

SPRING 2014

# LOUISIANA FOLK

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LOUISIANA FOLKLIFE CENTER

## THE 35th ANNUAL NATCHITOCHEES-NSU FOLK FESTIVAL

The 2014 Festival theme is “Tricentennial Natchitoches: Celebrating Louisiana’s Folk Heritage.” The oldest permanent settlement in the Louisiana Purchase, Natchitoches was founded in the winter of 1713-14 when French explorer Louis Juchereau de St. Denis set up a trading post on the Red River. The region came to be known for its thriving agricultural economy and as a hub of international trade between the French, Spanish, and Native American populations. These peoples combined with each other as well as with the region’s black population (both slaves and freed people of color) to become families, giving rise in the area to a vibrant Creole people, who made their homes along the Cane and Red Rivers. Today much of the region’s population self-identifies as Creole, with continued African American, Anglo, and Hispanic populations adding to the cultural mix of Natchitoches. Although its borders are smaller than in the past, Natchitoches Parish today is geographically the largest parish in Louisiana, and the people of Natchitoches consider their heritage to be deeply tied to who they are. This Festival will celebrate the ways in which the people of the Natchitoches region in Northwestern Louisiana have kept their diverse folkways alive through passing them down from one to another in person to person contact. The folk music of the region, ranging from Cajun, Zydeco, French Creole la la, bluegrass, country and western, rockabilly, blues, and gospel, will be performed. Regional crafts, such as Native American alligator jewelry and palmetto baskets, filé making, handmade toys, and Spanish moss dolls will be exhibited, along with day long demonstrations by the craft persons working on site. Some of the many narrative sessions with cultural authorities will include discussions of the legacy of self-taught folk artist Clementine Hunter, Natchitoches regional cuisine (like the famous Natchitoches meat pies!), regional folk architectural styles such as *bousillage*, and the El Camino Real, which begins in nearby Los Adaes. Along with the Louisiana State Fiddle Championship, this will be a Festival to remember! Join us for a rousing celebration of Louisiana’s heritage, past and present!

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2015 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival

Hall of Master Folk Artists 2

Narrative/Informance Sessions  
Workshops  
Crafts 3

Friday Music Schedule  
Louisiana State Fiddle  
Championship 4

Saturday Music Schedule 5

Thanks to Supporters 6

General Information  
Fiddle Championship Donation Form  
KidFest  
Exhibits 7

Folk Festival Donation Form 8

## HONORARY CHAIR



Al Ferrier was born in Montgomery, LA in 1935 into a large musical family. Ferrier began playing guitar at the age of 8 with his older brother. At the age of 13, Al quit school to work in a logging camp with his brothers. When Al was old enough, he formed a country trio with his two brothers, Al Ferrier & the Boppin’ Billies. Hank Williams, Jimmie Rodgers & Grandpa Jones influenced Al’s music. Ferrier made his first recordings in 1955 for Goldband labels. He has played many times at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival as well as the Rockhouse Rock ‘n’ Roll Meeting in Zwolle. Al Ferrier has been hailed as the “King of Louisiana Rockabilly.” Ferrier’s live recording, *Al Ferrier and the Showtimers*, LP will be sold in the Country Store at the Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival.

## 2015 Natchitoches – NSU Folk Festival

The 2015 Festival theme, "Backroads and Bayous: Celebrating Louisiana's Rural Folklife," harks back to a culture when Louisiana society was predicated upon communal folkways. Survival often meant banding together to engage in group activities and celebrations, when traditional ways of agriculture, craftsmanship, and sociality meant tapping into wisdom that was tested not only in the fires of time but in firsthand experience. Folkways such as star watching as a means of telling time, harvest and gathering as group cohesion and shared labor, and music making as a group entertainment rather than a private escape all speak of the richness of rural cultural folkways. The 2015 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival will highlight the communal ethos and the quiet genius of the folk in a celebration of shared rural folk culture. The traditional musical genres that will be performed at the 2015 Festival comprise a diverse landscape with musicians coming from throughout the state to perform, including some of your favorite Cajun and Zydeco performers. The Festival will also include the folk crafts people and traditional foods the Festival is renowned for, as well as the Louisiana State Fiddle Championship! Join us for a rousing celebration of Louisiana's rural heritage and living folklife, past and present!

