

Spring 2015

# Louisiana Folk

## Official Newsletter of the Louisiana Folklife Center

The 36th Annual Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival  
July 17th–18th, 2015

The 2015 Festival theme, “Backroads and Bayous: Celebrating Louisiana’s Rural Folklife,” harks back to when Louisiana society and the larger Delta were based 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 lived experience. The 2015 Festival will celebrate the many Louisianans that keep these traditions alive. Come hear narrative sessions on Cane River quilting, traditional boat and furniture making, Delta foodways, and canning and preserving. Participate in this year’s free fiddle and woodcarving workshops. Taste open hearth cooking or try an Indian taco. Try your hand at plowing with Percheron horses, and check out demonstrations on quilting, soap making, working cattle dogs, blacksmithing, and traditional Czech dancing. Meet Louisiana’s best crafters-this year more than ever before! Check out the excitement of the Louisiana State Fiddle Championship! And, of course, don’t forget to cut the rug with crowd pleasers such as the Jambalaya Cajun Band with D.L. Menard, Richard LeBouef and Two Step, the Fugitive Poets, Kevin Naquin and the Ossun Playboys, the Born Not Yets String Band, Gal Holiday and the Honky Tonk Revue, the Caddo Creek Band, Kira Viator and Bayou Beat, Nathan and the Zydeco Cha-Chas, and, from the Netherlands, international bluegrass group The Haystax! The 2015 Festival is one you will not want to miss!

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Fiddle Championship  
Fiddle Donation Form  
Hall of Master Folk Artists Page 2

What To Know Before You Go  
Silent Auction, Exhibits,  
Demonstrations, KidFest, Book  
Signings Page 3

Friday–Tentative Music Schedule  
Tentative Narrative &  
Informance Sessions Page 4

Saturday Tentative Music Schedule  
Page 5

Crafts  
Fiddle Workshop  
Woodcarving Workshop  
2016 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival  
Page 6

Thanks to Supporters Page 7

Donation Information Page 8

### 2015 Honorary Chair



People often ask Otis Voorhies how he got into the whip making business. It was purely accidental. After he retired from the oil industry, he took a part time job at International Paper Mill as a security guard. One day the work yard crew leader was talking about not being able to find someone to fix the broken stock on his cowboy whip. After listening to the story a couple of times, Voorhies told him to bring the whip to him and he would try to fix it. The local blacksmith & wheelwright in the community that Voorhies grew up in showed him the basics of whip making, but he did not start making whips until 1985. He taught himself how to make them from what he remembered as a boy. Since then he has made about 215 whips. He has 3 in New Zealand, 2 in Hawaii, and has sold whips to people in 37 other states.

# Louisiana State Fiddle Championship

## Saturday, July 18th, 2015, 1:00–4:00 pm

The Folk Festival will host the Louisiana State Fiddle Championship 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. 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.



**Carson Taylor  
Grand Champion  
2014**

### Schedule

12:15-12:45 pm Magale Recital Hall  
19th Century Folk Music with James Linden Hogg

12:00-1:00 pm Magale Recital Hall, 2nd Floor Recital Hall Foyer;  
Fiddle Championship Late Registration

1:00-4:00pm LA. State Fiddle Championship, Magale Recital Hall

5:30pm Grand Champion will perform on the Festival’s main stage in Prather Coliseum

For more information visit our website at <http://louisianafolklife.nsula.edu>,  
or email us at: [folklife@nsula.edu](mailto:folklife@nsula.edu)

## YOU keep the festival alive!

**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** and write **“Fiddle Championship”** on the memo line.

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



**\*The Louisiana Folklife Center is unable to officially endorse political candidates or parties\***

## Hall of Master Folk Artists

### Nathan Williams

Growing up in a Creole-speaking home in St. Martinville, Nathan eagerly sought out the music of Zydeco originators such as Clifton Chenier. Later, while recovering from a serious illness, Nathan decided to dedicate himself to learning the accordion. That dedication blossomed into an illustrious career, which now spans three decades. The music of Nathan and the Zydeco Cha-Chas is the expression of a remarkable South Louisiana family. Nathan formed the Cha-Chas back in 1985, and since then has brought his unique take on this regional South Louisiana music to all corners of the globe.

