

# CULTURE COMMUNIQUÉ

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The mission of the Office of Cultural Development is to serve the citizens of Louisiana by preserving, supporting, developing and promoting Louisiana culture, including archaeology, arts, French language and historic preservation.

## A note from Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne



Dear friends,

Louisiana's cultural sector is as strong as ever as we near the end of 2013.

I have been enjoying promoting our state's rich musical heritage during this Year of Music. In 2014 we will celebrate the state's culture by highlighting experiences found **only in Louisiana**.

Also, October is National Archaeology Month, and one of our archaeological gems—the Monumental Earthworks of Poverty Point—is well on its way to becoming a World Heritage Site. I encourage you to visit the site and learn more about this prehistoric landmark.

Thank you all for your continued hard work in cultural development. Louisiana is synonymous with its culture, and we continue to promote all things unique about our state.

All my best,

Jay Dardenne

## A note from Assistant Secretary Pam Breaux



Dear colleagues,

October is National Arts and Humanities Month—a wonderful time for culture in Louisiana. After all, we finally get some gumbo weather!

Our office continues its enthusiastic work in archaeology, the arts, historic preservation and French language development, and we look forward to working with you as autumn makes its way to us.

Please continue to stay connected by sharing [Culture Communiqué](#), visiting [our website](#) and liking us on [Facebook](#). And don't hesitate to contact our staff for any assistance you might need. You'll find our contact list at the end of each newsletter.

Have a wonderful October!

Best regards,

Pam Breaux  
Assistant Secretary  
Office of Cultural Development

## HEADLINES

[A snapshot of the Office of Cultural Development leadership](#)

[ULL students win Peterson Prize with help from OCD](#)

[LSUE seeks artist for commission](#)

[Immersion School Choice Act gives parents academic options](#)

[National Endowment for the Arts makes Our Town grants available](#)

[Reinvesting tax dollars with Louisiana Main Street](#)

[MapGuide nomination deadline extended](#)

[Funding opportunities](#)

[Staff contact list](#)

LOUISIANA  
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT



DEVELOPING OUR CULTURAL ASSETS

LOUISIANA  
*Pick your Passion®*

# A snapshot of the Office of Cultural Development leadership

Serving since November 2008, **Deputy Assistant Secretary Phil Boggan** is second-in-command of the Office of Cultural Development and deputy state historic preservation officer. He previously served as director of the Division of Historic Preservation from March 2007 to November 2008 and director of the Louisiana Main Street program within the division from August 2003 to March 2007. Phil received a Master of Preservation Studies from Tulane University in 2001 and a bachelor's degree in technology education from the University of West Alabama in 1997. Originally from Alabama, he made his home in Louisiana after graduate studies at Tulane. Phil can help with any matters relating to agency budget and operations.



Phil Boggan

## Division directors...at your service

### DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY



Charles "Chip" McGimsey, Ph.D.

**Charles "Chip" McGimsey** has been the state archaeologist and director of the Division of Archaeology since June 2007. He previously served as the southwest regional archaeologist based at ULL from 2005 to 2007. Chip holds a bachelor's degree in wildlife sciences from the University of Idaho in 1978 and a doctorate in anthropology from Southern Illinois University in 1995. He was born in Boston and grew up in both Panama and Arkansas before becoming a Louisiana resident.

### DIVISION OF THE ARTS



Cathy Hernandez

**Cathy Hernandez** became director of the Louisiana Division of the Arts in May 2013. She has more than 15 years of arts administration experience, previously serving as development director for Ballet Memphis. Cathy received a Master of Arts Administration from Drexel University in 2003 and a bachelor's degree in music from the University of North Texas in 1994. The Dallas native has served on numerous national boards and grant panels and is an adjunct professor of arts administration at Drexel University.

### CODOFIL



Joseph Dunn

**Joseph Dunn** was appointed executive director of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana in July 2011. Before assuming his role as executive director of CODOFIL, also called the Office of Francophone Affairs, he was employed by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy at the Consulate General of France in New Orleans. Joseph studied French at Northwestern State University and the University of New Orleans. He is a native of Greensburg in St. Helena Parish.

### DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION



Nicole Hobson-Morris

**Nicole Hobson-Morris** has been director of the Division of Historic Preservation since late 2008. Prior to becoming director she directed the division's tax credit program from 2002 to 2007. Nicole received a Master of Preservation Studies from Tulane University in 2001 and a bachelor's degree in art from Xavier University in 1996. Born in St. Croix, Virgin Islands, to a Trinidadian family, she calls Louisiana home. Caribbean influences are a part of Louisiana's rich history and the built environment will always have a story to tell.

