



Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser



Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser is an outspoken voice for all of Louisiana.

Billy Nungesser is the 54th Lieutenant Governor. Since taking office in 2016, he and his team have guided the state to record-breaking tourism numbers of 53 million visitors prior to the pandemic, cut wasteful spending, and revitalized the State Park system in which seven of 21 are self-sustaining and profitable.

Under his leadership, the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism has worked non-stop to revive Louisiana's 5th (4th prior to the pandemic) largest employer in the state – the hospitality industry–welcoming tens of millions of visitors annually to enjoy Louisiana's variety of cultural experiences, history, music, celebrations and culinary excellence. Our state remains a top 10 tourist destination by traveler surveys around the world.

Lt. Governor Nungesser returned to work as a public servant from retirement as a successful business owner to serve two terms as Plaquemines Parish President. People remember Lt. Governor Nungesser as the voice of Louisiana when Hurricane Katrina devastated the region in 2005. He again became a national spokesperson for the unmet needs of the Gulf Coast in 2010 after the BP Deepwater Horizon explosion occurred, one of the worst man-made disasters in U.S. history.

In 2019, he was re-elected to a second term with 68% of the vote. That is more votes than any other statewide elected official since 2008.

In 2020-21, in addition to the global pandemic, Louisiana was impacted by eight named storms, three making landfall with devastating effects. Once again, he became the voice of Louisiana on national and international news. He invited the world back to Louisiana by promoting its premier party - Mardi Gras - all across the state. He also put Louisiana on the national and international stages by sponsoring the longest ever float in the New York City Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade as well as sponsoring an award-winning float in the Tournament of Roses Parade reaching over four billion people worldwide.

Despite what appeared to be insurmountable challenges following the pandemic, Louisiana still welcomed over 41 million visitors to Louisiana in 2021.

Lt. Governor Nungesser continues to strategize and build bi-partisan relationships to solve short and long-term solutions benefiting every citizen in our state. He is a friend and bold champion for entrepreneurs, veterans, law enforcement, special needs children and adults, and the elderly.

He truly is a Lieutenant Governor for ALL of Louisiana.



Learn more at
LouisianaTravel.com/2023-Rose-Parade



Lafayette lies at the heart of Louisiana's Cajun and Creole Country and was named the Happiest City in America in a 2014 Harvard study. Lafayette Parish has a long and profound history of various cultures, including a variety of indigenous tribes, as well as the Acadian refugees expelled from Canada in 1755. Today, tourists flock to Lafayette for a taste of the genuine Cajun and Creole experience, from traditional food and music to the warm hospitality you can expect at every turn.

Learn more at www.LafayetteTravel.com.

Turning the Corner

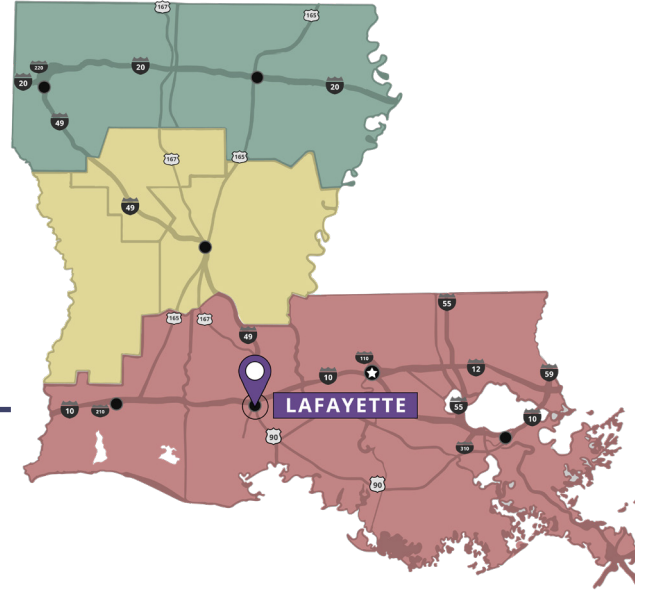
In 2023, Lafayette turns the corner by celebrating its 200th birthday and is looking forward to the next 200 years.

Lafayette's history dates back to the 18th century when Canada's Acadians were expelled and settled in Louisiana. Many events will be held throughout the year as part of the Bicentennial celebration. More information can be found at <https://www.lafayettetravel.com/bicentennial/>.

Over the two centuries, Lafayette has grown into an area known as the Happiest City in America. Lafayette has a distinct culinary identity as the epicenter of Cajun cuisine that's earned them the title Best Food City in the USA. Lafayette's culinary scene is steeped in tradition and continues to evolve, and turn the corner, with a new generation of chefs making it an incredible place to eat.

And you can always turn a corner on the dance floor. It doesn't take long to get hooked on Lafayette's Cajun and Zydeco music and there's never a shortage of dance partners if you want to try your hand at a two-step or waltz.

