

Ultimate Flavors of the Islands Raises \$10K to USVI Department of Education

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ST. THOMAS, U.S.V.I.

ST. THOMAS, U.S.V.I. – Banco Popular donated today \$10K to the USVI Department of Education as a result of the financial institution's annual culinary event, *Ultimate Flavors of the Islands*. The amount will be used for the development and implementation of local culinary programs.

"The Department of Education is the perfect vehicle through which we can provide additional resources to our future culinary professionals. We are very proud of this event and of the experiences that the local students can obtain through the knowledge of seasoned professionals in the industry," said Oran Bowry, Senior Vice President of Operations and Administration of Banco Popular's Virgin Islands Region.

Ultimate Flavors of the Islands took place on May 24 at the Frenchman's Reef and Morning Star Marriot Beach Resort in St. Thomas. The event hosted some of the Caribbean and United States' best chefs. Attendants of the event had the opportunity to taste the chef's dishes, as well as witness the process through which some chefs are able to develop a dish. Students from the Islands, including BVI, also had the chance of watching New York's Culinary Institute, Jeffrey Butler, in action. Butler presented a surprise to the students, their very own wrapped up pig. He taught them how to prepare it, cut it and cook it.

About Banco Popular

Founded in 1893, Popular, Inc. is the leading banking institution by both assets and deposits in Puerto Rico, and the 36th largest in the U.S. by assets. Banco Popular is also established in the Virgin Islands with five branches in St. Thomas, three in St. Croix and one in Tortola, offering its services and products to the VI community. In the United States, Popular has established a community-banking franchise that does business as Popular Community Bank, providing a broad range of financial services and products with 93 branches in New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Florida and California.

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