

PRE-LITFEST ~ FRIDAY, APRIL 30

	Musical Prelude	
Welcoming Remarks	Alscess Lewis-Brown, VILF Program Chair	9:00am
Remarks	VI Department of Tourism Tregenza Roach, Poet, Journalist, Lt Governor of the VI Albert Bryan, Governor of the VI	
<p>~A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS ~</p> <p>University of the Virgin Islands, US Virgin Islands Department of Tourism, St. Croix Foundation, VI Lottery, Cane Roots Art Gallery, Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts, VIVOT, Pepper Pot Press, Undercover Books & Gifts</p> <p>~A PAUSE FOR ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES~</p>		
A Young Writer's Journey (30 min)	Biko McMillan, author (Intro by Stephanie Brown, Director of Cultural Education)	9:15- 9:43am
Ekphrastic Poetry Event <i>with</i> Video from CMCA New Blood Exhibit (10 min)	Lucien Downes is the curator of "The New Blood Art Exhibit" (Sponsored by Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts (CMCA).	9:45-9:53 am
Video Production by Douglas Canton	In order to participate in this competition, participants must select a piece of art from the "New Blood Art Exhibit" and write a poem in response to that piece of art. Then, post the completed poem publicly to Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter by 6pm, May 1. Mention @usvilitfest and hashtag #vilitfest.	
	Work should be original. Participants under 18 should submit their poem with grade level and school affiliation on the post. Participants who Garner the highest number of "likes" from their post will qualify for one of four prizes.	
Special Featured Presenter with student Q&A (30 min)	<i>Special Guest</i> Deng Thiak Adut Author of <i>Songs of the War Boy</i> (Intro by Bilal McFarlane Middle School student)	10:00 – 10:28am
Virgin Islands Cartoon Community Conversations of Artist Leo Carty Student Q&A (45 min)	Ronald Hewitt, Carol Henneman and Sele Adeyemi, discussants (Sponsored by Artist Stefan Carty on behalf of the Leo Carty Scholarship Committee)	10:30 -11:13am
Workshop: "Editing Your Own Writings" (30 min)	Valerie Combie, PhD., Associate Professor of English – University of the Virgin Islands	11:15-11:43am
A SHARING OF WORDS	Students present their own written creations or selection from <i>The Caribbean Writer</i>	11:45 -12:15
VOTE OF THANKS ~ STUDENTS DISMISSED ~ SESSION BREAK		
"So You Want to Write a Children's Book?"	Summer Edward, Author and Editor Introduction and Moderation	1:00-3:00pm

(2 hours)	Yvette McMahon, PhD., VIDE)	
<p>Book Bacchanal Sponsored by CMCA (2 hrs)</p> <p>Various Presenters: See list</p>	<p>Special appearance of Natasha Lightfoot, historian and author of <i>Troubling Freedom: Antigua and the Aftermath of British Emancipation (2015)</i>. She is reading a chapter of her not-yet-published, historical non-fiction book about an Antiguan-born woman enslaved in the Virgin Islands who was able to win her freedom. There are chapters on the lives of different enslaved persons.</p>	4:00–6:00 pm