
VCPORA's Weekly Vieux October 22, 2022

1 message

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In this Issue:

At Home in the Vieux Carré - Halloween Edition

VCPORA Annual Meeting - October 25

What's Happening at Madame John's Legacy?

A Message from the VCC regarding the New City Website

Upcoming Events:

- Krewe of Boo
- Historic BK House & Gardens: The Family Line

A Fête For All Saints (and Sinners)

BOOalopoulos Gallery Opening



At Home in the Vieux Carré *Halloween Edition*

The [At Home in the Vieux Carré](#) happy hour series continues with drinks and delights at the home of Claus Sadlier at [933 Burgundy Street](#) on **Friday, October 28, 2022**, from **5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

Our At Home in the Vieux Carré series is a great way to meet your neighbors and get an inside peak of a gorgeous French Quarter home.

Admission is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members and **FREE for those who sign up or renew their membership that night.**

[933 Burgundy Street](#) is a beautiful, green rated c. 1836 Creole townhouse, and features a cathedral pattern wrought iron balcony.

Join us in celebrating this beautifully furnished home and the special neighborhood it inhabits by attending this Halloween themed At Home hosted by Claus Sadlier! Bring your dancing shoes too, because this month's happy hour will feature live music from Tim Laughlin and his trio – a special treat from our host.

There will be a ~costume contest~ and while it is not mandatory, it is highly encouraged! The winner will receive one ticket to this year's gala.

Stop in on your way to the [French Quarter Citizens' Halloween Party!](#)



VCPORA Annual Meeting

October 25, 2022

Tuesday, October 25, 2022

1113 Chartres Street

6:00 p.m. Refreshments

6:30 p.m. Annual Meeting and Election of Board

This meeting is a members-only event

Join us for VCPORA's Annual Meeting to welcome and vote on our 2022-2023 Board of Directors. Enjoy light refreshments as you mingle with your fellow VCPORA members, discuss issues important to the French Quarter, and review the organization's efforts in its 84th year.

CM Freddie King III will be joining us at this meeting to discuss his priorities and efforts in District C.

The meeting highlight will include a presentation of the recent renovation of the **Carmelite Monastery** (also the location for our Gala this year!) led by the project architect, **Rick Fifield**. Mr. Fifield will discuss the challenges of converting the 127-year-old Convent grounds into 25 unique apartments while maintaining the integrity of the sacred spaces. This one-acre project is a fascinating look at how our historic resources can be carefully adapted to new uses.

The meeting will also include a Message from the President and the Election of the Board of Directors.

Special thanks to the **B K Historic House & Gardens** for their generous hospitality.



What is happening to Madame John's Legacy?

You have likely noticed the ongoing work at [632 Dumaine Street](#), the structure known as Madame John's Legacy. Built in 1788, just after the major fire of that year, it remains one of the best, if only, surviving examples of French Colonial architecture built during Spanish rule.

It is a National Historic Landmark and is "purple" rated – meaning it is of national architectural/historical significance. For reference, there are only [14 purple-rated properties](#) in the Vieux Carré, making its significance on par with St. Louis Cathedral, Ursulines Convent, and both Pontalba buildings, to name a few. It is a rare example of colonial domestic architecture and has survived basically intact until recent years.

Like many significant historic buildings in the city, Madame John's Legacy is owned by the State of Louisiana, and has been [managed by the Louisiana State Museum](#) since the mid-20th century. Unfortunately, deferred maintenance and continued moisture problems have contributed to its deterioration over the decades, along with growing concern by the local preservation experts.

Unlike private property owners (like many of you), the State and City are exempt from the standards and guidelines set forth in our historic district guidelines and our Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance. That's right, they can make the rules, but they don't have to follow them. Further, the State does not even need to hold itself to the (National) [Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties](#). These are the very guidelines that the [State Historic Preservation Office](#) (SHPO) uses to oversee historic preservation tax-credit projects and that local regulatory bodies, like the HDLC and the VCC, use in their determinations for preservation applications.

On September 21, the Vieux Carré Commission was scheduled to hear [a report on the State's renovation plans for the structure](#). The preservation community

was there, fearful of the work that had been observed but not publicly revealed. Instead, the LA State Museum Board appointed Commissioner, Julio Guichard, set up a meeting with the project architects and concerned parties. That meeting was held on October 16, and the concerns of the preservation community were brought to light.