Whether your passion is for rich cultural history, the bustling culinary scene, or the distinctive blend of Cajun and Zydeco music, you can be sure you will leave with a smile on your face.



Learn more at
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Scott Boudin Festival

The Scott Boudin Festival turns a corner this year as it heads into its 10th Anniversary. Boudin is a cajun staple and delicacy. It is a sausage casing stuffed, traditionally with pork, rice, and cajun seasonings. However, in Scott, Louisiana, it is also made with seafood, deer, beef, and chicken - it can also be found in a fried boudin ball, eggroll, bread, smoked, or stuffed with cheese.

Scott, Louisiana, is known as the Boudin Capital of the World following a designation by the Louisiana Legislature in 2012, because over two million pounds of boudin were sold in Scott, Louisiana annually.



In 2022, that number has more than doubled with the addition of a new Boudin vendor and a commercial processing plant for Boudin and specialty meat products. Scott, Louisiana, is turning the corner as it becomes the Gateway to the Acadiana Region of Louisiana and produces over FOUR MILLION pounds of boudin per year from this small Cajun city.

So make plans to visit the Scott Boudin Festival in April 2023 and experience this authentic Cajun delicacy and unsurpassed hospitality in Scott, Louisiana, "Where the west begins and the boudin never ends."

Contact:



**Ben Berthelot,
President & CEO**

Lafayette Convention and Visitors
Commission
(800) 346-1958
ben@lafayettetravel.com



**Kaylie LeBlanc,
Asst. VP of Communications**

Lafayette Convention and Visitors
Commission
(337) 769-3809
kaylie@lafayettetravel.com

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Learn more at ScottBoudinFestival.com.



Learn more at
LouisianaTravel.com/2023-Rose-Parade



Emily Leleux



Emily Leleux is Miss Scott Boudin Festival Queen IX and represents the Scott Boudin Festival, Lafayette Travel, and Home Bank where she is a head teller. Emily is a resilient 22-year-old woman, wise beyond her years.

She was raised by her grandparents Evelyn Leleux and the late William Leleux, a proud veteran of the United States Army and the Vietnam War.

Through her grandfather's sacrifice for our country, Emily was able to turn a corner in her life from the hardships she suffered as a child. Her grandfather's GI Bill has allowed Emily the opportunity to attend the University of Louisiana at Lafayette to further her education and build a life for herself.

Emily represents an organization and city that reflect the same eagerness to grow and determination to succeed that she has shown in her personal life.

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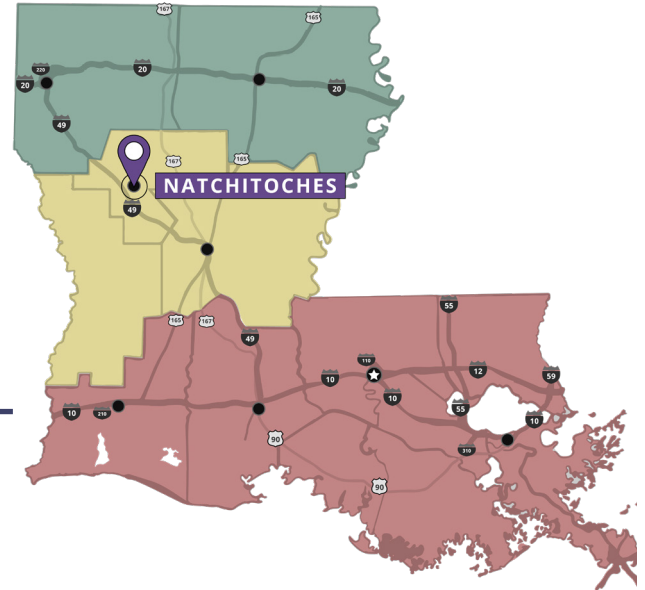
Learn more at
LouisianaTravel.com/2023-Rose-Parade



Louisiana's Oldest City and original French colony, Natchitoches (Nack-a-Tish) was established in 1714 and retains its European flavor through its architecture, heritage and lifestyle.

Natchitoches is located in the central region of Louisiana and in the Cane River National Heritage Area - a largely rural, agricultural landscape known for its historic plantations, its distinctive Creole architecture and its multicultural legacy.

Learn more at www.Natchitoches.com.



Turning the Corner

As the oldest settlement in the Louisiana Purchase, Natchitoches is actually three years older than New Orleans! This community of 18,000 people is turning the corner after the pandemic by welcoming more visitors to central Louisiana to celebrate its historic, as well as progressive, elements. The Natchitoches Christmas Festival is Louisiana's oldest festival and began in 1927 and draws thousands every year during the holidays. The 96-year-old festival is ranked as the "Third Best Holiday Light Show" in the country behind Rockefeller Center and Disneyland by Yahoo! Travel. The Natchitoches Christmas Festival was named the "2020 Best Public Holiday Light Display" by USA TODAY 10Best Readers' Choice Awards.

