

SUMMER 2017

# GATOR GRAM

LAKE CHARLES/SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

LAKE CHARLES SULPHUR WESTLAKE DEQUINCY VINTON IOWA



## Record-breaking Year for Tourism in Louisiana

Southwest Louisiana is on the upward swing of growth, and the entrepreneurial spirit is on the rise along with new businesses, restaurants and cultural opportunities. Every year, the Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana Convention & Visitors Bureau (LC/SWLA CVB) celebrates National Tourism Week and the economic impact that tourism has on the local economy.

2016 was a record-breaking year for tourism in Louisiana. The state welcomed 46.7 million visitors in 2016, representing a 2.57 percent increase over the 45.1 million visitors reported in 2015. International tourism is also on an upward trend, and with new direct international flights into New Orleans and Houston, the Lake Charles area is positioned well to benefit from new markets opening up along the I-10 corridor.

As part of National Tourism Week, the bureau promotes local restaurants and hosts a “Top 20 Local Favorites” restaurant competition to showcase what residents call the tastiest places to dine.

2017 marks the fifth year for the competition, and with 202 restaurant nominations and nearly 5,000 votes cast, the restaurant that received the most

votes was Steamboat Bill’s. Second place went to Luna Bar and Grill, followed by Pat’s of Henderson for third place. See the additional winners in the sidebar to the right.

“Whenever people travel, especially in Louisiana, they want to know where the locals eat. We are blessed with an abundance of flavorful restaurants that truly bring out the unique qualities of Louisiana cuisine or have a twist all their own. This contest helps to extend congratulations to the Top 20 Local Favorites winners,” said Shelley Johnson, executive director of the CVB.

The CVB also shined the spotlight on the “Faces of Travel,” the people behind our nation’s travel industry, at the annual tourism awards luncheon. The travel industry is one that relies on human interaction—whether it’s the front desk concierge at a hotel, the tour guide in a city’s historic district, or the CEO of a local organization, our people make Southwest Louisiana a great place to visit, and keep our industry strong. See the award winners on pages 4-5.

For more information on the impact of tourism, check out [VisitLakeCharles.org/impactoftourism](http://VisitLakeCharles.org/impactoftourism).

1. Steamboat Bill’s
2. Luna Bar & Grill
3. Pat’s of Henderson

### Top 20 Restaurants

(Listed in alphabetical order)

- 121 Artisan Bistro
- Blue Dog Café
- Buffi’s Peaux Boys
- Casa Mañana
- Darrell’s
- Harlequin Steaks & Seafood
- Hollier’s Cajun Kitchen
- Landry’s Seafood House – Golden Nugget
- Nina P’s Café
- Pitt Grill
- Restaurant Calla
- Saltgrass Steakhouse – Golden Nugget
- Seafood Palace
- Southern Spice Restaurant & Grill
- Tia Juanita’s Fish Camp
- Vic & Anthony’s – Golden Nugget
- Walk-On’s



1ST - STEAMBOAT BILL’S



2ND - LUNA BAR & GRILL



3RD - PAT’S OF HENDERSON

[www.VisitLakeCharles.com](http://www.VisitLakeCharles.com) #VisitLakeCharles

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**LAKE CHARLES**  
SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA  
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU



## THE BUREAU STAFF

**Shelley Johnson, CDME, LCTP**  
*Executive Director*

### ADMINISTRATION

Shanna Landry  
*Director of Administration & Satellite Office*

Heather Savoie  
*Accounting/HR Director*

Alecia Acosta  
*Finance/Administration Assistant*

Cindy Johnson  
*Special Projects Manager*

### SALES & SERVICES

Eric Zartler, TMP  
*Sales Director*

Tara Johnson  
*Sales Manager*

Taylor Beard  
*Sales Manager*

Laikyn Cooper  
*Group Services Coordinator*

### COMMUNICATIONS

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*Communications Director*

Colten Miller  
*Publications/Systems Manager*

Elizabeth Eustis  
*Digital Media Manager*

Amanda Reeves  
*Public Relations Manager*

Will Precht  
*Media Relations Specialist*

### TOURISM

Anne Taber Klenke  
*Tourism Director*

### VISITOR INFORMATION

Melissa Bertrand  
*Tourist Information Manager*

Jamey Kadhim  
*Tourist Information Weekend Manager*

Nicole Manuel  
*Tourist Information Assistant*

Angela Hammond  
*Tourist Information Assistant/Adventure Guide*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# LATER GATOR

