

2025 U.S. Virgin Islands Annual Report



Image: Second graders playing percussion instruments under the direction of the Provost and Brown.
Credit: Jeune Provost.



Image: Ten Sleepless Knights. Credit: Courtesy of Ten Sleepless Knights.

About Mid Atlantic Arts

Mid Atlantic Arts supports artists, presenters, and organizations through unique programming, grant support, partnerships, and information sharing. Created in 1979, Mid Atlantic Arts is aligned with the region's state arts councils and the National Endowment for the Arts. We combine state and federal funding with private support from corporations, foundations, and individuals to nurture diverse artistic expression while connecting people to meaningful arts experiences within our region and beyond.

U.S. Virgin Islands Board Member

- Vernon Araujo, St. Thomas

MISSION

Our mission is to strengthen and serve the arts and culture ecosystem in the mid-Atlantic region by elevating local voices through accessible resources, programs, and partnerships.

VISION

A thriving and self-sustaining creative economy in the mid-Atlantic region where investment is amplified, creativity and civic life are bridged, and art is a catalyst for community prosperity and well-being.

VALUES

CURIOSITY

Learning, exploring, and working with empathy

COLLABORATION

Building and nurturing purposeful human connections

EQUITY

Acknowledging and addressing disparities within the arts

TRUST

Fostering reliability, open communication and transparency in operations

ACCESSIBILITY

Expanding opportunities for participation in the arts





ADAPTABILITY

Being open to change and committing to innovation



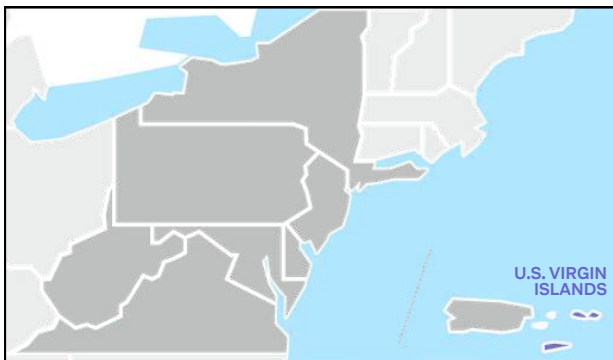
Image: Cultural Sustainability: Community Roots Program Graphic. Credit: Illustration by Uzo Njoku.

Impact Summary 2025

 \$146,000 Investment	 51 Participants	 7 Grants Awarded	 15 Events
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U.S. Virgin Islands Partnership Support \$12,000



3

Cities

3

Counties

Grantees per city	
Frederiksted	3
St John	1
St Thomas	3



Image: The CMCArts Children's Parade Troupe performing in the St. Croix Crucian Christmas Festival 2025. Credit: Team FaKtornize.

Preserving Traditions

Children's Parade Troupe, [Frederiksted](#)

“The Virgin Island Parade tradition is a performance competition. For three years, the CMCArts Children's Parade Troupe strived for the elusive 1st Place prize. This year... We won!

Pivoting to direct collaboration with the local elementary school deepened future opportunities. Claude O. Markoe Elementary School has not participated in the Children's Parade for over 10 years. The high cost and need for instructors were roadblocks for the school's participation. In addition, the school does not have an art teacher. CMCArts has found a new place to make a big impact on our most vulnerable community members. This collaboration brings us full circle back to the original intentions and foundation of CMCArts as set forth by our founder. To create transformative experiences through the arts for the at-risk youth of Frederiksted.

Overall, this project is a beautiful intergenerational community event that creates connections through volunteerism, artistic and cultural learning, family engagement, and community collaboration, all contributing to a successful and joyful celebration of the St. Croix parade folk tradition.”

**Mid Atlantic Folk and Traditional Arts Community Projects:
Cultural Preservation and Action through the CMCArts St. Croix Festival
Children's Parade Troupe, Frederiksted, USVI.**



Image: Anansi and the Storytellers Children's Parade troupe performing **Why the Spider Has a Small Waist**. Credit: Seyeeda Carte.

PY2025 Program participation for U.S. Virgin Islands

ArtsCONNECT

Collaborative tours by mid-Atlantic presenters, featuring performances and complementary engagement activities that deepen connections among artists, audiences, and communities.

Organization Primary Benefit	Artist/Provider of Services	Amount
THE FORUM, INC., ST. THOMAS	The Merz Trio	\$7,000

Cultural Sustainability: Community Roots

Unrestricted operational support to arts organizations founded by, with, and for communities of color allowing them to sustain and expand their practices, benefiting the communities they serve.

Organization Primary Benefit	Amount
CRUCIAN HERITAGE AND NATURE TOURISM, INC., FREDERIKSTED	\$47,000
TEN SLEEPLESS KNIGHTS, INC., FREDERIKSTED	\$67,000

Mid Atlantic Folk and Traditional Arts Community Projects

Funds projects that sustain traditional arts and cultural communities in the region, including public performances, exhibitions, workshops, and collaborations.

Organization Primary Benefit	Artist/Provider of Services	Amount
CMCARTS, INC., FREDERIKSTED	Cultural Preservation and Action through the CMCArts St. Croix Festival Children's Parade Troupe	\$4,000

Special Presenter Initiatives

SPI supports performing arts engagements at small and mid-size arts and community organizations in DC, DE, PR, USVI, and WV.

Organization Primary Benefit	Artist/Provider of Services	Amount
ST JOHN SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, INC 108 ESTATE ENIGNED & CONTANT, ST. JOHN	Victor Provost/ Alex Brown	\$7,000
THE FORUM, INC., ST. THOMAS	Aaron Diehl Trio	\$7,000
THE FORUM, INC., ST. THOMAS	Julian Gargiulo (Water Island Festival)	\$7,000

The National Leaders of Color Fellowships cohort 2024-2025

The National Leaders of Color Fellowships builds multicultural leadership in the arts,

O'DANI EVANS, ST. CROIX

IMAGINE NEXT

Strategic Plan
2025-2029



Model

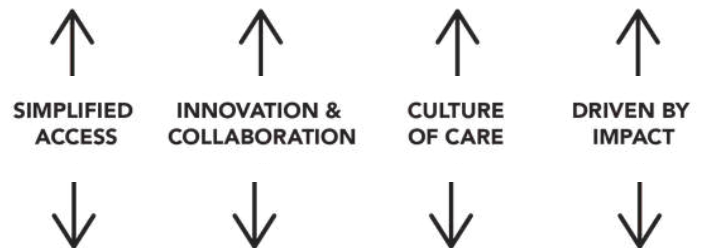
FOCUS AREAS

WHAT WE DO

1. Elevating Local Voices
2. Learning, Connecting, and Convening
3. Working Towards a Sustainable Ecosystem

OPERATIONAL PILLARS

HOW WE DO IT



NEW HORIZONS

WHAT COMES NEXT

- A. From Hyper Local to Global
- B. Art and Technology
- C. Cross-Sector Development