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for  
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August 20 - August 26, 2022 57th Year Volume 17 [www.ladatanews.com](http://www.ladatanews.com)

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

# Delfeayo Marsalis Presents The 2nd Annual Jazz at Congo Square Festival August 19th-21st, 2022



Tonya Boyd Cannon

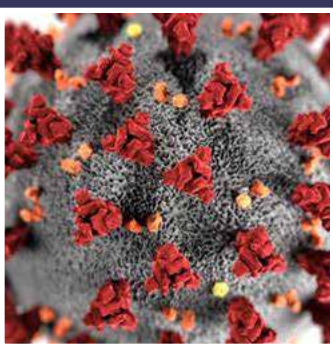


Delfeayo Marsalis



DJ Captain Charles

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Delfeayo Marsalis Presents  
The 2nd Annual Jazz at Congo Square Festival  
August 19th -21st, 2022



This event will honor three New Orleans icons: Educator Edward “Kidd” Jordan, Vocalist Germaine Bazzle, and Cultural Leader Big Chief Monk Boudreaux.

**Edwin Buggage**  
Editor-in-Chief Data News Weekly

**A City that Celebrates Life**  
New Orleans is a city that celebrates life and living in a way like no other in the United States. On August 19th -21st, 2022, Delfeayo Marsalis and the Uptown Jazz Orchestra will host the 2nd Annual Jazz at Congo

Square Festival, a FREE celebration of New Orleans music, food, culture, and traditions.  
“Because of its remarkable success last year, we added a day to this year’s celebration,” Marsalis told Data News Weekly.  
Speaking of the significance of Congo Square and festival he states, “The idea behind the festival is to celebrate the ancestors and have a good time. You have to imagine that enslaved people used this space to cel-

ebate, interact, enjoy, and recreate and maintain their culture. Today, because of this place, New Orleans have given so many gifts of music, food, and culture to the world.”  
**Jazz at Congo Square**  
Further, Jazz at Congo Square was created to promote and celebrate the significance of Congo Square, while highlighting why the space is and should remain

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Corey Henry



Where Y'At Brass Band

Cannon, the Brass-A-Holics, Where Y'at Brass Band, DJ Captain Charles and more.

### Family, Community and Unity

This is more than just a good time, it is about giving back and serving others in the community. Proceeds from the 2nd Annual Jazz at Congo Square Festival will benefit two other community-based organizations founded by Marsalis: The Uptown Music Theatre—an award-winning organization that empowers youth through musical theatre training; and Keep NOLA Music Alive (KNOMA)—founded in the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic for the purpose of providing emergency relief to native New Orleans culture bearers.

As a person belonging to a family



Delfeayo Marsalis and the Uptown Jazz Orchestra



Tonya Boyd Cannon



Brass-a-Holics

a historical landmark in New Orleans. The festival will offer space to nonprofit organizations who share a similar mission of preserving New Orleans.

“New Orleans is more than one part of our culture, which is why we’re trying to celebrate all aspects of what makes our city so unique, at the same time,” says founder Delfeayo Marsalis in a news re-

lease. “In keeping with the festival’s original mission, we are creating a movement that both honors Congo Square and supports the New Orleans talent pool.”

### What’s Happening at the Fest

Activities begin on Friday, August 19th with a patron party at Gallier Hall from 7-10 pm. This

event will honor three New Orleans icons: Educator Edward “Kidd” Jordan, Vocalist Germaine Bazzle, and Cultural Leader Big Chief Monk Boudreaux. Music will be provided by Delfeayo Marsalis and the Uptown Jazz Orchestra.

On Saturday, August 20th and Sunday, August 21st from 1:30 to 7:30pm, the 2nd Annual Jazz at Congo Square Festival will show-

case a variety of artists who have contributed tremendously to our city’s local scene and the international music community at-large. Hosted by WWL-TV News Personality Charisse Gibson, and two alumni of the Uptown Music Theatre, the 2-day event will include local food, art and merchandise vendors, as well as spoken word and musical artists including: Doreen Ketchens, Delfeayo Marsalis and the Uptown Jazz Orchestra, Corey Henry and the Tremé Funktet, Tonya Boyd-

that’s given and shared so much to the city and the world; Marsalis is continuing a great legacy.

