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## Fort Frederik Museum Unveils "Blackfullness" Art Exhibition to Celebrate Emancipation 2024

DPNR invites the public to the 3rd annual Emancipation art exhibition, "Blackfullness," at Fort Frederik Museum, featuring artwork from local and regional artists and celebrating USVI's cultural heritage from July 12 through October

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The Fort Frederik Museum in Frederiksted, St. Croix. By. FILE PHOTO

The V.I. Department of Planning and Natural Resources is inviting the public to the opening of the third annual Emancipation art exhibition, "Blackfullness," at Fort Frederik Museum. The exhibition will be open to the public starting Friday, July 12 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Curated by Monica Marin, chief curator of DPNR's Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums, this year's exhibition showcases a diverse array of artwork from local and regional artists, including Waldemar Brodhurst, Jeffrey Rezende, Victoria Rivera, Elisa Mackay, and many more, according to a DPNR release.

The selected pieces reflect the rich cultural heritage and creative spirit of the Virgin Islands and the broader African-Caribbean diaspora.?

"Blackfullness" is a term coined by the late Audre Lorde to describe her profound connection to St. Croix, where she found a deep sense of belonging and purpose. Lorde's experience of St. Croix as a healing space and a source of inspiration is echoed in the works of many artists who have drawn from the island's vibrant community and history.

"This year's exhibition spotlights the spirit of resistance that is at the core of Virgin Islanders' identity and that is etched into everything that makes Virgin Islands' cultural production so powerful," stated Ms. Marin, highlighting the significant influence of Black protest, art, and activism in the region on global movements for Black liberation and excellence.?

The exhibition will be open for viewing at Fort Frederik Museum from July 12 during regular museum hours, Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 per person, with free entry for students 17 and under. There will also be an additional free viewing session on Saturday, July 13, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. The exhibition will run through October.

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