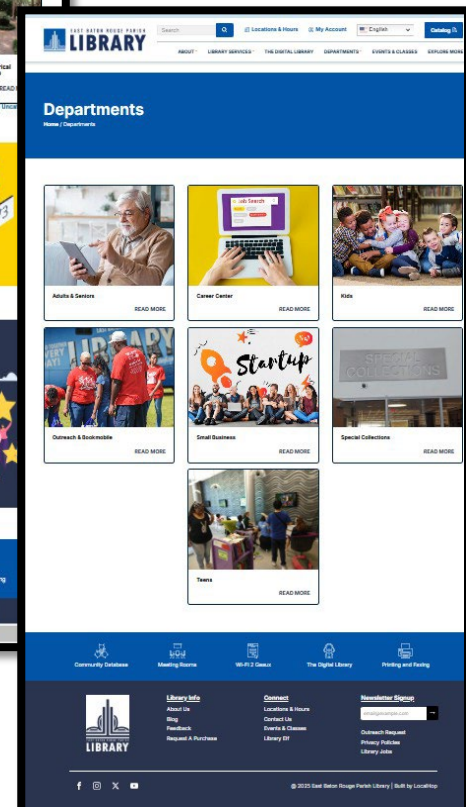
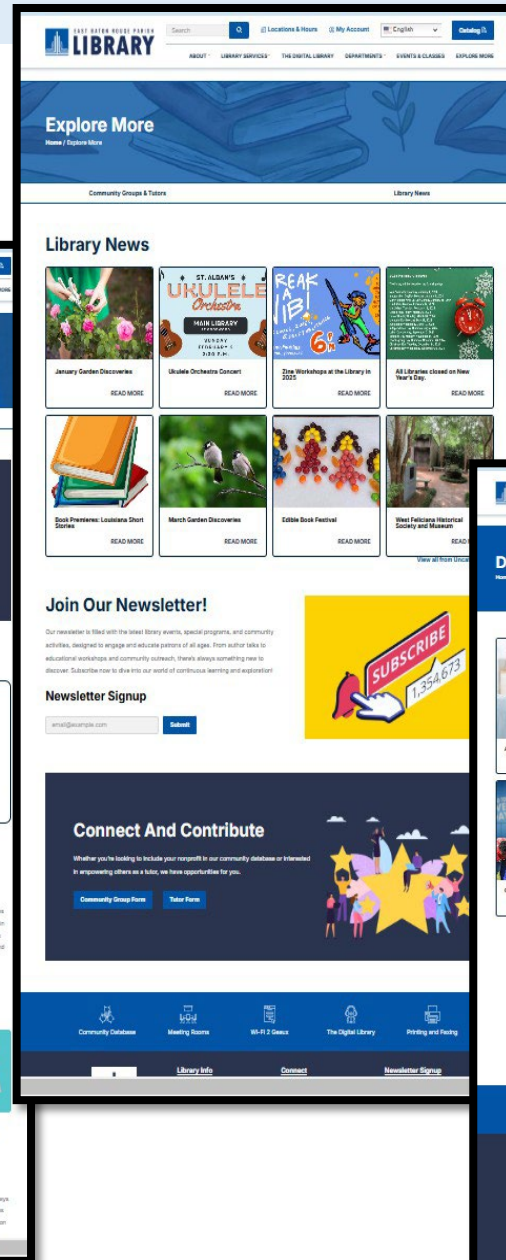