Natchitoches is also home to the modern and futuristic Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum. The Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame is hailed as an award-winning modern piece of architecture, fused into the historic buildings and brick-lined streets of downtown and featured on the Smithsonian Channel for its modern design.

Contact:



Arlene Gould,
Executive Director
Natchitoches Paish Convention &
Visitors Bureau
(800) 259-1714
director@natchitoches.com

[f /NatchitochesTourism](https://www.facebook.com/NatchitochesTourism) [@natchitochestourism](https://www.instagram.com/natchitochestourism) [@natchtourism](https://www.twitter.com/natchtourism)

#GoNatchitoches #NatchTourism



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
BILLY NUNGESSER



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Natchitoches Christmas Festival

The Natchitoches Christmas Festival was first presented in 1927. In 1936, a fireworks display was added to the festival. Allen Cox and Sam West conceived the idea and initiated funding from local businesses. The display cost \$300. Today's fireworks shows cost over \$100,000 and are a spectacle every Saturday from the Saturday before Thanksgiving until New Years Eve.

Through the years, unique traditions have evolved that allow the Natchitoches community to celebrate in its own special way. The first Christmas Festival Parade is believed to have taken place in the 1940s. The tradition of selecting Miss Merry Christmas began in 1956 when Judy Hubley, a 17-year-old Natchitoches High School senior was chosen to represent the Christmas festival. Her responsibilities were to ride in the parade and to promote the Christmas Festival on the radio. This tradition continues today.



In 1989, the festival and its famous lights and Christmas set pieces can be seen in the movie "Steel Magnolias," which was set and produced in Natchitoches by Robert Harling, who grew up there.

Today, the annual festival has evolved into a six-week-long Natchitoches Christmas Season, which extends from the Saturday before Thanksgiving through Twelfth Night (January 6). In Louisiana, this day marks the beginning of Carnival Season leading up to Mardi Gras.

Learn more at www.NatchitochesChristmas.com.



Learn more at
LouisianaTravel.com/2023-Rose-Parade

Emma Rose Giddens



Emma Rose Giddens is a senior at Natchitoches Central High School. She is a member of the Honor Roll, BETA Club, National Honor Society and Future Business Leaders of America.

An athlete, Giddens is a member of the school volleyball team and golf team. She is also active within the church and has participated in mission trips to Appalachia and Central America. In addition, she is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

We look forward to turning towards new traditions as we strive to grow and improve this spectacular season!

Giddens has faced challenges with significant food allergies throughout her lifetime. She is planning to attend Louisiana Tech next year to study Biology and pre-Med with the goals of one day to become a pediatrician with a focus on children's allergies and immunology.

She is the 2022 Miss Merry Christmas, representing the Natchitoches Christmas Festival. She was crowned

September 17, 2022, after thirteen young ladies competed for the title. This is Giddens's first teen pageant competition.

"As the 2022 Miss Merry Christmas, I'm most excited about turning the corner as we countdown to the 100th Natchitoches Christmas Festival!" Giddens continued, "This year we celebrate the 96th annual festival, and we honor the traditions of the past such as the parades, incredible fireworks show, festivities, food, and endless amounts of fun! We look forward to turning towards new traditions as we strive to grow and improve this spectacular season!"





Shreveport-Bossier is situated in northwest Louisiana along the Red River. The river connects the two cities and is home to a convention center, five riverboat casinos, year-round festivals and riverfront shopping, dining and entertainment.

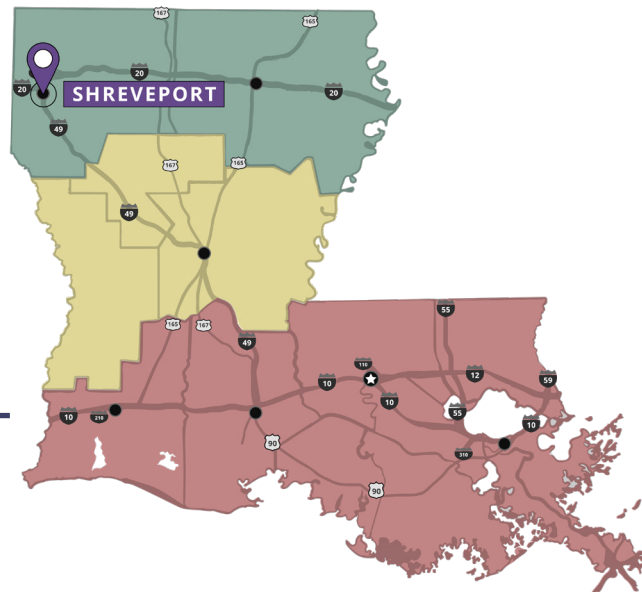
The area has a lively arts, craft brewery and music scene. The diverse museums tell the story of famous musicians, cultures, and explorers. The festivals showcase Louisiana's traditions of good music, great food and all night entertainment.

