinate arts programming for the elderly and veterans.

# OFFICE ASSISTANT- ST. THOMAS

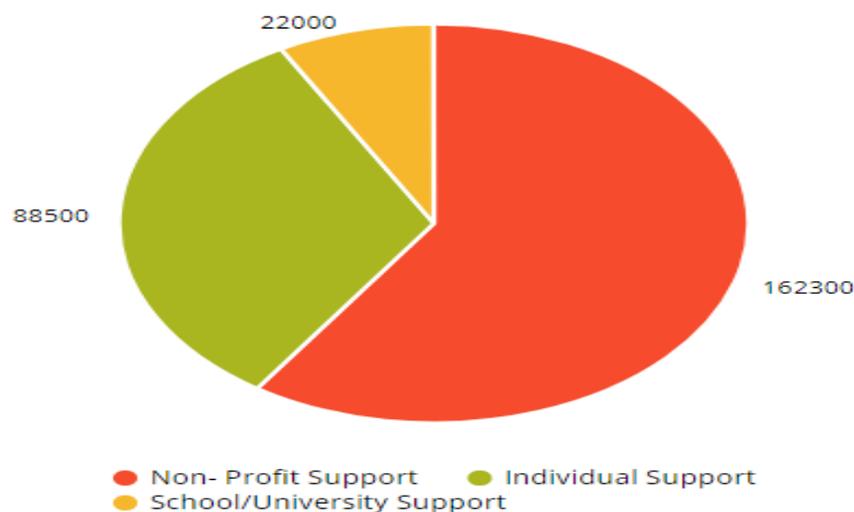
Shahnaaz Al-Ameen

[vicastt@yahoo.com](mailto:vicastt@yahoo.com)

The Virgin Islands Council the Arts' FY 2019 budget was \$300,380, an increase of \$1,020 from the previous fiscal year. The VI Council on the Arts awarded 123 grants. A recent examination of the agency's direct grants showed that 53 percent go to non-profit organizations, 30 percent go to individual projects and 9 percent go to school/university projects. Each grant dollar awarded by the Council was matched on a one to one basis by recipients.

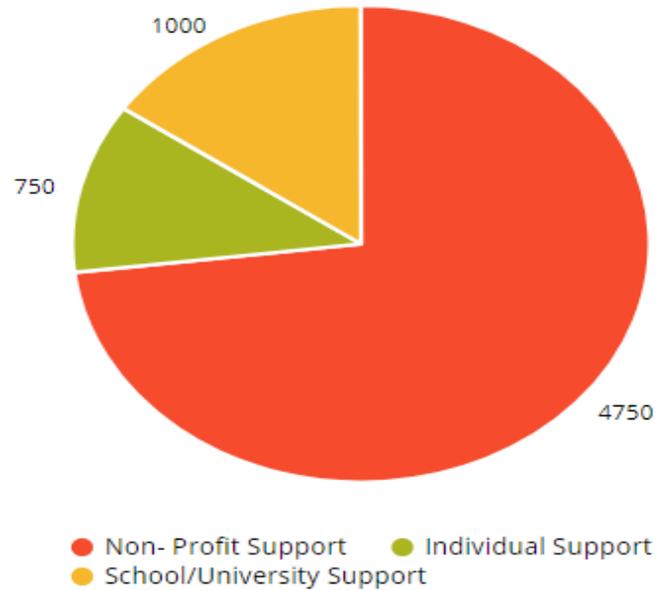
- 94 annual grant applications
  - 18 mini grant applications
- 3 technical assistance grant applications
  - 8 discretionary grant applications

