SugarFest is
Sunday,
October 2, 2022

Angela Gregory Donation

The West Baton Rouge Historical Association recently received a large donation of artwork from Angela Gregory Legacy LLC. These pieces will be added to the WBRHA’s permanent collection and some will be highlighted in the exhibition opening July 15th.

Thank You for your support!
Our millage passed!

SAVE THE DATE

The West Baton Rouge Historical Association’s annual Christmas in July Card Party fundraiser is right around the corner! Mark your calendars for Monday, July 25, 2022, from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM. The fundraiser will take place at the West Baton Rouge Community Center, right next door to the West Baton Rouge Museum in downtown Port Allen.

In addition to cards, participants can look forward to door prizes, lunch, and even a cocktail. There will also be two separate drawings for those interested in trying their luck. For more information, please look over the entry form insert. For questions, you can call the West Baton Rouge Museum at (225)-336-2422. We look forward to seeing you. As always, thanks for supporting the West Baton Rouge Historical Association!
Welcome Summer
Bienvenue, L’été

WEST BATON ROUGE
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

TOM ACOSTA  Board President

First and foremost, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for your support on April 30th! We are proud of what we have accomplished and will continue to deliver high quality exhibits and programming to further enrich the community that we are so honored to serve.

Summer is here! As I write to you, we’re gearing up for our twenty-seventh annual Blast from the Past Summer History Camp. This year’s camp theme plays off our Courting Style exhibit and will entertain children ages six to twelve with historical pastimes such as croquet, bocce, tennis, and other traditional lawn games. Children will learn the origins of games we play with some traced back to mediaeval France and ancient Greece and Rome.

In July, we will host our annual Teachers’ Institute, which will focus this year on our new semi-permanent Angela Gregory exhibit. Angela Gregory: Doynne of Louisiana Sculpture will open with a gala event during our regularly scheduled Historical Happy Hour on Friday, July 15. At this celebration which is free and open to the public, guests will enjoy looking at art and listening to jazz performed by the Michael Foster Quartet.

Our summer season will continue to sizzle in August as we celebrate the final weekend of two exhibits, Women of the Blues and Sugar to Rum. The Friday, August 19 Historical Happy Hour will welcome Three Roll Estate distillery for a rum talk and tasting by followed by a screening of Carol Fran: Tous Les Jours C’est Pas La Même, Every Day Is Not The Same.

September will bring the much-anticipated Billie Holiday at Sugar Hill. Photographs by Jerry Dantzicis exhibit which will open on September 10th. Our September 16 Historical Happy Hour will dazzle museum goers with a performance entitled One Night with Billie & Ella. This spectacular performance starring Kathleen Moore and Chloé Marie Johnson as Billie Holiday and Ella Fitzgerald, backed by a three-piece band is traveling in from the National World War II Museum’s BB’s Stage Door Canteen.

Be sure to visit our monthly Café Français (1st Fridays), Old Time Jam (2nd Sundays), Historical Happy Hour (3rd Fridays), and Le Jam with the Cajun French Music Association (3rd Sundays) for engaging conversations and live entertainment.

We are reworking our website and revamping our monthly NewsNotes that can once again be delivered straight to you. To subscribe to receive monthly emails on our exhibits and upcoming events, visit our website at www.WestBatonRougeMuseum.org and click the Subscribe button.

WITH ALL THAT WE HAVE GOING ON, WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE MUSEUM!

Angélique Bergeron, Ph.D.  Executive Director

First of all, I am especially grateful to all who helped to spearhead the West Baton Rouge Museum tax election campaign to successfully renew our Museum millage on April 30, 2022!! This was the 3rd renewal of the millage originally approved by West Baton Rouge Parish voters in 1994. Public support for our Museum provides the bedrock for this vital public institution which will benefit future generations in our Parish and region. Thanks so very, very much to all who worked to successfully renew the public financial support of our Museum for another 10 years – MERCI BEAUCOUP!!!

On July 25, we will once again be hosting one of our major fundraising events: the “Christmas in July Card Party”, at the WBR Community Center in Port Allen. We are including a card party flyer as an insert in this edition of the Écoutez, so if you know of friends and family who normally participate or are excited about being able to resume participation in social activities, let them know and encourage them to sign up no later than the July 14 registration deadline. Special thanks to all who work hard to prepare for and put on this fun activity… we hope to see you there!

This year, SugarFest in all of its sweet glory is scheduled to be held on Sunday, October 2. Planning is already in the works for our traditional Chicken Dinner fundraiser, as well as the always popular Sweets Booth, Sweets Contest and so many other SugarFest activities. As a reminder: in early August, WBR Historical Association members will be receiving a letter with six (6) Chicken Dinner fundraiser tickets (20 for WBRHA Board Members) for purchase/sale. Please purchase and/or sell these as soon as you receive them, and return the tickets stubs and funds to Amanda Moak in the envelope provided by the end of August so we can finalize dinner numbers with the caterer. For our WBR Historical Association members and volunteers, this is an “all hands on deck” event, so we hope everyone will consider volunteering in whatever way you can.