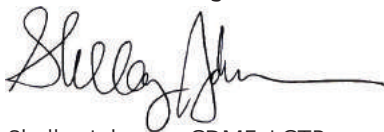
*A message from our executive director*

With summer in full swing, the area is filled with visitors, groups, travel media, and of course, youth sports events. This year, Southwest Louisiana hosted the Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA) Girls' Fastpitch State Championship games near the close of spring, with an additional 39 teams. Coordination of the 95 teams was critical, and the hospitality community pulled together for another successful year. Following the softball championships, the Allstate Sugar Bowl LHSAA Baseball State Championships was held near the beginning of May. The CVB works with everyone in the community from facility managers to event organizers, hoteliers and volunteers to make sure that the hospitality of Southwest Louisiana shines brightly.

Regarding team sports, recently, in a unanimous vote, the LHSAA board agreed to award the LHSAA Baseball Championships to the Sulphur area for another two years. Additionally, LHSAA voted to continue hosting 48 teams under the current tournament format for the Boys Basketball State Championship at the Burton Complex in Lake Charles for two more years. These events bring memorable experiences for student athletes as well as a positive economic impact and tremendous exposure to Calcasieu Parish. The staff at the CVB is grateful for the support from everyone who works so hard to bring these important events to Southwest Louisiana.

On the communications end, in order to further pinpoint travelers to and through Southwest Louisiana, the CVB is working with Arrivalist to conduct a research study that tracks the effectiveness of advertising through digital means. The study showcases the interaction that travelers have with advertising, when and if they arrive to the destination and what experiences are appealing to those who are interested in Southwest Louisiana. This incredible research will be enlightening for planning purposes as well as to see what is resonating with potential and actual travelers. This digital study will provide additional insight to the perception study we completed in late 2016 and will help us define and analyze our top markets.

One thing for sure is that Southwest Louisiana is growing with new hotels, businesses and attractions opening at a rapid pace. The destination has offerings that appeal to diverse groups of tastes and passions. To keep informed of unique experiences in the ever-growing destination, check out our blog at [visitlakecharles.org/blog](http://visitlakecharles.org/blog) or signup for the Out & About e-newsletter on [visitlakecharles.org](http://visitlakecharles.org).



Shelley Johnson, CDME, LCTP  
Executive Director



## National Get Outdoors Day Recap

National Get Outdoors Day is a new, annual event to encourage healthy, active outdoor fun. This past June, Creole Nature Trail Adventure Point hosted a special event to encourage everyone, especially kids and families to take advantage of outdoor adventures in order to have fun and be healthy. Along with the interactive exhibits at Adventure Point, the celebration also included baby alligators, displays from Friends of the Southwest Louisiana National Wildlife Refuges & Wetlands, photos with Gumbeaux Gator and coloring books. Nearly 600 people attended the event! For ideas to get outdoors, go to [AdventurePoint.info](http://AdventurePoint.info).





## Outdoor Writers Association of America Conference

Will Precht, media relations specialist, and Sammie Faulk, Creole Nature Trail district member, attended the 90th Annual Outdoor Writers Association of America Conference June 24 - 26. The conference brings together media members from all across the nation to network with corporations, agencies and organizations that share an interest in the outdoors. Southwest Louisiana's outdoor attractions, like the Creole Nature Trail All-American Road, will be promoted to editors and industry leaders in an effort to strengthen relationships with outdoor writers and encourage outdoor tourism to our area.



## L&L Travel: Chinese Receptive Tour Operators

Lake Charles' promotion of the amazing international airlift into Houston, Texas is really starting to pay off. L&L Travel, the largest Chinese inbound receptive tour operator based in the USA, toured SWLA on May 30th and will soon be sending both group and FIT (foreign individual travelers) visitors to Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana. L&L has also opened a branch office in Houston. In fact, they brought 95 Chinese guests to visit the Mardi Gras Museum of Imperial Calcasieu on May 27th! The bureau is also working with additional Chinese receptive and tour operators as well as hosting Chinese media (known as Key Opinion Leaders).



