

For Immediate Release

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PRESS RELEASE

PROJECT PROMISE RECEIVES ANNUAL FIELD TRIP GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION TO CONTINUE SALT RIVER PROGRAM

St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands (March 13, 2019) – Project Promise, in conjunction with the National Park Service (NPS), has again received a field trip grant for the 2018-2019 school year from the National Park Foundation, the official nonprofit partner of the National Park Service. This grant, part of the Foundation's Open Outdoors for Kids program, creates pathways for kids to explore and connect with national park experiences, and supports our Salt River program.

“Trekking along trails, observing our natural ecosystems and engaging with our shared history are experiences that benefit all children,” said National Park Foundation President Will Shafroth. “Making it possible for America’s youth to explore our national parks is an investment in their future and the future of the national parks community.”

Project Promise kicked off its 2019 Salt River program this week. This program gives local fourth graders the opportunity to visit and learn about the incredible history of the Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve. It's a three-point program, designed by Project Promise founder Resa O'Reilly that includes an introduction to the park at the school, followed by an on-site park tour and jewelry-making session, then concluding with a post-experience in-class visit by the instructor to review what was learned.

Project Promise has managed the National Park Foundation grant since the 2015 school year, and through collaboration with the NPS, hosted more than 1500 public school students at the program.

ABOUT PROJECT PROMISE

Project Promise is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of at-risk youth on St. Croix by providing empowerment initiatives, cultural programs, and family services. To learn more about Project Promise and its programs, please contact Resa O'Reilly at (340) 244-3242 or visit the website at www.projectpromisevi.com.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION

Celebrating 50 years, the National Park Foundation is the official charity of America's national parks and nonprofit partner to the National Park Service. Chartered by Congress in 1967, the National Park Foundation raises private funds to help PROTECT more than 84 million acres of national parks through critical conservation and preservation efforts, CONNECT all Americans with their incomparable natural landscapes, vibrant culture and rich history, and ENGAGE the next generation of park stewards. In 2016, commemorating the National Park Service's 100th anniversary, the Foundation launched The Centennial Campaign for America's National Parks, a comprehensive fundraising campaign to strengthen and enhance the future of these national treasures for the next hundred years. Find out more and become a part of the national park community at www.nationalparks.org.