### Hattie Addison

By Susan Roach

Hattie Addison, a native of Winnsboro, Louisiana, is the major force in maintaining the Easter Rock, a rare Easter eve vigil ritual tradition dating from the antebellum period in the northeast Louisiana Delta parishes. The ritual, which has been documented only in Louisiana, seems to have occurred as far north as Lake Providence and as south as Ferriday. Located in 1994 by Delta Folklife Project community scholar Annie Staten, the Winnsboro Easter Rock, organized and led by Addison, appears to be the only remaining group still carrying on the tradition today. Over the years, at least four generations of the Addison family have been central to the ritual. Her mother, Ellen Addison, had participated in Easter Rock since childhood in churches near Winnsboro. Addison began rocking at age 8 and later took over as director when her mother became too old to continue.

# What To Know Before You Go

**Location:** The Festival will be held July 17th & 18th in comfortable, air-conditioned Prather Coliseum which is located at **220 South Jefferson Street**, on the campus of Northwestern State University in historic Natchitoches, LA. The site is wheelchair accessible. No alcohol is allowed or sold on the site.

**Directions:** To Reach the Coliseum, take **Exit 138** (the Natchitoches exit) from I-49. From Shreveport, turn left; from Alexandria, turn right onto Hwy. 6/University Parkway. Continue driving for approximately 4 miles and turn right onto S. Jefferson. Prather Coliseum is on the right, just past the President's house and the tennis courts.

**Tickets can be purchased at Prather Coliseum on July 17/18th. Admission Prices at Prather Coliseum: Friday, July 17th—Saturday, July 18th, 2015.**

**FREE** for children 12 and under  
 Friday night only, \$5.00  
 Saturday, all day, \$8.00  
 Saturday evening only \$5.00 (after 5pm)

**Ticket Booth at Prather Coliseum will open at 4:30 pm on Friday, July 17th, 2015.**

Festival closes at 10:30 pm  
**Ticket Booth at Prather Coliseum will open at 8:00 am on Saturday, July 18th, 2015.** Festival closes at 10:30 pm



Wheelchair Accessible

**EARLY BIRD, all-events passes may be purchased prior to the Festival at a discounted price of \$11.00 per person through July 15th** at the Louisiana Folklife Center located in Room 213 of Kyser Hall on the campus of NSU in Natchitoches, LA. during the following hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 am-5 pm; Friday 8 am-11 am.

Tickets are also available for purchase by mail. Please send a check or money order made payable to Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival to the following address: Northwestern State University, LA Folklife Center, NSU box 3663, Natchitoches, LA 71497

**For more information about the Festival or the LA State Fiddle Championship, contact the Louisiana Folklife Center at (318) 357- 4332 or folklife@nsula.edu. For more information about Natchitoches, contact the Natchitoches Convention & Visitors Bureau at 800-259-1714.**

## Silent Auction

A Silent Auction will be held July 18th 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.

## 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

Cammie G. Henry Research Center  
 Cane River Creole National Historical Park  
 Betty & Connie Coutee, quilting bee demonstration  
 Fort St. Jean Baptiste State Historic Site, children's leisure games  
 Rebel State Historic Site, demonstration of musical instruments  
 And many others!

## Book Signings

**Robert Bennett, *The Bottle Tree, No' Chance, Second Chance, Junebug and the Body***  
**Linda Duff Niemeir, *Sharecropping in North Louisiana***  
**Kimberly Thompson, *Legends of the Swamps Series***

## Demonstrations

Fort Jesup State Historic Site, spinning  
 Fort St. Jean Baptiste State Historic Site, black pot cooking  
 Red River Smiths, Blacksmithing  
 Southern Stock Dog Association, working cattle dogs

## *We Need Your Help!*

Please help us update our files. If you no longer wish to receive the Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival newsletter, please let us know and we will remove your name from our mailing list. (We'll miss you!)  
 Call our office at 318-357-4332  
 or send an email to: folklife@nsula.edu

