Scholars invited to submit proposals for 13th annual Louisiana Studies Conference

The 13th Annual Louisiana Studies Conference will be held September 24-25, 2021 at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana. The 2021 conference will be held in a virtual delivery format via Microsoft Teams.

The conference committee is now accepting presentation proposals for the upcoming conference. Presentation proposals on any aspect of the 2021 conference theme “Heroes, Saints, and Outlaws,” as well as creative texts by, about, and/or for Louisiana and Louisianans, are sought for this year’s conference.

Although we are especially interested in proposals that deal with the theme of Heroes, Saints, and Outlaws, all papers and creative writing that address ANY aspect of Louisiana studies are welcome. Proposals are being solicited for fifteen-minute presentations from scholars at all career stages as well as graduate students. Creative work (creative non-fiction, short fiction, and poetry) is welcome. Undergraduates are invited to submit, provided they are working with the guidance of a trained scholar. (All undergraduate presenters under 18 years of age must have written permission from a parent or legal guardian.) Conference registration is FREE for all faculty, staff, and students affiliated with Bossier Parish Community College, the Louisiana Scholars’ College, the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and...
Northwestern State University recognized 
**Col. Jeffrey C. Mathews** for his military service 
during the March 6 football game. Known on 
campus as Dr. Mathews, he is NSU’s director 
of bands and associate professor of music in the 
School of Creative and Performing Arts.

Mathews has over 36 years of service in 
the Army and Air National Guard. He is the 
former commander and conductor of the Band 
of the Gulf Coast, Texas Air National Guard and 
served in Iraq, Afghanistan, Djibouti, Kuwait 
and Kyrgyzstan. He is currently the chief of Air 
National Guard Bands for the National Guard 
Bureau.

Mathews military schooling includes the 
Academy of Military Science, Squadron Officers 
School, Air Command and Staff College and Air 
War College. His awards include Meritorious 
Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Air 
Force Commendation Medal, Army Achievement 
Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary 
Medal and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

Mathews is a native of Bossier City and a 
1990 graduate of Northwestern State where he 
was drum major for the Spirit of Northwestern 
Demon Marching Band and a member of Phi Mu 
Alpha and Sinfonia. He holds a Master of Music 
education from the University of North Texas. 
In 2006, he was awarded a Doctor of Musical 
Arts degree from the University of Southern 
Mississippi.

Mathews and his wife **Kristine Coreil**, a 
professor of music at NSU, have two daughters, 
Devon and Lauren.

**People... Continued from Page 1**

In the end they both aim for the 
same thing: getting as much 
information to as many patrons 
as possible.

She wishes to thank the 
faculty at Watson Library 
for participating in a discussion 
around the similarities and 
differences between the library 
and archive professions that 
helped solidify this paper and 
the hypothesis it was based on.

The article can be accessed 
here: 
php/codex/article/view/193
the Arts, the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, and Northwestern State University, as well as State and National Park Service personnel situated in Natchitoches Parish.

Abstracts (300 words max.) for scholarly proposals and creative writing should be sent as e-mail attachments to Dr. Shane Rasmussen, rasmussens@nsula.edu. Presentations should run no longer than 15 minutes.

Please include a separate cover page with your name, affiliation, mailing and e-mail address, and the title of your presentation. E-mails should be entitled: Louisiana Studies Conference Submission. We will send an e-mail acknowledgement of having received each abstract within one week of having received it. If you do not receive an acknowledgment, please resend your submission as we may not have received it. The deadline for submissions is May 31, 2021. Accepted presenters will be notified via e-mail by June 15, 2021 if not before.

This interdisciplinary conference will be accepting proposals from the following disciplines: American studies, anthropology, architecture, archival studies, communications, craft, creative writing, criminal justice, cultural studies, cultural tourism, dance, design, education, English and literary studies, environmental studies, ethnic studies, fashion design, film studies, fine arts, folklore, gender studies, geography, heritage resources, history, interior design, journalism, linguistics, media studies, museum studies, musicology, music performance, philosophy, photography, political science, preservation studies, psychology, queer studies, religious studies, Romance languages, social work, sociology, theatre, and vernacular architecture.

Read broadly, consider the following possibilities for presentation topics relating to the theme Heroes, Saints, and Outlaws. The following list of suggestions is not meant to be comprehensive.

NOTE: Louisiana, its cultures, history, literature, peoples, places, etc. should be an intrinsic aspect of the proposed presentation. For example, “thematic motifs in Southern literature” in itself would not be an appropriate presentation topic proposal for the Louisiana Studies Conference, while “thematic motifs in 21st century Louisiana short fiction” or “thematic motifs in the contemporary legends of Evangeline Parish” would both be highly appropriate.