Learn more at www.Shreveport-Bossier.org.

Turning the Corner

When it comes to turning the corner, the caring folks in Shreveport-Bossier City know how it's done.

Did you know Shreveport is home to the first Shriners Hospital in the world? Built in 1922, Shriners Hospital for Children in Shreveport celebrated its 100th Anniversary, and continues to help sick children and their families with whatever illnesses may come around the next corner. Shriners Hospitals around the world have served more than 1.5 million children, regardless of the families' ability to pay.



Contact:



**Stacy Brown,
President**

Shreveport-Bossier Convention
and Tourist Bureau
(800) 551-8682
sbrown@sbctb.org



**Katharyn DeVille,
VP of Marketing &
Communications**

Shreveport-Bossier Convention
and Tourist Bureau
(318) 429-0638
kdeville@sbctb.org

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Shreveport-Bossier City tourism leaders are turning the corner and excited to see an early uptick in visitation numbers since the pandemic. With a strategic 10 year plan underway, Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau's primary goal is to offer affordable and dynamic travel experiences for families, children, and friends.

Shreveport is also home to the American Rose Center – the nation's largest park dedicated to roses. The Gardens of the American Rose Center covers 118 acres and is home to the national headquarters of the American Rose Society. The American Rose Center is a perfect partner with the Tournament of Roses Parade, and the American Rose Society welcomes lovers of all things roses to come to visit Shreveport this year.



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Amber DeFatta



In 2015, Shriners Hospital for Children in Shreveport treated Amber DeFatta for scoliosis. Doctors specializing in rare bone disorders would later diagnose Amber with Trevor's Disease, an extremely rare disease that affects one in a million children. Thanks to her care, Amber is living her best life and recently graduated from the University of Louisiana at Monroe as a radiology technologist.

My treatment at Shriners impacted my life and now I feel the passion to help out others like me.

The 22-year-old now works at Ochsner LSU Health – St. Mary Medical Center, but still volunteers at Shriners Children Shreveport, located just a mile and a half away. The Shreveport native has volunteered for Shriners Children's Hospital throughout her high school and collegiate years, including several fundraising projects. A pet project of hers was called "Amber's Little Pigs." The fundraiser encouraged participants to decorate plastic donation jars as pigs that eventually would be judged at a volunteer party. The six-month event raised over \$7,000.

Amber's "turning the corner" moment now occurs as a continuing volunteer at Shriners Children's Hospital Shreveport. "My treatment at Shriners impacted my life and now I feel the passion to help out others like me," said Amber.

Amber's parents are Jerry and Janet DeFatta. Jerry also volunteers and serves as Vice Chairman of the Shriners Hospital Shreveport Board. She also has one older sister, Ayla DeFatta Potter.



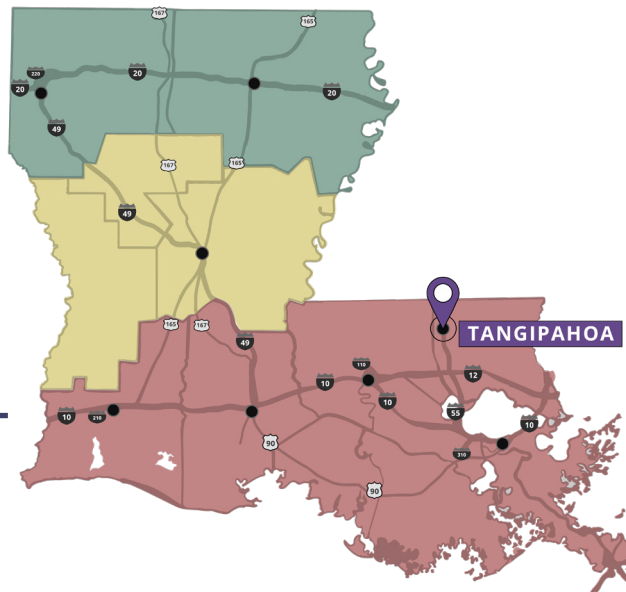


Tangipahoa Parish offers an assortment of unique attractions, delicious cuisine and comfortable accommodations to make your visit unforgettable! Located in southeast Louisiana between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, it is home to the Strawberry Capital of the World and the premier destination for thriving annual festivals. Whether you're looking to visit one of its historic museums, grab a bite to eat at amazing restaurants, or attend an exciting local event, there's something for everyone!

Learn more at www.TangiTourism.com.

