

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



I am excited about the great things happening across Louisiana's cultural sector. One project I'm proud to be part of is the restoration of a 40-foot-long mosaic by renowned artist Conrad Albrizio. Our office saved the art from demolition following Hurricane Katrina. This project highlights the incredible work being done in the arts and I look forward to seeing it completed.

The **Year of Music** is winding down but our efforts to support Louisiana's music industry will continue. A lasting effort is the musicians roster, which is an online tool that lists touring Louisiana musicians. Visit [Louisiana Soundtrack](#) to learn more about the roster.

In 2014 we will highlight the unique culture and experiences found **only in Louisiana**, so look for more on that soon.

A note from Assistant Secretary Pam Breaux



November is Louisiana Main to Main, a time to celebrate the state's 34 Main Street communities. They are part of a national network that is revitalizing local economies through preservation, and I encourage you to see their incredible work in person. Find out more [here](#).

That reminds me that 2014 is fast approaching. Next year we will observe the 30th anniversary of the Main Street Program and the 20th anniversary of the Decentralized Arts Funding Program. Look for more information on both in the coming months. And mark your calendars for Culture Connection, our office's annual gathering of the culture minds, which will be held April 22.

Please continue to stay connected to us via [our website](#) and [Facebook](#), and feel free to contact our staff for any assistance you might need.

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LOUISIANA
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT



DEVELOPING OUR CULTURAL ASSETS

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CODOFIL launches promo video for French in La.



The Council for the Development of French in Louisiana, also known as the Office of Francophone Affairs, recently released a promotional video for French in Louisiana called [Opportunités en français en Louisiane](#).

The Academy of Interactive Entertainment in Lafayette conceptualized, produced and animated

the. New Orleans francophone indie pop group Sweet Crude provided music and Louisiana francophone actors Amélie Dunn and Corey Porche voiced the video.

For more information on the video and other CODOFIL work, contact the office's *chargée de communications*, Erin Stickney, at estickney@crt.la.gov.

Lt. Governor Dardenne endorses LAA+ Schools



In a recently released [video](#), Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne endorsed Louisiana A+ Schools—a research-based whole school network with a mission to nurture creativity in every learner through an arts-integrated school network.

LAA+ is an initiative of the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts which helps selected schools in implementing school-wide arts integration.

Arts integration is a national trend that infuses some type of art (visual art, music, performing, etc.) into every classroom and every traditional subject—math, science, history, etc.

Five to 10 schools can be added to the network every year. Click [here](#) to learn more about the program.

Creative communities corner: Minden

The Louisiana Creative Communities Initiative is a partnership between the Louisiana Office of Cultural Development and the National Consortium for Creative Placemaking. _____ chose ten communities for the program's pilot to receive a coach, who will help them create a community-wide creative project. If deemed successful, this project will receive a \$3,000 grant.

Minden is a small community in northwest Louisiana, but its LCCI team has shown a mammoth passion for bettering the community through creative placemaking. To begin its work the team ran a community-wide survey about communication, quality of life and interests. The team gathered the survey results and de-

termined strengths and weaknesses of the community, as well as community interest in the project.

After information gathering the team chose to focus on U.S. Hwy. 80 E for cultural enhancement and formed the East 80 Alliance. The team is working on a number of projects to enhance the area, including church-sponsored movie nights at The Farm (a workspace for professional artists), public art projects, a community paint party, a service league music festival and general beautification, including utility pole art along U.S. Hwy. 80 E. Minden and its LCCI team are becoming shining examples of the impact creative placemaking can have on a community.



Minden LCCI team member Chris Broussard presents their work.

News from the field

Tulane preservation group works with HP staff to produce conservation report



Tulane MPS students in front of Madame John's Legacy in mid-2012.

Madame John's Legacy is one of the oldest buildings in New Orleans and one of only a handful that represent the French/West Indian building style once common in the nascent city. Its architectural significance cannot be overstated, yet for much of its long history the house remained in poor condition.

The legendary 632 Dumaine St. building is now the site of an intense Technical Conservation Study conducted by the Tulane University Master of Preservation Studies program in partnership with the Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation and the Louisiana State Museum. The study has resulted in a more than 400-page report, the most detailed analysis of the revered structure ever produced.

This Tulane Preservation Alumni Group Fall 2013 newsletter story by Ryan Jackson has been edited for Culture Communiqué and can be read in full [here](#).

Lt. Governor Dardenne christens newly renovated state historic site

Visitors to the newly renovated Mansfield State Historic Site might want to have a Kleenex on hand during their next stop.

The museum was closed for months to allow for painting, new flooring and lighting. It reopened to the public two months ago but got its formal christening recently with a ribbon-cutting attended by Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne and other invited guests.

The upgrades to the historic site were done to make a human connection between 149 years ago and now the present.

A history buff himself, Dardenne said it was important for the aging museum to transition into a space where information about the community's historic connection to the Civil War is saved for future generations.

This Shreveport Times story by Vickie Welborn has been edited for Culture Communiqué and can be read in full [here](#).



Banksy in Bywater? NOLA's Rice Mill Lofts remixes its industrial past



Tenants in the Rice Mill Lofts are prohibited from altering the building's original graffiti.

If you have ever longed to make your home in a century-old industrial rice mill amid preserved graffiti and masonry brick walls, [New Orleans' Rice Mill Lofts](#) might be the perfect place for you.

Located in the city's historic Bywater district, the 1892 building was originally home to the largest rice mill in North America. Real estate developer Sean Cummings bought the mill to develop in the early 1990s. In the meantime, Cummings said, squatters and graffiti artists tagged the mill throughout.

The Lofts are nothing if not distinctive, but the most distinctive aspect is a mural boldly declaring "You Are Beautiful," etched in white paint on the side of the building that faces the Mississippi River and rumored to have been painted by renowned street artist Banksy.

This PreservationNation story by Katherine Flynn has been edited for Culture Communiqué and can be read in full [here](#).

Funding opportunities

- New Music USA supports the creation and performance of work and community building throughout the country. The organization's project grants will award more than \$600,000 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. The application deadline for the second of three grant rounds for the 2014 program is Dec. 6. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- ArtPlace America is accepting applicants for its Innovation Grants Program, which 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 Big Read is a National Endowment for the Arts program that supports organizations throughout the country in developing community-wide reading programs which encourage reading and participation by diverse audiences. Eligible applicants must apply by Jan. 28, 2014. Click [here](#) for more information and to apply.
- 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 with a clear plan and 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 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 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 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.



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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.