### Hall of Master Folk Artists

#### **Al Ferrier**

(See Honorary Chair)

#### **Jeffery Broussard**

Jeffery Broussard was born in Lafayette, LA in 1967 to a family of rural sharecroppers. Broussard began playing drums at the age of 8 in his father's band, Delton Broussard and the Lawtell Playboys. Jeffery left school after seventh grade to farm full time to help his parents make ends meet. He would often sneak into the house, get his daddy's accordion down from the closet and teach himself how to play. OffBeat magazine awarded Best Zydeco Album to Broussard in 2009 and The State of Louisiana Lieutenant Governor's Office Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism; Louisiana Division of the Arts awarded him the Artist Fellowship in Folklife. Jeffery has played at the Nuits Cajun & Zydeco de Saulieu, in France, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, and Festival International de Louisiane, in Lafayette, Louisiana among others. The Mayor of Opelousas, Louisiana ("the Zydeco Capital of the World) calls Jeffery Broussard "one of the greatest accordion players to ever grace our beautiful Creole culture and for that matter the world." Dedicated to preserving and promoting the Creole culture and traditional Zydeco music, Jeffery plays with passion and commitment to carry on his daddy's legacy. Jeffery will participate in the FREE Accordion Workshop on Saturday afternoon! (See page 3 for details)

#### **Jo-El Sonnier**

Jo-El was born in Rayne, Louisiana to French speaking sharecroppers. He began to play the accordion at 3 years old. Sonnier got his first radio debut at the age of 6 and his first recording session at the age of 11. Jo-El has played with Hank Williams Jr., Johnny Cash, Alan Jackson, Robert Cray, Neil Diamond, Mark Knopfler, Elvis Costello, Merle Haggard and Dolly Parton. In addition to singing, Sonnier is a songwriter and has had his songs recorded by artists such as Johnny Cash, George Strait, Emmy Lou Harris, John Anderson and Jerry Lee Lewis. Jo-El has received 4 Grammy nominations, and was nominated by the Academy of Country Music for the "New Male Vocalist of the Year Award." One of his albums was the only Nashville album chosen by *People Magazine* as one of the ten best albums of 1989. He has performed in 28 countries, and in 49 states, including the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and the Edmonton Folk Festival. Jo-El Sonnier's music is a way of life; he has been the "King of Cajun" for the past 25 years.

## Narrative/ Informance Sessions

July 19, 2014

### N-Club Room

9:00-9:45 Plantation Life  
10:00-10:45 Rockabilly & Louisiana with Al Ferrier  
11:00-11:45 Music Informance with Bonsoir, Catin  
12:00-12:45 Regional Folk Architectural Styles  
1:00-2:30 Accordion Workshop and Jam Session with Jeffery Broussard and Goldman Thibodeaux  
3:00-3:45 Bluegrass Music Informance with Grassfire  
4:00-4:45 Los Adaes  
5:00-5:45 The Legacy of Clementine Hunter

### Basketball Room

9:00-9:45 Smithfield Fair  
10:00-10:45 The Importance of Louisiana Traditional Music with Jo-El Sonnier  
11:00-11:45 Hambone Workshop with Ed Huey  
12:00-12:45 Blues in the Delta with Ed Huey, Jeffrey LeBlanc, and Hardrick Rivers  
1:00-1:45 Fort St. Jean Baptiste  
2:00-2:45 Natchitoches Parish Regional Cuisine  
3:00-3:45 Indians along the *El Camino Real*  
4:00-4:45 Caddo Crafts  
5:00-5:45 Music Informance with Cameron Dupuy and The Cajun Troubadours

