



presents



YOUTH ART MONTH™ HEALING THROUGH COLOR



SUPPORT THE ARTS IN EDUCATION



Youth Art Month USVI History

In 1961 the Council for the Arts in Education (CFAE) was founded and Youth Arts Month is one of their National Initiatives. The National Arts Education Association (NAEA) is their primary sponsor. The US Virgin Islands are registered as a participating region and each region has a co-chair. For the past 16 years, the Youth Art Month celebrations have been spearheaded by Niarus Walker, art teacher at Central High School in St. Croix as well as Maria Stiles, a former art educator, artist and youth arts advocate. The St. Croix student art exhibition has been hosted by CHANT (Crucian Heritage and Nature Tourism) in historic Fredriksted. Expansion of the YAM celebrations to St. Thomas began in 2019 at the VI Council on the Arts, and has since made its home at the Virgin Islands Children's Museum, since 2021. We are a community bursting with talent and our team of artists, teachers and art advocates aims to provide opportunities and acknowledgement for our student artist so they may have brighter and more creative futures!

Celebrate Youth Art Month 2025 in Your Classroom!

Be inspired to inspire others! Be sure you keep a record of your YAM activities and send them to us to include in our YAM USVI Scrapbook. If you post it on social media please use hashtag #YAMusvi. We would love to hear and see what you are doing in your classroom and community! Our team would also like to visit your classroom to capture some pictures of your celebration so please let us know when you're ready.

Here are some ideas!

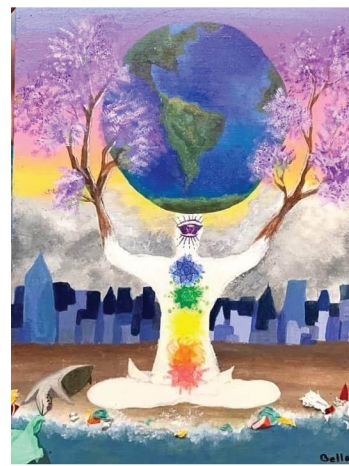
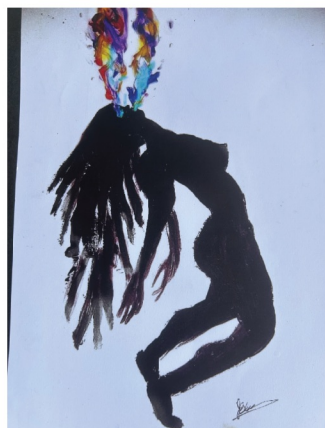


- Get endorsements signed by all district schools, superintendent and all staff
- Get a proclamation signed by the governor
- Contact local agencies to display art (airports, postoffice, hospitals, banks and libraries).

- Put up a bulletin board declaring Youth Art Month as YAM
- Have a schoolwide-district wide or community wide art show
- Have a principle mention the importance of arts in education and YAM in assembly or morning announcements.



- Have students do an art project with seniors.
- Hand out , one paged student designed flyer with YAM information and the benefits of art education...send to members of the legislature
- Have students design art buttons, t-shirts and bumper stickers to sell and wear to raise awareness.



- Create a lesson plan to encourage parental involvement and share it during PTA meeting
- Plan an art festival
- Daily art trivia
- Plan on campus workshops & art talks with local artists
- Create a calendar of art activities and post in on school social media page and hang it up around the school.

- Use student art as screen savers on your phone
- Support & buy student art
- Create a YAM page on school website and stream student art all month
- Arrange for family fun art workshops during PTA meetings and afterschool
- Students dress up as different artists
- Create a YAM quilt from different student art and auction it off.



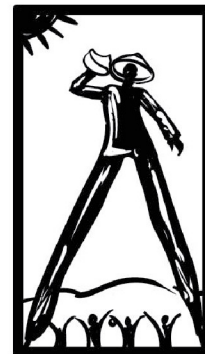
- Create internet art exhibit/slide show/powerpoint of student art and students being interviewed about the importance of art in education and share it with the community .
- Go on the radio and air skits created by students educating the community on YAM.
- Local Artist/ Mentorship programs
- Art Poster contest

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YOUTH ART MONTH™

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Crucian Heritage & Nature Tourism

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