## Eco-Tourism & Birding Media Tour

This June, the CVB hosted an Eco-tourism and Birding Media Tour for travel writers. Located on two major flyways, Southwest Louisiana is a birding hotspot in the USA with more than 400 species spotted throughout the year. While in town, the writers experienced the Creole Nature Trail and Adventure Point, an eco-tour, gulf beaches and local Cajun cuisine. Additionally, the group also got to tour museums, historic districts and attend the Downtown at Sundown final concert.



## Cajun Food & Culture

The CVB will be hosting a group of food and travel writers September 5-10 to experience Southwest Louisiana's regional cuisine, local music and festive atmosphere. From elbows on the table Cajun fare, to seeing how cracklins are made, the journalists will be exposed to the culture and rich food history of the area on their media tour. In between meals, they will sample boudin along the Southwest Louisiana Boudin Trail and at the annual Boudin Wars competition.



# DE GUMBEAUX POT

## 2017 National Tourism Week Awards Luncheon

Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser visited Lake Charles in May and was the guest speaker at the CVB's annual tourism awards luncheon. He discussed how Calcasieu Parish was booming and that the travel and tourism industry is a tremendous economic driver, bringing \$16.8 billion to the state of Louisiana last year. The CVB honored community partners who made significant contributions to the local tourism industry.



**PARTNER IN TOURISM**  
Julie Fay



**PARTNER IN TOURISM**  
Mary Jo Bayles and Andrea LaFleur  
*Chennault International Airshow*



**PARTNER IN TOURISM**  
Eric Avery  
*Crying Eagle Brewing Company*



**PARTNER IN TOURISM**  
Jay Ecker  
*Rikenjaks Brewing Company*



**PARTNER IN TOURISM**  
Larry & Kay Woodcock and Tom Kussman  
*Coastal Crew Change*



**SOCIAL MEDIA PHOTO OF THE YEAR**  
Britt Richey - *Wild Things Photography*



**2017 SALES PARTNER IN TOURISM**  
Janet Paxton  
*Holiday Inn Lake Charles/Sulphur*



**2017 YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD**  
Gertinna Chretien-Simmons  
*Courtyard by Marriott*



**2017 MEDIA PARTNER IN TOURISM**  
Lucie Monk Carter - *Country Roads Magazine*  
(represented by Aimée Monk)



**2017 HOSPITALITY ARTS TOURISM**  
"HAT" AWARD  
Huber "Mickey" Smith, Jr.



**2017 GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARD**  
Marion Fox  
*Jeff Davis Tourist Commission*



**2017 LASTING IMPRESSION AWARD**  
David Papania  
*Seafood Palace*



# DE GUMBEAUX POT



**2017 LASTING IMPRESSION AWARD**  
**Chef Lyle Broussard**  
*L'Auberge Casino Resort*



**2017 LASTING IMPRESSION AWARD**  
**Chef Kevin Thompson**  
*L'Auberge Casino Resort*



**2017 PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD**  
**Representative Mike Danahy**



**RHEA BARNES TRAVEL INDUSTRY AWARD**  
**Anne Monlezun**



**2017 TOURISM LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD**  
**Mayor Randy Roach**  
*City of Lake Charles*



**2017 TOURISM LEADERSHIP AWARD**  
**Adley Cormier**



**2017 ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR**  
**Marjorie Harrison & Brandon Shoumaker**  
*Calcasieu Parish Libraries*



**2017 SPORTS PERSON(S) OF THE YEAR**  
**Robert Barrentine, Jeff Wainwright and  
 Rodney Trahan, Sulphur High School**



**2017 VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR**  
**2016 LHSAA Marsh Madness Team Hosts**



**2017 VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR**  
**Barbara Hurlbut & Virginia "Jinny" Leger**



**2017 CHAIRMAN'S CUP AWARD**  
**Dr. Philip Williams**  
*McNeese State University*



**2017 SWLA TOURISM PARTNER OF THE YEAR**  
**Gerry Del Prete**  
*Golden Nugget Lake Charles*



# GET SOCIAL

## Snap Your View & Join the Krewe!



An authentic example of travel experiences is a powerful deciding tool for potential visitors. Because of this, VisitLakeCharles.org has integrated **Stackla**, a user-generated photo collection program, into the site. When visitors and locals post a photo or video in the area using our brand related hashtags, Stackla curates the best content and queues it for publishing. As you are exploring and enjoying our area, tag your photos with **#VisitLakeCharles**. You might find your images on our homepage! Find a full list of social hashtags at [www.visitlakecharles.org/yourstory](http://www.visitlakecharles.org/yourstory).