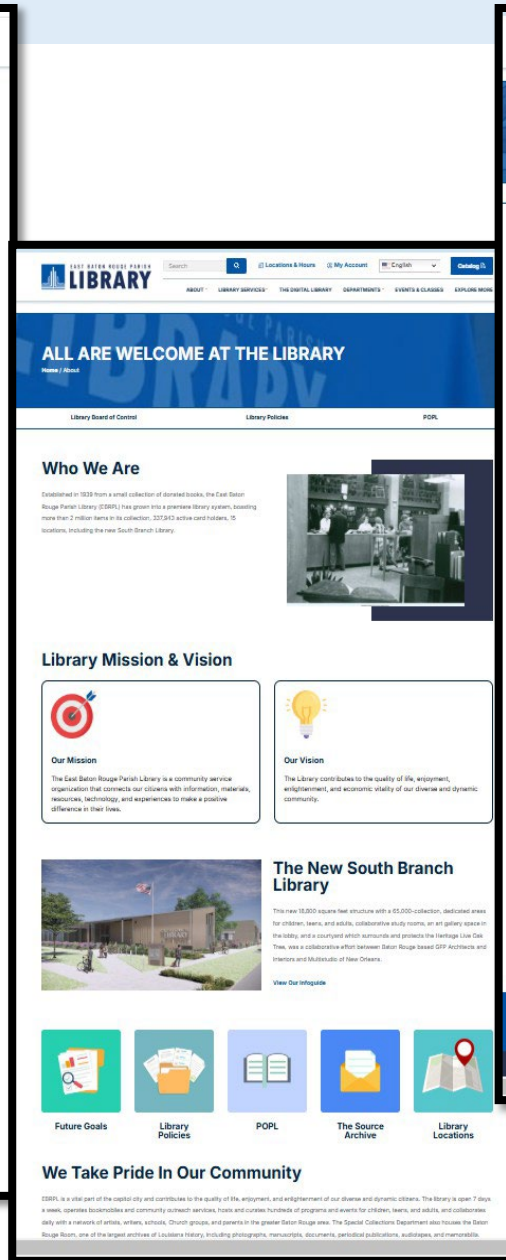
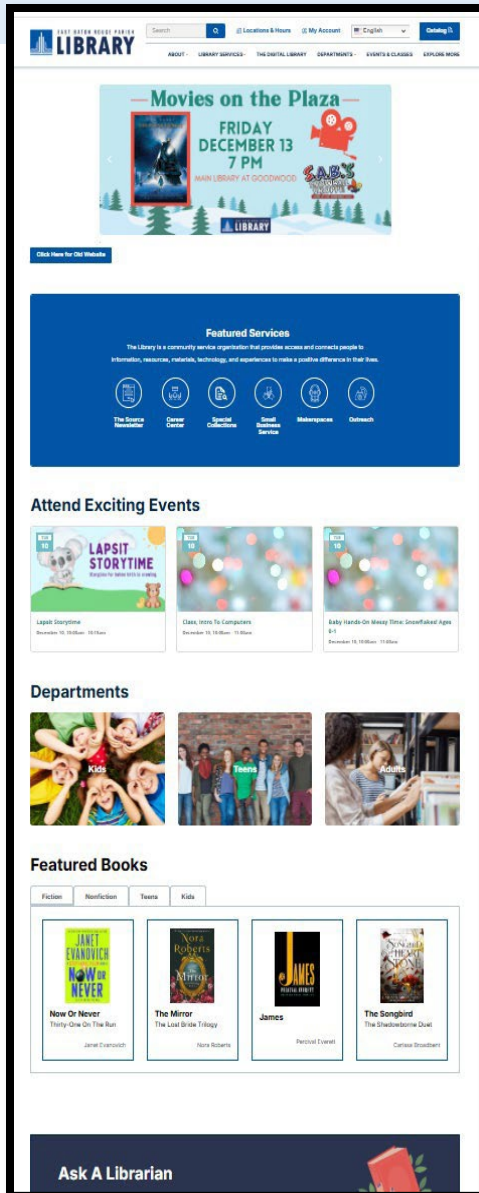




