



NSU News

A Publication for the Northwestern State University Faculty & Staff

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Marksville Q & A set for Aug. 10

Northwestern State University's Marksville campus will host a Q & A virtual event from 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 10.

Students from the Marksville area will be able to start the semester off with confidence after learning about MyNSU, student services, IT support, course information and more.

The event will be hosted by **Samantha Grant**, NSU@Marksville campus coordinator.

For information, contact Grant at grantsa@nsula.edu or (318) 253-8707.



Faculty Institute, campus-wide lunch Aug. 8

The Fall Faculty/Staff Institute will be held on Monday, August 8, in the Student Union Ballroom. The morning will begin with coffee and refreshments at 8:15 a.m. in the Student Union Foyer, with the Institute beginning at 9 a.m. The Institute will include a State of the University address by **President Dr. Marcus Jones**, recognition of our Endowed Chairs and Professors, Excellence in Teaching Awards, Outstanding Advisor Award and introduction of new faculty and staff. Following the address by Dr. Jones a panel discussion to engage in dialogue about the upcoming academic year and academic planning, the university budget, strategic initiatives, economic development opportunities, and recruiting and retention initiatives will take place.

Following the Institute, the Faculty/Staff luncheon will be held at Iberville Dining Hall beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Last spring, the Office of Electronic and Continuing Education conducted a survey soliciting feedback from faculty and staff on professional development and workshops. As a result, ECE has created some new trainings and are creating more based upon your feedback. One of the most common statements/requests was to have more advanced training on Moodle and what it can do beyond the basics as a Learning Management System.

ECE will offer two sessions of Advanced Moodle Workshop. The workshop will be presented by OpenLMS, NSU's Moodle provider. Registration is required and can be found at: <https://www.nsula.edu/august-professional-development-6/>. While visiting the site, peruse the menu of workshops that ECE offers during the year: [ECE Professional Development Workshops](#).



A crowd of dancers walzed to Geno Delavose at the July 23 Folk Festival.

42nd Annual Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival a Great Success

The audience at the 42nd annual Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival held on July 23 was entertained and educated about the rich and diverse cultural offerings of the state. The Festival featured traditional Louisiana foods, Kidfest activities, music, traditional crafts, narrative sessions, musical informances, and cultural exhibits. This year's Festival theme "Stronger Together: The Power of Traditional Folk Culture" was a great success, with a very happy audience.

The Festival opened on Saturday morning with music performances in Prather Coliseum by Amanda Shaw & the Cute Guys, Flashback, Geno Delafose and French Rockin' Boogie, the Haggis Rampant Celtic Band, Joyful Sounds, the LaCour Trio, Les Frères Michot, Cajun and line dance lessons by the Cajun French Music Association Dance Troupe, Yvette Landry and Beau Thomas, a special musical tribute to the late Hardrick Rivers, and an interpretive performance by the Winnsboro Easter Rock Ensemble of their Easter eve vigil. Also

highly popular were performances by the Thistle Dancers and Pipers and the Rising Dragon Lion Dance Team, and participatory music and dances with the Caddo Culture Club and the Louisiana Czech Heritage Dancers.

In addition to stage performances there were narrative sessions and music informances, including conversations about Acadian brown cotton, the traditions of the Caddo Culture Club, and a roundtable memorial of the late, great Hardrick Rivers. Also featured were music informances by Amanda Shaw, Les Frères Michot, and Geno Delafose. Outdoor activities included demonstrations by the Central Louisiana Dutch Oven Cookers, the Red River Smiths, and Wash Day, presented by the West Baton Rouge Museum. This year the Festival continued a series of free workshops for Festival attendees. A Cajun guitar workshop led by guitarist Yvette Landry and fiddler

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Beau Thomas was very well attended.

The annual Louisiana State Fiddle Championship was also held on Saturday in the Magale Recital Hall as part of the Festival. Fiddle Championship judges included Clancey Ferguson, Phillip Mayo, Beau Thomas, and Yvette Landry. The new Louisiana Grand Champion is Mary Harris of Breaux Bridge. Second place winner was Ben Robinson of Choudrant, with Joe Suchanek of Fields placing third. Robinson also took first in the 22-59 championship division. Caroline Meche of Arnaudville took first place in the 12 and under championship division. Owen Meche of Arnaudville took second place in the 21 and under championship division. Suchanek took first in the 60 and up championship division, with Ron Pace of Alexandria



Thistle Dancers

coming in second. Harris and Brazos Huval of Breaux Bridge took first place in the twin fiddles competition, with Pace and Suchanek taking second.

