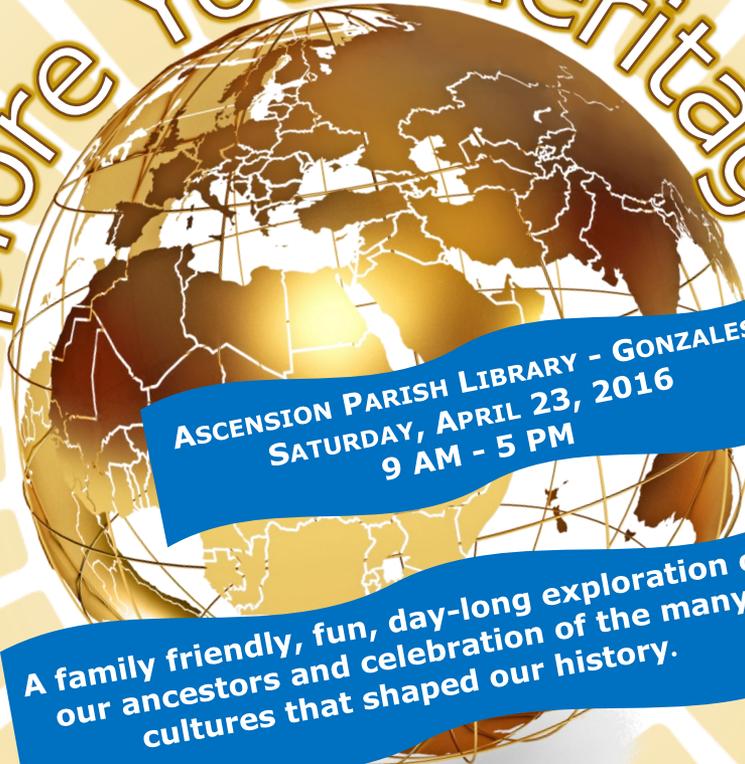


**Ascension Parish Library,
the Gonzales Committee on Cultural Affairs,
and the Jambalaya Festival Association
join together to present**

Explore Your Heritage



**ASCENSION PARISH LIBRARY - GONZALES
SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2016
9 AM - 5 PM**

**A family friendly, fun, day-long exploration of
our ancestors and celebration of the many
cultures that shaped our history.**

**Authors | Historians | Genealogists
Performers | Storytellers | Live Alligators**

LUNCH courtesy of the JAMBALAYA FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION



WELCOME TO YOUR LIBRARY!

How much do you know about your cultural heritage?

Find out as Ascension Parish Library,
the Gonzales Committee on Cultural Affairs,
and the Jambalaya Festival Association
join together to present

EXPLORE YOUR HERITAGE

A family friendly, fun, day-long exploration of our ancestors and
celebration of the many cultures that shaped our history.

We are pleased to welcome an outstanding roster of guest speakers,
all prominent and highly regarded in their fields,
for presentations on a wide variety of genealogical and historical topics.

Questions and answers will follow each presentation.

Authors will be signing their books during the lunch break.

Books will be available for purchase.

For children we offer a full day of fun activities including a Cajun
storyteller / author, an African dance and drum performance,
German, Italian, Irish and Native American crafts,
Spanish/English stories, and even live alligators.

Kids! Pick up a passport and don't forget to get it stamped
at each program as you learn about a culture
that helped make us what we are today.

Thank you for attending this library program.

Your support is important to us.