Our Ethel Claiborne Dameron lecture will also be held in the fall. Work is currently being done to finalize the lecturer and the date of the lecture.

In the meantime, please keep up the good work, stay safe, join us at Association and Museum events when able, tell friends about us, and help celebrate West Baton Rouge at OUR Museum!

Bonne Sante!

Tom Acosta
WBRHA President

LES LETTRES

SUMMER 2022 ÉCOUTEZ letter

WEST BATON ROUGE
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

TOM ACOSTA  Board President

Angélique Bergeron, Ph.D.  Executive Director

WELCOME SUMMER

Bienvenue, L’été

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HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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Bonne Sante!

Tom Acosta
WBRHA President
JULY 15

A Grand Gala Set for July Historical Happy Hour at the West Baton Rouge Museum

Join the West Baton Rouge Museum for its monthly Historical Happy Hour on Friday, July 15, 2022 from 6 - 8 PM. This month’s Happy Hour will treat the public to a gala affair in celebration of the Angela Gregory exhibit opening. Festivities will feature gallery tours, a reception and sculpture demonstration, champagne punch provided by the WBHHA and live music by the Michael Foster Project, a Baton Rouge based brass band.

The Angela Gregory Doyenne of Louisiana Sculpture exhibit traces the story of the famed New Orleans native and showcases her art that spans almost the entirety of her career. Attendees of Historical Happy Hour will see pieces donated from Angela Gregory’s work from Angela Gregory Legacy LLC in addition to pieces already in the West Baton Rouge Historical Association’s permanent collection and works on loan from other institutions.

This event is FREE and open to the public.

October 2

Chicken Dinner and Sweets Booth fundraiser

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 2, 2022. Not only is this the date for the West Baton Rouge Museum’s annual Sugar Festival, it is also the date for the Historical Association’s annual Chicken Dinner and Sweets Booth fundraiser. Feed your family and get your sweet tooth fix all at the same place! Dinners will consist of smoked chicken and a variety of sides. As usual, the Sweets Booth will have cookies, cakes, brownies, pralines, and a multitude of other sugary confections.

SugarFest is one of our favorite events, and we love providing festival goers with something to eat. Be sure to get your tickets before they run out! For more information, please call (225) 336-2422.
**Historical Happy Hours**

Spring was rocking with Blues, Jazz, and authentic Music of Mexico. WBRM welcomed Louisiana Legend Chris Thomas King, The Florida Street Blowhards, the LSU jazz Lab, and Los Norteños del Sur for the monthly Historical Happy Hour - free opportunities to enjoy culturally enriching live entertainment.

"Spring was rocking"

**The big red barn at the WBR Museum**

The big red barn at the West Baton Rouge Museum was the backdrop for a day long event celebrating the art of the trade featuring speaker, Mr. Jonn Hankins, the Executive Director of the New Orleans Master Crafts Guild, blacksmithing, fiber arts, and wood working demonstrations, farm themed games and chores, and an old-fashioned barn dance with music performed by the Cane Grinders.

**Easter**

The Easter Eggstravaganza is an annual community event jointly hosted by West Baton Rouge Museum and the West Baton Rouge Parish Library. Families enjoyed spring weather on the museum grounds and festivities complete with old fashioned egg hunts, a petting zoo, games, music, and more.

**Student Art Shows**

This spring the WBRM hosted two student art shows: Student Art from Tara West’s 3rd Grade Class at Caneview K-8 created under the guidance of resident artist, Jennifer Carwile and the return of West Baton Rouge Talented Art, a showcase of works from kindergarten through twelfth grade students in the local public school system’s Talented Art program.

**Celebrating 2022 Volunteers**

WBRHA Volunteer of the Quarter

The West Baton Rouge Historical Association would like to congratulate Volunteer of the Quarter, Andrea Normand! Although she is retired from nursing, Andrea is working as hard as ever. She is an active volunteer in the West Baton Rouge Parish community. She spends several mornings a week working with the Zippers thrift store, and is always on the run between Brusly and Baton Rouge. Even within our own organization, Andrea chairs several committees, and tackles challenges head-on and with gusto.

During the recent renewal of the museum tax millage, Andrea was instrumental in getting the parish out to vote! She was a special guest in front of many groups, speaking on the importance of having a museum in our community. She was even kind enough to show up to museum events with the specific purpose of talking about the millage vote. This was especially apparent at our annual Easter Event, where she worked at the Information Booth and talked to all the patrons walking by. The tax renewal would not have been possible without her, and we would like everyone to join us in giving her a heartfelt thanks.

