

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

# Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"



**FREE COPY**

## Forgiving Your Inner Girl

Data Zone  
Page 4

April 23 - April 29, 2022 56th Year Volume 52 [www.ladatanews.com](http://www.ladatanews.com)

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

# A City that Celebrates Life



## Festivals Return to New Orleans

Page 2



**Newsmaker**

Early Voting  
Begins for  
April 30th Election

Page 6

**State & Local**

Support Love Notes  
Music & Arts Foundation  
through GiveNOLA Day



Page 6



# A City that Celebrates Life

## *Festivals Return to New Orleans*



The Stooges Brass Band



Tank and the Bangas

**Fleur De Lis**  
**Data News Weekly Contributor**

Festivals are a part of everyday life in New Orleans. It is a place where locals and tourist celebrate life, often flooding the city to come and experience the magic

and splendor that is New Orleans. The COVID-19 Pandemic has for the past two years had an impact on the city with festivals being either canceled or their footprint being reduced drastically. This many would argue have had effects on the citizens of a city that's accustomed to the "Laissez Le Bon

Temps Rouler" ethos that is part of what makes New Orleans special. After two years festivals are returning, and as mask mandates are being lifted it seems that the city is turning the corner. For city leaders, businessowners as well as citizens this is a welcome occurrence.

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.

INSIDE DATA	
Cover Story . . . . .	2
Data Zone . . . . .	4
Newsmaker . . . . .	6
State & Local News . .	6
National News . . . . .	7

### DATA NEWS WEEKLY

P.O. Box 57347, New Orleans, LA 70157-7347 | Phone: (504) 821-7421 | Fax: (504) 821-7622  
editorial: [datanewseditor@bellsouth.net](mailto:datanewseditor@bellsouth.net) | advertising: [datanewsad@bellsouth.net](mailto:datanewsad@bellsouth.net)

Terry B. Jones	Contributors	Art Direction &
CEO/Publisher	Tracee Dundas	Production
Edwin Buggage	Fleur De Lis	Pubinator.com
Editor	Eric Connerly	Editorial and
Sharonda Green	Dionne Character	Advertising Inquiries
Executive Assistant	DNW Staff Writers	<a href="mailto:datanewsweeklyad@gmail.com">datanewsweeklyad@gmail.com</a>
June Hazeur	Stacy M. Brown	Distribution
Accounting		by Terrence Lee

Please call 504-309-9913 for subscription information or to obtain a back issue of the paper ONLY.  
Dated material two weeks in advance. Not responsible for publishing or return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos.

Cover Story, Continued from page 2.



Irma Thomas



Kermit Ruffins



Darryl "Dancing Man 504" Young

It is estimated that tourism brings in approximately six billion dollars a year to the City of New Orleans.

Additionally, the Crescent City is home to more than 130 unique festivals and events. Throughout the year, guests can join along in celebrating everything from food and culture to neighborhoods and holidays. Megafestivals like Jazz Fest, ESSENCE, French Quarter Festival and of course, Mardi Gras are world-renowned and highly attended. But there are also a number of more niche, quirky and off-the-beaten-path events like Bayou Boogaloo, White Linen Night, Luna Fête and Gentilly Fest that are worth checking out during your next visit.

From summer to spring and everything in between, here are some of New Orleans' most outstanding events and festivals that are sure to make for a memorable visit.



Big Freedia

**Data News Weekly often works with many of these festivals and tourism leaders to make our readers aware of all the great events New Orleans have throughout the year to be enjoyed by all.**

**In the spirit of this we have listed many of the scheduled festivals that will be taking place in 2022. We encourage all to get out and enjoy the city.**