DAY AT A GLANCE

9 AM	Meeting Room 3 <i>Exploring the Birth of Cajun Culture</i>
9:30 AM	Children's Activity Room <i>Bilingual Storytime</i>
10 AM	Magazine Area <i>Kumbuka Drum & Dance Collective</i>
10:15 AM	Meeting Room 3 <i>How DNA Helps You With Your Genealogy</i>
11 AM	Children's Activity Room <i>Cultural Craft Hour</i>
11:45 AM	Meeting Room 3 <i>West Africa and the Making of US Southern Culture</i>
12 Noon	Meeting Room 1 / Courtyard <i>Lunch</i>
12:30 PM	<i>Genealogy Area Walkthrough</i>
1 PM	Reception Area Author's Row Book Signings
1 PM	Magazine Area <i>Sheila Hébert– Collins</i>
2 PM	Meeting Room 3 <i>Genetic Genealogy Case Studies</i>
2 PM	Children's Activity Room <i>Insta-Gator Ranch & Hatchery</i>
3:15 PM	Meeting Room 3 <i>Got Proof! My Genealogical Journey Through the Use of Documentation</i>
4:30 PM	<i>Genealogy Area Walkthrough</i>

Note: Programs in BLUE denote youth/family programs.

9 AM MEETING ROOM 3

EXPLORING THE BIRTH OF CAJUN CULTURE

WARREN PERRIN & MARY BROUSSARD PERRIN

Authors

For their efforts in the book, *Acadie Then and Now: A People's History*, authors Warren Perrin and Mary Broussard Perrin were awarded *le Prix France-Acadie 2015* in Paris, France on November 20, 2015.

Acadie Then and Now is a comprehensive study of the Acadians around the world and includes an international collection of articles from 55 authors that chronicles the historical and contemporary realities of the Acadian and Cajun people worldwide.

Warren Perrin is an attorney and adjunct professor at Loyola School of Law, and served as president of CODO-FIL for sixteen years. He is founder of the Acadian Museum and represented Louisiana at the Franco-phone Summits in Hanoi, Moncton, Bucharest, Quebec City, and Montreux. He authored eight books, began the Petition resulting in the Queen's Royal Proclamation, received the French National Order of Merit, is in the Louisiana Justice Hall of Fame, and chairman of the Francophone Section of the Bar Association.

Mary Broussard Perrin is a visual artist and former educator working in painting, photomontage, artist books and performance art. She has worked in the National Museum for Women in the Arts, in Washington, D.C.; the Ogden Museum of Southern Art, a branch of the Smithsonian; the New Orleans Museum of Art; and the Louisiana State Museum.



The Prix France-Acadie is an initiative of the French association Friendship France - Acadie," created in 1976 and supported by the Foundation of France. The association's mission is to develop cultural and friendly relations between Acadians and French and to strengthen the ties between Canada and the world Francophone community.

9:30 AM CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY ROOM

BILINGUAL STORYTIME

For children of all ages who speak Spanish, English, or both, this storytime is an interactive half-hour of stories, songs, and fingerplays at which everything will be read in both English and in Spanish.



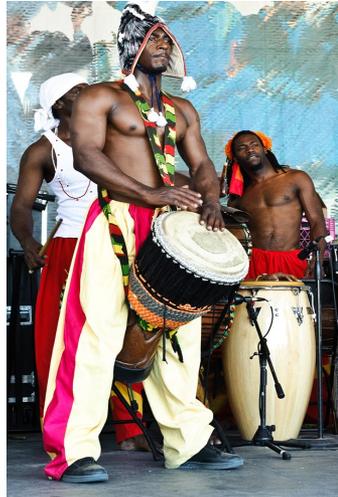
10 AM MAGAZINE AREA

KUMBUKA AFRICAN DRUM & DANCE COLLECTIVE

Kumbuka African Drum & Dance Collective, based in New Orleans, has been incorporated since January 1981. The Collective is dedicated to the preservation, presentation, documentation and research of traditional African and African American culture, as expressed through the medium of the drum, dance and song.

Kumbuka Collective presents African folklore from Senegal, Guinea, Mali, Congo, Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, and South Africa.

Members of the Collective are dancers, musicians, historians, jewelers, drum makers, costume designers, and painters. These artists have studied extensively in Senegal, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, New York, Chicago, and Washington, D.C.



