



Creole Heritage Center at Northwestern State University
Celebrating Our Silver Jubilee in 2023

Recent & Upcoming Activities for August 2023

2023-2026 Strategic Plan Update

The Creole Heritage Center at Northwestern State University is proud to present the results of its two-year process to develop a strategic plan for its immediate future. The plan begins with a revised and more succinct mission statement and an articulated vision and core values. We then identified goals in four “Programs & Services” areas and additional goals for the day-to-day operations of the Center. Striving for and attaining these goals will enable the Center to continue to be an efficient and responsive leader and foremost authority on all things Creole!

The Center particularly thanks our Advisory Council members who demonstrated their commitment to the Center by devoting lots of additional time to produce this plan, as well as numerous NSU and cultural heritage, political, education, and economic leaders who shared their ideas for the Center throughout this process.

Our supporters, like yourself, were also fundamental to the creation of this plan and we cannot achieve the goals in it without you! Dr. Peacock, Director of the Center, will host three public sessions to share highlights from this plan and answer any of your questions about it. Two of these sessions will be in person events in the Natchitoches Parish area and one will be online to accommodate our many supporters who do not live near our office in Natchitoches.

The three public sessions will be held:

- **Wednesday, August 30th from 6:30 – 7:30pm CST** [[St. Augustine Catholic Church Hall at 2262 Highway 484 Natchez, LA 71456](#)]
- **Thursday, August 31st from 8:00 – 9:00pm CST** [Online webinar at [this link](#), Webinar password: NpdI5rxV4i5 (67345798 from phones and video systems)]
- **Friday, September 8th from 11:45am – 12:45pm CST** [President’s Room, 2nd floor of the [Friedman Student Union on NSU’s campus](#)]

Everyone is also encouraged to review the plan on the [Center’s website](#) or at [this direct link](#).

The creation of the plan was graciously funded by the [Cane River National Heritage Area](#).

What Summer Vacation?

Much of the summer at the Center was spent completing and beginning to implement our strategic plan, as well as continuing to inventory and re-organize our holdings. Improving the accessibility of the Center's resources is a long process, but we hope to share the first results of these labors by the end of the year. We also found time to participate in events throughout Louisiana to spread the word about the Center and Creole people and their contributions to our world!

On June 11, we participated in Créole Culture Day at Vermilionville (Lafayette)— produced in part by C.R.E.O.L.E., Inc. Beyond learning about the Center, attendees enjoyed a variety of music and visual artists and learning from genealogy and language experts.

On July 22, we joined our friends, the [Louisiana Folklife Center](#), at their 43rd Annual Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival. We thank the Louisiana Folklife Center for allowing us to include lots of information on the Center in the program book – [which you can find online!](#)

Beyond a display on the Center's resources and history, the Center hosted a narrative session "Cane River Creoles: Coffee, Tea Cakes, & Quilting" where representatives of the St. Augustine (Isle Brevelle) Catholic Church's Confraternity of Christian Mothers Quilting Committee shared their stories about family, community, and the joys of quilting. Our Director also had the honor to serve as a judge for the Gumbo Cookoff!

The following weekend, the Center participated in the Tour Guide Association of Greater New Orleans, Inc.'s Annual Seminar in New Orleans – which was all about Creoles! We enjoyed great food, music, and making new connections with others in Louisiana working to share the culture and stories of Creoles!

As August began, our Director drove down to Baton Rouge to take part in a workshop by LSU's T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History. We look forward to implementing what we learned about collecting and preserving oral histories in the near future – maybe we will record your stories so they are preserved for your family and educating others on Creoles and their culture!

Upcoming Creole Heritage Center Events

- **Sept 15 - Oct 29** — [Elemental Threads: Contemporary Works by Angelbert Metoyer, Annie Moran, & Ayo Scott](#)
 - Orville J. Hanchey Gallery at NSU
 - Part of the Center's 2005-2006 Gilbert Fletcher exhibition "Documenting the Cane River Creole Legacy" will be remounted for viewing, too!
- **October 12** — [Cheers to 25 Years!: 25th Anniversary Kickoff Soirée](#) (Ticketed Event)
 - 5 – 7pm CST, with a toast at 6pm, at the Orville J. Hanchey Gallery at NSU
 - Your ticket includes hors d'oeuvre, deserts, and non-alcoholic drinks; cash bar available

- **October 13 — [Creole Heritage Center Open House](#)**
 - 10am – 1pm CST at the Center (116, Kyser Hall at NSU)
 - Join us as we show off the beginnings of creating a new visitor experience at the Center!

Additional Details about these events are available on our [website](#).



SCOTT, AYO. "MAKING OUR MARK."
2023, ACRYLIC ON CANVAS.



METOYER, ANGELBERT. "LOTT'S
BRAHMAN BULL." 2017-2023, PALO
SANTO CHARCOAL, ACRYLIC, ENAMEL,
OIL, GOLD LEAF ON PAPER ON CANVAS.



MORAN, ANNIE. "EYES OF THE GOLDEN
EAGLE." 2023, WATERCOLOR.

ELEMENTAL THREADS

Contemporary works by
Angelbert Metoyer, Annie Moran, & Ayo Scott

Our Vision

To revitalize, mobilize, and empower, for global recognition, Creole people and their contributions.

Our Mission

To preserve, educate, and advocate the value and significance of the vibrant Louisiana Creole people and their culture.

Our 25th Anniversary Kickoff Soirée is generously sponsored by



Natchitoches Travel Info can be found at www.natchitoches.com

Why support the Creole Heritage Center?

- Get a membership card to show off your commitment to the preservation & promotion of Louisiana Creoles & culture!
- Guarantees you receive information about the CHC's resources, programs, & 25th anniversary events!
- Donations are tax deductible!
- The CHC relies on your support to achieve its vision and mission!

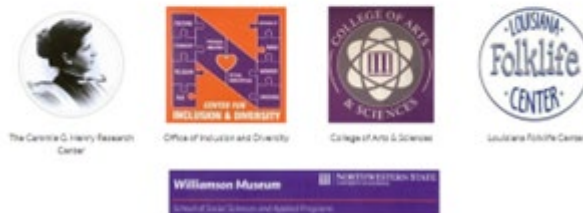
Make your donation on our new online donation page at <https://www.northwesternstatealumni.com/creole> or visit the "Donations" page on our [website](#) for a paper donation form!

Your business or organization interested in sponsoring the Creole Heritage Center and/or one of its events? Contact our office for sponsorship opportunities.

Community Sponsors



NSU Partners



The CHC is a proud component of NSU's School of Social Sciences and Applied Programs.

To remove your information from our mailing lists, please [click here](#).

To update your information for our mailing lists, please [click here](#).

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