- 04/19/2022 - NOLA Navy Week
- 04/19/2022 - Zurich Golf Classic
- 04/20/2022 - Wednesday at the Square Concert Series
- 04/21/2022 - French Quarter Festival
- 04/29/2022 - New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival
- 05/06/2022 - Whitney Zoo-To-Do
- 05/20/2022 - Bayou Boogaloo
- 05/27/2022 - Greek Fest
- 06/07/2022 - New Orleans Wine and Food Experience
- 06/20/2022 - Restaurant Week New Orleans
- 06/30/2022 - ESSENCE Festival of Culture® Presented by Coca-Cola®
- 07/08/2022 - Running of the Bulls
- 07/25/2022 - Tales of the Cocktail
- 08/01/2022 - COOLinary New Orleans
- 08/06/2022 - Fidelity Bank White Linen Night
- 08/06/2022 - Satchmo SummerFest
- 08/13/2022 - Red Dress Run
- 09/01/2022 - Southern Decadence
- 09/04/2022 - Louisiana Kick-Off: Florida State Seminoles vs. LSU Tigers
- 09/24/2022 - Beignet Fest
- 10/01/2022 - National Fried Chicken Fest
- 10/07/2022 - Gentilly Fest
- 10/12/2022 - The NOLA Caribbean Experience
- 10/31/2022 - Halloween
- 11/05/2022 - Bayou Bacchanal
- 12/24/2022 - Christmas Eve Bonfires on the Levee
- 12/31/2022 - Allstate Sugar Bowl



# Forgiving Your Inner Girl



**Diva Dionne Character**  
Female Empowerment  
Columnist

It was as if the sun had come beneath my Gucci shades when it hit me, just as I was sipping on some lime water and agave, I realized that I had accomplished most of my dreams with room to create more. I could now take more time for me and smell the wildflowers because I had come a long way. I stood realizing that the inner child in me was safe and free and while many of us are holding on to traumas and unforgettable experiences, we made it as strong women because that's exactly who we are.

We've all been through different situations in our past, which taught us a lesson or simply took us down and that is where our growth stopped. It's okay to forgive those who made your life a living hell because those rotten skills made you a boss. Go and find yourself, cook some healthy food, grow some plants, and breathe because girl, you showed off and up for yourself when no one was there but the universe with her arms wide open and ready to catch you.

It's time to move on from the pain your mother and father caused. Let



A recipe for success: Put yourself first and live for today.

them go so that you can continue to grow as a woman who is free and full of amazing choices. Start today with dropping everything else and put yourself first! Just because you were born in the affliction, doesn't mean that you don't deserve an amazing life.

Start enjoying you. Turn off the television and your phone and listen to the voices of your ancestors as they guide you in the right direction. Stop doing what you did last year and realize those days are long gone and things will never be as they were. It's time

you change your mindset and realize people may never feel your pain. Let go of the past and experience what life has to offer today.

Dionne Character can be reached at [www.characterhollywood.com](http://www.characterhollywood.com).

## NO ONE GETS A DIPLOMA ALONE.

If you're thinking of finishing your high school diploma, you have more support than you realize. Find teachers and free adult education classes near you at [FinishYourDiploma.org](http://FinishYourDiploma.org).



Getting back to birthday parties starts with getting informed.

**IT'S UP TO YOU**  
COVID-19 VACCINATION



Get the latest information about COVID-19 vaccines at [GetVaccineAnswers.org](http://GetVaccineAnswers.org)



# Spring Cleaning Fever



**Tracee Dundas**  
Fashion Stylist

You know the feeling you get when you walk into a boutique and everything on display is coordinated perfectly, folded neatly and like a kid in a candy store you're ready to snatch up EVERYTHING! Of course, this is done by design to make the fashions and accessories enticing and eager for you to purchase.

What if you could accomplish that same professional, boutique-like look in your own closet?

Here are a few tips to help you get the process started. After all, studies show that the average person only wear about 20% of our clothes, 80% of the time. With that said, sounds like we all have a few items that we can dispose of. . . So, let's get started.

1. Make declutter and getting organized a regular task by committing to doing it monthly.
2. Create a Donation Bin, a Repair Bin, and a To-Store Bin that you cycle out monthly.
3. Rule of Thumb: If you have not worn an item in two seasons consider getting rid of it.
4. Stop the hoarding! Let go of anything that is too small or ill-fitting. Chances are it's only taking up valuable space in your closet.
5. Ask yourself does "IT" project the image I want? If the answer is NO, let it GO!
6. Store out-of-season items away. (This allows you to see what you have for the current season.)

Place items in bins or vacuum space-saver, label, adding a cedar chip to ward off moths...after all this is New Orleans. Store under the bed or in the attic until needed.