**Kumbuka
is a regular performer
at the New Orleans
Jazz & Heritage Festival**

In an effort to document the dances and culture of Africans born in New Orleans and the significance that their presence had on the music and culture of New Orleans, Congo Square became the next focus for the Collective. As a result, the dance Calinda, a dance that has been performed in Congo Square in the 1800s that originates from Haiti, was resurrected. Since 1992, Kumbuka performs this dance regularly, and it has become its signature piece.

10:15 AM MEETING ROOM 3

HOW DNA HELPS YOU WITH YOUR GENEALOGY

MARIE RUNDQUIST

Author, genealogist & DNA specialist

Washington, D.C. area resident, Marie Rundquist, applies her diverse experience -- as a DNA project manager, collaborative research community moderator, and president of an information systems consulting firm, in researching her North American family history.



Interweaving DNA test results, history, and genealogy, Rundquist develops comprehensive historical narratives that are uniquely products of the present but which give voice to unheard ancestors and truths of the past.

Rundquist's published books and articles include *Revisiting Anne Marie: How an Amerindian Woman of Seventeenth-Century Nova Scotia and a DNA Match Redefine American Heritage* (2009), *Cajun by Any Other Name: Recovering the Lost History of a Family and a People* (2012), and *Finding Anne Marie: The Hidden History of our Acadian Ancestors* (2006).

Ms. Rundquist divides her time between homes in the D.C. area and the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and regularly presents to groups about her work with genealogy and DNA. Ms. Rundquist's family, heritage, parakeets, friends, travels, clients, career, writing, and management of DNA projects are her life.

11 AM CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY ROOM

CULTURAL CRAFT HOUR

Did you know that kids in Ascension Parish used to skip school to help with the strawberry harvest? Or that Gonzales used to hold a Strawberry Festival? Do you ever wonder how Irish immigrants found their way to Louisiana or why they came? Or how the accordion become a part of

Cajun and Zydeco music? And what was life like in Louisiana before European immigrants arrived? Travel the globe as you craft strawberry slime, weave paper, and create your own ball and triangle game. You can also try your hand at playing an accordion! Then learn how these crafts and activities connect to our Italian, Irish, German, and Native American heritage. *Younger children may need help from an adult.*

11:45AM MEETING ROOM 3

WEST AFRICA AND THE MAKING OF US SOUTHERN CULTURE

DR. IBRAHIMA SECK

Author and research director at Whitney Plantation

Ibrahima Seck is a member of the History department of Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar (UCAD), Senegal. His research is mostly devoted to the historical and cultural links between West Africa and Louisiana with a special interest for religious beliefs, music, foodways, and miscellaneous aspects of folklore. In 1999, he defended a doctoral dissertation entitled “*African Culture and Slavery in the Lower Mississippi Valley, from Iberville to Jim Crow.*”



Dr. Seck is now holding the position of academic director of the Whitney Plantation Museum of Slavery, which is located between Wallace and Edgard in St. John the Baptist Parish in Louisiana.

He is the author of a book on this historic site entitled “*Bouki fait Gombo: A History of the Slave Community of Habitation Haydel (Whitney Plantation) Louisiana, 1750-1860.*”

**12 NOON - 1:30 PM
COURTYARD/ MEETING ROOM 1**

LUNCH

JAMBALAYA FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION

Join us for jambalaya and all the fixins’ cooked by JFA president and past Jambalaya Champion Wally Taillon.



12:30 - 1 PM

GENEALOGY AREA WALK THROUGH

We invite you to visit the local history and genealogy area at any time during the day, however during this time a staff member will be available to show you around and answer any questions.

1 - 2 PM RECEPTION AREA

AUTHOR'S ROW/ BOOK SIGNINGS

Meet the authors. Books will be available for purchase. Prices and payment methods vary.

1 PM MAGAZINE AREA

SHEILA HÉBERT-COLLINS

Cajun Author and Storyteller

A former teacher, Sheila Hébert-Collins proudly claims a heritage that is completely Cajun. A native of Abbeville, Louisiana, Hébert-Collins combined her love and pride of her culture with her love of children's literature to create unique, Cajun fairy tales.

