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Carnival Spirit Comes Alive in St. Thomas with Calypso Monarch, Boat Race and Panorama; Machel Montano Performs Tonight

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Left, 2023 St. Thomas Calypso Monarch Richie Buntin, seen upper right is the 2023 Boat Race, and pictured lower right is Panorama 2023. By. DEPT. OF TOURISM, DIVISION OF FESTIVALS

The carnival spirit is alive and well in St. Thomas, and the energy was palpable over the weekend with several activities — among the most prominent being the St. Thomas Boat Race, Panorama, the Calypso Monarch and Fort Fete.

The St. Thomas Boat Race has become a staple among carnival activities in Charlotte Amalie, and Sunday's event did not disappoint. Vendors lined the waterfront spanning Vendors Plaza all the

way to the Windward Passage Hotel area, serving a proper mix of local offerings. Patrons in turn ate to their stomach's desire as they enjoyed the boat race.

Elsewhere on Sunday, the Carnival Village came alive with Panorama — a festival of steel pan music from various groups playing local and international Soca hits.

An event called Fort Fete, held at Fort Christian on Sunday, kept the atmosphere festive. Such events typically feature Soca artists and deejays.

One of the biggest shows of the weekend was the 2023 Calypso Monarch, and this year's king, who overcame a solid set of competitors, was Richie Buntin.

Tonight, Machel Montano, the Soca legend with more hits than any other Soca artist in the world, will take the stage at the Carnival Village. Mr. Montano has brought along his full band and dancers, so expect a riveting show. See the full lineup of Carnival Village events [here](#).