Turning the Corner

Turning the corner of 2022 was truly the year of celebration! Activities, fairs and festivals that were postponed numerous times finally returned. Records were shattered for visitation in all corners of Tangipahoa Parish. Perhaps the best example is the 50th Anniversary Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival. The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) estimates half a million visitors descended on this small town of 7,000 residents.



The response was overwhelming and overjoyed the weary community which had not been able to host a festival in nearly three years. The official Louisiana State Fruit, the strawberry, once again united our parish, our region, and our state.

This well-rounded community embraces its history, comes together during the hard times, celebrates accomplishments, and welcomes change.



Learn more at
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Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival

Since 1972, the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival has attracted visitors from near and far to celebrate our local strawberry farmers, non-profits, and our special community, flourishing into the largest free harvest festival in the state of Louisiana.

The festival is held each April. It kicks off on Friday night with rides, live music and the introduction of the Strawberry Royalty. The rest of the weekend features a variety of festivities, including a parade, a strawberry eating contest, more live music of course, carnival rides, and more strawberry-filled food than you'd think imaginable.

As you may expect, the festival's food booths feature a variety of strawberry dishes including strawberry shortcake, deep-fried strawberries, strawberry beignets, strawberry daiquiris and much more.



Of course, there are also plenty of opportunities to taste and buy the crop the festival celebrates in its pure, fresh form. Local growers sell their crop all throughout "Farmers Row" during the festival. The celebration honors the whole community and its friendly spirit, but above all it recognizes the strawberry farmers of Louisiana. These farmers are among the hardest workers during strawberry season, working to bring Louisiana's state fruit to market. This festival offers everyone an opportunity to thank them with the highest praise - enjoying their product!

Learn more at www.lastrawberryfestival.com.

Contact:



Carla Tate,
Executive Director
Tangipahoa Parish Convention &
Visitor Bureau
(985) 542-7520
carla@tangitourism.com

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Kirstin Drozd



As a hometown girl, Kirstin Drozd has deep roots in Ponchatoula and Tangipahoa Parish. Since she was 16 years old, her goal was to wear the crown as the Louisiana Strawberry Festival Queen. When Kirstin won, she knew she had turned the corner to honor her late grandfather Julian Dufreche, who was the 2004 Strawberry King.

From hurricanes to ice storms to the 2016 floods, our strawberry farmers have always been able to turn the corner when faced with adversity to pivot to get their strawberries to the market.

In 2022, she decided it was time for her to take that leap of faith and turn the corner and officially compete for the title. With the guidance of her "Queen's Team," her family, friends, and guardian angel, she was crowned the 51st Louisiana Strawberry Queen and there is no doubt in her mind that Granddaddy was bragging in heaven and smiling down on her!

Drozd also praises her community's family of farmers, "Over the years, I have been impressed with the passion and tradition of our strawberry growers. From hurricanes to ice storms to the 2016 floods, our strawberry farmers have always been able to turn the corner when faced with adversity to pivot and to get their strawberries to the market." Drozd adds, "They are a modern-day testament to the hard work and commitment of the generations of strawberry growers that came before them."

A 2018 honors graduate of Loranger High School, Kirstin is currently a marketing major with a concentration in Professional Sales at Southeastern Louisiana University. She volunteers for the Richard Murphy Hospice Gala and the local chapter of the Louisiana Coastal Conservation Association.

Her parents are Corey and Melissa Dufreche and Master Sergeant USMC (retired) Eugene and Bobbi Jo Drozd.



Visit BATON ROUGE

As the Capital City of Louisiana, Baton Rouge is the heart and soul of the state's eclectic culture. With over 300 years of history, Baton Rouge has a colorful story to tell, which can be tasted through our culinary offerings, seen through the picturesque views of the Mississippi River and historical landmarks and experienced through the vibrant arts and culture scene. In the "Red Stick," every day is worth celebrating, even more so through our festivals and events held throughout the year.

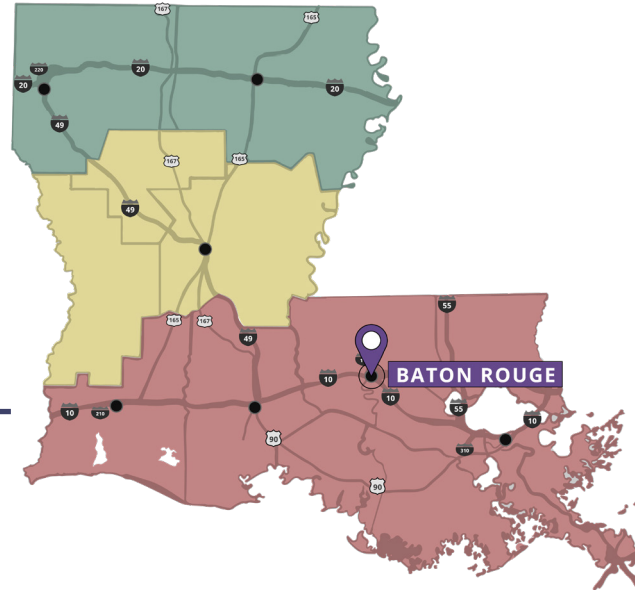
Learn more at www.VisitBatonRouge.com.

