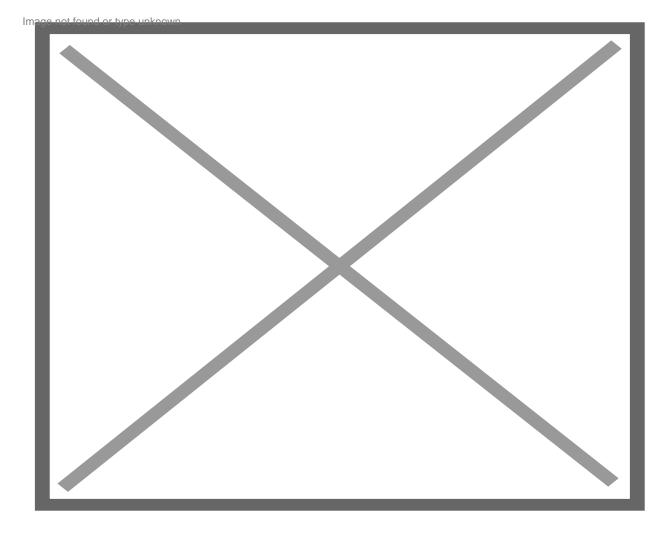
Shabba Ranks and Kes to Headline 73rd Annual St. Thomas Carnival Village Nights; Full Lineup Revealed

Shabba Ranks, Kes, Pressure Busspipe, Adam O, Th3rd, Star Martin, Mic Love, Temisha, Shaw HP, Spectrum Band, Triple Kay, El Blachy, Voice, Pumpa, Skinny Fabulous, B-Squad, Quan, and Sisa will perform during St. Thomas Carnival 2025.

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The V.I. Department of Tourism and Division of Festivals has officially released the performance lineup for the 73rd Annual St. Thomas Carnival Village Nights, which will feature six nights of free entertainment headlined by international superstars Shabba Ranks and Kes.

Scheduled to begin on Monday, April 28, this year's Village Nights will blend global talent with homegrown Virgin Islands artists, continuing a tradition that draws locals and visitors alike to

celebrate the culture, music, and spirit of carnival season.

"This year's St. Thomas Carnival is going to be at another level," said DOT Commissioner Joseph Boschulte. "We're excited to continue bringing global talent to our islands and showcasing local talent too. The Village Night performers reflect the continued influence and growth of our territory's three carnivals."

Representing the U.S. Virgin Islands on stage will be some of the territory's most recognizable names, including Pressure Busspipe, Adam O, Th3rd, Star Martin, Mic Love, Temisha, Shaw HP, and Spectrum Band. These artists will join international headliners to create a dynamic, cross-cultural entertainment experience, the department said.

Division of Festivals Director, Ian Turnbull, underscored the significance of the performances. "These annual celebrations are so special because they showcase the best of Caribbean culture and honor the shared heritage and rich traditions that unite us all," said Turnbull. "Our goal every year is to authentically highlight Caribbean artistry and talent for everyone experiencing the festival."

In addition to dancehall and soca heavyweights, the Carnival Village will also welcome Dominican bouyon favorites Triple Kay, merengue artist El Blachy, and Trinidadian soca artist Voice, bringing an even broader Caribbean musical flavor to the weeklong festivities.

Carnival Thursday, May 1, will feature the highly anticipated J'ouvert celebration, headlined by Virgin Islands soca star Pumpa and Vincentian artist Skinny Fabulous. The morning festivities will roll into a Wet Fete later that day, with performances by B-Squad, Quan, and Sisa.

The full calendar of Carnival events also includes longstanding favorites such as the Prince and Princess Show, Queen Show, Calypso Monarch, Boat Race, Panorama, and the Children's and Adults' Parades.

For ongoing updates and complete Carnival details, the public is encouraged to follow the Division of Festivals on Instagram at <u>@usvifestivals</u>.

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