7. Invest in Slim Line hangers. Using these super slim, felt hangers increases closet space by 25%.
8. Tight on space? Consider using a



vertical shoe rack to store jeans and lightweight sweaters. Just roll them up and slide them right into the slots.

9. Gain space by using multi-hanger hooks for shirts and pants.
10. Consider the "Backward Hanging" method: As you wear something turn the hanger in the other

direction so you can gauge what you're wearing and help you to rotate your fashions.

11. Showcase some of your favorite pieces by putting them on display using picture frames and hooks for a pretty DIY way to hang jewelry, scarves, hats, belts, and ties for the hubby.

12. Store small and occasionally used items in baskets that can be easily tucked away.

13. Make decluttering your closet a positive experience by keeping in mind the end result is to have an organized, boutique-like vibe that'll make you smile every time you step into your closet.

Visit [www.ladatanews.com](http://www.ladatanews.com) for more photos from these stories.

# Early Voting Begins for April 30th Election

**Eric Connerly**  
Data News Weekly  
Contributor

It is that time again to get out and vote. Early voting has begun for the April 30th election. Early voting runs through April 23, 2022, so there is still time to get out and let your voice be heard.

On the ballot in Orleans Parish is a 5-mill tax for 20 years beginning in 2023 that will be earmarked for childcare and education for pre-k children in the City of New Orleans.

For those who want to vote absentee; the deadline to request an absentee by mail ballot is April 26th at 4:30 p.m. Also, the deadline for a registrar of voters to receive a completed absentee ballot is April 29th at 4:30 p.m.



On the ballot is a 5 mill tax that will help fund pre-k education for children in New Orleans.

Election Day voting is April 30th runs from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., as always Data News Weekly encourages all our citizens to get out and vote.

## Early Voting Sites

**City Hall**  
1300 Perdido Street, Room 1W24  
New Orleans, LA 70112

**Algiers Courthouse**  
225 Morgan Street, Room 105  
New Orleans, LA 70114

**Chef Menteur Voting Machine Warehouse Site**  
8870 Chef Menteur Highway  
New Orleans, LA 70126

**Lake Vista Community Center**  
6500 Spanish Fort Blvd.  
New Orleans, LA 70124

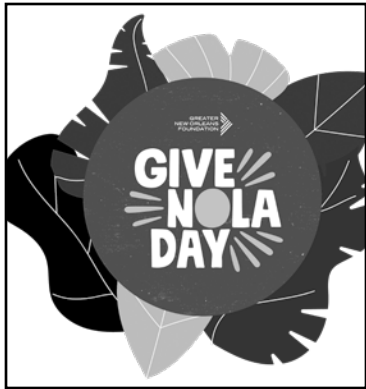
## State & Local News

# Support Love Notes Music & Arts Foundation through GiveNOLA Day

## Data News Staff Edited Report

Love Notes Music & Arts Foundation selected as a GiveNOLA Day participating non-profit organization. On Tuesday, May 3, 2022, Love Notes Music & Arts Foundation has a unique opportunity to raise an unlimited amount of funding through a special event called GiveNOLA Day, a 24-hour event created by the Greater New Orleans Foundation to help local non-profit organizations raise unrestricted funding for their causes.

Our primary fundraising goal for GiveNOLA Day 2022 is \$7,700. This funding will help support our ongoing efforts to bridge the financial gap creatives encounter when pursuing their craft as a professional career. Our work in the community ranges from underwriting the cost of professional services to start or finish an album, to promoting the health and wellness of creatives through fitness training, to cover-



ing the costs of artist performances at events and local schools. Our secondary fundraising goal is \$15,000, which would help us achieve a 1:1 funding match for our first year as an applicant of the National Endowment for the Arts Challenge America federal grant.

## DONATE IN THREE EASY STEPS>>>

1. Go to: [giveNOLA.org](http://giveNOLA.org)
2. Search for: Love Notes Foundation
3. Make a tax-deductible donation.



# Advocates Say FBI Missing Children Data Misleading; Does Disservice to Black Juveniles

Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior  
National Correspondent

Missing White children receive far more media coverage than missing Black and Brown children.