Because of her talent, she is featured on the Louisiana State Artist Roster as an author and Cajun storyteller.



She has also written *Cendrillon: A Cajun Cinderella*, *Blanchette et Les Sept Petits Cajuns: A Cajun Snow White*, *Jacques et La Canne à Sucre: A Cajun Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Jolie Blonde and the Three Héberts: A Cajun Twist to an Old Tale*, *Les Trois Cochons*, and *'T Pousette et 'T Poulette: A Cajun Hansel and Gretel*.

Ms. Hébert-Collins will share stories and music with a Cajun flair. Books will be available for purchase after her presentation.

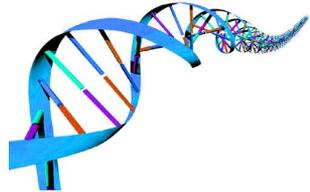
2 PM MEETING ROOM 3

GENETIC GENEALOGY CASE STUDIES

MARIE RUNDQUIST

We recommend attending both of Ms. Rundquist's presentations for a better understanding of the topic.

Genetic genealogy is the newest and most exciting addition to genealogy research. What is Genetic Genealogy? Genealogy is simply the study of one's family tree or ancestry. Genetic genealogy uses DNA testing to determine the genetic relationship between individuals.



2 PM CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY ROOM

LIVE ALLIGATORS

INSTA-GATOR RANCH & HATCHERY

Many people who settled in the bayous of Louisiana came face to face with alligators. Can you imagine exploring a new country and coming across one? Learn all about alligators and get up close and personal with them in this exciting conclusion to the day's events.



Directed by Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries, this farm was developed to conserve the American Alligator species and preserve the Louisiana wetlands.

The Insta-Gator Ranch and Hatchery is a functioning alligator farm dedicated to sharing information about alligators and the alligator ranching process.

Find out all that you need to know about alligators and then get close to one! Trained alligator handlers will keep a close eye as you get to see and touch a baby alligator (12-24") and a yearling (3'6" - 4').

3:15 PM MEETING ROOM 3

GOT PROOF! MY GENEALOGICAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE USE OF DOCUMENTATION

MICHAEL HENDERSON

Author, lecturer & family history researcher

Michael N. Henderson, Lt. Commander, U.S. Navy retired, began his genealogy journey almost 30 years ago. He is the author of *Got Proof! My Genealogical Journey Through the Use of Documentation*. The book has won several awards, including First Place in the 2015 Next Generation Indie Book Awards (Memoir) from the Independent Book Publishing Professionals Group, and Finalist in the 50th Georgia Author of the Year Awards (Memoir) by the Georgia Writers Association in 2014.

The book also captures the attention of genealogists, historians, and others interested in the complex social structure that developed during the French and Spanish colonial periods in Louisiana. He explores the forbidden relationships from which evolved the unique Creole culture. Revealing original documents from as far back as the 1770s, Henderson uses his own experiences as a family history researcher, as well as the insight of noted scholars, to reveal the methods, standards, and techniques used to prove his ancestry.



Henderson is a member of the Louisiana Historical Society, the American-French Genealogical Society, the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, and the Georgia Genealogical Society.