LouisianaTravel.com promotes Louisiana-centric experiences through its new social media experiment, Bayou Krewe. They are encouraging people who are passionate about Louisiana to show the world why they should visit the state. Snap your view of Louisiana and spread the word with the hashtag **#OnlyLouisiana**. Sign up to be a Louisiana ambassador at [www.louisianatravel.com/ambassador](http://www.louisianatravel.com/ambassador).



## Southeast Tourism Society Marketing College

Elizabeth Eustis and Amanda Reeves from the CVB and local tourism partners recently attended the Southeast Tourism Society (STS) Marketing College in Dahlonega, Georgia. STS Marketing College is a three year program where students earn their Travel Marketing Professional (TMP) certification. Elizabeth Eustis, Alicia Boutte and Kenisha Vincent have completed their courses and will be recognized at the TMP graduation ceremony during the STS Spring Symposium in April 2018.



Left to right: Bill Hardman, Southeast Tourism Society President & CEO; Amanda Reeves, CVB; Alicia Boutte, Hampton Inn Lake Charles; Elizabeth Eustis, CVB; Thom Trahan, Brimstone Historical Society; Kenisha Vincent, Isle of Capri; and Taylor Meeks, Holiday Inn Express & Suites Sulphur.

## YOUiversity

Be the best professional you can be.

### YOUiversity – Free Reputation Management Master Class August 30

Join international online media guru Jim Brody at the SEED Center on Wednesday, Aug. 30 for a master class on Reputation Management. Held from 8:30-11:30am, this class will cover the behavior of social media users, turning the right visitors into online advocates and social media best practices. Also, learn how to best leverage your platforms, gain permission to use third party content, and effectively measure your social media strategies.

Jim Brody is a Destination Marketing expert who has worked with some of the world's biggest Tourism Marketing Platforms including TripAdvisor, Oyster.com and Travelzoo. He has now ventured out on his own and started "Sense of Place," a training organization which aims to share best practice digital marketing principles across the globe.

Presented by the Lake Charles Convention & Visitors Bureau, this class is free, but pre-registration is required.



**REGISTER NOW!**  
[VisitLakeCharles.org/YOUiversity](http://VisitLakeCharles.org/YOUiversity)

# SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA SPOTLIGHT

## Southeast Tourism Society Honors 4 Local Events



Every quarter, the Southeast Tourism Society (STS) selects the "Top 20 Events" for the month and highlights the best of the best festivals or events. The Southwest Louisiana honored events for the month of July are the Cajun Music & Food Festival (July 14-15), Lake Charles Symphony Summer Pops: The Rat Pack (July 15) and the Marshland Festival (July 28-29). Arts & Crabs Fest (Aug. 20) was also honored, making the list for the month of August. The events are chosen from each of the following eleven STS member states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. As the Festival Capital of Louisiana, we are proud to have such unique and meaningful events in Southwest Louisiana. For more information, go to [www.southeasttourism.org](http://www.southeasttourism.org).

## EVENT CALENDAR

For a complete schedule of events, log onto [www.visitlakecharles.org](http://www.visitlakecharles.org).