A fact advocates often point to when explaining the disparity in attention provided to individuals of color.

But another unsettling fact has emerged with the release of the FBI's latest statistics on missing children.

The federal agency noted about 346,000 children went missing in the United States in 2020, identifying 125,727 Black juveniles.

In addition, the agency said 197,381 White kids went missing, suggesting that missing White youth outnumber lost young Black people by more than 71,600.

But a closer look at the statistics revealed a crucial piece of information, that advocates deem misleading.

"Missing from the report is separate data for Hispanic children because the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) combined White and Hispanic children," said Sherri Jefferson, the Executive Director of the African American Juvenile Justice Project (AAJJP).

"This is alarming, disturbing, and problematic," Jefferson asserted.

"First, the combination of White and Hispanic children denies the Hispanic community raw data of their missing children. This process denies research and resources to fund and find their missing and exploited children or to examine causation."



FBI officials did not return several messages seeking comment.

The NCIC data isn't robust or reliable enough to paint a complete picture of the magnitude of the problem facing missing persons of color, said Natalie Wilson, co-founder of the Black & Missing Foundation.

"We believe the numbers are much higher based on underreporting," Wilson stated.

She noted that the FBI classified all missing Latino individuals as White despite research revealing that 24 percent classify themselves as Afro-Latino – otherwise identifying as Black.

Further, "immigrants don't always report their missing because of fear of deportation," Wilson concluded.

Jefferson noted that "from 'West-side Story' Actress Ariana DeBose to Jennifer Lopez and Carmen Perez, the Co-founder of the Women's

March to The View's Sunny Hostin and Ana Navarro, Hispanics are not monolithic."

"Some identify as biracial or Black. Therefore, a separate category is critical to finding their missing children, too," Jefferson stated.

She continued:

"More compelling is by combining White and Hispanic as one race, the figures mislead the public about the status of missing Black children who's missing outnumber all other races."

"The FBI 2020 data suggest that number has changed," Jefferson said. "But has it?"

"Part of the problem in the missing, endangered, and the exploited area is the difference in collecting and delivering data."

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, which also tracks missing data, gathers data directly from law enforcement as children go missing, while FBI data is reported annually via NCIC.

"The operative words are 'reported missing' and 'crime,'" Jefferson insisted.

"Most Black and Afro Latinx are underreported or not reported at all. This is because most law enforcement executes runaway warrants or deny families missing person reports."

Jefferson concluded that more Black children are missing than White and Hispanic juveniles combined.

She said 62 percent of the 30,000 newly reported missing cases in 2020 were Black children.

"This is alarming because Blacks, or African Americans, represent about 14 percent of the U.S. population," Jefferson noted further.

## DATA CLASSIFIED

Call 504-821-7421 to  
place your classified ad.

### Job Opportunity

#### Freelance Writers Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for freelance writers to join our team print and digital team. We want to hear from you if you are a working journalist, or an aspiring journalist who has 2 years or more of newspaper or PR writing experience. We need writers who can cover New Orleans news stories, ranging from local high school sports, community events, City Hall and entertainment. Experience in print is necessary, experience in digital and social media are encouraged.

Compensation is competitive and great story ideas will be appreciated.

If you are interested, please email your resume and 3 writing samples to: [terrybjones@bellsouth.net](mailto:terrybjones@bellsouth.net) and [datanewseditor@bellsouth.net](mailto:datanewseditor@bellsouth.net).

We can't wait to  
hear from you!

This space can be

yours for only \$80

Call Now!

504-821-7421

follow us on

twitter   
@DataNewsWeek

ladatanews.com  
The People's Website



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

f KMEZ 102.9  @mykmez1029

 @kmez1029

[www.kmez1029.com](http://www.kmez1029.com)



# MAKE THE FOREST PART OF YOUR STORY

Remember the last time your family visited the forest? It's a place of wonder and imagination for the whole family—where stories come to life. And it's closer than you think. Sounds like it's time to plan your next visit. Make the forest part of your story today at a local park near you or find one at [DiscoverTheForest.org](https://DiscoverTheForest.org).

**DISCOVER**theFOREST.org

