

Hall of Master Folk Artists

1981

David Allen..... African Walking Stick
Maker

Ray Beebe..... Fiddler

Clifford Blake, Sr Cotton Compress Caller &
Storyteller

1982

Bel Abbey..... Koasati Craftsman &
Storyteller

Marjorie Abbey Battise.....Koasati
Cooking

Tex Grimsley Song Writer &
Fiddler

Jack Phillips..... White Oak Basket
Maker

Myrna Abbey Wilson.....Koasati Pinestraw Basket
Maker

Pee Wee Whittaker
Trombonist

1983

John Delafosse..... Zydeco
Accordionist

T. E. “Brownie” FordBallad Singer, Storyteller,
Craftsman

Joseph E. “Boo” LeDouxSaddle
Maker

Claude Medford, JrNative American Basket
Maker

Preston Steadman..... Fiddler

1984

Bill Day..... Honorary Member

Marie Dean..... Houma Indian
Crafts

Michael Doucet..... Cajun Fiddler

Robert Gentry Honorary
Memeber

Los Adaes Foundation Quilting and Other
Crafts

Leo Royston Whittler, Wood
carver

Harry Thibodeaux..... Duck Decoy
Maker

1987

Hadley Castille..... Cajun Fiddler

Vernie Gibson Net Maker

1990

Birdwell Brothers Quartet

1992

Cliff Carnahan Songwriter and
Fiddler

Curtis Lees..... Cherokee Craftsman

Edward Harris. Sr White Oak Basket
Maker

Jesse Thomas Songwriter and Blues
Singer

Allie “Nonc” Young..... Cajun Accordion
Player

1993

- Rosie Allen Quilter
- Mearl Byles..... Quilter
- Mary JonesChoctaw Indian Crafts
- Lorena Langley.....Koasati Indian Crafts
- Irvan Perez Isleño Culture/Carver

1997

- Overton “Dr. Drip Drop” OwensGuitarist and Blues Singer

1998

- Preston ConantHistorian of Creole Culture
- Alphonse “Bois – Sec” ArdoinZydeco Musician
- Lair LaCour Doll Maker
- Allen “Al Gator” Metoyer..... Historian of French Music

1999

- Susan Dollar Tatting
- Ledel “Blackie” Forestier Cajun Accordion Player

2000

- Clarinda B. BradfordFish Net Weaver
- Hurst Hall Guitarist
- Kenneth RoystonWhittling
- Roy Gandy Walking Sticks Carver

2001

Geraldine Robertson.....	Corn Shuck Dolls
Bill Bryant.....	Dulcimer
Fisher “Bo” Snell.....	Rocking Chair Maker
Hardrick Rivers	Saxophone
Harris Family	White Oak Basket Makers

2002

Fred Beavers.....	Fiddler
William “Bill” Hunt.....	Musician & Composer
Roy Parfait.....	Houma Wood Carver
Dempsey Perkins	Wood Worker & Blacksmith

2003

Tom Colvin.....	Boat Builder & Palmetto & Cane Basket Maker
Blake Owen.....	Wooden Toy Maker
Brenda Perkins	Wool Felting & Weaving
Rick Seale	Musician

2004

Dr. Donald W. Hatley	Founder of the LA Folklife Center & Co-Founder of the Natchitoches/ NSU Folk Festival, Founded the Master of Arts in English: Folklife/Southern Culture Track, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts.
Dr. H. F. :”Pete” Gregory.....	Co- Founder of the Natchiotches/NSU Folk Festival, Researcher and Writer of LA cultures, Professor of Anthropology, Curator of the Williamson Museum.

