

Good practices in initiatives of artistic expressions aimed at the empowerment of communities in St. Vincent and the Grenadines:

- Traditional dances such as Quadrille, Maypole and Punta are still being taught and performed in schools and by community groups throughout the various communities in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG). In fact, the Department of Culture within the Ministry of Tourism, Sports and Culture continues to engage communities in this process. Moreover, the country hosts a National Dance festival, and within the festival it is compulsory for schools and community groups to perform at least one traditional dance. In this way it is ensured that the tradition is maintained and lives on.
- Other modern dance and contemporary dance activities are still maintained, for example – cultural showcases, community events etc. Some of these activities are organized (formal) whilst others are spontaneous (informal).
- Bicycle riding, done especially by the youth, is still on-going in some communities and especially during our unique Vincentian festivals/traditions such as Nine Mornings.
- Throughout SVG a lot of events take place highlighting various forms of artistic expression: Carnival i.e. Vincy Mas and Community/Rural Carnival, Bequia and Mustique Music Festival, Nine Mornings, Other Christmas Festivals, Folk Festivals, Theatre Arts Festival etc.
- Drumming is taught by Rastafarian groups and drumming groups/foundation in several communities.
- Steel pan music is widely played at social events, schools and hotel etc. and boom drum music is also dominant though growingly so at funerals in SVG.
- Bamboo canon blowing during Guy Fawkes season (nights leading up to Guy Fawkes Night) is practiced in rural and suburban communities in SVG.
- Lighting candles in cemeteries “Jumbie leh go” as it is dubbed is still practised during the official All Saints and All Souls traditions in November.
- Cart racing, traditional games, moonlight limes, river limes etc. are still maintained in some communities. More importantly the Creative and Cultural Industries Unit has recently embarked on a program to revive some of our traditional games. This is usually done in August and is dubbed “Arwe Games”.

- Steel orchestras through the Pan Against Crime Program are quite dominant in the various communities in SVG.
- Murals and modern art on community walls are becoming prevalent.
- Friday night street parties are a norm especially at Heritage Square, Village Shops etc.