As the new Louisiana State Fiddle champion, Harris also performed on the main stage in Prather Coliseum. **Dr. Lisa Abney** managed the fiddle championship. Dr. Susan Roach from Louisiana Tech University emceed the championship.

Two traditional crafts persons, a musician, and a folk dance group were inducted into the Louisiana Folklife Center's Hall of Master Folk Artists. Inductees included fiddler Amanda Shaw, who also served as honorary Festival Chair, instrument maker R.V. Couch, wire toy maker Elvin Shields, and the Louisiana Czech Heritage Dancers. **Dr. Shane Rasmussen**, director of the Louisiana Folklife Center, led the induction ceremony, assisted by **Dr. Sarah McFarland**.

In addition to two book signings and seven exhibits by such groups as state parks and archives, over 70 craftspeople displayed their traditional work on Saturday. These craftspeople demonstrated and discussed their work with the Festival patrons. Craftspeople displayed accordion making,



Lion Dancers

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beadwork, baskets, Czech Pysanky eggs, filé making, flintknapping, folk art, knives, music instruments, quilting, pottery, spinning & weaving, tatting, walking sticks, whittling and needlework, wood carving, and more. Eight food vendors provided a cornucopia of traditional Louisiana foods to the Festival audience.



Caddo Culture Dancers

Support for the Louisiana State Fiddle Championship and the Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival was provided by grants from the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc., the Louisiana Division of the Arts, the Louisiana Office of Tourism, the Natchitoches Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation, and the Shreveport Regional Arts Council.

Much needed support also came from generous sponsorships from Aaron's Rent to Own, Bank of Montgomery, C&H Precision Machining, Chili's, City Bank & Trust, the City of Natchitoches, Cleco, John Clifton Conine, Atty; Domino's Pizza, Exchange Bank, Georgia's Gift Shop, Grayson's Barbecue, the Harrington Law Firm, Jeanne's

Country Garden, Little Caesars, the Natchitoches Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, Nicky's Mexican Restaurant, Piggly Wiggly, Raising Cane's, Ronnie's Collision Center, Shea's Kreative Kakes, Natchitoches Super 1 Foods 604 and 613, Trailboss, UniFirst, Walmart, Waste Connections, and Weaver Brothers Land & Timber. In addition, numerous newspapers, online venues, and radio and TV stations assisted the Festival by generously printing articles, airing interviews, and free promotional PSAs.

The success of the Festival was made possible due to the many people from NSU's faculty and staff who gave so generously of their time and talents. The Louisiana Folklife Center is grateful to **Dr. Lisa Abney, Debbie Adair, Vicki Ammons, David Antilley, Annalaura**

Axson, Erin Bates, Amber Beasley, Scott Burrell, Kay Cavanaugh, Yvette Ceasar-Williams, Jason Church, Alicia Davis, Marisa Dawson, Matt DeFord, Michelle DeMattie, Dr. Khirsten Doolan, Patric DuBois, Kayla Dunagan, Bruce Dyjack, Stephanie Dyjack, Savannah Edwards, Dr. Kathryn Gentry, Cody Germany, Daniel Gordy, Dr. Hiram F. "Pete" Gregory, Captain Wesley Harrell, Jackie Hawkins, Blayne Henson, Daphne Hines, Brianna Hocke, Hunter Horton, Dr. Steve Horton, Carla Howell, Debbie Huntington, Collier Hyams, Martin Iddon, Leah Jackson, Alysia Jones, Dr. Marcus Jones, Pat Jones, Anna Jordan, Jennifer Kelly, Marisa Kelly, Jon Lentz, Cathy Liles, Megan Lowe, Byron McKinney, Charity McKinney, Ashley Mitchell, Taylor

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Folk Festival ...

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Morgan, Le’Kisha Morris, Melinda Parnell, Carlos C. Patron, Jerry Pierce, Chris Reich, Shadana Reliford-Palmer, Tamila Reliford, Dr. Thomas Reynolds, Kristi Salard, Valerie Salter, Leonard Sarpy, Michael Scott, Dr. Jennifer Shaw, Christina Shields, Trena Smith, Bethany Straub, Charlotte Thomas, Gwendolyn Tucker-Meshell, Scarlett Vasocu, Kathy Vaughn, Erica Vercher, Sherri Voebel, Hillary Ward, Hannah Wenninger, David West, Emily Windham, Shirley Winslow, and Dale Wohletz. NSU students included **Candace Thornton.** NSU alumni included **James Christopher Callahan** and **Matthew Phillips.** Many thanks are due to the Louisiana Folklife



17-year-old Mary Harris of Arnaudville is this year’s Louisiana Grand Champion Fiddler.

