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## **NEWS RELEASE**

*For Immediate*

June 22, 2023

### **USVI residents, visitors invited to summer events to buy “Made in the USVI” merchandise**

*VI Council on the Arts, VIEDA’s Enterprise Zone Commission  
to host “Sunset Sip & Shop” events starting June 30*

**CHARLOTTE AMALIE, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands** – June 22, 2023 – This year, U.S. Virgin Islands residents and visitors will not need to wait until another USVI Carnival or holiday season begins in the Territory to buy and enjoy products made right here in the USVI. Instead, they can get these products this summer. On June 30, 2023, the VI Council on the Arts (VICA) and the Virgin Islands Economic Development Authority’s (VIEDA) Enterprise Zone Commission (EZC) will continue its partnership to support small manufacturers in the USVI with the kickoff of its inaugural “Sunset Sip & Shop” event at the “Made in the USVI” kiosk located at the Vendors Plaza on St. Thomas, USVI.

Both VICA and the VIEDA’s EZC, which originated the “Made in the USVI” initiative in the Territory in 2018, will host the “Sunset Sip & Shop” events this summer to attract and encourage USVI residents and visitors to buy locally-made merchandise. The “Sunset Sip & Shop” events will be held in the summer from 4PM to 7PM during the period of June 30 through August 25, 2023.

The “Sunset Sip & Shop” events will feature products from within a specific category or industry. The first category of products to be featured at the kickoff event on June 30<sup>th</sup> will be merchandise from the spa industry. Participating vendors include LaVella, JD Natlady’s Creations, For the Love of Sugar, and Hygge Suds.

The “Sunset Sip & Shop” events will also include a cash bar, prizes, special deals locally-made merchandise and free entertainment.

As the Sunset Sip & Shop events are scheduled and confirmed, an announcement will be shared with the public.

To learn more about the “Sunset Sip & Shop” events, contact [info@usvieda.org](mailto:info@usvieda.org) or visit [www.usvieda.org/](http://www.usvieda.org/) .

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*“The Bryan-Roach Administration is investing in the Territory’s people, infrastructure and future through transparency, stabilizing the economy, restoring trust in the government and ensuring that recovery projects are completed as quickly as possible. Visit <http://transparency.vi.gov> .”*