### JULY

1	<b>Diana Ross</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles	8	<b>Brad Brinkley Band</b> Jack Daniels Bar & Grill, L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles	17-21	<b>Louisiana Rural Water Conference</b> Lake Charles Civic Center	29	<b>Gridiron 45</b> Lake Charles Civic Center, Buccaneer Room
1	<b>Firecracker Futurity</b> Delta Downs Racetrack Casino Hotel/Vinton	8	<b>Dennis Miller</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles	17-21	<b>Summer Theatre Workshop: Midsummer Fun!</b> Central School Arts & Humanities Center/Lake Charles	29	<b>Mark Chesnutt</b> Delta Downs Racetrack Casino & Hotel/Vinton
1	<b>Jake Worthington</b> Jack Daniels Bar & Grill, L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles	8	<b>Louisiana Showcase Night - Lee Berwick Futurity</b> Delta Downs Racetrack Casino Hotel/Vinton	17-21	<b>Young Band Nation Summer Band Camp</b> Tipitina's Music Office Co-Op/Lake Charles	29	<b>Parker McCollum</b> Jack Daniels Bar & Grill, L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles
1	<b>The Kadillacs</b> Isle of Capri Casino Hotel/Westlake	8	<b>Movies in the Square: The Jungle Book</b> The Grove at Heritage Square/Sulphur	19-23	<b>LA Association of Plumbing Heating &amp; Cooling Contractors Convention</b> L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles	29	<b>Rockin Dopsie Jr. and The Zydeco Twisters</b> Isle of Capri Casino Hotel/Westlake
1	<b>11th Annual SWLA Patriot's Ball</b> Lake Charles Civic Center	8	<b>Second Saturdays in Sulphur Art Camp</b> Henning Cultural Center/Sulphur	19-23	<b>Salty Catch Fishing Rodeo</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles	29-30	<b>2D Sports Baseball World Series</b> Various Locations
1, 8, 15, 22, 29	<b>Charlestown Farmers Market</b> 1911 Historic City Hall/Lake Charles	10-11	<b>Summer Youth Choir Camp</b> University United Methodist Church/Lake Charles	20	<b>Dikki Du and The Zydeco Krewe</b> Isle of Capri Casino Hotel/Westlake	29-30	<b>Shine Flournoy Golf Tournament</b> Mallard Cove Golf Course/Lake Charles
1-2	<b>79th Annual Fishing Rodeo</b> SWLA Fishing Clubhouse/Lake Charles	10-14	<b>Branch Out Summer Arts Camp</b> Imperial Calcasieu Museum/Lake Charles	21	<b>Luke Pell</b> Jack Daniels Bar & Grill, L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles	30	<b>Miss Globe Louisiana</b> West Cal Arena & Events Center/Sulphur
1-3	<b>USSSA Baseball 8 &amp; Under World Series Tournament</b> Frasch & Pattison Park/Sulphur	10-14	<b>Kids College Summer Camp: Explore Engineering</b> McNeese State University/Lake Charles	21	<b>Summer Concert Series: Lee Brice</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles	31-8/4	<b>Kids College Summer Camp: Ocean Exploration</b> McNeese State University/Lake Charles
1-25	<b>John Whaley Exhibit</b> Black Heritage Gallery/Lake Charles	11, 18, 25	<b>McNeese Leisure Learning: Classic Movie Series</b> McNeese Burton Business Center/Lake Charles	21-22	<b>Parish County Line</b> Isle of Capri Casino Hotel/Westlake		
1-28	<b>Bayou Games Summer Blast 2017 Day Camp</b> Bayou Games Family Entertainment Center/Sulphur	12	<b>Calcasieu Parish Quarterly Job Fair</b> Lake Charles Civic Center	22	<b>Dutch Oven Cooking</b> Sam Houston Jones State Park/Moss Bluff	1	<b>National Night Out</b> West Cal Arena & Events Center/Sulphur
1-31	<b>Works of Women Exhibit</b> Henning Cultural Center/Sulphur	13	<b>The Chuck Taylors</b> Isle of Capri Casino Hotel/Westlake	22	<b>Human Trafficking Open Seminar</b> Central Library/Lake Charles	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	<b>Cash &amp; Carry Farmers Market</b> Cash & Carry Building/Lake Charles
3	<b>Sheryl Crow</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles	13	<b>Cash &amp; Carry Farmers Market</b> Prien Lake Park/Lake Charles	22	<b>Isley Brothers</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles	2	<b>Big Daddy Weave Concert</b> Glad Tidings Church/Lake Charles
4	<b>Lake Area Runners 4 Miler</b> Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Parking Lot/Downtown Lake Charles	13, 27	<b>Give a Wish Gala</b> West Cal Arena & Events Center/Sulphur	22	<b>LA Yard Dogs</b> Jack Daniels Bar & Grill, L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles	3, 17	<b>Charlestown Farmers Market</b> Lock Park/Lake Charles
