

September, 2008

Bonjour,

The city of St. Martinville and the St. Martinville Cultural Heritage Center will host a full schedule of events during the month of October. We hope that we can awaken more tourist and locals to our area and bring valuable educational programs for everyone. The funds to produce the events are made possible through the Lt. Governor's office with the World Cultural Economy Forum's goal to showcase Louisiana through the "Louisiana Passport Events".

These tourism generated events will help to promote the culture and heritage of each locale in our state, taking place during the month of October. It is our hope to engage local parents, teachers, students, and tourist through several educational, historical, artistic activities/exhibits, Creole/Cajun culinary tradition lectures and a festival to help preserve the culture and heritage of the African and Acadian nation of people who settled in Louisiana, specifically St. Martinville.

It is important to highlight two programs presented by international groups who will lecture on historic events related to the African and Acadian history. Consider attending with your children so they can learn their history through these historians.

During Acadian Heritage Week, on October 8th, at 6:00, Monsieur Claude Massé Daigle of Poitiers, France will lecture and display paintings of the Poitou region of France, where many of the Acadians were deported after their exile from "Acadie" (present day Nova Scotia). His exhibit will show the landscapes of the Acadian settlement in France as well as some of their homes and church, which still stand in the Poitou region of France.

A delegation from two countries, Nantes, France and Dakar and Gorée, Senegal will each present a Mini Series on the Shackles of Memory on October 27th, and 28th at 6:00 pm at the St. Martinville Cultural Heritage Center. Their lectures will be a reflection of a historical exhibit created by an association from Nantes, France, "Les Anneaux de la Mémoire". The exhibit titled, "The Shackles of Memory" & "History of the Transatlantic Slave Trade" has been permanently donated to the city of St. Martinville's African American Museum.

The main goal is to bring new awareness to our public about the St. Martinville Cultural Heritage Center's educational opportunity and tell of the major local and international support we receive to create all these awesome programs. We request your presence at the rich programming available in the city of St. Martinville.

Ongoing events:

October, 2008, "Louisiana Passport Events"~Find the schedule on the web @ acadianmemorial.org and stmartinville.org

November, 2nd, 10:00 a.m. - All Souls Day ceremony in the Acadian Memorial Meditation Garden at the Deportation Cross Replica. After the St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church 9:00 o'clock mass, the congregation is invited to join in a procession to the Acadian Memorial as we unite in prayer, to memorialize the Acadians who died during and after the great upheaval of the Acadian deportation.