# Friday, July 17, 2015

## Ticket Booth & Doors Open at 4:30pm *Tentative* Music Schedule

West Stage	Main Stage	East Stage
5:00-5:45 Joyful Sounds	5:00-5:45 Cajun Dance Lessons	5:00-5:45 From the Netherlands, The Haystax!
6:00-7:15 Gal Holiday & the Honky Tonk Revue	6:00-7:15 From the Netherlands, The Haystax!	6:00-7:15 Reasonable Facsimile
7:30-9:30 Open Bluegrass & Country Jam with Max & Marcy	7:30-8:45 Jambalaya Cajun Band with D. L. Menard	7:30-8:45 Hardrick Rivers and the Rivers Revue Band
	9:00-10:30 Richard LeBouef & Two Step	

## Narrative/ Informance Sessions, July 18, 2015 *Tentative* Schedule

### N-Club Room

9:00-9:45 La Table Française Aux Natchitoches

10:00-10:45 19th Century Folk Music with James Linden Hogg

11:00-12:30 Fiddle Workshop with Dennis Elliott and Ron Yule

1:00-1:45 Traditional Boat Making

2:00-2:45 Music Informance with Kira Viator Weber and Bayou Beat

3:00-3:45 Traditional Agriculture in Louisiana

4:00-4:45 Delta Foodways

5:00-5:45 The Songs That Never Grow Old

### Basketball Room

9:00-9:45 Open Hearth Cooking: History & Myths

10:00-10:45 Music in the Delta with The Fugitive Poets

11:00-11:45 Quilting on the Cane

12:00-12:45 The Creole Table

1:00-1:45 Beginning Wood Carving Workshop with Roy Parfait and Michael Yankowski

2:00-2:45 Advanced Wood Carving Workshop with Roy Parfait and Michael Yankowski

3:00-3:45 Canning and Preserving

4:00-4:45 Music Informance with Nathan & the Zydeco Cha-chas

5:00-5:45 Music Informance with Kevin Naquin & the Ossun Playboys

# Saturday, July 18th, 2015

Ticket Booth & Doors Open at 8:00 am  
*Tentative* Music Schedule

West Stage	Main Stage	East Stage
<p>9:00-9:45 Tunica-Biloxi Singers &amp; Legend Keepers</p> <hr/> <p>10:00-10:45 Native American Culture in the Delta with the Tunica-Biloxi Singers</p> <hr/> <p>11:00-11:30 19th Century Folk Music with James Linden Hogg</p> <hr/> <p>11:45-12:15 Czech Dancers</p> <hr/> <p>12:30-1:45 The Fugitive Poets</p> <hr/> <p>2:15-3:30 Bethlehem Bluegrass Band</p> <hr/> <p>3:45-5:00 Back Porch Band</p> <hr/> <p>5:15-6:30 Born Not Yets String Band</p> <hr/> <p>6:45-8:00 Country with Graybow Riot</p> <hr/> <p>8:15-10:00 Open Bluegrass and Country with Max and Marcy</p>	<p>9:00-9:45 John &amp; Karen Keane</p> <hr/> <p>10:00-10:45 Dennis Elliott</p> <hr/> <p>11:00-12:15 Caddo Creek Band</p> <hr/> <p>12:30-1:00 Welcome Ceremony Festival Honorary Chair: Otis Voorhies LA Folklife Hall of Master Folk Artists Inductees: Hattie Addison, Otis Voorhies, &amp; Nathan Williams</p> <hr/> <p>1:15-2:00 Cajun Dance Lessons</p> <hr/> <p>2:15-3:45 Kevin Naquin and the Ossun Playboys</p> <hr/> <p>4:00-5:15 Kira Viator Weber and Bayou Beat</p> <hr/> <p>5:30-6:00 LA State Fiddle Champion</p> <hr/> <p>6:15-7:30 Caddo Creek Band</p> <hr/> <p>7:45-9:00 Nathan &amp; the Zydeco Cha-Chas</p> <hr/> <p>9:15-10:30 Hardrick Rivers &amp; the Rivers Revue Band</p>	<p>9:00-9:45 LA Fiddle Styles with Dennis Elliott and Ron Yule</p> <hr/> <p>10:00-11:30 Winnsboro Easter Rock Ensemble</p> <hr/> <p>11:45-1:00 Kira Viator Weber &amp; Bayou Beat</p> <hr/> <p>1:15-2:15 Born Not Yets String Band</p> <hr/> <p>2:30-3:45 Nathan &amp; the Zydeco Cha-Chas</p> <hr/> <p>4:00-5:15 Country with Graybow Riot</p> <hr/> <p>5:30-6:45 The Fugitive Poets</p> <hr/> <p>7:00-8:15 Kevin Naquin and the Ossun Playboys</p>