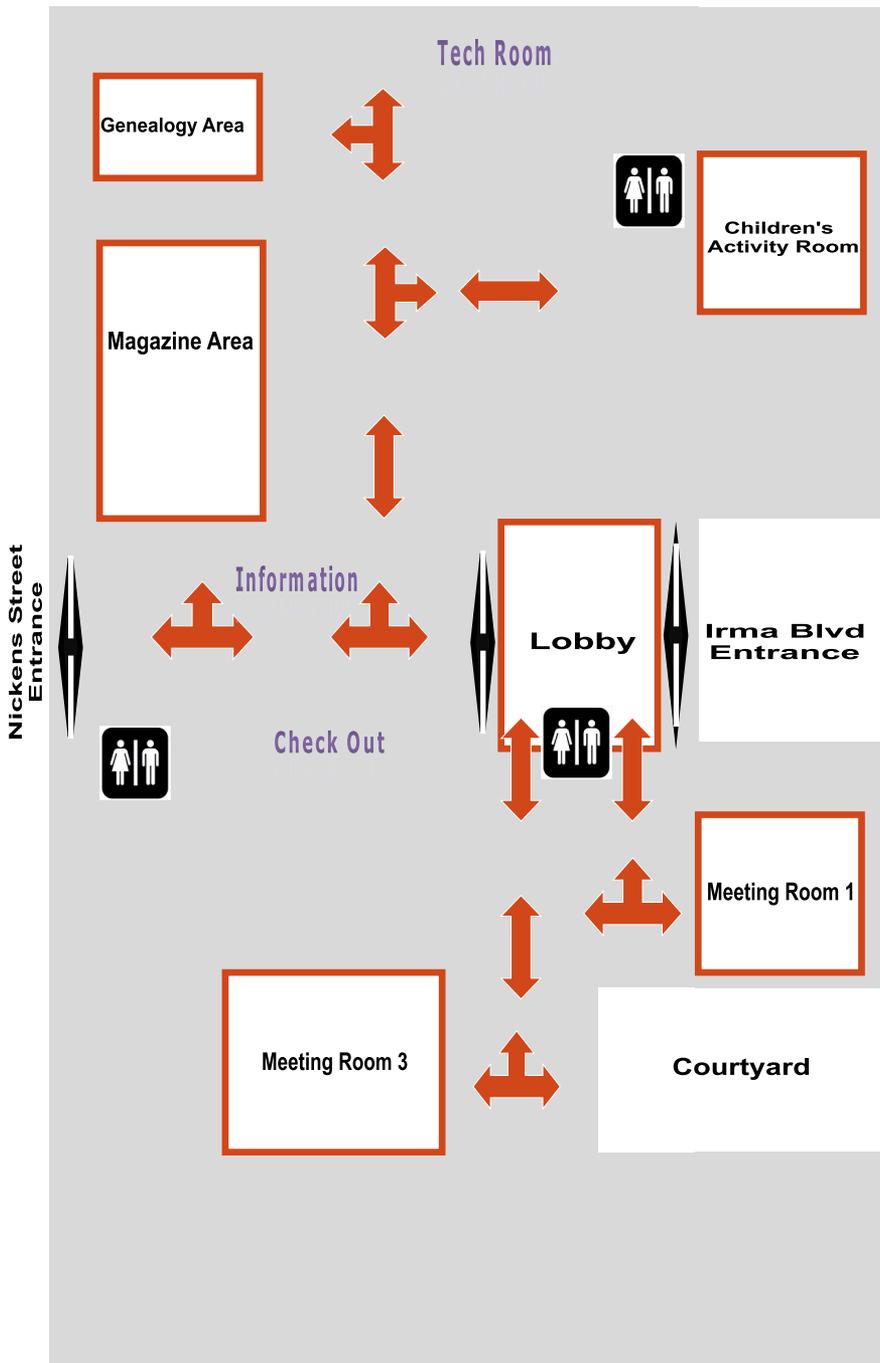
A native of Algiers, a suburb of New Orleans, LA., Henderson currently lives near Atlanta, Georgia.

4:30 - 5 PM

GENEALOGY AREA WALK THROUGH

We invite you to visit the local history and genealogy area at any time during the day, however during this time a staff member will be available to show you around and answer any questions.

Floor plan not to scale





ASCENSION PARISH LIBRARY
would like to thank the
GONZALES COMMITTEE on CULTURAL AFFAIRS
and the JAMBALAYA FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION
for their generous contributions.



Ascension Parish Library
Donaldsonville | Gonzales | Galvez | Dutchtown