4	<b>Lake Charles Community Band Concert</b> Lake Charles Civic Center	14	<b>Junior Gordon</b> Jack Daniels Bar & Grill, L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles	22, 29	<b>McNeese Leisure Learning: Beginning Photoshop</b> Phototek/Lake Charles	3, 10	<b>Summer Film Series</b> Imperial Calcasieu Museum/Lake Charles
4	<b>Red, White, Blue &amp; You!</b> Lake Charles Civic Center Grounds	14	<b>Summer Concert Series: Hank Williams, Jr.</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles	23-28	<b>LA Home &amp; Foreign Mission Baptist State Convention</b> Lake Charles Civic Center	4	<b>Summer Concert Series: Jason Derulo</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles
4, 11, 18, 25	<b>Cash &amp; Carry Farmers Market</b> Cash & Carry Building/Lake Charles	14-15	<b>About Last Night</b> Isle of Capri Casino Hotel/Westlake	24	<b>McNeese Softball Clinic</b> McNeese Cowgirl Diamond/Lake Charles	4-6	<b>Jehovah's Witnesses Convention</b> Burton Complex/Lake Charles
5-7	<b>Kids College Summer Camp: Drama!</b> McNeese State University/Lake Charles	14-15	<b>Cajun Food &amp; Music Festival</b> Burton Complex/Lake Charles	24-28	<b>Branch Out Summer Arts Camp</b> Imperial Calcasieu Museum/Lake Charles	4-9/29	<b>LaWanda Donald Exhibit</b> Black Heritage Gallery/Lake Charles
6	<b>Food Trucks Invade</b> Crying Eagle Brewery/Lake Charles	15	<b>Lake Charles Symphony Summer Pops: The Rat Pack</b> Lake Charles Civic Center	24-28	<b>Kids College Summer Camp: Astronomy &amp; Rockets</b> McNeese State University/Lake Charles	5	<b>Mad Hot Ballroom, SWLA Celebrity Dancing Competition</b> L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles
6	<b>The Pookie Marceaux Band</b> Isle of Capri Casino Hotel/Westlake	15	<b>Little Black Dress Party</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles - Blue Martini	24-28	<b>Summer Theatre Workshop: Kidz in Showbiz!</b> Central School Arts & Humanities Center/Lake Charles	5	<b>Drums &amp; Drafts McNeese Band Fundraiser</b> Crying Eagle Brewery/Lake Charles
6, 20	<b>Charlestown Farmers Market</b> Lock Park/Lake Charles	15	<b>Rob Copeland &amp; The Outsiders</b> Jack Daniels Bar & Grill, L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles	25-26	<b>McNeese Softball Elite Skills Camp</b> McNeese Cowgirl Diamond/Lake Charles	5, 12, 19, 26	<b>Charlestown Farmers Market (Downtown)</b> 1911 Historic City Hall/Lake Charles
6, 13, 20, 27	<b>Summer Film Series</b> Imperial Calcasieu Museum/Lake Charles	15	<b>Ron White</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles	27	<b>Herbie Stutes and The Grand Shin</b> Isle of Capri Casino Hotel/Westlake	7-11	<b>Kids College Summer Camp: Around the World</b> McNeese State University/Lake Charles
6-8	<b>Summer Theatre Workshop: Wild Things!</b> Central School Arts & Humanities Center/Lake Charles	15	<b>Sesquicentennial: Pop Up Museum</b> Central Library/Lake Charles	27	<b>Calcasieu Parish Sheriff Mancuso's Bingo &amp; Lunch</b> SPAR Recreation & Aquatic Center/Sulphur	10	<b>Food Trucks Invade</b> Crying Eagle Brewery/Lake Charles
6-8	<b>Summer Theatre Workshop: Acting for the Camera</b> Central School Arts & Humanities Center/Lake Charles	15	<b>Sulphur Sax in the City Summer Series</b> The Mines Theatre/Sulphur	28	<b>Harp Camp Concert</b> McNeese Tritico Theatre/Lake Charles	10, 24	<b>Cash &amp; Carry Farmers Market</b> Prien Lake Park/Lake Charles
7	<b>Summer Concert Series: I Love the 90's</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles	17-21	<b>Branch Out Summer Arts Camp</b> Imperial Calcasieu Museum/Lake Charles	28	<b>Leauxco</b> Jack Daniels Bar & Grill, L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles	11	<b>Summer Concert Series: FloRida</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles
7	<b>Trademark</b> Jack Daniels Bar & Grill, L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles	17-21	<b>Kicker Kutie Dance Camp</b> McNeese State University/Lake Charles	28	<b>Na Na Sha</b> Isle of Capri Casino Hotel/Westlake	11	<b>Purple Reign "The Prince Tribute Show"</b> Lake Charles Civic Center
7-8	<b>Nashville Yacht Club</b> Isle of Capri Casino Hotel/Westlake	17-21	<b>Kids College Summer Camp: Imagination &amp; Inventions</b> McNeese State University/Lake Charles	28-29	<b>Marshland Festival</b> Lake Charles Civic Center	11	<b>Bingo for Designer Purses</b> Foreman-Reynaud Community Center/Lake Charles