According to the presenters, we found out that the project leaders have not involved a structural engineer or building conservation professionals to carry out the technical aspects of preservation, like: a paint analysis, an analysis of brick composition, or other testing of materials. A historic structures report was not produced, as is commonly used in restoration projects of this level of importance. Lastly, it became apparent that the SHPO had not been brought into the beginning stages of the project to ensure the best preservation practices were being applied, and had made recommendations later but these were dismissed. Most alarmingly, the changes intended for the front façade include removing the ground floor wall to leave brick piers that will be secured by perimeter iron fencing. There has been no professional evidence suggesting a ground floor of this type, which would vastly change the appearance of the building.

These cumulative changes to Madame John's Legacy have the VCC staff considering a downgraded rating of significance for the 234-year-old structure.

According to the [Friends of the Cabildo](#), the renovation “is being undertaken without a clear methodology, without appropriate documentation, and without the benefit of the advice of qualified experts (the proper chain of oversight required for a renovation on a building of this historical significance).”

We are calling on the State to stop their work until a Historic Structures Report can be performed and the State Historic Preservation Office be brought into the to oversee the project according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

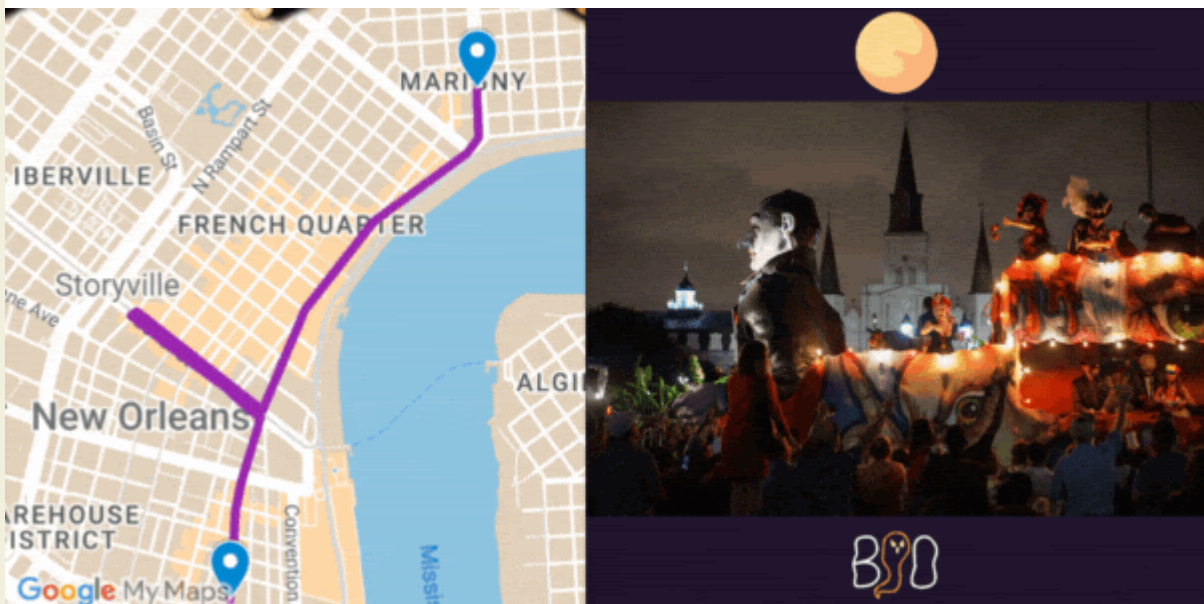
We will continue to update our supporters with information as this issue unfolds.



A Message from the VCC regarding the new city website

The City of New Orleans is currently in the middle of updating [their website](#). As many of you may have noticed this is causing some issues on the [VCC webpages](#). Please know that the staff is aware, and they are actively working to fix errors and update incorrect information.

We ask for your patience as they make these changes/updates to the website while also still working hard to process your applications as fast as they can.



Upcoming Events

Krewe of Boo

Saturday, October 22, 2022
Krewe of Boo Parade
6:30 p.m.