## Traditional Crafts— Saturday, July 18th, 8:00 am—5:00 pm

**Billy J. Anderson**, braided whips  
**Jean Becnel**, handmade furniture  
**Bonnie Boudreaux**, chair caning  
**David Chin**, wildlife photographer; fly rods  
**John Colson**, filé maker  
**Thomas Colvin**, boat making, Choctaw palmetto & cane baskets  
**R. V. Couch**, handmade musical instruments  
**Ray Dautat**, handmade wooden porch swings, rocking chairs  
**Bill Ellzey**, walking sticks, wooden thimbles  
**Keith Felder**, traditional handmade wooden boats  
**Kent Follette**, pottery  
**Barbara Franklin**, dolls  
**Tommy Gandy**, scrollwork & wooden toys for children  
**Betty Hatcher**, bobbin lace, tatting  
**Burley Johnson**, fishing flies “Flies by Design”  
**Martha LeJeune**, LA. Attakapas Eagle Tribe, jewelry, beadwork  
**Alma Lennear**, paintings  
**Juanita Leonard**, paintings, sculptures, folk art items  
**Ann Luster**, Spanish moss dolls & other Houma crafts

**Gladys Miller**, dulcimers  
**Christy Murphy**, chinaberry necklaces  
**Roy Parfait**, Houma wood carvings  
**Doris Perkins**, lye soap, quilling, wood burning  
**Billy Phillips**, LA. Wildfowl Woodcarvers— fish, decoys, signs, canes  
**Michael Pierite**, Tunica-Biloxi traditional crafts  
**Fred Pittman, Jr.**, custom knives  
**Pleasant Acres Jams & Jellies**, jams, jellies, sauces  
**Edward Procell**, bees, hives, honey  
**Carlene Robinson**, LA. Attakapas Eagle Tribe, jewelry, beadwork  
**Margo Rosas**, beadwork, leatherwork  
**Stan Routh**, drawings of historical landmarks  
**Ken & Mary Royston**, whittling, carvings, quilting  
**Elvin Shields**, plantation toys  
**Frieda Tuma**, pysanky eggs  
**Alice Tyler**, Clifton Choctaw bead work  
**Otis Voorhies**, cow & bull whips  
**Gena Wagley**, dolls  
**Myrna Wilson**, Koasati (Coushatta) pinestraw baskets

## FREE Fiddle Workshop to be held at Festival

Have you ever been interested in playing the fiddle? This year NSU’s Folk Festival will hold a Fiddle Workshop with Dennis Elliott and Ron Yule. **This event is FREE for the festival audience and will be held in Prather Coliseum.** So bring your fiddle and come out and learn to play the fiddle! All skill levels are welcome. *Space is limited to 20 people.* If you are interested in participating, register by sending an email to: [folklife@nsula.edu](mailto:folklife@nsula.edu) by 3 pm on July 1st.

## FREE Wood Carving Workshop to be held at Festival

Roy Parfait and Michael Yankowski will lead a FREE wood carving workshop on Saturday, July 18th. Space is limited to 20 people. If you are interested in participating, register by sending your name, address, and phone number to: [folklife@nsula.edu](mailto:folklife@nsula.edu) or call us at 318-357-4332

