



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Public Relations

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CULTURAL EDUCATION HOSTS CONFERENCE FOR CULTURE BEARERS

ST. THOMAS, USVI – The Virgin Islands Department of Education’s Division of Cultural Education invites persons in the community to attend the first annual “A New Vision: Traditionalist and Preservationist Culture Bearers Impacting Students’ Learning” conference on August 29 at the Curriculum Center on St. Croix and September 2 in the ACC 1st Floor Conference Room at UVI St. Thomas. Both conferences will run from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

According to Director of Cultural Education Valrica Bryson, the inaugural conference is designed to bring culture bearers together with the goal of instilling and promoting Virgin Islands’ culture among local youth. The one-day gathering will feature a host of workshops and is open to persons with the following skills:

- Fish pot builders
- Chicken coop builders
- Basket weavers
- Makers of local candies
- Teachers of quadrille and Quelbe music
- Mocko Jumbie
- Stilt Walkers
- Storytellers
- Cariso singers
- Cooks of local foods
- Pottery makers

- Woodworkers
- Carnival costume makers
- Tie-dying
- Macramé
- Bamboula dancers
- African dancers
- Float builders
- Masqueraders
- Makers of local instruments like the wash pan bass and others
- Knowledgeable in local bushes and plants

The event is free and lunch will be served.

To register for the August 29 workshop on St. Croix, please call (340) 773-1095 x7032 or to register for the September 2 conference on St. Thomas, please call (340) 774-0100 x2806.

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