### AUGUST

1	<b>National Night Out</b> West Cal Arena & Events Center/Sulphur
1, 8, 15, 22, 29	<b>Cash &amp; Carry Farmers Market</b> Cash & Carry Building/Lake Charles
2	<b>Big Daddy Weave Concert</b> Glad Tidings Church/Lake Charles
3, 17	<b>Charlestown Farmers Market</b> Lock Park/Lake Charles
3, 10	<b>Summer Film Series</b> Imperial Calcasieu Museum/Lake Charles
4	<b>Summer Concert Series: Jason Derulo</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles
4-6	<b>Jehovah's Witnesses Convention</b> Burton Complex/Lake Charles
4-9/29	<b>LaWanda Donald Exhibit</b> Black Heritage Gallery/Lake Charles
5	<b>Mad Hot Ballroom, SWLA Celebrity Dancing Competition</b> L'Auberge Casino Resort/Lake Charles
5	<b>Drums &amp; Drafts McNeese Band Fundraiser</b> Crying Eagle Brewery/Lake Charles
5, 12, 19, 26	<b>Charlestown Farmers Market (Downtown)</b> 1911 Historic City Hall/Lake Charles
7-11	<b>Kids College Summer Camp: Around the World</b> McNeese State University/Lake Charles
10	<b>Food Trucks Invade</b> Crying Eagle Brewery/Lake Charles
10, 24	<b>Cash &amp; Carry Farmers Market</b> Prien Lake Park/Lake Charles
11	<b>Summer Concert Series: FloRida</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles
11	<b>Purple Reign "The Prince Tribute Show"</b> Lake Charles Civic Center
12	<b>Bingo for Designer Purses</b> Foreman-Reynaud Community Center/Lake Charles
12	<b>Freddie Pate's Be-Bop Hop</b> W.W. Lewis Auditorium/Sulphur
12	<b>Tanya Tucker</b> Golden Nugget Lake Charles





# LAKE CHARLES

**SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA**  
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

LAKE CHARLES | SULPHUR | WESTLAKE  
DEQUINCY | VINTON | IOWA

1-800-456-5WLA | [www.VisitLakeCharles.org](http://www.VisitLakeCharles.org)  
1205 N. Lakeshore Drive | Lake Charles, LA 70601

## MISSION

To provide leadership in initiating and coordinating the worldwide marketing of Calcasieu Parish as a highly desirable leisure and convention destination; to solicit and service convention and other group-related businesses; and to engage in visitor promotions which generate overnight stays in Southwest Louisiana.

## VISION

To enhance and develop the economic fabric of the parish.

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Lake Charles, LA  
Permit No. 215

# EVENT CALENDAR

Continued...