Around the Parish

December 2024 - January 2025

New Website - LIVE December 10



PREPARING FOR AN EXAM?

Mometrix eLibrary offers study materials for over 1,500 standardized exams including college entrance, graduate school, finance, nursing and medical, civil service, K-12, teacher certification exams, and many more.



Ask a librarian how you can log in and start preparing for your exam today

Mometrix eLibrary

New Resources

Ferguson's Career Guidance Center

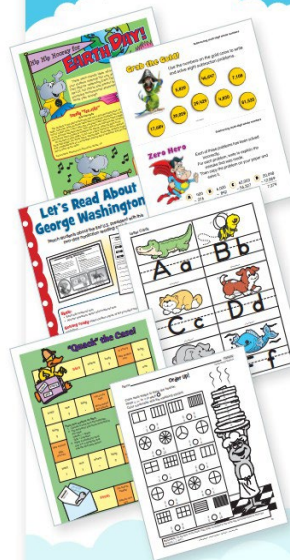
Job & Industry Profiles, Skills, Advice, Schools, Resources, and More!

Whether you know exactly what you want to do, want to find out what careers might be a good fit for you, or are doing research on careers and industries, Ferguson's Career Guidance Center is the place to get all the answers!

- **School searches:** Find the perfect undergraduate, graduate, nursing, and vocational/technical schools
- **"My Life" interviews and Career Q&A videos:** find out what a certain job is really like
- **Career Interest Assessment:** Not exactly sure what you might like to do? Take the quiz and find out!
- **Career advice blog and Career Tips videos:** Everything from interviewing tips to internship advice
- **Advice and tips on networking and social media**

Infobase

Our Library Now Has The Mailbox® Plus!



54,000+ educational ideas and activities for kids in grades PreK-Grade 6.

- New content added every month—with skills and topics for every theme and season.
- Fun and engaging ideas, activities, and worksheets that help inspire imaginations while teaching essential skills.
- Download and print educational activities for every day of the year.
- Great for use in your homeschooling, tutoring, or at-home enrichment activities.

Topics Include:

Language Arts / Literacy

Literature Phonics Math

Reading & Writing Science

Social Studies Arts & Crafts

Fine/Gross Motor

Check our library's website or contact a librarian for the link to The Mailbox® Plus. If prompted to log in, please input the following login details:

Infobase



Personal finance lessons to guide your biggest financial decisions



Learn about:

- Building Credit
- Buying/Renting a Home
- Managing Credit Cards
- Managing Debt
- Monthly Budgeting
- Paying for Higher Education
- Planning for Emergencies
- And much more!



"We're coding!!! Like real coders!!!"



Learning to code has never been more fun!

Fiero Code is a self-guided online software program that teaches you how to code through hundreds of coding tutorials and dozens of real-world projects. Fiero Code offers a gamified learning experience — as you progress through the activities, you'll earn clothes and accessories for your personal avatar.

Things to build:

- Websites
- Video games
- Apps
- Animations
- Programs
- And more!

Programming languages to learn:

- HTML
- CSS
- JavaScript
- Python
- Scratch
- SQL

Coding devices to explore:

- Makey Makey
- Ozobot
- Raspberry Pi
- Sphero



Musical Things | Red Stick Rhythms | Seed Library



We are excited to present Red Stick Rhythms, a new digital resource dedicated exclusively to streaming music by local artists! If you are a local artist who wants to submit your music for consideration, please visit redstickrhythms.org. The deadline to submit is December 15.



HAVE YOU PRODUCED AN EP OR FULL LENGTH ALBUM IN ANY GENRE?

DO YOU LIVE AND PERFORM IN THE BATON ROUGE AREA?

JOIN OUR NEW STREAMING PLATFORM FOR LOCAL MUSICIANS!

MORE INFORMATION HERE:
OR @ REDSTICKRHYTHMS.ORG





2024 BY THE NUMBERS

LIBRARIES ARE **BTR** IN BATON ROUGE



PATRON COUNT IS ALMOST **70%** OF PARISH POPULATION
OVERALL VISITOR GATE COUNT ROSE TO **1,758,026**
22,862 NEW LIBRARY CARDS ISSUED

894,588 REFERENCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED
2,058,000+ EBRPL WEBSITE HITS
908,213 WI-FI SESSIONS

5,191 IN-HOUSE PROGRAMS WITH
95,458 ATTENDEES



DATABASE ACCESSED
41.1 MILLION TIMES
2,850,940 ITEMS CIRCULATED



5,814 MEETING ROOM
BOOKINGS FOR
95,155 ATTENDEES

MAKERSPACES WERE USED BY
3,471 PATRONS

11TH ANNUAL BATON ROUGE MAKER FAIRE®

COMPLETED THE NEW SOUTH BRANCH LIBRARY &
SCOTLANDVILLE BRANCH LIBRARY ARCHIVES ANNEX

NEW LIBRARY DIRECTOR KATRINA STOKES

OUTREACH SERVICES RECORDED
2,381 STOPS

BATON
ROUGE



Library Engagement Across All Segments of the Population:

Visits

Circulation

Regular Collections for Each Audience

Special Collections

Reference Assistance

Programs & Events

Lifelong Learning Opportunities

Career and Business Assistance

Outreach

Meeting Room Usage

Work/Study Space Usage

Wi-Fi Connectivity

Access to Technology

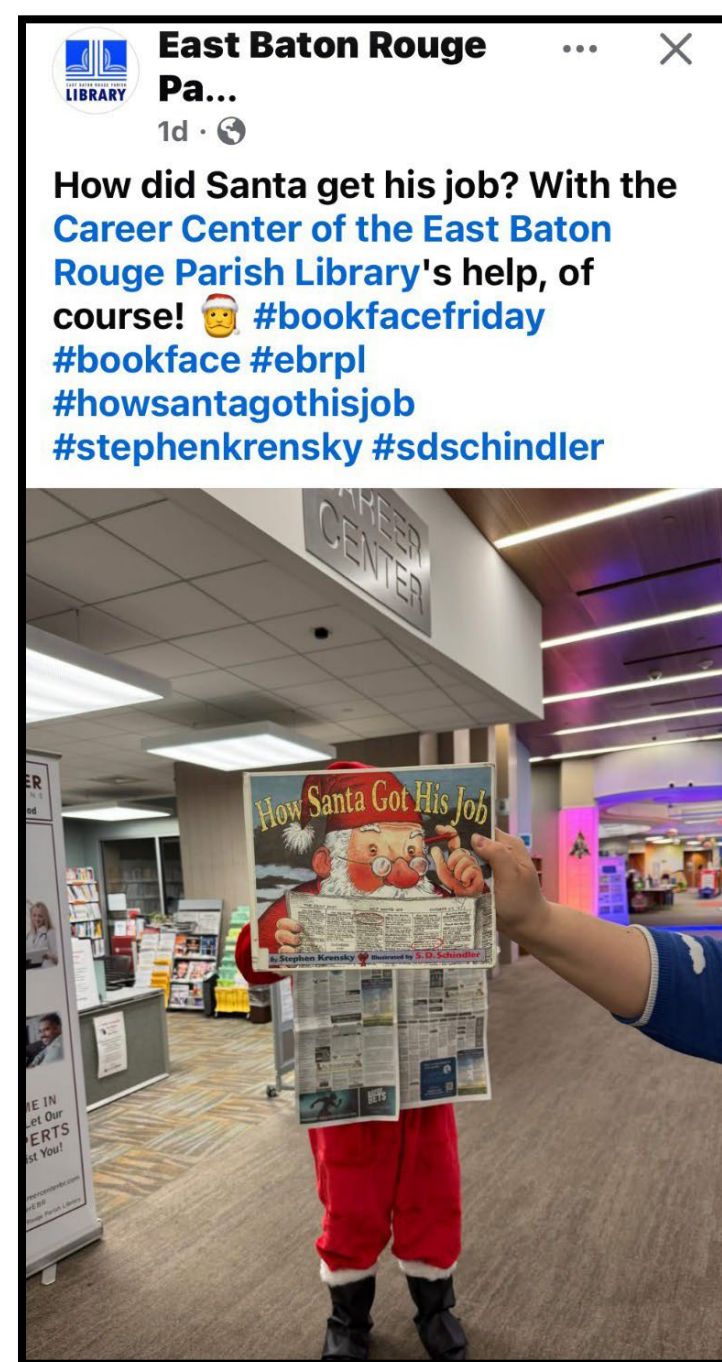
Value of Physical Materials
circulated in 2024 surpassed
\$26 Million Dollars

Value of eBooks
downloaded in 2024 exceeded
\$ 18.6 Million Dollars

Career Center Reports Out

Jobs Acquired!