# ULL students win Peterson Prize with help from OCD

Architecture students from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette recently won the Charles E. Peterson Prize Competition. Under the leadership of Assistant Professor Jenny Kivett of the ULL School of Architecture through Office of Cultural Development sponsorship and a National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund Grant, the student project documented Alexandre Mouton House which is on the National Register of Historic Places. The project featured measured architectural drawings following the standards of The Historic American Building Survey. Today the Mouton House is a city-run museum. It is the former home of Louisiana Governor Alexandre Mouton. You can find out more at [Alexandre Mouton House \(Lafayette Museum\)](#) and the [Alexandre Mouton House National Register of Historic Places Listing](#).

The Charles E. Peterson Prize, which annually honors the best set of measured drawings prepared to HABS standards and donated to HABS by students, is intended to increase awareness of and appreciation for historic

buildings throughout the U.S. Accepted drawings are added to the permanent HABS collection of measured drawings at the Library of Congress. Established in the 1980s, the competition has hosted more than 2,000 student competitors from 68 colleges and universities, completing more than 500 entries and almost 5,000 sheets of measured drawings. The student teams

have been mostly composed of architecture students in addition to architectural history, interior design and American studies majors. Read more about the Charles E. Peterson Prize Competition on the [National Park Service](#) website.

Contact the author, Mike Varnado, for more information at [mvarnado@crt.la.gov](mailto:mvarnado@crt.la.gov).



This year's winning team included 14 graduate and undergraduate students from ULL's architecture department. The students completed the work as part of an elective course offered by Assistant Professor Jenny Kivett of the ULL School of Architecture.

Back row, left to right: Kyle Comeaux, Rajan Karmacharya, Dalton Buuck, Jason Lantier, Kate Shultz, Brad Domingue

Front row, left to right: Assistant Professor Jenny Kivett, Jake Grandon, Adam Beasley, Kelley Courville, Christopher Stelly, Robert Guidry, Alyssa Duck

Not pictured: Thuwiba Al-Zadjali and Todd St. Julien

Photo courtesy of K.Craft dsgn.

## LSU-E seeking artist for commission, applications due Oct. 21

The Percent for Art Program and the Louisiana State University system are seeking an artist or artist team to design and implement a site-specific, free-standing sculpture for the exterior of the Louisiana State University-Eunice Community Education Building. The facility is used for community education and information technology. The artwork should communicate energy and vitality and celebrate the spirit of the University and the local community. The committee envisions a work that will be contemporary and dynamic. It will pro-

vide a lasting impression to portray the identity of the university, the community and its students. The artwork will be viewed from many vantage points and will be placed at the gateway to the new campus. It will be outside in direct sun and must be unique, permanent and require very minimal long-term maintenance. The deadline to apply is Monday, Oct. 21, and the commission budget is \$60,000. To find out more, click [here](#), and to keep up with the many opportunities listed by the Louisiana Division of the Arts, click [here](#).

## National Endowment for the Arts makes Our Town grants available

Organizations may apply for creative placemaking projects that contribute to the livability of communities and place the arts at their cores. Matching grants range from \$25,000 to \$200,000. The deadline is Jan. 13, 2014. Notification of awards will take place by July 2014, with the earliest grant start date being Sept. 1, 2014. Read more [here](#).

If you have questions about Our Town grants, please contact [OT@arts.gov](mailto:OT@arts.gov). Art works to improve the lives of America's citizens in many ways. Communities throughout the nation are leveraging the arts and engaging design to make them more livable with enhanced quality of life, increased creative activity, a distinct sense of place and vibrant local economies that together capitalize on their

existing assets. The NEA defines these efforts as the process of creative placemaking. From NEA white paper *Creative Placemaking*: "In creative placemaking, partners from public, private, nonprofit and community sectors strategically shape the physical and social character of a neighborhood, town, tribe, city or region around arts and cultural activities. Creative placemaking animates public and private spaces, rejuvenates structures and streetscapes, improves local business viability and public safety and brings diverse people together to celebrate, inspire and be inspired."

## Immersion School Choice Act gives parents academic options

Restez à l'écoute!

Grâce au nouvel [Immersion School Choice Act](#), si les parents de 25 enfants de l'âge de kindergarten pétitionnent la commission scolaire locale, celle-ci à l'obligation de créer un environnement en immersion. Nous lancerons plus d'informations bientôt sur comment offrir à votre enfant une éducation de classe mondiale en français!

Stay tuned!

Thanks to the new [Immersion School Choice Act](#), if the parents of 25 kindergarten-aged children petition the local school board, it must create an immersion pathway. CODOFIL will share more information soon about how to offer your child a world-class education *en français!*

# Reinvesting tax dollars with Louisiana Main Street

Revitalization of historic commercial districts is sensible economic development that provides an excellent, far-reaching and instant return on investment. An unused or underused commercial building may not be generating property or sales taxes. It may also be harming overall property values in the district. Or it could be the one building that will spark a snowball effect of district-wide reinvestment. Restoration or rehabilitation investment in that property may garner new commercial space(s) on the ground floor and residential space on the upper level(s). Restored properties can become cash cows that contribute to the city, parish and/or state tax coffers.