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“The big red barn at the WBR Museum”

Barn Demonstration Day

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Friends List
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Carolyn and Wayne Achee
Tom Acosta
Patricia Alford
Antioch Baptist Church
Karla Argrave
Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Arst
Babs Babin and Family
Joyce and Kenneth Barbier
Gordon and Lorraine Bergeron
Angélique Bergeron and Family
Riley L. Berthelot
Sid and Sue Blanchard
Beth and Keith Bonanno
Carole Bourgeois
Joanne Bourgeois
Sidney Bowden
J. Bowen and Linda Bres
Barry and Susan Brewer
Caster Brown, Sr.*
Jackie Brown*
Steeline Wilkinson Buchholz
Joanne Busse
Kim and Kerry Callegan
Tony and Kym Cashiola
Mrs. James Charleville
Charles J. Reed Trust
Jane Chenewert
Valerie Cloutier*
Beverly B. Coates
Ashley Coco
David Couvillon
Cou-Yon’s BBQ
Arney Croussillac
Darlene Currie
Glen Daigle
Russell and Peggy Daigle
Aimee Engh
Linda L. Erler
Mr. and Mrs. Don Favor
Deborah Fuller
Ellis Gauthier and Family
Mark and Julie Graffeo
Lee and Michelle Hart
Lauren and Trippie Hawthorne
Mark and Connie Hebert
George Hill
Gary and Liza Hubble
Hughes Mechanical Contractors
George Jenne
Dash and Blythe Johnson
Ken and Cindy Kahak
Mrs. H. Scott Kane, III
Randal and Judy Kolb
Matthew and Stacey Krebs
LA Farm Bureau Federation
Lagniappe Dulcimer Society
Alvin Landry
Lucy Peavy Landry
Mim and Najma Landry
Anna Laws
Harry L. Laws & Co.
Jeanne Lucickett and Family
Drew Maciasz
Dr. Barbara B. Manard
Mr. John F. Manard, Jr.
Mrs. E. Dameron Manard
Dorene and Dale Mayeaux
Mary Emily McKeel
Mary Elizabeth Monck
Joey and Andrea Normand
Debi Odom
Philip and Monica Padgett
Al and Brenda Parker
Brandon Gerard Parlangé
Rawlston D. Philpott
Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Pierie
Placid Refining Company
Butch and Peggy Plauche
Port Allen Rotary Club
Alyssa Prejean
Brian Prejean
Mrs. Rod Prejean
Skip and Laura Rhorer
River View Development
James and Theresa Rizzuto
Alford Robinson, Jr.
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Ruth Stanley
Bob and Connie Smith
Janet Simoneaux
Dale and Chrissy Simoneaux*
Jerry and Family
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Amy and Stephanie Scott*
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Ruth Stanley
Eleanor and Mike Stevens
Charles and Carolyn Stutts
Debra Jones Tarter
Mike and Ellen Tauzin
Lillie M. Thibaut
Jim Thibeaux*
Mr. Drew Tessier
(Union Pacific Railroad)

Donations were received for the following Memorial Funds:

Acquisitions Memorial Fund
Charles Haywood Dameron- Ethel Manard

General Memorial Fund
James Charleville- Ruth Stanley
Selma Ruth- WBRM Staff
Jerry Bourgeois- WBRM Staff

Ethel Claiborne Dameron Memorial Fund
Charles Haywood Dameron- Ethel Manard

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**JULY 8:** 1 PM Le Café Français. A gathering of French speakers. Gratis

**JULY 10:** 3-5PM Old Time Jam. A monthly acoustic open jam, usually on the 2nd Sunday of the month. The public is invited to sit in to listen or play and enjoy Old Country, Bluegrass, Cajun and folk music. FREE

**JULY 11 – 13:** Teachers’ Institute. The Art of Angela Gregory: Girl Sculptor Making History and Breaking Barriers. A professional development series for K-12 classroom teachers, homeschool teachers, and informal educators based on the life and work of New Orleans native Angela Gregory, a world-renowned sculptor who studied under a protégé of Rodin. Advanced registration is required and limited to 20 teachers. Participants will receive a $100 stipend from the West Baton Rouge Historical Association. To register, visit http://www.westbatonrougemuseum.org/

**JULY 15:** 6-8PM Historical Happy Hour. This month, the public is invited to a gala affair in celebration of the Angela Gregory exhibit opening. Festivities will feature gallery tours, a sculpture demonstration, and live music by the Michael Foster Project. FREE

**JULY 17:** 3-5PM - Le Jam. A monthly acoustic open jam, usually on the 2nd Sunday of each month. The public is invited to sit in to listen or play and enjoy Old Country, Bluegrass, Cajun and folk music. FREE