Bonnie and Clyde
The Cajun Navy
Charlene Richard
Civil Disobedience
Culture Heroes
Filmic Representations
Folk Heroes
Frontline Heroes
Hucksters
Legacies
Legends
Liminal Figures
Memorials, Monuments, and Murals
The Neutral Strip or “No Man’s Land”
Outlaw-Heroes
Pirates
Saints
Spiritualities
Sports Heroes and Legends
Traiteurs and other Healers
Tributes
Tricksters
Unsung Heroes
Utopians

A selection of scholarly and creative work presented at the conference will be solicited for publication in the Louisiana Folklife Journal, a peer reviewed academic journal produced by the Louisiana Folklife Center, Northwestern State University, General Editor, Dr. Shane Rasmussen. Additional information is available on the website for the Louisiana Folklife Center at Northwestern State University: https://www.nsula.edu/folklife/louisianastudies/.

Conference Co-chairs:
Dr. Lisa Abney, Faculty Facilitator for Academic Research and Community College Outreach and Professor of English, Northwestern State University
Jason Church, Materials Conservator, National Center for Preservation Technology and Training
Dr. Charles Pellegri, Professor of History and Director of the Southern Studies Institute, Northwestern State University
Dr. Shane Rasmussen, Director of the Louisiana Folklife Center and Professor of English, Northwestern State University
Sharon Wolff, CA, Assistant Archivist, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University

The Conference is co-sponsored by the Louisiana Folklife Center and the Northwestern State University College of Arts, Sciences, Graduate Studies and Research.
Myers named Outstanding Teacher, Covington elected section chair at MAA sectional meeting

Dr. Leigh Ann Myers, professor of mathematics at Northwestern State University, was awarded the Outstanding Teacher Award at the 98th meeting of the Louisiana/Mississippi section of the Mathematical Association of America. Myers also currently serves the organization as program chair will coordinate next year’s section meeting, tentatively scheduled to take place on the NSU campus.

In addition, Math Professor Dr. Judith Covington was elected section chair. As section chair Covington will serve the organization for three years, presiding at each section meeting, serving on the executive committee of the section and as an ex-officio member of each committee. The section chair is responsible for planning and executing the annual section meeting.

Myers has been teaching at NSU for 28 years. In that time, she has been an integral member of the mathematics department, as well as the university and community in general. She teaches a variety of courses and serves as the course coordinator for the finite math course. In this role she works to determine the course content, creates the departmental final and oversees data collection for the course. She regularly teaches the calculus sequence and linear algebra and also teaches a financial math course that she developed to help prepare students for actuarial exams. To develop the course, she took a sabbatical and worked for an actuarial firm to better prepare students for what might be expected of them.

Myers played a key role in developing the senior research experience for NSU math students, working with colleagues to develop a two-semester sequence that prepares students to conduct research and make professional presentations. She has also for many years run study sessions to help students pursuing degrees in elementary and secondary education prepare for the Praxis exams. Myers has run or assisted with workshops for in-service teachers at the college level and the K-12 level and worked with many LaSIP workshops that helped to develop the mathematics understanding of K-12 teachers.

Myers is an active member of MAA at the national and local levels as well as the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. She was a project NExT fellow in 1995. In the Louisiana Mississippi Section of the MAA she is currently serving as the Program Chair Elect and will be planning the 2022 meeting. Previously she
Myers, Covington … Continued from Page 4

served as consultant for both the national Project NExT and as Section Project NExT. She also served two terms as section Secretary/Treasurer.

At NSU, Myers was instrumental in spearheading a campaign to establish a professorship in memory of the late Dr. Stan Chadick, NSU mathematics professor emeritus. The professorship will help an NSU math department faculty member enhance their teaching and their research.

The Mathematical Association of America is the world’s largest community of mathematicians, students and enthusiasts that strives to further the understanding of the world through mathematics because mathematics drives society and shapes lives. The mission of the MAA is to advance the understanding of mathematics and its impact.

Information on NSU’s Department of Mathematics can be found at https://mathematics.nsula.edu/.

ADVANCE program will return to campus this July

Northwestern State University will host the 33rd session of the ADVANCE Program for Young Scholars (ADVANCE) July 4 – 24. ADVANCE is a three-week residential program that academically challenges and socially engages gifted, honors or talented students who are currently in 7-11th grades. ADVANCE will be held on campus and will follow COVID-19 protocols throughout the program.