Center staff, including administrative coordinator **Bessie Jones**, student workers **Brycen Kennedy, LeT’Anna Ledet, Aaron Malone, Alexis McDonald, Leah Morace, Kevin Thomas**, and graduate assistants **Zoe Hebert** and **Chris Jay.**

Thanks also go out to Robert D. Bennett, Jennae Biddiscombe, Rebecca Blankenbaker, Melanie

Braquet, Regina Brossett, the Central Louisiana Dutch Oven Cookers, Catherine Cooper, Donald Choate, Helen Dalme, Ted Dumas, Sandy Dunn, Eli Dyjack, Justin French, Dustin Fuqua, Arlene Gould, Sophia Gruesbeck, Jerry Hale, **Dr. Don Hatley**, Sue Hatley, David Holcombe, Donnie Hyams, Ganey “Pop” Hymes, Ed Huey, JaVon Jones, Peter Jones, John Litzenberg, Melissa Tucker Megason, Audrey Rasmussen, Gidget Rasmussen, Susan Rasmussen, Wyatt Rasmussen, Parish President John Richmond, Jake Rivers, Gordon Rivet, Carolyn Roberson, Stephen Rock Sanders, the Red River Sanitors, Rick Seale, Kevin Shannahan, Lori Tate Speer, Hank Staples and WHS Productions, Trini Triggs, Bill Vance, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., Shirley Winslow, Marty Young, Ron Yule, and the Natchitoches Parish Detention Center trustees and guard Aaron Sines.



Inductees into the Louisiana Folklife Center’s Hall of Master Folk Artists were recognized during the Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival. From left are Dr. Shane Rasmussen, director of the Louisiana Folklife Center; music instrument maker R.V. Couch, fiddler Amanda Shaw, who also served as honorary Festival Chair; twisted wire toy maker Elvin Shields, and the Louisiana Czech Heritage Dancers.

Resources and Assistance

For assistance in seeking information about funding opportunities, preparing proposals or administering projects, contact the Office of Sponsored Programs by phone, 357-5222; e-mail at orsp@nsula.edu, or visit the OSP website at <http://www.nsula.edu/orsp>.

OSP Staff

Carla Howell

Director of Purchasing and Sponsored Programs Administration, ULS Research/Grant Content Expert

Alysia Jones

Associate Director

Office of Sponsored Programs

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, Louisiana Folklife Center, College of Arts and Sciences, received the following notifications of awards for “42nd Annual Natchitoches – NSU Folk Festival:

\$3,500 from the Cane River National Heritage Area,

\$3,500 from the Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission,

\$8,742.50 from the Louisiana Office of Tourism, and

\$10,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Ms. Nancy Alexander, Child and Family Network, College of Education and Human Development, received notification of a \$741,165 award from the Louisiana Department of Education for “Child Care Resource and Referral for Region 8 and Part of Region 7.” **Ms. Kimberly Duncan** is collaborator.

Ms. Kimberly Duncan, Child and Family Network, College of Education and Human Development, received notification of a \$375,250 award from the Louisiana Department of Education for “2022 Believe! Funding for Expanding Early Childhood Community Network.” **Ms. Nancy P. Alexander** is collaborator.

Ms. Kimberly Duncan, Child and Family Network, College of Education and Human Development, received notifications of awards from the Louisiana Department of Education for the following:

\$503,445 for “Birth to Three Seats 2022 for Bossier Parish,” and

\$100,000 for “2022 Ready Start Cohort 4.” **Ms. Camille Holden** is collaborator.

Ms. Kimberly Duncan, Child and

Family Network, College of Education and Human Development, received notification of a \$100,000 award from the Louisiana Department of Education for “2022 Community Supply Building and Access Expansion Grant.” **Ms. Nancy Alexander**, **Ms. Jill Watkins**, and **Ms. Paula Youngblood**.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Mr. Kevin Ammons, National Center for Preservation, Technology, and Training, submitted a proposal to the National Park Service entitled, “Partnering for Preservation 2020 – Modification 1.”

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, LA Folklife Center, College of Arts and Sciences, submitted a proposal to the Louisiana Division of the Arts/Shreveport Regional Arts Council entitled, “2023 Natchitoches – NSU Folk Festival.”

LA BOARD OF REGENTS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FY 2022-2023

Requests for Proposals for the FY 2022-2023 Louisiana Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) competitive cycle are now available at <https://web.laregents.org>. When submitting proposals to the Sponsored Programs Office, please complete the required internal routing forms which are now electronically formatted for obtaining approval signatures. A working draft or nearly complete copy of the proposal, a budget/budget justification and supporting documentation should accompany these forms during the approval process.

