



2025 Banco Popular Grantees

Organization Name	Program Title	Project Description	Island Program Serves	Award
Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts (CMCArts)	Youth & Teen Learning and Empowerment through the CMCArts Artist-in-Residence Program	CMCArts' Artist-in-Residence program brings professional artists into local youth classrooms at low or no cost, providing instruction in a wide range of disciplines—from visual arts and poetry to textiles and filmmaking—while also inviting students to the museum to engage directly with the artists. This dynamic, two-way exchange fosters creativity, cultural pride, hands-on learning, and artistic skill development, connecting students with professional artists and St. Croix's vibrant creative community.	St. Croix	\$10,000.00
DJ's Training Facility Inc	Digital Pathways to Proficiency: Reading and Math Lab Intervention for Youth	This project will expand DJ's Training Facility's after-school program by establishing a Reading and Math Lab that delivers data-driven instruction using technology. The labs will complement school computer labs by focusing on skill recovery. Students will receive personalized reading and math support based on recent school diagnostics while building digital literacy and academic confidence.	St. Croix	\$10,000.00
Engineers for Tomorrow Outreach	Engineering Explorers	Engineers for Tomorrow Outreach is excited to propose a project entitled "Engineering Explorers". Our hands-on approach to teaching engineering concepts, electronics and programming will be demonstrated during twelve workshops on Circuits, Egg Drop Engineering, Earthquake Engineering, Ferris Wheel Construction, Chemical Reactions, Coding and Smart Home Technology. Some workshops will have a Part 1 and a Part 2.	St. Thomas	\$10,000.00

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Lemonade (BVI) Limited	Delivering basic support services to neurodiverse students currently learning in the general education school system - classroom support, basic kits and alignment to specialists and programs	The first program under this vision provides a three-pronged approach to supporting neurodiverse children and their families. It begins with direct engagement with parents in the special education (SpEd) community to better understand each child's unique needs, facilitate assessments and access to appropriate intervention plans, and provide essential support resources where gaps exist. Foundational Support for Neurodiverse Children • Deliver basic support resources to children and families with identified needs. • Enable assessments and facilitate access to appropriate intervention plans, where applicable.	Tortola;Anegada;Virgin Gorda;Jost Van Dyke	\$10,000.00
Salvation Army of the USVI	Winston Raymo Afterschool Program	The Salvation Army's Afterschool Program in St. Thomas provides children and youth with a safe, supportive environment where they receive academic assistance, participate in enriching creative and recreational activities, and build the social-emotional skills essential for long-term success. Operating five days a week throughout the academic year, the program delivers comprehensive, year-round support that promotes academic achievement, reduces the risk of school dropout, and fosters the holistic development of every participant..	St. Thomas	\$10,000.00
St. John School of the Arts	The St. John School of the Arts Afterschool Program and Summer Extension	The St. John School of the Arts Afterschool Program provides high-quality instruction in music, dance, theatre, and visual arts, led by professional teaching artists in a structured, supportive environment. Designed to foster creativity, confidence, discipline, and self-expression, the program nurtures the artistic and personal development of students of all ages and abilities. Scholarship support ensures equitable access, enabling every child to experience the transformative power of the arts regardless of financial circumstances.	St. John	\$10,000.00

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The University of the Virgin Islands (UVI)	UVI CELL Youth Entrepreneur Program	The UVI CELL Youth Entrepreneurship Program will equip high school students across the U.S. Virgin Islands with practical business skills, mentorship, and hands-on entrepreneurial experiences. Designed to foster youth economic empowerment, the program aligns with CFVI's mission to expand opportunity, promote innovation, and strengthen the local economy. Through interactive workshops, one-on-one mentorship, and a culminating business pitch competition, students will develop the knowledge, confidence, and skills to transform innovative ideas into viable business ventures.	St. Croix;St. John;St. Thomas;Water Island	\$10,000.00
Virgin Islands Justice Initiative	Teen Intervention & Criminal Deterrence Project "Know Your Rights"	The Teen Intervention & Criminal Deterrence Project, Know Your Rights , is a community-based youth intervention program that equips students with the knowledge to make informed, responsible decisions. Through interactive workshops led by attorneys in public school classrooms across St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, students in grades 5–12 learn about the legal system and the long-term personal, educational, and economic consequences of criminal behavior. Beginning in 2026, the program will expand to include educational court visits, giving students the opportunity to observe live court proceedings and participate in question-and-answer sessions with judges, public defenders, and prosecutors, providing a firsthand understanding of the justice system.	St. Croix;St. John;St. Thomas;Water Island	\$10,000.00
Virgin Islands Trail Alliance	Anna's Hope Public Access Nature Park with trails	A centrally located nature park with walking trails will be created on the Anna's Hope property. The site gives access to low/moderate income neighborhoods within walking distance & provides parking for all users. It is the site of the "Fire Burn Monument". Currently the site is overgrown. This project will remove invasive species, plant native & fruit trees, design easy walking trails with benches & signage, build a communal space & design a youth bike path, through community engagement.	St. Croix	\$10,000.00

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Youth Empowerment Project (YEP)	Expanding the Learning, Earning, and Advancing Dreams (LEAD) Program for BVI Teens at the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP)	The project will expand the LEAD program, a youth workforce development initiative launched with a Popular VI Community Fund grant. A third cohort of youth aged 15-18 will receive skills training, mentorship, and paid internships. Hospitality-focused participants will earn certification through H. Lavity Stoutt Community College. YEP also plans to explore expanding LEAD BVI into other industries like marine, construction, real estate, IT, and finance.	Tortola	\$10,000.00
TOTAL AWARDED				\$ 100,000.00