Turning the Corner

Baton Rouge is the capital of Louisiana and is a City of Champions. Louisiana State University is at the heart of it all, winners of 49 team National Championships in football, baseball, golf, track & field, and boxing. That same winning and fighting spirit is also the backdrop to the state-of-the-art research facilities at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center (PBRC).

Also a part of LSU, the biomedical center's mission is to discover triggers of chronic diseases through innovative research that improves human health across the lifespan. The center's 450 employees perform research activities in state-of-the-art facilities on the 222-acre campus.

PBRC is at the forefront of medical discovery as it relates to understanding the triggers of obesity, diabetes, cardio vascular disease, cancer and dementia. This Capital City of Champions is turning the corner in medical laboratories and sporting fields looking to make life healthier, happier, and hopefully something to cheer about.





Karnival Krewe de Louisiane

The purpose of the Karnival Krewe de Louisiane is to raise funds for Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center for cancer research, cancer education and indigent cancer patient care in the Baton Rouge area. The Krewe raises funds to fuel these programs through its membership and annual Mardi Gras Ball as a means to perpetuate the benefits of its philanthropic activities. This relationship is a win-win situation for all concerned, especially those in need of cancer services in our community.

Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center is Louisiana's leading cancer care organization, caring for more patients each year than any other facility in the region. And with strategic hospital and physician partnerships, they are delivering on their mission to improve survivorship and lessen the burden of cancer.

Mary Bird Perkins and its partners work together to provide state-of-the-art treatments and unparalleled collaborative, comprehensive cancer services. This culture of innovation helps attract the best cancer minds in the country, from expert physicians and highly specialized scientists to forward-thinking leaders in supportive care and other disciplines.

Karnival Krewe de Louisiane continues its efforts to find creative ways to support cancer care within the Baton Rouge community, and your help is needed to help us do more to fight cancer.

With over \$4.4 million dollars raised to date, the Krewe is making a significant impact in the fight against cancer in Louisiana.

Contact:



Jill Kidder,
President & CEO
Visit Baton Rouge
(225) 382-3583
jill@visitbatonrouge.com



Stacy Simon,
VP of Events and Projects
Visit Baton Rouge
(225) 382-3575
stacy@visitbatonrouge.com

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Learn more at www.KarnivalKrewe.com.



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Rose Hudson



Rose J. Hudson's 17-year tenure as President and CEO of the Louisiana Lottery Corporation represents a significant turning the corner for contributions to K-12 public education with the Lottery seeing its first- and second-best years ever in 2021 and 2022 after a steady upward trend.

Hudson's business acumen has also been a light to the lottery industry as a whole. She has served as president of both the North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries and the Multi-State Lottery Association, where she also chaired its Powerball Game Group. Her leadership in Louisiana and nationally led to her election into the Public Gaming Research Institute's Lottery Industry Hall of Fame in 2016 and Louisiana receiving the coveted 2015 Sharon Sharp "Good Causes" Award for having the highest percentage increase in net funds transferred to its beneficiary among all North American lotteries.

Hudson's pursuit of quality, integrity and public trust also led Louisiana to become the first lottery in the country to receive industry verification of its quality assurance processes. In addition, her love of our state's culture has helped the Louisiana Lottery secure award-winning partnerships with local companies and celebrities to develop blockbuster games. Those include the New Orleans Saints, Troy & Jacob

Landry of Swamp People, Tony Chachere's Creole Seasoning, Crystal Hot Sauce and Zatarain's seafood boil seasonings.

Besides industry leadership, Hudson believes in giving back to her community through service on the boards of Investar Bank, Woman's Hospital and the Junior League of Baton Rouge. She is also a board member emeritus of Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center. Its research and treatment helps patients and their families turn the corner on cancer. This focus on healing and the spirit of perseverance, which are also a hallmark of Louisiana, holds a personal place in her heart.

Recognition of Hudson's industry and community contributions include her receiving the Dillard University's "David Dillard" Award of Excellence, LSU's Public Administration Institute's Alumnus of the Year Award, National Diversity Council's "Most Powerful and Influential Women in Louisiana" designation, and induction into LSU's E. J. Ourso College of Business's Hall of Distinction.