All applicants must provide a copy of their most recent report card and state standardized test scores. If scores have been misplaced, many schools provide that information on school transcripts, and transcripts may be submitted to ADVANCE. If applicants have taken an ACT or SAT, those scores may be submitted with their applications.

Course offerings include humanities, mathematics, natural sciences with laboratory components, and computer programming. By working with carefully selected instructors and teaching assistants (TAs), and limiting class enrollment to 15 students, each student is given the opportunity to attain maximum academic growth.

While the academic program at ADVANCE is top-notch, the residential program sets ADVANCE apart from other similar summer programs. The residential assistants (RAs) offer a wide variety of social and recreational activities to assist students in forming lasting friendships, strengthen the ADVANCE community, and help all students have a great time.

Applications are now being accepted. For further information visit http://advance.nsula.edu/, call (318) 357-4500, or email palmerh@nsula.edu.
Deadline for juried college art competition extended

Northwestern State’s Art Demons have extended the deadline to enter the Hotter ‘N Hell Collegiate Art Exhibition to April 30.

The Hotter ‘N Hell Collegiate juried art exhibition will feature all art forms that use fire and heat as part of the creative process, which includes ceramics, glass-blowing, welded sculpture, poured metals, wood-burning, metalsmithing, burned textiles, fireworks and more.

To enter, visit https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=8246.

The 2020 exhibition hosted 46 works of art by 21 artists from 12 states.

Due to COVID-19, 2020 Hotter ‘N Hell was exhibited virtually.

For more information, contact NSU Hotter ‘N Hell Director and NSU Professor of Art Phyllis Lear at learp@nsula.edu.

Trust-Based Relational Intervention Overview Workshop on April 9

The Social Work Department and the Pi Delta Chapter of Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society will present Trust-Based Relational Intervention Overview Workshop with CEUs. The workshop will be Friday, April 9.

Sign in at 8:45 a.m., with the workshop running from 9 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in the Friedman Student Union Ballroom.

Registration is available at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trust-based-relational-intervention-overview-workshop-tickets-147885450363

The workshop is being offered live at NSU and virtually for those who are not able to attend.

Trust-Based Relational Intervention was developed by the Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development.

Trust-Based Relational Intervention was developed for the purpose of meeting the complex needs of and improving the lives of children who have experienced abuse, neglect and/or trauma.

Trainer will be Cayce McDaniel, MSW, LCSW-BACS.

Learning Objectives:
*Introduction to TBRI
*Stay Calm (No matter what)
*See the need (Behind the behavior)
*Meet the need (find a way)
*Don’t Quit (If not you, then who?)

Contact: Dr. Susan Campbell at campbellsu@nsula.edu
Child Development Center earns reaccreditation

The Marie Shaw Dunn Child Development Center at Northwestern State University has been reaccredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children for another five-year term, through July 1, 2026. The CDC is a preschool center for 3- and 4-year-old children that was recently named a five-star center.

Accreditation demonstrates the CDC’s commitment to quality and continuous quality improvement. By accepting accreditation, NAEYC-accredited programs commit to ensuring their environment, policies and practices are continually aligned with NAEYC’s early learning standards and recommended practices.

The CDC enrolls 40 students with two full-time teachers and eight student workers coordinated by CDC Director Faith Stanfield and Assistant Director Joni Prewitt. According to Stanfield, the CDC’s connection to the university has many benefits, such as access to workers who are pursuing careers in early childhood or child and family studies.

“As a training site for early childhood graduates, our student workers are able to contribute to the curriculum with the latest research and pedagogy,” Stanfield said. The CDC’s location on a college campus and within a K-5 school is also an advantage.

“By communicating with the staff at this school, we are afforded the opportunity to ensure that our preschool students are kindergarten ready,” she said.

This past year, COVID created challenges with staffing and logistics for the CDC, its students and their families. With only credentialed staff were allowed inside the building, no volunteers could help, and new family regulations were enacted to mitigate potential exposure.

“We have been innovative in how we involve parents and families in keeping with developmentally appropriate standards,” Stanfield said. “Maintaining a sense of normalcy has been priority for our team and we have had to use our unique abilities in adapting to this new way of teaching children and families alike.”

Stanfield decided to pursue early childhood education as a career after taking a class with Dr. Cheryl McBride, former professor and advisor for undergraduates concentrating in early childhood, also one of Stanfield’s former teachers at the Child Development Center.

“Knowing that early childhood is one of the most important developmental periods in a child’s life, I fell in love with the opportunity to serve children and be one of their first teachers after their parents,” she said.

