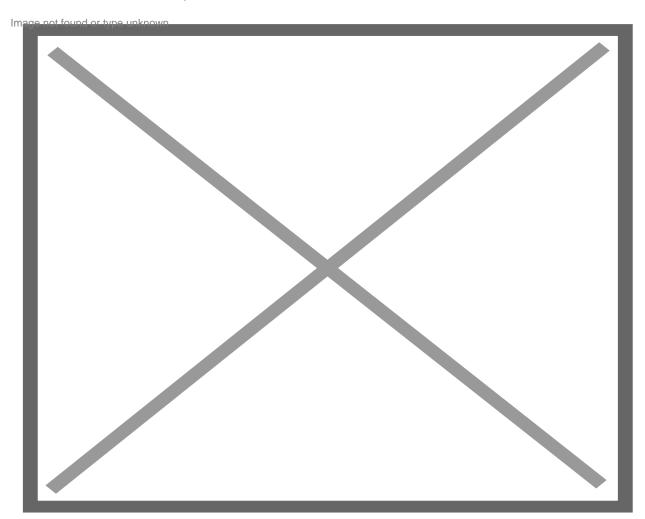
United Way USVI to Host Jewels and Gems Masquerade Gala at the Ritz-Carlton to Benefit 'Community First Initiative'

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The Ritz-Carlton in St. Thomas, USVI

The United Way of the U.S. Virgin Islands says to get ready to "Masquerade the Night Away for your United Way!"

The organization announced it is hosting a "Jewels & Gems Masquerade Gala"- Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction on Saturday, January 25 at the Ritz Carlton in St. Thomas from 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom.

The event will include dinner, silent auction, live entertainment and performance by award winning artist, Cruz Rock.

Gala proceeds will benefit the United Way "Community First Initiative" to establish multipurpose community centers throughout the territory. The centers will serve as hubs where community members can come together and exemplify how to "Live United."

The goal is to provide enrichment spaces for early childhood programs, after-school care, extracurricular activities, senior assistance programs, adult education training and meeting rooms to assist other community groups.

The centers will also serve as a food bank with the ability to distribute hot meals in times of need. The initiative will expand the United Way's efforts to make positive changes in the community.

Tickets are \$125.00 per person and can be purchased online atwww.unitedwayusvi.org/Gala or at the United Way USVI office in St. Thomas at 8000 Nisky Center Suite 220. For sponsorship details, silent auction donations, booklet advertisements or to make a donation or volunteer, please contact the United Way USVI team at 340.774.3185 or by emailing events@unitedwayusvi.org.

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