

# 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.

## HEADLINES

[Arts Council of New Orleans and Creative Capital to present arts workshop](#)

[CODOFIL opens scholarships to young professionals](#)

[Nominations sought for HP excellence awards](#)

[Taking steps to protect historic structures from fire](#)

[License plates pushing 'Cajun pride' available](#)

[LeBeau Plantation in Old Arabi destroyed in fire](#)

[Funding opportunities](#)

[Staff contact list](#)

LOUISIANA  
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT



DEVELOPING OUR CULTURAL ASSETS

LOUISIANA  
*Pick your Passion*

### *A message from Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne*



This has been a banner year for Louisiana culture, and I am proud of everything we have done to preserve, support, develop and promote culture in this great state.

We are in the final month of the **Year of Music**, but we will continue to promote Louisiana music and artists. Our music industry is strong, and the Musicians Roster will carry on its mission to get local musicians working. Visit [Louisiana Soundtrack](#) to learn more.

The new year will bring new opportunities and challenges. Our office will highlight the unique culture and experiences found **Only in Louisiana** in 2014, and I am certain it will be a great year.

### *A message from Assistant Secretary Pam Breaux*



As the year draws to a close, I look back on 2013 with pride at all Louisiana has accomplished in cultural development. Our office has been involved in so many incredible initiatives in archaeology, the arts, French language and historic preservation, and I am grateful to all of you for your hard work in support of Louisiana's one-of-a-kind culture.

I am also excited about the year ahead. In 2014 we will observe the 30th anniversary of the Main Street Program and the 20th anniversary of the Decentralized Arts Funding Program. Look for more on both in the coming months. And we will hold Culture Connection, our office's annual gathering of culture stakeholders, April 22 and 23. Mark your calendars!

Stay connected to our office via [our website](#) and [Facebook](#) as we look to a new year of developing culture in Louisiana.

# STAFF UPDATES

## Arts Council of New Orleans and Creative Capital to present arts workshop

The Arts Council of New Orleans and Creative Capital will present a free workshop, *Performance Documentation*, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, at its office at 935 Gravier St., Suite 850.

This workshop will provide dance, theater, performance and time-based visual artists with an opportunity to improve the documentation and preservation of their work. It will include discussions of best practices for different types of documentation, how to make a strategic plan and how to budget for the documentation process. Artists will learn techniques for personal use or to discuss with editors and videographers to create high-quality performance documentation for use in personal archives, work samples, marketing campaigns and beyond.

Visit

[www.artscouncilofneworleans.org](http://www.artscouncilofneworleans.org) for more information. To reserve your seat at the workshop, RSVP to Gene Meneray, [gmeneray@artscouncilofneworleans.org](mailto:gmeneray@artscouncilofneworleans.org).

## CODOFIL opens scholarships to young professionals

The Council for the Development of French in Louisiana will open its scholarship program to young professionals for the first time in 2014. The scholarships, offered by the state agency's international partners in Belgium, France and Canada, have historically been offered to high school students in French, university French majors and minors and K — 12 French teachers. Thanks to a partnership with Université Sainte-Anne in Pointe-de-l'Église, Nova Scotia, two Louisiana professionals will receive a scholarship covering about half the expenses to participate in a five-week summer immersion program.

"As a young professional myself, upon starting at CODOFIL I was approached by so many of my peers expressing a desire to learn French but regretting never having taken the opportunity to do so while in school," Erin Stickney, CODOFIL's communications attaché, said. "We are extremely grateful for the support from the wonderful program at Sainte-Anne. Those wishing to learn French to further their careers or incorporate the language into their work environments should apply for this scholarship."

The deadline to apply for the scholarships is Monday, Feb. 10, 2014. Visit [CODOFIL's](http://CODOFIL.org) website for more information.

## Nominations sought for inaugural HP excellence awards

The inaugural Louisiana Landmarks Society Awards for Excellence in Historic Preservation will honor projects completed in Orleans Parish (outside of the French Quarter) in 2012 or 2013 that represent outstanding examples of restoration, rehabilitation or new construction in a historic district.

Nominations for the 2014 Awards may be submitted by individuals, companies or organizations on the [Louisiana Landmarks Society's website](http://LouisianaLandmarksSociety.org). The deadline for nominations is Jan. 15, 2014. Of particular interest are projects that:

- demonstrate that historic preservation can be a tool to revitalize older neighborhoods.
- show that historic preservation is "green" and sustainable.
- support the cultural and ethnic diversity of the preservation movement.
- are creative examples of saving a historic building.
- involve properties that use various federal or state tax incentive programs.
- represent a new design that is appropriate to historic neighborhoods.

Please contact the [Louisiana Landmarks Society](http://LouisianaLandmarksSociety.org) if you have any questions.