## FREE Accordion Workshop to be held at Festival

Have you ever been interested in playing the accordion? This year NSU's Folk Festival will have an Accordion Workshop and Jam Session with Jeffery Broussard and Goldman Thibodeaux. This event is **FREE** for the festival audience so come out and learn to play the accordion! Bring your own accordion and tune it to either 'C' or 'D'. All skill levels are welcome. **Space is limited to 20 people.** If you are interested in participating, register by email at: [folklife@nsula.edu](mailto:folklife@nsula.edu) by 3 pm on July 1st.

## FREE Hambone Workshop to be held at Festival

Did you know your body can be used as a musical instrument? I'm not talking about just your voice, but your very own hands against your body making musical fun. Ed Huey will be demonstrating this technique that will leave you in awe. It is fun for the whole family and **FREE** for festival patrons!

## Traditional Crafts Saturday Only 8:00am-5:00pm

**Judith Braggs** — quilted folk art wall hangings  
**Lora Ann Chaisson** — alligator jewelry, palmetto baskets  
**A. B. Crochet** — original wood relief paintings  
**John Colson**—file' maker  
**Thomas Colvin**—boat making, palmetto & cane baskets  
**Kathy Tate Davis** — okra pod artist  
**Bill Ellzey**—wood carving, walking sticks  
**Barbara Franklin** — dolls  
**Tommy Gandy** — scrollwork & wooden puzzles for children  
**Michael & Contina Graham** — leather bound journals; jewelry  
**Rebecca Knight**—Koasati baskets & bead work  
**Juanita Leonard**— painter, sculptor  
**Ann Luster** — Spanish moss dolls & other Houma crafts  
**Shelton Meacham**—banjos & preserves  
**Gladys Miller**—dulcimers  
**Jackie Miller** — Mardi Gras masks, regalia  
**Chris Moore**— iron work, wreaths, birdhouses

**Elisabeth Pierite Mora** — Tunica-Biloxi bead work  
**Christy Murphy** — chinaberry necklaces  
**Doris Perkins** — Lye soap, quilling, wood burning  
**Fred Pittman, Jr.** — custom knives  
**Trish Ransom** — debris art  
**Jereldine Redcorn** — Caddo pottery  
**Margo Rosas** — beadwork, leatherwork  
**Ken & Mary Royston** — whittling, carvings, quilting  
**Elvin Shields** — plantation toys  
**Gladys Shutt** — pine needle baskets  
**Dolly Stamper** — traditional weaver, spinner, dyer  
**Frieda Tuma** — pysanky eggs  
**Alice Tyler** — Clifton Choctaw bead work  
**Otis Voorhies** — cow & bull whips  
**Myrna Wilson** — Koasati pine straw baskets  
**Zack Woodard**—master wood carver  
*And many more!!*

# 2014 Music Schedule

## Friday, July 18, 2014

West Stage	Main Stage	East Stage
	4:30 Doors Open	
5:00-5:45 Detention Center Choir	5:00-5:45 Cajun Dance Lessons	5:15-6:00 Jesus Rhythm
6:00-7:15 Smithfield Fair	6:00-7:15 Line Dancing with Katrice LaCour!	6:15-7:30 Hardrick Rivers and the Rivers Revue Band
7:30-9:30 Open Bluegrass and Country Jam with Max and Marcy	7:30—8:45 Don Fontenot et Les Amis de Louisiane	7:45-9:00 Reverend Charley's Patent Medi- cine Show
	9:00-11:00 Corey Ledet and his Zydeco Band	