## Annual Grant Awards



*In dollar amount*

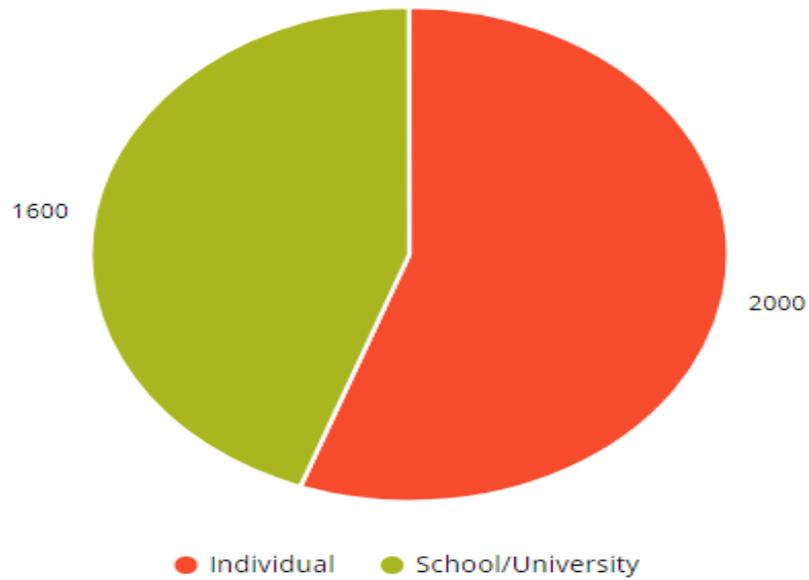
## Discretionary Grant Awards



*In dollar amount*

**BEAM** [venngage.com/beam](http://venngage.com/beam)

## MiniGrant Awards



*In dollar amount*

**BEAM** [venngage.com/beam](http://venngage.com/beam)

## Technical Assistance Grant Awards



*In dollar amount*

# FINAL REPORTS

As part of the grant award criteria all grantees are required to submit a Final Report Form to the Council along with receipts or/and cancelled checks and other documentation of completed project (i.e. copies of cds, program/booklets, flyers, press releases, pictures etc.) on or before August 1, 2019.

86 grantees were awarded in 2019, currently 10 grantees did not turn in this report.

# SPECIAL PROJECTS- ST. THOMAS

Jaria Lynch

[jaria.lynch@dpr.vi.gov](mailto:jaria.lynch@dpr.vi.gov)

The activities mentioned in this annual report displays the commitment of the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts to enrich the cultural life of citizens of the Virgin Islands through leadership that preserves, supports, strengthens and make accessible, excellence in the arts to all Virgin Islanders.

## Partnerships

*(U.S. Virgin Islands Economic Development Authority)*

In December 2018, the Enterprise Zone Commission (EZC), an entity of the E.D.A., in collaboration with the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts (VICA), opened a “Made in the USVI Pop-Up Store” on Main Street. With the store’s theme, “Made in the U.S. Virgin Islands”: Where the Arts Meet Business”, 25 manufacturers from across the territory that create products in the gift, art, bath & beauty and food & wine industries were featured in the store until its closing in April 2019.



## (Youth Art Month)

The Virgin Islands Council on the Arts partnered with Niarus Walker, Youth Art Month Committee Regional Chair and Maria Aurora Stiles to present the 1st Annual Youth Art Month Exhibit on St. Thomas. The 2018/2019 theme was “Your Art, Your Story”. Youth Art Month is a month of promoting art and art education in the United States.



## Programs

Poetry Out Loud - A total of ten schools competed at the Territorial Finals on March 9, 2019. Central High, St. Croix Seventh Day Adventist, Free Will Baptist Christian School, Antilles School, Ivanna Eudora Kean, All Saints, Charlotte Amalie, Montessori, St. Thomas Seventh Day Adventist, and the Tutu Church of God School. Mahlana Graham advanced to the National Finals where she received an honorable mention award.



Math and Fusion- In May 2019 Chunikwa George conducted a Math to Art Fusion class at the Addelita Cancryn Junior High School. These classes introduced children and instructors to learn and teach through creation. Her students used concepts they were already learning in math class to create art projects, to be displayed around campus. The first project was a Mandela project where they learned to divide a circle into equal parts using division and then used a protractor to identify the angles. The second project they learned was a parabola project where they created parabolic curves using straight lines of string. They then used their knowledge of parabolic curves to create giant installations on campus.