- Last year, the Career Center staff spent quality time:
- Career Center Staff held 2,147 One-on-One Conferences
- Career Center Staff scheduled 815 Appointments
- Staff answered 9,948 Reference & Information Questions
- 741 patrons attended Career Center workshops
- Career Center Staff made 3,205 outreach visits
- The Career Center produced and posted 28 new videos
- Career Center YouTube videos were viewed 265,423 times – total watch time was more than 10,300 hours





**Permanent Addition -
Stained Glass
Artist
Steve Wilson**

Holidays ... Lots to Do ...



Winter Food Drive

December 1st – 31st



 GREATER BATON ROUGE
FOOD BANK
 EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH
LIBRARY

Help your community by donating non-perishable food items at any library location. All items will benefit the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. For more information, call 225-231-3740. www.ebrpl.com





Carl the Collector with LPB



So Many Stories to Tell!

Special Collections
presents

Louisiana Music: North, South, East, West

Wednesday, January 15
6 p.m.
Main Library at Goodwood



Special Collections welcomes Barbara Sims, former publicity and sales promotion manager for Sun Records and author of *The Next Elvis: Searching for Stardom at Sun Records*.



LSU College of Science

1d • 

 **Registration Open for** 
Geaux Science Explorations:
STEM & Stories  ... **See more**

LSU

College of Science

**Geaux Science
Explorations**

STEM & Stories

Saturday, January 25, 2025

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Locations:

Main Library at Goodwood, Eden Park
Branch Library, Greenwell Springs Road
Regional Branch Library



HALLIBURTON





Lincoln at the Library

A Visit with Mr. Lincoln (for kids!)

Saturday, January 11 at 3 p.m.
Jones Creek Regional Branch

Abraham Lincoln: A New Birth of Freedom

Sunday, January 12 at 2:30 p.m.
Central Branch

Lincoln on Literature and the Theatre

Monday, January 13 at 6 p.m.
Main Library at Goodwood

Hear Honest Abe speak about our nation's history, share anecdotes from his own life, answer questions, and take photos with the audience.



**Abe Lincoln
@ the
Library**

CALLING ALL
COMIC
FANS!

ARTS & COMICS
MARKET

SPECIAL GUEST
ALEX JENNINGS

COSPLAY
SHOW & TELL

WORKSHOPS

GAMES

FOOD TRUCKS

& MORE!

MID CITY MICRO-CON

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 8**

**10 A.M.
TO
4 P.M.**

**MAIN LIBRARY
AT GOODWOOD**

Find out more at
ebrpl.co/MCMC2025



EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH
LIBRARY

BREAK A NIB!

ON COMICS, ZINES,
& SELF PUBLISHING

WITH PRATIMA PINNEPALLI
@pratima_pinnepalli

**6^P
M**



**Wednesday, January 29
6 p.m.**

Main Library at Goodwood



♥ Movies on the Plaza ♥
GALENTINE'S
— edition —

featuring *Now and Then* (1995, PG-13)

Friday, February 14



Main Library at Goodwood

Fun starts at 5 p.m.

Film starts at 7 p.m.



nail bar • friendship bracelets • furry friends • sweet treats



Ladies Night...

Sean Gaskell introduces the West African KORA

The
Independent
Film Project
Presents:
The Public
Library

SNEAK PREVIEW
Saturday, January 18, 3pm
at The Main Library at Goodwood.
RSVP: lpb.org

HOW PUBLIC LIBRARIES SHAPED THE COUNTRY AND CONTINUE
TO BE A SANCTUARY FOR AMERICANS EVERYWHERE.

FREE FOR ALL:
THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

PRESENTED BY



BIKE VESSEL



Knowing his dad miraculously recovered from three open-heart surgeries after discovering a passion for cycling, filmmaker Eric D. Seals proposes an ambitious idea: Bike together from St. Louis to Chicago. 350 miles. 4 days.

This is their journey.

SNEAK PREVIEW

Save the Date!