Premier Sponsor Riders



Emily Leleux, Miss Scott Boudin Festival Queen IX

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Amber DeFatta, Shriners Hospital 100th Anniversary

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Kirstin Drozd, Louisiana Strawberry Queen

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To learn more about Louisiana's sponsors and the state's participation in the 2022 Rose Parade®, visit LouisianaTravel.com/2023-rose-parade.

Louisiana Riders



Catherine Blondiau, Plaquemines Parish Seafood Festival Queen

Catherine Blondiau is the 2022 Plaquemines Parish Seafood Festival Queen, representing her home of Plaquemines Parish and the rich seafood industry that thrives there. She currently attends Louisiana State University where she is majoring in Kinesiology with a Pre-Medicine concentration. When she's not traveling the state of Louisiana promoting the festival and the seafood industry, she enjoys offshore fishing, baking, long walks around the LSU lakes, babysitting, snuggling her dogs, spending with friends and family, and shadowing healthcare workers in various surgical settings.



Amber Hope Borne, LA Cotton Queen LXVIII

Amber Hope Borne is the 23-year-old daughter of Hope and Troy Borne of Litcher. She is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Northwestern State University, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education. While attending Northwestern State, Amber held leadership roles in Phi Mu Kappa Iota as house committee head and secretary. Amber's future plans include growing in her career as an educator to make sure all children receive kindness, love and compassion both inside and outside of the classroom. Her passion and goals are to develop fast food farms around the state to teach the youth the importance of agriculture.





Louisiana Riders



Emma Carter, Queen Dixie Gem Peach LXXI

Emma Carter is the 71st Queen Dixie Gem Peach for the annual Louisiana Peach Festival in Ruston. Emma is currently a senior at Quitman High School and maintains above a 4.0 average. She is the class president as well as secretary of the Beta Club. Emma is a two-time state champion high jumper as well as a starter on the basketball team with all-district honors the past two years. Emma will attend Louisiana Tech University next fall majoring in Biology with a Pre-Med focus. She plans to attend medical school after she completes her undergraduate degree.



Jadyn Devillier, Gueydan Duck Festival Queen

Jadyn Devillier, daughter of Sean and Sonia Devillier, is 19 years old from Crowley, Louisiana. She is currently a sophomore at Louisiana State University majoring in Political Communication. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her friends, family, and especially her dog. Jadyn has attended the Gueydan Duck Festival since before she can remember and represented as the Deb, Debuteen, and Teen Gueydan Duck Festival Queen. She is more than proud to be your 2022 Miss Gueydan Duck Festival Queen.



Jordan Fuqua, Louisiana Association of Fairs and Festivals Queen

From honoring pecan tree farmers in Colfax, to traveling down a Christmas light lit bayou in Cottonport, to living out a family tradition in Gueydan, the Duck Hunting Capital of America, Jordan Brooke Fuqua is the 2022 Louisiana Association of Fairs and Festivals Queen. A Pineville native, Jordan graduated high school from Buckeye High School and attended both Bridge University and Louisiana State University at Alexandria. She earned an Associates Degree in Theology from Bridge University - In Christ International Bible College and is currently pursuing her Bachelors of Science in Business Administration at Louisiana State University at Alexandria.



Jordan Ann Gallegos, 87th Louisiana Shrimp & Petroleum Festival Queen

Jordan Gallegos is the daughter of Dallas and Jose Gallegos of Morgan City. She is a graduate of Berwick High School. While at Berwick, she was a cheerleader where she served as Captain in her senior year. Gallegos has played the clarinet since elementary school and picked up percussion in high school. She was on the drumline in her junior and senior years. She was also in the band where she served as head of her committee on the Student Leadership Team for three years and leader of her section for four. Gallegos is attending Nicholls State University pursuing a degree in Psychology with a minor in Criminal Justice.





Louisiana Riders



Avery Claire Hebert, Louisiana Queen Sugar LXXIX

Avery Claire Hebert is the oldest daughter of Blair and Michelle Hebert of Erath, La. Avery currently attends Louisiana State University where she is a senior majoring in agribusiness with a minor in political science. She is currently employed at the LSU AgCenter, College of Ag, and Vet School's Office of Development. She is a member of the Agribusiness Club and a founding member of the Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow at LSU. She served as the Assistant Director of Student Entertainment on the Executive Board for Student Government. She is an active member of Christ the King's Catholic Student Center.



Mary Laura Hunt, Miss Louisiana's Outstanding Teen

Mary Laura Hunt, Miss Louisiana's Outstanding Teen 2022, is a junior at Ruston High School and is active on the Danceline, Student Council, FCA, National Honor Society, Trinity UMC's Youth Group, and Ruston Community Theatre. Mary Laura has a passion for sharing her message of social media awareness. As Miss Louisiana's Outstanding Teen, she has created a platform to spread her message to hundreds of teen girls across the state. Her goal is to stop the pattern of comparison, self-doubt and depression caused by social media and to help teens understand that life viewed through the social media lens is not reality.



