Dear Art By The Sea Exhibitor,

The Virgin Islands Marine Advisory Service (VIMAS) of the University of the Virgin Islands in association with the Big Blue and You, and the Virgin Islands Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (VI-EPSCoR) would like to invite your agency, business or group to participate in **Art By The Sea on November 21st, 2015 at the Reichhold Field (across from Brewers Bay Beach)**, from 10am until 4pm.

Over the last twenty years, VIMAS and federal and local partners have participated in Coastweeks, an international event coordinated through The Ocean Conservancy. During Coastweeks, VIMAS agents coordinate beach clean-ups on all three islands within the territory and data is collected on what types and amount of trash is collected. In 2014, over **10,000 pounds** of trash was collected between St. Thomas, St. John, and St. Croix. This unprecedented amount of trash significantly impacts the quality of our beaches as well as the marine life found in our seas.

The goal of St. Thomas Art By The Sea is to raise awareness and educate the general public about the issue of marine debris through the use of arts. To achieve our goal, the following activities are scheduled:

- Recycled art stations where the community can assist local artists with the creation of a marine debris sculpture using recycled materials;
- Marine debris costume showcase

Your participation will be promoted and acknowledged within all Art By The Sea advertisements. Any donations or proceeds raised at Art By The Sea will go to environmental community outreach and education programs for the USVI territory.

Please R.S.V.P. with the enclosed reservation form no later than **October 19th, 2015** through email. Thank you for supporting the conservation of our marine environment.

Sincerely,

Howard Forbes Jr.  
Coordinator  
Virgin Islands Marine Advisory Service
Art By The Sea: Exhibitor’s Reservation Form

Please E-mail this form to Howard Forbes Jr. – howard.forbes@live.uvi.edu by October 19th, 2015

Name of organization/school: ____________________________________________________

Contact/Name of representative attending: _________________________________________

Phone: _______________________________________________________________________

E-mail: _______________________________________________________________________

**Marine debris costume showcase**

_______ Marine debris costume showcase: (Maximum number of 1 entry per school which can contain up to 5 costumes)

Your entry will be judged on several criteria outlined in the rubric. This entry can have up to 5 costumes to help represent a common theme. For example, you can have up to 5 costumes in your one allowed entry if together they all represent components of a coral reef. Given that this is a marine debris costume showcase, your costumes should represent some component of our oceans (wildlife, etc.). Your entry must be accompanied by an environmental awareness pitch which tells the audience of the items used in the costume as well as how these items can negatively impact the environment. The design of this pitch is up to the creativity of the presenter; so it should be fun and engaging while highlighting the important points mentioned above.

You can use any number of materials that constitute marine debris (any man-made item that has the potential to enter our waters). The more items you use, the better your chances of winning are.

Due to the limited number of admission wrist bands given to Art By The Sea staff, we will only be able to provide wristbands for up to “2” people in your group. Entry to the event costs $1 for children under 12 and $3 for adults.