**Sunday, February 16, 3pm
at The Main Library at Goodwood.**

PRESENTED BY



**The
Independent
Film Project
Presents:
Bike Vessel**

Libraries Change Lives

Features: Crafters and Dulcimers

Libraries *Change Lives*

Nestled in the Pride-Chaneyville Branch Library is a vibrant group of women transforming yarn into warmth, humor into healing, and camaraderie into community. During our hour-long interview, club members were actively crocheting—some arriving late but seamlessly joining in—and shared with us a series of stories full of humor, heart, and just the right amount of mischief.

a local battered women's shelter. This connection resonated deeply with one member who had survived domestic abuse. From there, the club's generosity expanded globally, including a leprosy hospital in Nepal that requested wool hats to combat the region's harsh winters.

The ladies' work has touched countless lives, but they insist the club has also transformed their own. Half of

community, Linden noted, "We wouldn't function without donated yarn. Sometimes people drop off garbage bags full of yarn at the Library's doorstep when clearing out a relative's house." Sometimes these donations of yarn include "UFOs"—unfinished objects. The club lovingly completes these abandoned projects, often unassembled blankets.

When asked why others should join library groups, the women didn't hesitate. One lady explained that the library is special because it brings people together without a cost barrier. "It's a welcoming space for everyone."

Crafting for a Cause is more than a crochet club. It's a community bound by threads of generosity and friendship, proving that libraries aren't just about books—they're about people. Whether making hats for children, blankets for chemotherapy patients, or sharing a laugh with friends, these women show how libraries truly change lives.



Crafting for a Cause members: Kathy Denham, Linden Langberg, Virginia Forbes, Oneida Jarrell, Glenda Ballard, Kay Halphen, and Susan Dubinski.

The "Crafting for a Cause" club, formed in 2011, gathers every Thursday to crochet items for those in need. The group started humbly. Library Technician Linden Langberg recalled, "Two patrons saw me crocheting and wanted to learn how to make baby booties. That proved tricky. So I suggested starting with hats." Word spread, and more patrons joined. Before long, their laughter and chatter prompted a move from the Library's main floor to its conference room. "We were too loud and too rowdy," Linden joked.

Their growing enthusiasm turned charitable when one member complained to Linden about the surplus of hats. "My family and friends cringe every time they see me making a hat, because they are so tired of me gifting them hats! Maybe we should be donating them." The suggestion would forever change the direction and purpose of the club. The first recipients were residents of

the members are widows; others have retired husbands. For many, the group is both a creative outlet and a cherished social lifeline. "We call it our therapy session," one member said. "We've got to get out of the house, or we'd murder our husbands!" another joked. "If sarcasm isn't your first language, you might have a problem here," Linden warned with a grin. Each week, the women bring their wit along with food and sweets, sharing tales and teasing one another between stitches.

Despite their laughter, the group takes their mission seriously. Over the years, they've donated hats, scarves, blankets, and more to a variety of causes. In 2019, they crocheted 80 hats for pre-K and kindergarten students at a nearby school. When the older children grew jealous, the club upped their game, creating over 200 hats the following year to ensure no child felt left out.

The group's spirit of giving is also fueled by the generosity of the



East Baton Rouge Parish Library

Libraries Change Lives #ebrpl



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East Baton Rouge
Pa...

1d ·

Libraries Change Lives #ebrpl



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Crafting for a Cause is more than a crochet club. It's a community bound by threads of generosity and friendship, proving that libraries aren't just about books—they're about people.

Libraries *Change Lives*

If you ever find yourself at the Fairwood Branch Library on a Thursday morning, you may just hear dulcet dulcimer melodies drifting through the air. The Red Stick Strummers have been meeting there since 2021 under the leadership of Maylee Samuels, founder of the Lagniappe Dulcimer Society.

Maylee's passion for playing the dulcimer began 30 years ago when she and her husband traveled to North Carolina on vacation. "We stopped by an old-timey gas station, and there were dulcimers hanging on the wall. I bought one and brought it home to Louisiana, but I had a hard time finding anyone in Louisiana who knew how to play it." Maylee was undeterred. She journeyed back to North Carolina and attended a week-long dulcimer workshop at Appalachian State University. She took her newfound knowledge and began teaching the dulcimer as an LSU Leisure Class. Maylee adds, "Eventually, I did meet people in the Baton Rouge area who owned dulcimers, but the instruments were mainly hidden away in closets or garages, or maybe hung on the wall for decoration." But she encouraged others to actually learn to play their dulcimers. And they did, to their (and her) delight!

