

VCPORA's Weekly Vieux - May 7, 2021

1 message

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Message from the Executive Director

Dear members and supporters,

In a normal year, I would be welcoming you to our annual Mother's Day Concert at Cabrini Park on Sunday afternoon. Sadly, we could not hold this beloved event for a second year given COVID restrictions and permitting limitations. Despite this, I am thrilled to kick-off our *At Home in the Vieux Carré* series [on May 21](#). After 15 months of social distancing, and what seems like thousands of Zoom meetings, I am very eager to personally reconnect with each of you. We all know just how vital this community is.

Even though we haven't been able to socialize, our advocacy efforts for this special neighborhood never paused.

We have dedicated over a year to the creation of 5G design guidelines to minimize the impact of this technology on our 'tout ensemble'. We have worked with diverse neighborhood organizations to reinstate the Quarter for the Quarter tax to support supplemental public security services in the neighborhood.

Our Willie's Chicken Shack lawsuit is slowly moving forward, helping to safeguard the diverse and authentic variety of French Quarter businesses. We have worked with the City for a year in their efforts to "Reimagine the French Quarter" to ensure that any long term changes to the French Quarter prioritize residential quality of life over unsustainable tourism practices. We have organized hundreds of hours of community service at food pantries and partnered with other organizations for neighborhood clean-ups.

We have weathered the storm throughout it all. Thanks to our generous supporters and SBA forgivable loans, we were able to maintain our daily operations and advocacy work.

We are currently working on hosting a 2021 Gala in November and are actively looking for committee members. Helping plan this event is a fun way to help VCPORA bring much-needed revenue to get us through the rest of the pandemic.

VCPORA's work is as important as ever to promote a more sustainable and livable French Quarter as we move forward in a post-pandemic economy. I encourage you to attend our At Homes, speak with our Board members, [become a volunteer](#), or reach out to me with your ideas. We have so much work to do!

Sincerely,



Erin Holmes
erinholmes@vcpora.org



Thank You to our GiveNOLA Donors!

VCPORA's seventh GiveNOLA Day was a success. We want to extend a tremendous thank you to the 47 donors who helped us raise \$3,725! We sincerely appreciate your participation and generosity. Your support enables us to continue protecting and preserving this remarkable neighborhood for residents, businesses, and visitors alike - and for generations to come.



At Home in the Vieux Carré Kickoff

Friday, May 21

727 Ursulines

5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars and join us for the kickoff At Home in the Vieux Carré later this month at the beautiful 1825 townhome of Marie-Françoise Crouch! Specialty cocktails and wine will be provided. Admission is \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members, and free to those who join or renew their memberships that night. Check [our website](#) or [follow our Facebook](#) for updates.

We are also accepting volunteers to help staff this event. Not on our volunteer list yet? Email info@vcpora.org or fill out the [volunteer form](#) on our website to get involved with all the latest VCPORA advocacy, events, and programming opportunities.

Please note that in keeping with the City of New Orleans [Phase 3 reopening restrictions](#), this event will be limited capacity and masks will be required when not actively drinking.



Preservation Month

May is [Preservation Month](#)! To celebrate, the National Trust for Historic Places is showcasing opportunities to save, celebrate, and discover places that reflect the breadth of American history. They are also inviting preservationist enthusiasts to share little-known or underrepresented pieces of local, national, or personal

history. See [their website](#) to learn how you too can reflect on the depth and diversity of our nation's history.



NOLA READY

THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Emergency Alert System

NOLA Ready Alert Updates

Starting this week, the City of New Orleans will be migrating NOLA Ready alerts to a new alerting platform that will phase out the existing subscriber list throughout the summer. To ensure you receive NOLA Ready alerts in the future, sign up on the [NOLA Ready website](#) or text NOLAREADY to 77295.



District 93 Survey

Last week, we noted that Louisiana state Representative [Royce Duplessis](#) is asking District 93 constituents to fill out a survey about upcoming state legislation. Our email contained an erroneous link. [This is the correct survey link](#). Apologies for the error. Anybody residing in [his district](#), which encompasses the French Quarter, is encouraged to fill out the survey and help determine priorities for this legislative session.



photo by Sophia Germer via [NOLA.com](https://www.nola.com)

City Council Chambers to Reopen

Councilmember Helena Moreno has announced [a plan to reopen City Council Chambers](#) to a limited in-person capacity of up to 40 members of the public. Face coverings will be mandatory for all attendees. Council Chambers has also been modified and outfitted with plexiglass safety barriers and social distancing mitigations to help protect attendees.

The plan provides for an ongoing "hybrid" meeting model to give outside participants the option of appearing via video conferencing to further limit in-person gathering. Public comment will still be accepted online. This plan will go into effect for the [May 20 City Council meeting](#).



