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LA CREOLE
LA CREOLE ADVANCES FAMILY RESEARCH, PROVIDES
EDUCATION, AND CELEBRATES CREOLE CULTURE



Newsletter

June 2018

Ralliez-Vous! Well, we passed a good time, cher!

We learned... The Forum brought together like-minded individuals around an historic moment in the tricentennial year of this city. The lectures were inspiring, challenging and serendipitous.

We marked the building... The long struggle to mark the place where New Orleans' First Black Newspaper was published has ended. It has finally happened!

We celebrated ... We ate, drank, listened to good music, chatted, toasted a successful event and went home with a fantastic swag bag of treasures to commemorate the event. We also raised some funds! Thank you to the committee members, led by Gwendolyn Bordenave, Jennifer Quezergue, Chantell Nabonne, Madeline Gex, Fatima Shaik, Mark Roudane and JoAnn St. Cyr.

See photos from the event on our [website](#),

and check out a recent edition of [The New Orleans Tribune!](#)

Our **Tricentennial Legacy Legion** effort garnered over \$6000 this year for the development fund aimed at hiring an Executive Director for LA Creole. With this effort, led by Paula Woods Adams and her phone team, our organization has quite possibly reached a new level in fundraising as a small non-profit organization. Thank you to ALL the volunteers who assisted with this fundraising effort and to ALL who donated.

Tax deductible letters to all the patrons, donors and sponsors of our recent events are forthcoming.

Upcoming Dates To Remember

- **Membership Meeting** - Our next General Membership Meeting will be held on **Saturday, July 28, 2018** from **1:30 PM until 3:00PM** in Room 400 of the Library Resource Center at Xavier University, New

Orleans, Louisiana.

- **Board Meeting** - Our next Board meeting will be held on **Wednesday, August 1, 2018** at **5:30 PM** in the LA Creole Office, Room 300 of the Administration Building on the Xavier University Campus, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- **Annual Conference – Saturday, October 27th** has been selected as the date for our 2018 conference. Our volunteer organizers promise a conference focused on genealogy, utilizing the experts within our organization. It may appear to be somewhat scaled-back, given our most recent time consuming events, but it promises to be great nonetheless.

Please mark your calendars!

Board Member Changes

In May of this year, the LA Creole Board bid farewell to one member and welcomed another. Since 2017, Connie Blair served as a board member, our newsletter editor, our first membership database manager and all around fiscal consultant to the board during her term. Unfortunately, she could no longer continue to do so and tendered her resignation last month. On behalf of the board and the entire membership - Thank You, Connie, for your many contributions in moving us forward and for the financial support you brought forth while serving as a board member.

Congratulations and welcome to our newest board member, Ms. Marva Arceneaux. Marva graciously joined the LA Creole Board at the end of May, to complete the term vacated by Connie Blair. Marva has been a member of LA Creole since 2007. Her background in finance and leadership activities in the community will be greatly valued as the board begins to engage in strategic planning for the future. Thank you, Marva!

Wanted: We need a newsletter editor! Any volunteers who are interested in this role, please email us at info@lacreole.org.

In Memoriam - Sandra Monroe – We are saddened by the news of LA Creole member Sandra Monroe's passing. Sandra, who worked as a librarian at Xavier University, served as our unofficial liaison and helped us move into and out of our office space in the Library. She was also there to greet us with a smile and a joke at our many meetings held there. She will be greatly missed!

Love Letters ... We are still soliciting letters

See below for more information

"Love Letters. New Orleans@300" is a celebration of "everyday folks" whose experiences and family histories continuously contributed to making New Orleans the unique city it's become in 300 years. Given the undeniable heritage of the Creole presence, this is a special invitation to LA Creole Research Association members, their families, friends, and those who support its work to participate in what is organized as a special section of the project: Creole Love Letters. It is hoped that the contributions will not only celebrate the community and its place in New Orleans' history, but will support existing efforts in preserving Creole heritage and its legacy for the next century and beyond.

The project director, Dr. Robin G. Vander, is an Associate Professor of English and African American & Diaspora Studies at

Xavier University of Louisiana and one of the co-founders of the university's Performance Studies Laboratory. "Love Letters. New Orleans@300" and "Creole Love Letters" are parts of a performance-based project, The Love Cycle, a New Orleans-based series of four publicly staged performances framed by myriad interpretations of love. The performances begin in late 2018.

Love Letters. New Orleans @ 300

A digital archive of residents' reflections about New Orleans in honor of the city's tricentennial in 2018.

Residents, native born and transplants, are invited to submit their reflections—love letters—to New Orleans; past, present, or future. New Orleans-based organizations and businesses are also welcome; however, the correspondence cannot be an advertisement or solicitation.

Submissions can be letters, poems, visual art, performances (dance, spoken word, vocal, instrumental), recipes, or other forms of expression.

- Letters should be no more than 500 words. They can be typed or scanned hand-written correspondences. Those written in languages other than English are welcome, but please provide an accompanying translation.
- Performances (maximum 5 minutes in length) should be submitted as links to sites (ex: youtube) with brief description.
- Visual art (sketches, photographs, digital reproductions of paintings) should be submitted as jpeg with brief description.
- *Recipes should include short narrative/brief description that provides context for its serving (i.e. family dinners, special occasions, special memory).

“Love letters” is open to individual interpretation: the amorous, complicated, familial, civil, hopeful, trepidatious, unrequited, headstrong, mournful, or other states of being.

Submissions accepted through June 30, 2018. All submissions will be acknowledged. Selected entries will be organized for a staged reading in Fall 2018. An online site will launch in Fall 2018 where all submissions received will be posted and accessible to the public to enjoy.

One submission per person or organization. Pick your BEST!

To submit: NOLALoveLetters@gmail.com

Project director: Robin G. Vander, PhD



Project supported by the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation, Inc.

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