Stanfield said that having the CDC recognized as a five-star center is one of her proudest accomplishments.

“A five-star center is recognized for having exceptional instruction and relationships with young children in the areas of emotional support, classroom organization, and instructional support. Every five years the center is reviewed by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. This year the center was evaluated and received its Accreditation scoring above 95 percent in all 10 domains,” Stanfield said.

The Child Development Center began in 1935 as a laboratory experience for students majoring in home economics with a concentration in child development. The Center is named for Dr. Marie Shaw Dunn, who created the child development concentration and started the nursery school, the first of its kind at a college in Louisiana. It was originally open to the children of faculty and employees. Eventually, child development broadened into early childhood education and is now part of the School of Education.

Information on the CDC and applications for enrollment are available at http://cdc.nsula.edu/.
An Evening with Louisiana Poet Laureate John Warner Smith Held Virtually at NSU

Louisiana Poet Laureate John Warner Smith visited Northwestern State University virtually via Microsoft Teams on March 10. Smith was introduced by members of the NSU Creative Writing faculty Dr. Rebecca Macijeski and Dr. Andy Briseño. Drs. Macijeski and Briseño also acted as moderators for the Q&A following the reading. The reading was free and open to all, with the public encouraged to attend. The event was well attended.

A video of Smith’s reading and Q&A with NSU students and faculty can be viewed on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzC46jvQIo&c=4s.

Prior to the event, Briseño and Dr. Shane Rasmussen also took part in an interview with Smith on Red River Radio, which was aired as a spotlight on March 9. The spotlight can be found online at https://www.redriverradio.org/post/red-river-radio-spotlight-poet-laureate-john-warner-smith.

Governor John Bel Edwards named Smith Poet Laureate of Louisiana in 2019. “John Warner Smith’s writing captures the human experience through meaningful, passionate poetry that moves your emotions. John is not only a talented and gifted poet, he is a trailblazer who devotes himself to education and the greater good of the community,” Governor Edwards said in a press release.


The program was funded under a grant from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.
CONGRATULATIONS

Ms. Nancy Alexander, Child and Family Network, College of Education and Human Development, received notification of three awards from the Louisiana Department of Education and they are listed as follows:

“Comprehensive Child Care Resource and Referral” for $676,386,
“Type I and Type II Child Care Guidance Support” for $24,600, and
“Emergency Response to Hurricane Delta” for $100,000.

Dr. Yohaselly Santiago-Rodriguez, School of Biological and Physical Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, received notification of a $10,000 award from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for “Removal of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances from Water Sources: Converting Toxic Compounds into Building Blocks for Fuel Conversion.”

Current Activities

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, LA Folklife Center, College of Arts and Sciences, submitted a proposal to the Cane River National Heritage Area entitled “42nd Annual Natchitoches – NSU Folk Festival.” Ms. Ashley Smith is collaborator.

Dr. Jafar Al-Sharab, Department of Engineering Technology, College of Arts and Sciences, submitted a proposal to LaSpace/LSU entitled, “Hands-On Experience on the Fabrication of CubeSat.”

Dr. Tommy Hailey, Department of Criminal Justice, History and Social Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, submitted a proposal to the American Electric Power Foundation entitled, “Northwestern State University Remote Systems Science and Technology (Drone) Facility Modifications and Resources Enhancement.” Drs. Billy Culver, Mark Melder, Chris Lyles, and Mr. JD Cox are collaborators.

Dr. Joel Hicks, College of Nursing and Allied Health, in collaboration with the Natchitoches Regional Medical Center, submitted a proposal to the Health Resources and Services Administration entitled, “Improving the Nursing Industry and Capacity (CLINIC).”

Ms. Cindy McGuire, College of Nursing and Allied Health, submitted a proposal the ASRT Foundation entitled, “Preparing Future Healthcare Professionals: A Pilot Study of the Relationship between Resilience, Emotional Intelligence, and Age.”

Dr. Michelle Brunson, College of Education and Human Development, submitted a proposal to the Frances R. Dewing Foundation entitled, “Supporting the Cradle to College Pipeline.”

Ms. Nancy Alexander, Child and Family Network, College of Education and Human Development, submitted three proposals to the Louisiana Department of Education and they are listed as follows:

“Statewide Early Learning Career Development Program,”
“Statewide Early Learning and Child Care Scholarship Program,” and
“Family Child Care Support.”

Dr. Pamela Simmons, College of Nursing and Allied Health submitted a proposal to the Health Resources and Services Administration entitled, “PHMHNP: Bridging the Behavioral Healthcare Gap.”