Graffiti Abatement Program

Saturday, May 8
334 Royal Street
9:00 a.m. - noon

The [French Quarter Business Association's](#) all-volunteer graffiti cleanup is tomorrow. Volunteers will check in at the NOPD 8th District Courtyard and remove stickers and small tags from public property in assigned areas. Volunteers are advised to wear protective eye wear, long sleeves, work clothes, and comfortable walking shoes.

Fresh coffee and warm beignets will be provided by Cafe Beignet New Orleans and a post-clean up catered lunch will be provided. Interested in joining? Sign up [online](#) or by emailing graffiti@fqba.org.



Shop local art, books, gifts, and more!



1850 House • Beauregard-Keyes Historic House & Garden • The Historic New Orleans Collection
Hermann-Grima + Gallier Historic Houses • New Orleans Jazz Museum

Mother's Day Market

Sunday, May 9

334 Royal Street

9:00 a.m. - noon

Enjoy the French Quarter by visiting the [Mother's Day Market](#) at local museums! For one day only, vendors will be set up in several [French Quarter Museum Association](#) museum courtyards. Enjoy food, activities, and shopping at the Hermann-Grima House, the Historic New Orleans Collection, the New Orleans Jazz Museum, and the Beauregard-Keyes House.

Both Jewel of the South and The Starlight will provide a complimentary glass of bubbles with food purchase to those who show proof of FQMA purchase. The Four Points by Sheraton will also offer discounted parking with validation stickers from FQMA museums. For more information, visit [Eventbrite](#).

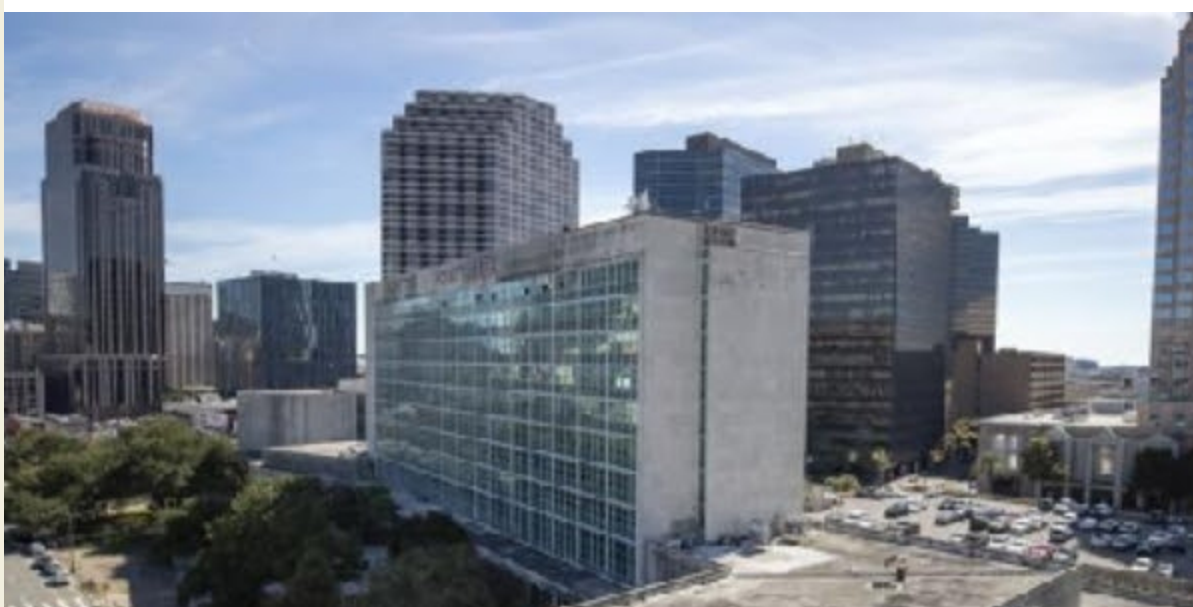


photo by David Grunfeld via [NOLA.com](#)

Blood Drive at City Hall

Monday, May 10

[1300 Perdido Street](#)

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The Blood Center will host an [emergency blood drive](#) for all blood types taking at City Hall this upcoming Monday. All donors will receive a free Blood Center t-shirt and a free cholesterol test. [Appointments are preferred](#), but not required. Residents

are reminded to eat a good meal before donating and to bring their ID. Visit the [BloodCenter website](#) or call (800) 862-5663 for more details.



#FQThenAndNow

VCPORA and the [VCC Foundation](#) continue our #FQThenAndNow series this week with a post on 1019 Bourbon. Head over to our [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) to check it out. This weekly series showcases historic pictures, current pictures, and fun facts about our favorite French Quarter locales. Follow #FQThenAndNow the [VCC Foundation](#) so you don't miss any upcoming posts from this series.

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