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Festival Launched to Settle Tart Debate Once and For all in U.S. Virgin Islands

Culture / **Published On February 20, 2023 06:29 AM /**

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A new avenue for the territory's top bakers to show off their skills is coming in April with the establishment of the first annual Tart Festival.

The brainchild of Real Talk Promotions, the Festival is meant to celebrate one of the USVI's most loved desserts.

"You can probably find tart[s] on any island, but here you can find it anytime of year at any function. There is always a place for tart," said Patrick Farrell, Real Talk's spokesperson.

Mr. Farrell said that the festival is also a place for tart-makers to finally settle an age-old question - whose tart reigns supreme?

“There has been a ‘tart debate’ happening on social media and when friends and families get together,” said Farrell, “so I wanted to provide a platform for them to bring their product and prove it.”

“I want to know who has the best tart,” said Mr. Farrell, who described himself as a “tart-lover”.

The festival, he says, will crown champions across several categories - most creative design for adults and juniors, and the fastest tart assembly for an adult or young person 14-17. Adults can also compete in a timed tart eating contest, and submit tarts in several flavors for consideration as best of each flavor and best overall tart. Entry fees and other contest guidelines can be found on the festival [entry form](#).

Vendors at the festival are also encouraged to offer their sweet treats for sale to patrons.

Farrell says that all ages will be welcome at Crown Bay Center on St. Thomas to celebrate all things tart from 4 to 8pm. The festival will be held on April 30th, giving competing tart makers ample time to select and perfect their winning tart recipes.