Shelby Marie LaSalle, 85th Greater New Orleans Floral Trail Queen

Shelby Marie LaSalle is the 85th Greater New Orleans Floral Trail Queen. Shelby Marie is a senior at the Academy of the Sacred Heart of New Orleans. She has been enrolled in honor classes, advanced placement classes, dual enrollment, and has won several academic awards. She applied and was enrolled in the Wharton School of Business summer initiative following her sophomore year for two online courses. This past summer, she interned at a United States Congressional Office. Shelby Marie plans to continue her studies in college by focusing on business, math, physics, and engineering. She states her studies may include law school as well.



Leiton LeBlanc, 2022 Breaux Bridge Crawfish Queen

Leiton LeBlanc, the 2022 Breaux Bridge Crawfish Queen, proudly represents Breaux Bridge – the crawfish capital of the world, the hardworking crawfish farmers and processors of Louisiana, and the world-famous Breaux Bridge Crawfish Festival. From a very young age, she was immersed in all things Cajun. In the third grade, she began playing the fiddle and singing and dancing to Cajun music. Shortly after, she started a family band with her brother and sister, and they gigged in restaurants and at festivals across the south – even outside of the country. She is pursuing a degree in strategic communications and works at St. Martin Parish Tourism.





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Kaydee Meshell, Miss Zwolle Tamale Fiesta

Kaydence Rae Ann Meshell is the 46th Annual Miss Zwolle Tamale Fiesta Queen. She is a native of the town of Zwolle, Louisiana. As queen, she represents her Spanish and Native American ancestors through the Zwolle Tamale Fiesta. Meshell is a current senior at Zwolle High School. She is a cheerleader and active in several different clubs. In the future she plans to attend Northwestern State University and acquire a Bachelors degree in Business Administration.



Kelsey Mire, Louisiana Pecan Festival Queen 54

Kelsey Mire represents the pecan - the only tree nut native to Louisiana - and the local pecan industry. This festival is not only about the crop itself but about tradition and keeping family businesses of multiple generations alive. Even after a two-year break, a pandemic, a hurricane and a drought, the festival is officially back in business and ready to celebrate something Louisianans hold near and dear to their hearts. Proudly representing an industry and festival that has not only turned the corner but also weathered the storms, Kelsey is the 54th Louisiana Pecan Festival Queen.



Allison Powell, 2022 Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation Queen

Allison Lynn Powell was born and raised in Laplace, Louisiana, and she is no stranger to the beautiful commodities of Louisiana agriculture. She proudly represents the industry that clothes, feeds, and shelters all of Louisiana along with the hardworking farmers and ranchers of each and every parish. Outside of advocating for agriculture, she is an honors student at Tulane University studying Neuroscience. Allison spends her free time volunteering, coaching high school students Academic Games, working in a lab, and spending time with friends and family. Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation celebrates 100 years being the unified voice for farmers and ranchers.



Gracie Reichman, Miss Louisiana America

Gracie Reichman, Miss Louisiana 2022, from Colfax, Louisiana, is a senior Kinesiology & Health Sciences Major at Louisiana Tech University. She plans to obtain a Doctorate in Physical Therapy with Advanced Certification in Sports Physical Therapy. Gracie was Miss Louisiana's Outstanding Teen 2018 and is currently a goodwill ambassador for the Louisiana Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, as well as a representative for the Miss Louisiana Organization's corporate sponsors. Gracie is a 2018 graduate of Holy Savior Menard Central High School in Alexandria, Louisiana, and is now an active member of the Louisiana Tech University community.



Learn more at
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KT Scannell, Miss Louisiana USA

KT Scannell is 22 years old, a Livingston Parish native, and alumna of Mississippi College. She looks forward to becoming a Doctor of Chiropractic and helping her community find rest and wellness. Despite being raised in the capital city, she loves to experience Louisiana's unique wetlands and upland pine savannas. She connects most with her roots through beekeeping, hiking, and creole cooking. KT is the founder of Pollination Letters of Encouragement and uses this initiative to connect younger generations to veterans.



Sadie Zaunbrecher, 85th International Rice Festival Queen

Sadie Renee Zaunbrecher was named Miss Baby Tiny Tots of the International Rice Festival at 11 months old. She comes from a fifth-generation farming family who farms in Crowley, Louisiana. After graduating from McNeese State University in Agricultural Business, she took over as secretary of Z6 Farm, LLC. While at McNeese, she was a member of the McNeese Cowboy Catholics, Bible Study, and Discipleship. In her spare time, she enjoys frogging, jeep rides, deer and duck hunting, CrossFit, concerts, going to rodeos, traveling, and looking for ways to make the family farm as efficient as possible.



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