## Projects

**Congressional Arts Competition** - Alanya Carabollo, a student of the St. Croix Central High School, won the Congressional Art Competition, a nationwide annual art competition initiated by members of the U.S. House of Representatives in 1982, that allows high school students from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories to showcase their artistic ability. The Council sponsored Alanya's travel to Washington, D.C.

**A love Letter to Black Women**

**Spooktacular**

**Arts and Humanities Month Celebration**



## Exhibits

Exhibit on Canvas and Timber by the VI Puerto Rico Friendship Committee

Herman E. Wallace Bombadeen Display by Leroy Trotman

Stitches and Time Book Signing by Kim Lyons

Multi Media Art Exhibit by Karen Samuel

Foh Deh Culcha by Geneva Weeks

Watercolor 2019- A Student Watercolor Art Show

Caribbean Art Galleries by Dawuud Nyamekye

“Reintroduction” by Jasmine Lindquist

Black History Month Period!!

Tempest Change by John Farrington

## Grant Received

Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands - \$10,000

The Virgin Islands Lottery - \$5000

# SPECIAL PROJECTS- ST. CROIX

Kendell C. Henry

[vica\\_stx@yahoo.com](mailto:vica_stx@yahoo.com)

Frederick D. Dorsch Activity Cultural Center

Once known as the Open-Air Theater since its first formal dedication in 1933, it served as the setting for meetings, graduations, dramatic presentations and exhibitions, which added much of a significant value to the community life of St. Croix, Frederiksted in particular. The idea for the creation of the Open-Air Theater, designed to provide the milieu for such activities, originated with the late Frederick D. Dorsch, a teacher at the Frederiksted Junior High School, on whose property the Theater was constructed. The construction of the stage, under his direction, was done by students of school, who have since contributed to the social, economic, political, and cultural advancement of the people of the Virgin Islands. In 1972 the Ninth Legislature pass Act No. 3240 Bill No.5370 To name the Frederiksted Library Special Activities Area, "The Frederick D. Dorsch Cultural Activity Center". In January 23, 2004 Governor Charles W. Turnbull, Ph.D. had a Rededication Ceremony of the Frederick D. Dorsch Cultural Activity Center.

## Projects

The Virgin Islands Council on the Arts re-opened its St. Croix office at the Dorsch Center in downtown Frederiksted with a **meet-and-greet** event on April 23, 2019, giving the public an opportunity to mix and mingle with the newly appointed Special Projects Coordinator and the VICA Board of Directors and Staff.

**Christmas at the Dorsch** is an annual event at the Center that is held the first week of December. This event includes community involved entertainment such as Stanley and the Ten Sleepless Knights, the Ay-Ay cultural Dance Company Inc., Kevin Williams, and the Coral Fire Dancers.

**Congressional Arts Competition** was held at the Dorsch Center on May 9, 2019.

**Paint & Sip** My Sistahs Keeper Inc. hosted a Paint & Sip Lemonade event On June 22, 2019 from 10am-2pm that involved 30 young ladies.

The summer camp, **'Exploring our Island'** visited the Dorsch Center on June 26,27, 2019, Students from the ages of five to 12 learned about the history of the Center and the art of quadrille dancing.

Ten Sleepless Knights, Inc. **Scholarship Award Reception** was held on July 26,2019.

Three students, all of who are pursuing a music education degree were awarded a scholarship. Nayeli O'Shaughnessy of the St. Croix Educational Complex High School, Shane Laurent of the St. Croix Central High School and Shomauri Gumbs St. Croix Educational Complex High School.

### **Exhibits**

Eliana L Brown and Vanessa Ayala meet-and-greet exhibit event April 23, 2019.

### **Projects**

#### **Maintenance:**

On September 21-22 a group of volunteers assisted in the clean up the Center to improve its overall appearance.