Sue Hatley Folk Festival Ticket
Manager

Steve Wells Sound and
Lighting

Ron Yule Fiddler, Teacher, and
Author

Maxine Brown African-American
Foodways

2005

Tyler Family Clifton Choctaw
Crafts

Virginia Thacker Tatting

Rick Woodard. Musician

2006

Willie Mae Kennedy Gospel
Singer

Floyd Soileau..... Louisiana Music
Producer

2007

John and Scarlett Darden.....River Cane Basket
Maker

H.P. "Buzz" Salard. Fiddler

2008

Curry Perkins Fiddler

Billy and Bobbye Keyes..... Cajun Dance
Lessons

William "Bill" Conly Sr.....Celtic, Bluegrass, and Country
Musician

2009

Hezekiah Early Blues
Musician

2010

Terry Huval Cajun
Musician

D.L. Menard..... Cajun Musician and Master
Craftsman

2011

Clyde Jackson..... Tanner

Janie Luster Houma Palmetto
basketry

The Peirite Family..... Multilingual
Chanters

Doris Battise..... Coushatta Pine-needle Basket
weaver

Cecile Elkins Carter Historian, Writer and
Speaker

2012

Ray Abshire Cajun Accordion
Player

Henry Gray.....Pianist

Goldman Thibodeaux.
.Accordionist

2013

Maggie Warwick..... Songwriter

Preston Watley.....Chair Maker

Jackie Miller Prairie Cajun Mardi Gras Screen Mask and Costume
Maker

Geno Delafosse "The Creole Cowboy" &
Musician

2014

Jeffery Broussard.....Accordion
player

Jo-El Sonnier.....Accordion
player

Al Ferrier.....Rockabilly Musician

2015

Hattie Addison.....Traditional Gospel Musician and Easter
Rock Ritual

Nathan Williams, SrAccordion Player/
Musician

Otis VoorhiesWhip Maker

2016

Blake CastilleCajun
Guitarist

Rising Dragon Lion DanceChinese Traditional Cultural
Dance Team

Tee Don Landry.....Frottoir
Maker

Sarah Jayde Williams.....Cajun
Fiddler

2017

Barbara Franklin.Folk Doll Artist

Ed HueyTeacher and Performer of American
Roots Music

Ganey “Pop” Hymes.
Drummer

Sammy NixDrummer

Steve Riley.....Cajun Accordion
Player

2018

Estelle Brown..... Singer
James Burton.....Guitarist
D.J. FontanaDrummer
Rodney Harrington.
Musician/Promoter/Philanthropist
Clementine Hunter Folk
Artist
Hilton LytleMusician and
Craftsman
Jim Oertling..... Rockabilly
Musician

2019

Tab BenoitBlues
Musician
Jamie BerzasCajun
Musician
James Christopher Callahan.....Folk Festival
Crew Chief
John Oswald Colson.....Traditional Filé
Maker
Bruce Daigrepoint.....Cajun
Musician
Vanessa Niemann..... Country
Musician

2020

Katrice LaCourZydeco
Musician
Pine Leaf Boys.....Cajun
Musicians

2022

R.V. Couch. Traditional
Music Instrument Maker

The Louisiana Czech Heritage Dancers..... Folk
Dance Group

Amanda ShawCajun
Musician

Elvin Shields..... Traditional
Wire Toymaker

2023

Broussard Family Juré
.African American Juré Musicians

Dr. Lisa Abney..... Director of the
Louisiana Folklife Center and Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival, 1998-2005

Hugh Harris..... Country
Musician

Rhonda Gauthier..... Mestiza
Cultural Authority, Choctaw-Apache Tribe of Ebarb

2024

Cynthia RamirezFolk Artist and Cultural Authority on Día de los
Muertos

The Zion Harmonizers.....African American Gospel Group

2025

Christy Benoit Castille..... Tatter

Chubby Carrier Zydeco Musician

John Litzenberg...Folk Musician

Smithfield Fair.....Folk Musicians

Tom Whitehead... Folk Art Historian

2026

Wayne “Blue” Burns..... Blues Musician

Dustin Fuque Gumbo Filé Maker

Becky Thomas-Meziere.....Pine Needle Basket Maker