Today, the Lagniappe Dulcimer Society thrives as its members practice weekly at the Fairwood Branch and perform at many local venues like nursing homes, retirement centers, churches, festivals, and farmers markets. Red Stick Strummer Linda Frederick remembers her first performance. "I was so nervous! I don't know how I did it!" In hindsight, she is glad she stepped out of her comfort zone and tried something new.

In addition to the sense of accomplishment that the musicians feel, the sense of community is what they appreciate most about the group. Strummer Glynnis Coleman shares a funny story about how she joined the group. "My sister saw in *The Source* that dulcimer classes were being offered at the Library. She convinced me to go with her because 'we needed



Fairwood Branch Manager Kimberly Reeves and Maylee Samuels

to get out of the house more." Well, I showed up for the class, but my sister didn't. Glynnis is still strumming at the Library over a year later. The members agreed that playing together beats playing alone for many reasons, such as socialization and expansion of skill set.

Although the group has been together for around 15 years, after Covid they found themselves in need of a new place to practice. Maylee explained, "We had not explored possibilities at the Library pre-Covid, but we soon realized what a gold mine it is! It's quiet, safe, and centrally located for our members." She gives credit to Fairwood Branch Manager Kimberly Reeves for being so helpful.

and cooperative as they worked on making meeting room reservations. Maylee also mentioned that members sometimes check out books on music after practice and that the Library offering 20 free copies/prints per day helps when reproducing sheet music for the group.

Not only do they meet for practice, but the Lagniappe Dulcimer Society offers classes at the Library, too. Be on the lookout this spring for four-week courses for beginners. No musical background is necessary, and a dulcimer will be provided with advanced registration. "The dulcimer is easy to play. I always say, 'If you can count to ten, you can play the dulcimer,'" laughs Maylee. "It's easy to handle, too. It just sits on your lap."

With help from people like Maylee, the Library accomplishes its mission of bringing the community together.

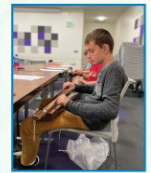


Red Stick Strummers

In the case of the Lagniappe Dulcimer Society, friends have become family and beautiful music is made.



Dulcimer Class at Jones Creek Regional Branch




East Baton Rouge Parish Library


Virtual Author Talk Series

Remember –
*Author Talks are
archived at
library.org/ebprl*


Recent Author Talk Archive




Liberating Latin American Genre Fiction: In Conversation with Bestselling Author Silvia Moreno-Garcia
New York Times Bestselling Author of Mexican Gothic and Gods of Jade and Shadow
Wednesday, October 9th 2024 at 6:00 PM CDT




A Journey into the Hidden World of Tropical Bats with Scientists from the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute
Presented by Smithsonian Scientists Dr. Rachel Page, Dr. Dina Declimann, and Dr. Teague O'Mara
Wednesday, October 2nd 2024 at 1:00 PM CDT



A Deep Dive in Character Development with Global Sensation Liane Moriarty
#1 New York Times Bestselling Author of Big Little Lies, The Husband's Secret, and Apples Never Fall
Saturday, September 21st 2024 at 6:00 PM CDT



Living with an Expansive Mind in a Distracted World—with Nate Klomp, PhD
New York Times Bestselling Co-Author of Shift Here: Master the Lifelong Skill of Well-Being
Wednesday, September 18th 2024 at 1:00 PM CDT



Capturing the Human Drama of 9/11 and D-Day Through Oral History with Garrett Graff
New York Times Bestselling Author and Pulitzer Prize Finalist
Tuesday, September 10th 2024 at 1:00 PM CDT

Author Talk Series

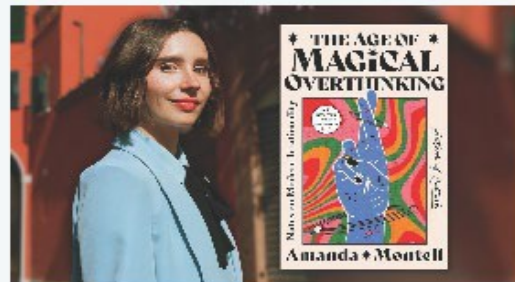
Don't miss these virtual events!