**JULY 20:** 6 – 8:30 PM Express Your Own Style Chapeaux Party. Join us for an evening of fancy and festive fascinators with Chapeaux! Recently profiled by The Advocate and In Register, Chapeaux founders, Karla and Jenn, will guide you through the process of creating a unique headpiece that expresses a style all your own. Royal watchers, you will love this style of Chapeaux! Or choose to create something that reflects a bit more of our Louisiana vibe. With this party, each guest can choose to make a more formal or a more festive fascinator. This party includes 2.5 hours of fun with step-by-step guidance to make your own Chapeaux fascinator. All materials and equipment provided, plus photo props to add to the fun! We’re pleased to offer a special group rate of $50 to the West Baton Rouge Museum community. Class limited to 20 participants. Reserve your space by July 10 by texting 225-229-5456 or email to chapeauxparty@gmail.com. Advance payment is required.

**JULY 25:** 10AM-3PM WBRHA Lunchtime Lecture and Book Signing. Who Is Indigenous? Perspectives on Indigeneity, Identity, Dispossession, and Transition. Editor E. Barrett Ristroph, Ph.D., J.D. will lead a book conversation featuring a reading by Louisiana author and photographer Rachael Billiot-Bruleigh. The book explores what it means to be indigenous in an academic, legal, and personal sense through the voices of residents from Russia and Alaska as well as Louisiana. FREE

**JULY 26:** 6 – 7 PM Yoga class on the LAST Tuesday of the month with Elena Keegan. FREE

**AUGUST 5:** 1 PM Le Café Français. A gathering of French speakers. GRATUIT

**AUGUST 14:** 3-5PM Old Time Jam. A monthly acoustic open jam, usually on the 2nd Sunday of the month. The public is invited to sit in to listen or play and enjoy Old Country, Bluegrass, Cajun and folk music. FREE

**AUGUST 19:** Historical Happy Hour. Come for a closing event celebrating two exhibits, From Sugar to Rum and Women of the Blues. The evening will begin with a visit from Three Roll Estate, Louisiana’s single estate distillery for a Rum Talk/Tasting followed by a screening of the film, Carol Fran: Tous Les Jours C’est Pas La Même, Every Day Is Not The Same honoring one of the last living artists who shaped the unique “Swamp Blues and Pop” sound of South Louisiana. Director/filmmaker and cultural anthropologist, Becky Schexnayder who is the owner/operator of Coulée Productions will be present to introduce the film and conduct Q&A following. FREE

**SEPTEMBER 2:** 1 PM Le Café Français. A gathering of French speakers. GRATUIT

**September 10 - January 8:** - Billie Holiday at Sugar Hill: Photographs by Jerry Dantzic - Exhibition- Billie Holiday at Sugar Hill: Photographs by Jerry Dantzic is an intimate and compelling photographic portrait of Billie Holiday, the consummate jazz and blues singer and one of 20th century music’s most iconic figures. The photographs were taken in April 1957, at a significant moment in her life and just two years before her death at the age of 44. Beautifully captured through the lens of photographer Jerry Dantzic, the exhibition provides a rare glimpse into Billie Holiday’s public and private life through pigment prints with labels, curated panels, ephemera, projected video, and vinyl excerpts from the work of renowned writer and author, Zadie Smith.

**SEPTEMBER 11:** 3-5 PM Old Time Jam. A monthly acoustic open jam, usually on the 2nd Sunday of the month. The public is invited to sit in to listen or play and enjoy Old Country, Bluegrass, Cajun and folk music. FREE

**September 16:** 6 – 8 PM Historical Happy Hour. Join us as we kick off the opening of the Billie Holiday exhibit with One Night with Billie and Ella, a performance straight from the National WWII Museum’s BB’s Stage Door Canteen. Banter, jokes, jazz, and blues abound when music legends Billie Holiday and Ella Fitzgerald get together. Enjoy classic hits like “Give Me the Simple Life,” “God Bless the Child,” “Stormy Weather,” and more from music royalty starring Kathleen Moore and Chloé Marie Johnson backed by a three-piece band. FREE

**September 18:** Le Jam with the Cajun French Music Association. Bring your instruments and join us for this open jam usually on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Spectators are welcome too! FREE

**September 20:** 6 – 7PM WBRHA Christmas in July Card Party. Spectators are welcome too! GRATUIT

**September 21:** Le Jam with the Cajun French Music Association. Bring your instruments and join us for this open jam usually on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Spectators are welcome too! FREE

**September 27:** 6 – 7 PM Yoga class on the LAST Tuesday of the month with Elena Keegan. FREE

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**October 2:** 11 AM – 4 PM SUGARFEST. West Baton Rouge Museum’s annual sweet celebration of the sugar cane harvest complete with traditional folk-art demonstrations, live music, a sweets contest, and sugary treats. FREE