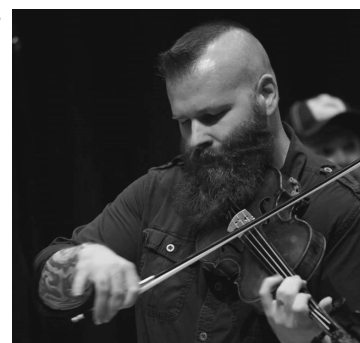
## Louisiana State Fiddle Championship

On Saturday July 19, 2014, the Folk Festival will host the Louisiana State Fiddle Championship from 12:00pm to 4:00pm in Magale Recital Hall. Fiddlers from around the state will compete for cash prizes and ribbons in two main categories—Non-Championship Division and Championship Division. Fiddlers are welcome to enter in either division but not both. Those who enter the Championship Division will compete for the Grand Champion title. Alternatively, the Non-Championship Division is not competitive for the state championship. The two top fiddlers from each group in the Championship Division— ages 0-21, 22-59, 60 and above — will compete for cash prizes and the opportunity to be recognized as the state's best fiddler.

At 5:30pm on Saturday, the winner will perform on the Festival's main stage in Prather Coliseum

Fiddle Championship Late Registration  
2nd Floor Recital Hall Foyer  
12:00-1:00

Richard Smith & Julie Adams  
Recital Hall  
11:30-12:45



**Thomas Jenkins**  
**Grand Champion**  
**2013**

For more information visit our website at <http://louisianafolklife.nsula.edu>

# 2014 Music Schedule

## Saturday, July 19, 2014

West Stage	Main Stage	East Stage
9:00-10:15 Grassfire	9:00-10:45 Caddo Culture Club	9:00-9:45 Ed Huey
10:30-11:45 Back Porch Band		10:00-11:15 Jeffrey LeBlanc and the Delta Drifters
	11:00-12:15 Cameron Dupuy and the Cajun Troubadours	11:30-12:30 Steve Wells Music
12:00-1:15 Caddo Culture Club	12:30-1:00 Welcome Ceremony Festival Honorary Chair: Al Ferrier LA Folklife Hall of Master Folk Artists Inductees: Jeffery Broussard, Al Ferrier, and Jo-El Sonnier	
1:30-2:30 Steve Wells Music	1:15-2:00 Cajun Dance Lessons	12:45-2:00 Grassfire
2:45-3:45 Smithfield Fair	2:15-3:45 Jo-El Sonnier and Louisiana Pride	2:15-3:00 Al Ferrier
4:00-5:00 Jeffrey LeBlanc and the Delta Drifters	4:00-5:15 Jeffery Broussard and the Creole Cowboys	3:15-4:15 Goldman Thibodeaux and the Lawtell Playboys
5:15-6:00 Al Ferrier	5:30-6:00 Louisiana State Fiddle Champion	4:30-5:45 Bonsoir, Catin
6:15-7:15 Cameron Dupuy and the Cajun Troubadours	6:15-7:30 Line Dancing with Katrice LaCour!	6:00-7:15 Jeffery Broussard and the Creole Cowboys
7:30-8:30 Reasonable Facsimile	7:45-9:00 Bonsoir, Catin	7:30-8:45 Goldman Thibodeaux and the Lawtell Playboys
8:45-10:30 Open Bluegrass and Country Jam with Max and Marcy	9:15-10:45 Hardrick Rivers and the Rivers Revue Band	

# Thanks For Your Support

## Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival Contributors

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Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism, in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council, and Shreveport Regional Arts Council.



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CANE RIVER  
 NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

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## What to know before you go

Dates: July 18th and July 19th 2014

Friday: 4:30 pm to 11:00 pm

Box Office opens at 4:30 pm;

No on site tickets will be sold before 4:30 pm

Saturday: 8:00 am to 11:00 pm

Box Office opens at 8:00 am; No on site tickets will be sold before 8:00 am

### Ticket Information

Discounted all-event passes may be purchased M-Th from 9 am to 4 pm, and must be purchased by **2 pm** on

**Thursday July 17, 2014** at the

Louisiana Folklife Center, Room 213 Kyser Hall.