Krewe of BOO! became New Orleans' Official Halloween Parade in 2007 and since then has grown to be a spooktacular weekend of Halloween-themed events, combining the magnitude of Mardi Gras with the macabre theatrics of All Hallows' Eve.

Featuring floats of world-renowned **Kern Studios**, the parade's beautifully horrific props and sculptures start with talented Kern artists, sketching creative images for the unique Krewe of BOO! Once approved by Chief Spookster Brian Kern's discerning eye, the images "come to life" as 3-dimensional fiberglass or papier-mâché props that excite and frighten parade-goers with their imaginative artistic style.

PARADE ROUTE

- Assemble at Elysian Fields Avenue
- Parade Down Elysian Fields Avenue to North Peters Street
 - North Peters Street to Decatur Street
- Decatur Street past Jackson Square to North Peters Street
 - North Peters Street to Canal Street
 - Up Canal to Burgundy then U-turn
- Down Canal Street to Tchoupitoulas Street
- Tchoupitoulas Street to Andrew Higgins Drive



(Upcoming Events Cont.)

Historic BK House & Gardens

The Family Line

October 21 – November 20, 2022

Wednesdays & Thursdays @ 7:30 p.m.

Fridays @ 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

1113 Chartres Street

Tickets are \$40 and available [here](#).

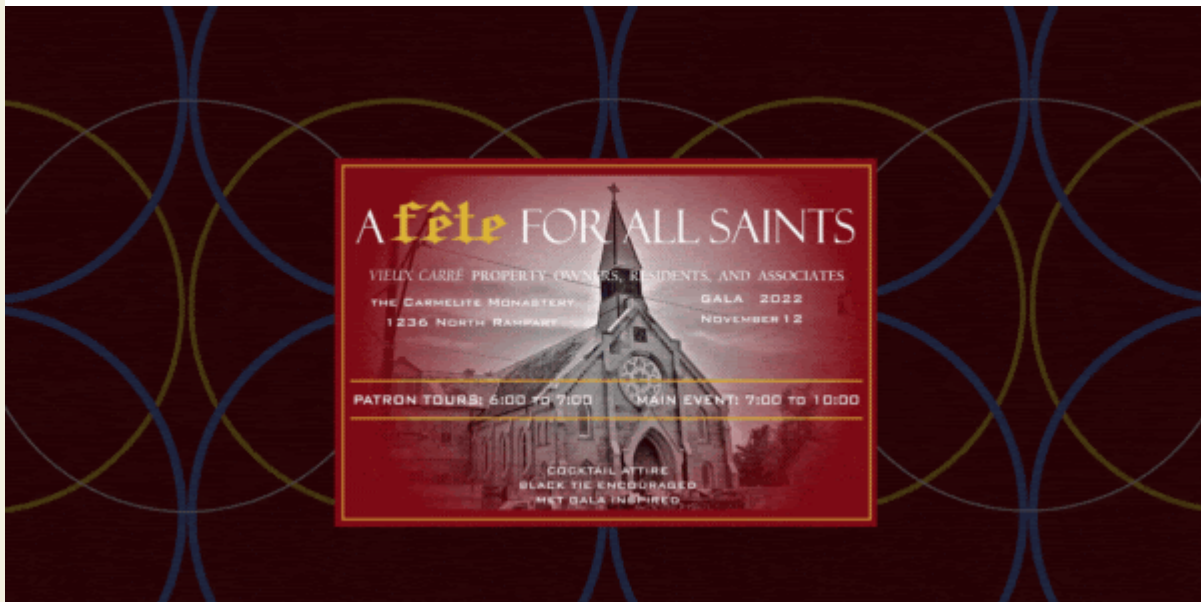
It is finally here! [Goat in the Road](#)'s new immersive play set in the [Historic BK House & Gardens](#) premieres this Friday, **October 21, 2022!**

About the Play:

The Family Line takes place at the BK House in the late 19th century, when it acted as rented rooms for working class Sicilian immigrants. The show's plot is inspired by the New Orleans General Strike of 1892, when over 30,000 New Orleans workers walked off the job to fight for shorter work days, increased pay, and 'closed' union shops. The audience will witness a community of grocers decide whether or not to join the strike during the memorial of a beloved community member, whose life connected them beyond their family line; and whose death reminds them of why their bond must never be broken.

This show is an immersive, original performance inspired by the histories of both the BK House and the 1892 General Strike, a successful interracial organizing event that shut down the city for days before winning workers' historic rights. During the show, audience members will be able to explore the historic property, following the characters and storylines they choose. The production will take place on the ground level of the courtyard and surrounding buildings, making it accessible to all.

You can learn more and purchase tickets [here](#).



A Fête For All Saints (and Sinners)

We are just under *one month* away from our 2022 Annual Gala, **“A Fête for All Saints”** on **November 12, 2022** at the **Carmelite Monastery!**

Our Patron Level (and above) tickets holders will be treated to a private tour into the meandering courtyards linking the various structures within the grounds and learn about the ambitious renovation.

If you'd like to volunteer and attend the event for free, please fill out [this form](#). We have many volunteer opportunities available so invite your friends and family!

Check us out on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) to get a sneak peek at auction items, venue pictures, and some images/looks that have inspired us!



We want to thank our current sponsors and patrons for your commitment to this extraordinary evening!

Additionally, we'd like to extend a **Special Thanks** to Sam Mickal Solomon with [Bancroft Property Investments, LLC](#) and [Rick Fifield](#) for allowing us to celebrate this historic space with you all!

Learn more and sign up as a patron or sponsor [here](#).



Chimera by James Michalopoulos

This year's gala will not only include a fantastic silent auction from the city's best restaurants, galleries, artists, professional services, and boutiques, but a **raffle** for this dazzling mixed media serigraph [Chimera](#) by James Michalopoulos.

[James Michalopoulos](#) has been capturing the quirky characters and vibrant architecture of New Orleans for over thirty years. His art has served as an ambassador for New Orleans, representing its exuberant culture and way of life. Found in museums and cherished in private collections across the globe, the often emulated, always original, art of James Michalopoulos has emerged as one of the most beloved symbols of our extraordinary city.

He is pleased to support the VCPORA and the wonderful work they are doing, with his newest serigraph print on canvas, entitled Chimera.

Each Michalopoulos [limited edition serigraph print on canvas](#) has been extensively hand embellished by James with oil paint, reminiscent of the deep texture and rich color collectors experience in his paintings. Because each hand embellished

serigraph receives such lavish attention by the artist, **no two in the edition are exactly alike.**

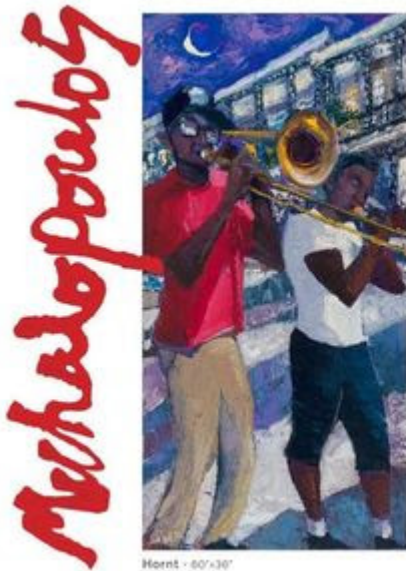
This particular piece is stunningly large at 36 x 30 inches (37 x 31in with frame) and features the artist's signature on the back. It is currently valued at \$3,800.

We are offering an Early Bird Special on the raffle tickets: **1 for \$50 or 3 for \$125.**

Prices will increase the night of [A Fête For All Saints \(and Sinners\)](#) so don't miss out on this sale!

Purchase your tickets [here](#).

We'd like to extend a Special Thanks to James Michalopoulos and the team at his gallery for their continuous support and stunning donation!



BOOalopoulos Gallery Opening



Saturday, October 22, 2022
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Michalopoulos Gallery
617 Bienville St., New Orleans



BOOalopoulos Gallery Opening

Saturday, October 22, 2022
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Michalopoulos Gallery
617 Bienville Street

Join us and enjoy a cocktail, visit with [James](#), and view his latest works and the available paintings fresh from the [Jazz Museum exhibit!](#) Afterwards, you can catch the [Krewe of BOO parade](#), as it winds its way through the French Quarter.

Music by [Tasche de la Rocha](#).

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