Additional revenues are generated, providing other local and long-distance benefits. For instance, during the building purchase phase, there are real estate agent fees, closing costs and utility deposits paid, followed by architectural and design fees and building permits. Various workers are then contracted for demolition, sheet-rock installation, electrical and mechanical work, plumbing, roofing, painting, carpentry, floor installation and refinishing, brick masonry, landscaping and installation of appliances and other equipment and furnishings. These represent jobs created locally and a benefits to local merchants. Dollars associated with one project create a ripple effect in the form of salaries that circulate throughout the community as school tuition, food and clothing purchases, mortgage payments and the like. The larger ripples are the ones that reach the manufac-

turers of construction supplies and tools. Every such project in a Main Street district ultimately contributes to local, state, national and international economies.

Louisiana Main Street plays a key role by providing design (and other) services at no charge to property owners in 34 designated Main Street districts. Louisiana Main Street also offers an annual Redevelopment Incentive Grant that allows the program to partner with

property owners by providing either \$2,500 or \$10,000 matching grants. Grant applications are typically released in April each year and are reviewed by a panel of professionals in the preservation, revitalization, design and construction professions throughout the country, with awards announced each September.

Find out more by contacting the author, Leon Steele, at [lsteel@crt.la.gov](mailto:lsteel@crt.la.gov).

## Success stories

Gremillion's Drug Store, Crowley, La.



Before



After

Houma Bargain Store, Houma, La.



Before



After

Harris Service Station, Ponchatoula, La.



Before



After

## MapGuide nomination deadline extended

There is still time to nominate sites to National Geographic's U.S. Gulf States Geotourism MapGuide. The program has extended its deadline for submitting site nominations. The program supports efforts to rekindle visitation to the Gulf states. Its purpose is to help cap-

ture the warm and welcoming spirit of the Gulf Coast through an informative National Geographic Society co-branded print map, online interactive map and app that presents the sites and stories of the region in the words of its residents. Click [here](#) to submit nominations.



## Funding opportunities

- The National Dance Project Touring Award supports national tours of new dance works. The deadline to enter is Oct. 7. Click [here](#) to apply.

- The Tennessee Williams Festival's One Act Play Contest is now accepting submissions. The Grand Prize includes a staged reading at the next festival, \$1,500, a VIP All-Access Festival pass for two years and publication in *Bayou*. The deadline to submit is Nov. 1. Click [here](#) to find out more information.

- New Music USA supports the creation and performance of new work and community building throughout the country. The organization's project grants will award more than \$600,000 up to 150 projects, with awards ranging from \$250 to \$20,000. The first of two application periods will close Nov. 4. Click [here](#) to find out more information.

- The Tennessee Williams Festival's Annual Fiction Contest is now accepting submissions. The Grand Prize includes \$1,500, a public reading at a literary panel at the next

festival, publication in *Louisiana Literature* and a VIP All-Access Festival pass for the next festival. The deadline to enter the contest is Nov. 15. Click [here](#) to find out more information.

- The Burden Horticulture Society is accepting entries for the 2014 Brush with Burden Juried Art Competition. The 2014 theme is The Nature and Culture of Louisiana, and paintings and 3-D entries are accepted. The deadline to enter is Nov. 30. Click [here](#) to learn more.

- USArtists International provides support for American dance, music and theater ensembles and solo artists invited to perform at significant international festivals anywhere in the world outside the United States and its territories. The application deadline for the second of three grant rounds for the 2014 program is Dec. 6. Click [here](#) to learn more.

- The National Endowment for the Arts' Office of Research and Analysis is accepting applications for *Research: Art Works*, which supports

research that investigates the value of the U.S. arts ecosystem and the impact of the arts with other domains of American life. Click [here](#) to learn more.

- The Pollination Project invites applications from social entrepreneurs for seed grants of up to \$1,000, which will be awarded to individuals for projects in the early stages of development that promote compassion toward all life, environmental sustainability, justice, community health and wellness and social change-oriented arts and culture. Click [here](#) to find out more information.

- The Fledgling Fund provides grants to support outreach and audience engagement for social issue documentaries and range from small planning grants to implementation grants for projects that have a clear plan ready to launch. The deadline to submit an initial letter of inquiry for the spring cycle is Feb. 7, 2014. Click [here](#) to learn more.

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Click [here](#) to view a comprehensive staff list including program areas.

Stay connected to the Louisiana Office of Cultural Development. Visit [our website](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#).