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Senate Committee Honors Charlita Schuster and Her Dance School's Cultural Contribution to Virgin Islands

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Charlita Schuster at Wednesday's Senate hearing. By. V.I. LEGISLATURE

A resolution acknowledging and commending the significant cultural impact of Music in Motion School of Higher Dance Education and its founder, Charlita Schuster, has been passed favorably by the Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection.

The resolution, Bill No. 35-0100, proposed by Senator Carrión, was given the green light in a meeting held in the Frits E. Lawetz Chambers on St. Croix Wednesday.

Carrión voiced the significance of recognizing and celebrating individuals and institutions like Music in Motion School of Higher Dance Education within the Virgin Islands community. He noted that these entities play an instrumental role in shaping the territory's culture and future

generations. “Bill No. 35-0100 represents a momentous occasion not just for the dance school but also for the numerous students who have thrived under the mentorship of Ms. Schuster,” the senator remarked.

For the past four decades, Music in Motion, guided by the visionary leadership of Charlita Schuster, has been a cornerstone of artistic excellence. As an artistic director, acclaimed dancer, and mentor, Ms. Schuster has used the power of dance to transform lives. Her unwavering commitment to inspiring and teaching students while offering opportunities to immerse themselves in the dance community both at home and abroad has made Music in Motion a revered institution.

According to Carrión, the dance school serves as a platform for personal growth, creativity, and cognitive development. The guidance and expertise of Ms. Schuster have been instrumental in nurturing countless students, teachers, and community members. Her teaching approach has fostered essential skills including creativity, communication, critical thinking, and teamwork among her students.

“Music in Motion has not only produced outstanding classical ballet dancers, performers, and stage and movie entertainers, but it has also trained skilled gymnasts and acrobatic tumblers on the island of St. Croix,” said Sen. Carrión.

The influence of Ms. Schuster and Music in Motion has surpassed the confines of the dance studio, affecting the lives of students, their families, and the broader community. Senator Carrión highlighted the powerful testimonies from past students, instructors, and parents, including Dr. Chenzira Kahina, Emmanuella Cassius, Afrilasia Phipps, and Jelani Ritter, as evidence of the lasting legacy of the Music in Motion School of Higher Dance Education.