**No discounted all-event passes will be sold at the Festival.**

### Ticket Prices

\$8.00 all day pass

\$5.00 evening only

FREE kids 12 and under

\$11.00 two day pass available in advance only

### The Fiddle Championship needs your support to remain an ongoing event!

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Supporter—2 passes (all events)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Friend—4 passes (all events), 1 t-shirt

\_\_\_\_\_ \$250 Patron—8 passes (all events), 2 t-shirts  
& Stage Signage

\_\_\_\_\_ Other Amount- \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In addition, you will receive recognition from the stage, listing in the Festival Program and on the website, and the opportunity to present a prize.

Make checks payable to: **NSU Foundation**

Mail to: Louisiana Folklife Center

NSU Box 3663

Natchitoches, LA 71497



## Silent Auction

A Silent Auction will be held July 19th from 9 am—4 pm in Prather Coliseum. Items for the Auction will be donated by various craft people. Revenue from the Auction will be used to pay for some of the many festival expenses.

## Directions to Festival

The Festival is held in comfortable, air-conditioned Prather Coliseum, on the campus of Northwestern State University in historic Natchitoches. The site provides ample, nearby parking and is handicap accessible. No alcohol is allowed or sold on the site. To reach the Coliseum, take the Natchitoches exit from I-49. From Shreveport, turn left; from Alexandria, turn right onto Hwy. 6 / University Parkway and turn right onto South Jefferson. Prather Coliseum is on the right, just past the President's house and the tennis courts. Contact the Louisiana Folklife Center at (318) 357-4332 or [folklife@nsula.edu](mailto:folklife@nsula.edu) <http://louisianafolklife.nsula.edu> for more information. Natchitoches Convention & Visitors Bureau 800-259-1714

## KIDFEST

Kidfest is an area dedicated to child-friendly activities and is a fun way for children to examine their own cultural and family traditions as well as those from around the state. Kidfest will be available on Saturday ONLY from 8:30am to 4:00pm.

## EXHIBITS

Bob's Tree Preservation, Joe Domovich, Arborist  
Cammie G. Henry Research Center  
Cane River Creole National Historic Park  
Caroline Dormon Nature Preserve  
Fort Jesup State Historic Site  
Fort St. Jean Baptiste Historic Site  
Natchitoches Genealogical & Historical Assoc.  
Rebel State Historic Site

The Louisiana Folklife Center  
NSU Box 3663  
Natchitoches, LA 71497-0014  
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louisianafolklife.nsula.edu  
www.facebook.com/nsulafolklifecenter

## 2014 Natchitoches -NSU Folk Festival

“Tricentennial Natchitoches: Celebrating Louisiana’s Folk Heritage”

Please check your donation preference:

\*Make checks payable to the **NATCHITOCHEs-NSU FOLK FESTIVAL** \*

Mail to: **Louisiana Folklife Center, NSU Box 3663, Natchitoches, LA 71497**

\_\_\_ **Friend of the Festival** (\$25)

Receives: 1 pass (all events)

\_\_\_ **Member** (\$50)

Receives: 2 passes (all events)

\_\_\_ **Sponsor** (\$100)

Receives: 4 passes (all events)

1 T-shirt (size \_\_\_)

\_\_\_ **Patron** (\$250)

Receives: 8 passes (all events)

2 T-shirts (sizes \_\_, \_\_)

\_\_\_ **Grand Patron** (\$500)

Receives: 10 passes (all events)

3 T-shirts (Sizes \_\_, \_\_, \_\_)

\_\_\_ **Benefactor** (\$1000)

Receives: 20 passes (all events), 4 t-shirts

Logo on Stage and mentioned in news releases

\_\_\_ **Grand Benefactor** (\$2500)

Receives: 30 Passes (all events)

5 T-shirts (Sizes: \_\_, \_\_, \_\_, \_\_, \_\_)

Logo on stage and mentioned in news releases and advertising

In addition, all donors will receive listing in the Festival Program and on the website.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_