If you should have any questions or have interest in submitting a proposal, please contact either Carla Howell or Alysia Jones at orsp@nsula.edu or 318.357.5222 to discuss the proposal preparation process.

August Non-Credit Classes

Pick Up your Brush-Painting Classes

In these classes, you will learn the art of painting using step-by-step instructions to create a masterpiece of your own. No special or prior skill required. Just relax and enjoy each class. Students will take home a completed painting at the end of every class.

Children ages 7 – 12 years old are allowed to enroll, but a parent MUST accompany the child the entire class. Parent does not have to enroll unless they participate. All supplies included.

Date: August 4, Thursday Floral
teacup
August 11, Thursday Evening
sky and tree
Time: 5:30 - 8:30 pm, Thursday
Fee: \$45 per session
Location: 2nd Floor South Hall
Instructor: Shanna Dees Gaspard

Drivers Education Third Party Road Skills Test for NSU Driver Education Students

This course is for registration for a session to complete Road Skills Testing. **NOTE:** You will only register for one session and each session is limited to one person.

Date: Dates vary
Time: Times vary
Fee: \$40-Registration fee
\$10-Vehicle fee

Contact the Office of Electronic and Continuing Education for more details or visit checkout.nsula.edu to register

Location: NSU, South Hall
Instructor: Sherry Helms

Water Aerobics

Using the unique properties of the water, this class provides you with a fun and challenging workout designed to increase your heart rate, strengthen muscles, increase flexibility, and enhance endurance. Water Aerobics meets the demands of the most skilled movers and is gentle enough on the joints for those seeking a low impact alternative.

Date: August 2-11, Tuesday,
Wednesday, & Thursday
Time: 9:30 – 10:30 am
Fee: \$29-August Session
Location: Robert W. Wilson Recreation
Complex
6604 Highway 1 Bypass
Instructor: Kaitlyn Hamm

For more information or to register for classes, go to checkout.nsula.edu or call (800)376-2422 or (318)357-6355.

Water aerobics classes start Aug. 2

A water aerobics class will be offered by Northwestern State University's Office of Electronic and Continuing Education beginning Tuesday, August 2.

The 60-minute class will begin at 9:30 a.m. on August 2-4 and 9-11. The fee is \$29.

Using the unique properties of the water, this class provides a fun and challenging workout designed to increase your heart rate, strengthen muscles, increase flexibility, and enhance endurance. Water aerobics meets the demands of the most skilled movers and is gentle enough on the joints for those seeking a low impact alternative.

For more information or to register, please visit checkout.nsula.edu or email ece@nsula.edu or call (318) 357-6355.



The Louisiana Scholars' College at NSU hosted a recruiting event for participants of the ADVANCE program for young scholars. From left are LSC Recruiter Mia Adams, LSC Director Dr. Tyler Travillian, NSU students and ADVANCE program staff Joseph Adams, Caiden Matthews and Kendall Fowler and NSU President Dr. Marcus Jones.

Scholars' recruits ADVANCE program participants

The Louisiana Scholars' College (LSC) at Northwestern State University hosted a recruiting event for older participants of NSU's ADVANCE Program for Young Scholars (ADVANCE). ADVANCE is a three-week residential program that offers a challenging and rewarding curriculum for academically motivated middle and high school students. Students enroll in one course for three weeks of intense and demanding study and cover an entire year's worth of school material. Courses have a maximum of 15 students creating a low student-faculty ratio and are taught by a talented group of highly qualified Instructor-Teaching Assistant (TA) teams.

While the academic curriculum is central to the ADVANCE experience, the program ensures that students have a fabulous time when they are not in class. The residential staff members offer a wide variety of social and recreational activities to assist in creating lasting friendships and strengthen the ADVANCE community.

ADVANCE students come from many different backgrounds and have a wide variety of opinions and beliefs. Engaging in such diversity is part of the educational experience that the

program provides, and ADVANCE encourages students to appreciate the similarities and respect the differences that make each student unique.

The Louisiana Scholars' College serves as the state's selective-admission honors college of the liberal arts and sciences. Its mission is to provide highly motivated students with a rigorous, customized honors education firmly grounded in the liberal arts and sciences.

Students may pursue a traditional major or an interdisciplinary concentration in Classical Studies; Fine and Performing Arts; Foreign Languages; Humanities and Social Thought; Philosophy, Politics, and Economics or Scientific Inquiry.

The Scholars' College offers small classes, a close-knit community, and supportive faculty who are committed to student success. Most classes are seminars in which ideas are exchanged in an open and supportive environment. There are also opportunities for internships, undergraduate research, and study abroad.

Applying to college, qualifying scores, scholarship opportunities, and deadlines were discussed with ADVANCE students who are rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors.