

NEW DIRECTIONS IN LOUISIANA STUDIES

A Fellows' Symposium presented by the Center for Louisiana Studies

Friday, August 29, 2025 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

The Center for Louisiana Studies 1204 Johnston Street, Lafayette, LA

About the Symposium

Join us for a day of thought-provoking conversations exploring new trajectories in Louisiana Studies. This event showcases the work of CLS Fellows and their collaborators, featuring interdisciplinary dialogues, presentations, and interactive discussions.

About the CLS Fellows Program

The Center for Louisiana Studies appoints distinguished scholars to five-year terms as CLS Fellows in recognition of their contributions to Louisiana-based scholarship. Fellows collaborate with the Center on strategic initiatives, participate in public programming, and serve as ambassadors for the field. Each cohort concludes their term by contributing to a Louisiana Studies symposium.

Symposium Schedule

MORNING SESSION

10:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Welcome

10:15 – 10:45 a.m.

Reframing Louisiana Studies: The Role of Cultural Identity in Scholarship

NATHAN RABALAIS

10:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 – 11:45 a.m.

What We Wish You Knew About Indigenous Peoples in Louisiana

LEILA K. BLACKBIRD and JEFFERY U. DARENSBOURG

11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch on Your Own

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00 – 1:45 p.m.

Iberia Parish African American History from Slavery to Post-Reconstruction

PHEBE HAYES

1:45 – 2:00 p.m.

Break

2:00 – 2:45 p.m.

Exploring Historical Undercurrents
A conversation between CLINT BRUCE and
T. MAYHEART DARDAR

2:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Break

3:00 – 3:45 p.m.

Routes to an Authentic Future
NICK SPITZER in conversation with ANDY HOROWITZ

3:45 - 4:30

Open Discussion

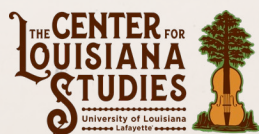
RECEPTION

4:30 - 6 p.m.

Join us for a casual reception following the final session.

Registration

Registration is required. You may register for the morning session, afternoon session, or both using this [link](#).



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