



10/25/2016

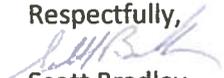
Good day to all, I would like to thank Senator Myron D. Jackson Chairman of the committee for Culture, Historic Preservation, Youth and Recreation for inviting me to testify on behalf of the "In Search of Identity," a Centennial Project for St Croix and St Thomas. I would also like to thank the Senators of the 31st Legislature and the Virgin Islands community for the opportunity to testify.

As founder and Program Director of My Brother's Workshop I feel it is my duty to support such an important and valuable initiative. The preservation of our history, customs, Trades, crafts, and Architecture is so critical to the development of our community and most important to the development of our children. We must at all cost preserve the past and learn from it to ensure a healthy and peaceful future. One of the greatest struggles our children face today is a lack of hope, but thru learning about their history they can identify and take pride and find hope in all of the accomplishments of their ancestors. The history, Architecture, culture, music, dance, Art, and so much more need to be kept alive and shared with not only Virgin Islanders, but the whole world. We must be good stewards and champions of our History and Culture.

I would like to not only pledge my support and volunteer efforts, but I would also like to pledge the support of My Brother's Workshop. I believe working together as a community on these much needed projects will help us to train many Virgin Island "at risk" youth on historical building methods and crafts before they are lost forever...along with our youth! My Brother's Workshop serves the youth of the Virgin Islands that are between the ages of 16 to 24 that are at risk, high risk, juvenile re- entry, gang members, vocational rehab and High school drop outs. My Brother's Workshop provides vocational & Life skills training, counseling, mentorship, job placement, and life planning.

I have had the privilege of visiting the project sites and touring the buildings. I have also had the chance to learn all about the Vision and Scope of these projects. As a retired engineer and one who values history, I have found this to be an amazing opportunity to make a long lasting impact on the future of the Virgin Islands Community. So in closing I would like to urge everyone to embrace and work together to preserve not only our past, but our future as well.

Respectfully,


Scott Bradley

Founder/Program Director

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