# NEWS CLIPS

## Taking steps to protect historic structures from fire

This Nov. 19 story by Michelle Millhollon first appeared in *The Advocate* and has been edited for *Culture Communiqué*:



*Advocate staff photo by Richard Alan Hanon—Fred Gwin, director of security and compliance for the Sec. of State's Office, talks with Baton Rouge firefighters as they take a pre-fire plan walk-through of the Old State Capitol Nov. 15 in Baton Rouge.*

Officials throughout Louisiana are taking measures to ensure the safety of historic buildings, including elaborate detector systems, wiring inspections and regular walkthroughs by firefighters.

Just this fall, firefighters at the Government Street fire station learned the layout of the Old State Capitol in downtown Baton Rouge. With four stories, hidden staircases, a catwalk, secret roof access, ladders that dip down into crannies and an unearthed jail cell, the historic building is a hide-and-seek player's dream and a logistical nightmare. Firefighters need to be able to nimbly navigate the 151-year-old building in case a fire breaks out and the structure fills with smoke."

Continue reading [here](#).

## License plates pushing 'Cajun pride' available

This Dec. 4 story by Richard Burgess first appeared in *The Advocate* and has been edited for *Culture Communiqué*:



*Advocate staff photo by Bryan Tuck—Cecilia Primary School teacher Valerie Theriez, left, holds the first Cajun pride license plate with State Rep. Mike Huval, R-Breaux Bridge. Proceeds from the sale of the plates will go to CODOFIL, which promotes and preserves Louisiana's French culture and language.*

Proud Cajuns can let the world know how they feel about their heritage with new prestige license plates to raise money for French immersion programs in the state.

The new license plate reads "I'm Cajun ... and Proud" and features an image of a crawfish crawling over an accordion with a fleur-de-lis in the background.

A portion of the license plate fee helps support efforts by CODOFIL to train teachers for French language immersion programs.

Continue reading [here](#).

## LeBeau Plantation in Old Arabi destroyed in fire

This Nov. 22 story by Carlie Kollath Wells first appeared on *nola.com* and has been edited for *Culture Communiqué*:



*Fire guts the historic LeBeau Plantation house in Old Arabi Friday, Nov. 22. (Ray Solis Photo)*

The LeBeau Plantation house was destroyed in a fire in St. Bernard Parish Nov. 22. The Old Arabi landmark was built in the 1850s and was one of the largest plantations south of New Orleans.

Firefighters were called to the plantation at about 2 a.m. St. Bernard Parish Fire Chief Thomas Stone told FOX 8 that the building was fully engulfed in flames when he arrived on the scene.

Built in 1854, the plantation home has been a private residence, a hotel, a boarding house and an illegal casino.

Continue reading and see historic pictures of the house [here](#).

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- ArtPlace America is accepting applicants for its Innovation Grants Program. The program is designed to invest in creative placemaking projects that reach for new possibilities and involve a variety of partners who are committed to increasing the vibrancy and diversity of their communities. The deadline for submitting a letter of inquiry is Dec. 13. Click [here](#) for more.
- The U.S. Mint has issued a call for artists to design U.S. coins and medals. The Mint is seeking artists interested in taking coin and medal design in new directions and trying new approaches to ensure that the designs on U.S. coins and medals are of the highest quality to best represent our country for years to come. The application deadline is Jan. 10, 2014. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- The Big Read is a National Endowment for the Arts program that supports organizations throughout the country in developing community-wide reading programs to encourage reading and participation by diverse audiences. Eligible applicants must apply by Jan. 28, 2014. Click [here](#) for more information and to apply.
- The Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Mass., awards seven-month fellowships to 10 emerging artists each year. Applicants are judged on their quality of work. Visual Arts Fellows are provided with a private, furnished apartment and a separate work studio while in residence, as well as a monthly stipend of \$750. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- The Fledgling Fund provides grants to support outreach and audience engagement for social issue documentaries. It ranges from small planning grants to implementation grants for projects with a clear plan that are 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.
- The Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers is now accepting film submissions for its 2014 — 2015 tour. Selected filmmakers will receive benefits including travel expenses, a \$400 artist honorarium for each screening and a per diem. The late deadline to submit is Feb. 14, 2014. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- New Music USA awards project grants to help artists promote themselves and is open to a wide range of new music projects. The next request period will close April 1, 2014. Click [here](#) to find out 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 on other domains of American life. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- The New England Foundation for the Arts is accepting proposals for its Native American Artist Exchange Program, which supports an exchange of ideas between two Native American artists from different regions. 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 New Orleans Theatre Association (NOTA) is a leading presenter of touring Broadway productions and other performing presentations in Louisiana. All the revenues it generates are channeled back into the community in the form of grants and other support for cultural, education and arts-based organizations. Click [here](#) to learn out more about applying for a NOTA grant.

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Stay connected to the Louisiana Office of Cultural Development. Visit [our website](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#). To make a comment about *Culture Communiqué*, contact us at [culture@crt.la.gov](mailto:culture@crt.la.gov).