Join us in January for live discussions and Q & A sessions with these bestselling authors!

TJ Klune
Cerulean Chronicles
Wednesday, January 15 at 6 p.m.



Amanda Montell
The Age of Magical Overthinking
Thursday, January 23 at 1 p.m.



Seth Fishman
Literary Agent, The Gernert Co.
Tuesday, January 28 at Noon



To register,
use the QR code
or visit
library.org/ebprl



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LIBRARY

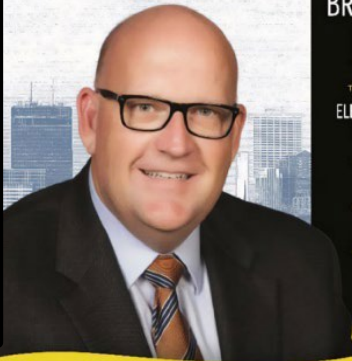
EP.22

JAY
JOHNSON



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POWERED BY BUSINESS REPORT



MONTHLY WEBCAST

EPISODE 20

SEPT 18 | 11AM

SPECIAL GUEST

BRAD BARBER

CEO AND DIRECTOR,
H&E EQUIPMENT

TOPIC OF DISCUSSION
ELEVATING EXECUTIVE
MENTAL HEALTH

- ONE COMPANY'S JOURNEY TO PRIORITIZING MENTAL HEALTH
- AWARENESS AND RESOURCES FOR EMPLOYEES AND EXECUTIVES
- THE IMPACT OF MINDFUL LEADERSHIP

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EP.23

GARRET
GRAVES



EP.24

JUDE
MELVILLE



Register Now

Strictly Business Episode 24: Jude Melville of b1BANK

Join us for a casual conversation with Louisiana's most inspiring and influential CEOs and entrepreneurs. They'll share their personal stories of leading through successes and challenges, and lessons learned. Get inside insights on reading market opportunities, growing and transforming your organization, dealing with crisis and more.

Get best practices and insights for financial management from Vanessa Graham on the March episode of Strictly Business

By Business Report Staff



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business

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11 AM
MARCH 20

VANESSA GRAHAM, CPA
OWNER, VEGRAM

What are hot topics for financial managers right now and what's the best way to navigate them? What technological challenges and opportunities are on the horizon? And what are the best practices for financial contingency planning? Those are some of the topics Vanessa Graham will tackle in the March episode of Business Report's Strictly Business series with business leaders across the Capital Region.

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MONTHLY WEBCAST

EPISODE 19

AUGUST 25 | 11AM

SPECIAL GUEST

WILL GREEN

PRESIDENT & CEO,
JUNIOR ASSOCIATION OF
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

TREY GODFREY

VICE PRESIDENT OF POLICY
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS, CAPITAL
REGION

TOPIC OF DISCUSSION

CAPITAL REGION
BUSINESS OUTLOOK

• POLICY AND
REGULATORY UPDATE

• FUTURE MARKET
TRENDS AND
CHALLENGES

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SABRINA GALLOWAY
CO-FOUNDER & CEO,
THREESIXTYEIGHT



JEREMY BEVT
CO-FOUNDER & CEO,
THREESIXTYEIGHT



AMANDA VINCENT
FOUNDER,
STUVVILLE

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Get insights into the art of being an entrepreneur from Norisha Kirts Glover on Strictly Business in July

By Business Report Staff



strictly
business

POWERED BY BUSINESS REPORT



11 AM
JULY 19

NORISHA KIRTS GLOVER
FOUNDER & OWNER,
NORISHA KIRTS GLOVER



What are the ups and downs of being an entrepreneur? How do you secure sufficient capital in the start-up phase? And what's the secret to business development?

You've Unlocked a Special Offer!

Claim Offer



stephen touns



stephen touns
ceo, turner industries

WEBCAST

DE 15

L 17

11 AM

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Visit the Strictly Business
archive here:



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POWERED BY BUSINESS REPORT

How did a Baton Rouge developer known for redefining the Baton Rouge landscape spot opportunities and calculate risks for investment? Mike Wampold shares the...