## 2016 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival, July 15-16, 2016

The 2016 Festival theme, “Emerging Artists,” will celebrate the many outstanding new artists keeping tradition alive in Louisiana. Traditional culture is important to these artists, who would rather spend their time playing the trumpet, the fiddle, or the accordion than they would video games. Louisiana’s folkways are not just of the past, but also of the present, and the voices of these artists emerge as a clarion call, reminding us of the vibrancy of traditional culture. This new generation of artists are today’s tradition bearers, and their impressive mastery of old forms made anew is a showcase of a living cultural legacy. The Festival will feature Cajun music by Briggs Brown and the Bayou Cajuns, Bubba Hebert and the New Morse Playboys, the Huval-Fuselier Trio, and the Sarah Jayde Combeaux, Zydeco by Lil Wayne and Same Ol’ 2 Step, bluegrass with the Palmers and Catahoula Drive, Appalachian dulcimer fusion with Twang Darkly, and New Orleans jazz by Meschiya Lake and the Little Big Horns! Also, traditional Vietnamese lion dancers, a free rubboard workshop, and, of course, crafts, food, and the Louisiana Fiddle Championship. Mark your calendar today!

# Thanks For Your Support!

## Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival Contributors

Ackel Investments LLC  
 Acme Refrigeration of Baton Rouge  
 Bill & Alice Bryant  
 R. V. Byles Enterprises of LA, Inc.  
 City Bank & Trust Co.  
 David & Linda Clark  
 Cleco  
 Family Medical Clinic  
 George & Mary Dugas  
 James L. Durham  
 J. R. & T. M. Foster  
 L. C. Guilbeau

Hurst & Jane Hall  
 Rick Hargis  
 Harrington Law Firm  
 Stanley & Edwina Lewis  
 Jimmy Long, Sr.  
 Bertha Tapley Lowe  
 Wayne & Sandra McCullen  
 Al V. Morgan  
 Glen & Kathleen Myers  
 Joanne H. Pickett  
 Lee Posey  
 Jean B. Princehouse

James Reese  
 Ronnie's Auto Glass & Collision Center  
 Kenneth & Mary Royston  
 Sharplin Hotels, Inc.  
 Time-It Lube, LLC  
 James R. Vincent  
 Weaver Bros.  
 Dr. Randall & Brenda Webb  
 Weyerhaeuser-Natchitoches Plant  
 Young Estate LLC

## Supported in part by grants & donations from the following:



Supported in part by a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development

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



Supported in part by a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council and administered by the Shreveport Regional Arts Council.



CANE RIVER

NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

This project was supported through funding provided by Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of Cane River National Heritage Area Inc.



The Louisiana Folklife Center  
NSU Box 3663  
Natchitoches, LA 71497-0014  
(318)-357-4332

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT 204  
NATCHITOCHEs, LA 71457

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

[louisianafolklife.nsula.edu](http://louisianafolklife.nsula.edu)



[www.facebook.com/nsulafolklifecenter](http://www.facebook.com/nsulafolklifecenter)

**2015 Natchitoches -NSU Folk Festival**

“Backroads and Bayous: Celebrating Louisiana’s Rural Folklife”

\*Make checks payable to **NSU FOUNDATION** and write “**Folk Festival**” on the memo line \*

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

**Friend (\$25)**

Receives: 1 pass (all events)

**Patron (\$250)**

Receives: 8 passes (all events)  
and 2 T-shirts

**Grand Benefactor (\$2500)**

Receives: 30 Passes (all events)  
and 5 T-shirts

**Member (\$50)**

Receives: 2 passes (all events)

**Grand Patron (\$500)**

Receives: 10 passes (all events)  
and 3 T-Shirts

**Sustainer (\$5000)**

Receives: 60 Passes (all events)  
and 10 T-shirts

**Sponsor (\$100)**

Receives: 4 passes (all events), 1 T-shirt

**Benefactor (\$1000)**

Receives: 20 passes (all events)  
and 4 T-shirts

**Folklife Visionary (\$10,000)**

Receives: 100 Passes (all events)  
and 20 T-shirts

All funds received before June 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 will receive listing in the Festival Program and on our website. In addition, Benefactors, Grand Benefactors, Sustainers, and Folklife Visionaries will receive a Commemorative Plaque, logo on the Main Stage, mention in news releases/advertising/social media, and acknowledgement on the Festival Flyer and Festival Poster.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Funds received after June 1, 2015 may not be listed in the Festival Program. Fair market value of items received may not be deducted from your Federal Income Tax.

**\*The Louisiana Folklife Center is unable to officially endorse political candidates or parties\***