Date	Event	Location
17	MSU Band Kickoff Dinner and Showcasse	Burton Complex/Lake Charles
18	McNeese Soccer vs. Louisiana Tech	McNeese Cowgirl Field/Lake Charles
18	Dutch Oven Cooking	Sam Houston Jones State Park/Moss Bluff
23	McNeese Football vs. Florida Tech	McNeese Cowboy Stadium/Lake Charles
23	Stars and Stripes Classic Car Show	Heritage Square/Sulphur
23-24	Southbound Showdown Crossfit Competition	Burton Complex/Lake Charles
23-24	Caroline, or Change	ACTS Theatre/Lake Charles
27-10/1	McNeese Fall Theatre Production	McNeese Tritico Theatre/Lake Charles
28	Shaken Not Stirred, The Music of James Bond	Golden Nugget Lake Charles
29	Gallery Promenade	Various Locations
29	McNeese Soccer vs. SFA	McNeese Cowgirl Field/Lake Charles
29	Sesquicentennial Exhibit	1911 Historic City Hall/Lake Charles
29-10/1	Calcasieu High School Rodeo	West Cal Arena & Events Center/Sulphur
29-12/7	Annual Faculty Exhibition	McNeese Grand Gallery/Lake Charles
30	City of Lake Charles Sesquicentennial Parade	Downtown Lake Charles
30	Lake Charles Symphony: Evangeline Suite	Lake Charles Civic Center
30-10/1	Habitat Shrine Circus	Vicki B's Cafe/Lake Charles
26-27	Lake Charles Gun & Knife Show	Lake Charles Civic Center
26	Southwest Ranch Rodeo	Burton Complex/Lake Charles
26	Rodney Carrington	Delta Downs Racetrack Casino & Hotel/Vinton
26	Dutch Oven Cooking	Sam Houston Jones State Park/Moss Bluff
26	Iowa Arts and Crafts Festival	Iowa Community Center
26	Keith Sweat	Golden Nugget Lake Charles
26	McNeese Soccer vs. UL-Lafayette	McNeese Cowgirl Field/Lake Charles
25	Clint Black	Golden Nugget Lake Charles
25	McNeese Soccer vs. Southeastern	McNeese Cowgirl Field/Lake Charles
25	Stellar Beans/Lake Charles	Stellar Beans/Lake Charles
25, 16	Charlestown Farmers Market (Downtown)	1911 Historic City Hall/Lake Charles
23, 30	Boozoo Labor Day Festival	Boozoo Labor Day Festival
4	McNeese Volleyball vs. Grambling	McNeese Memorial Gym/Lake Charles
4	Cash & Carry Farmers Market	Cash & Carry Building/Lake Charles
5, 12, 19, 26	McNeese Percussion Studio Recital	McNeese Tritico Theatre/Lake Charles
7, 21	Charlestown Farmers Market	Lock Park/Lake Charles
8	Jerry Jeff Walker	Golden Nugget Lake Charles
8	McNeese Faculty Poppourri Performance	McNeese Tritico Theatre/Lake Charles
8	McNeese Soccer vs. Southern	McNeese Cowgirl Field/Lake Charles
8-10	Marvelous Wondertees	Lake Charles Little Theatre
15-17	Boudin Wars, food competition	Lake Charles Little Theatre
9	Development Seminar	SEED Center/Lake Charles
9	McNeese Football vs. Florida Tech	McNeese Cowboy Stadium/Lake Charles
9	Stars and Stripes Classic Car Show	Heritage Square/Sulphur
9	Student Art Association Promenade Exhibit	McNeese Grand Gallery/Lake Charles
13-15	LA Association of Municipal Secretaries & Assistants Conference	Golden Nugget Lake Charles
14	Delta Waterfowl Banquet	Burton Complex/Lake Charles
14	Food Trucks Invade	Crying Eagle Brewery/Lake Charles
14, 28	Cash & Carry Farmers Market	Phen Lake Park/Lake Charles
15	Faculty/Guest Artist Series Concert	McNeese Tritico Theatre/Lake Charles
15	McNeese Soccer vs. Southeastern	McNeese Cowgirl Field/Lake Charles
15-17	St. Theresa Bon Ton Festival	St. Theresa Catholic Church/Sulphur
16	Calcasieu Parish Relay Swim Meet	SPAR Recreation & Aquatic Center/Sulphur
16	Sesquicentennial Pop Up Museum	Central Library/Lake Charles
16-17	Caroline, or Change	ACTS Theatre/Lake Charles
17-20	Rhea Lana's of Lake Charles Consignment Sale	Lake Charles Civic Center
19	McNeese Volleyball vs. Nicholls	McNeese Memorial Gym/Lake Charles
21	McNeese Volleyball vs. Houston Baptist	McNeese Memorial Gym/Lake Charles
22-23	Marvelous Wondertees	Lake Charles Little Theatre