“Family and community have always been important to me; I am trying to be a part of many things that bring people together. Congo Square is a special place, and I believe we cannot visit it enough. The festival is about raising awareness and appreciating what it is and what it represents. I feel it is important that we continue to celebrate our cultural heritage and share it with the world.”

Learn more about the artists and the festival lineup at:

[www.jazzatcongosquare.org](http://www.jazzatcongosquare.org)

August 20th – 21st, 2022, 1:30-7:30pm  
Uptown Jazz Orchestra

[www.theujo.org](http://www.theujo.org) | [jazzcon-gosquare@gmail.com](mailto:jazzcon-gosquare@gmail.com)

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# A+ Styles for Back-to-School



**Tracee Dundas**  
Fashion Stylist

## A+ Styles for Back-to-School

The fun of summer is coming to an end, which means it is back-to-school time. What it does not mean is that dressing stylish has to come to end as well.

As long as high school hallways are treated like catwalks, the back-to-school look will always be in style. And just like a New York (or New Orleans Fashion Week) Fashion Show, watching the fashions can be interesting. Taking a page from the ninety's fashion history book, this school year be ready for fashions trends and styles that are a combination of current streetwear, a sprinkle of old-school, and whatever is going viral on social media. Head of the class are tweeds and plaids, tie-dyed and slip dresses; all styled with less traditional pieces to maintain a fresh and current look. Mixing a blazer with the latest must-have jeans or a kilt skirt with chunky shoes will be seen on both girls and guys this school year. With the many styles and trends this season, there is no reason to look old school when returning to the classroom, after-school or on the weekends.



Back To School Trends For Kids From Zara



Tie-Dye Outfits  
For Her From  
Danidrops



Girls Color Block Sundress



Boys Mix And Match Outfit  
From H&M



Slip Dress And  
Sweater



Kilt Skirt Style For  
Her



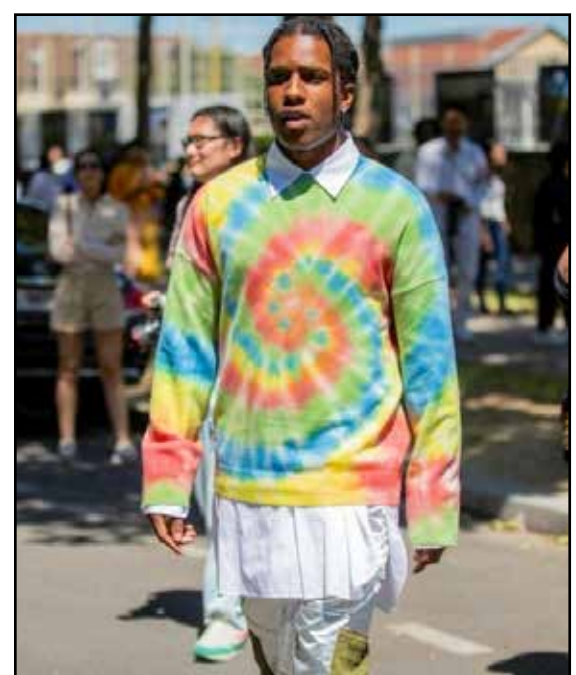
Kilt Skirt Style For  
Him



Red Plaid Oversize  
Look



Tie-Dye Outfits For Her  
From Danidrops



Tie-Dye Outfits For Him



# Living Your Best Life

## *Choosing The Right Foods*



**Diva Dionne Character**  
Female Empowerment  
Columnist

Four years ago, I made a conscious decision to live a healthier lifestyle starting with the food I was consuming. I became alkaline vegan which means I no longer eat meat, drink dairy products or alcohol, while limiting my intake of sugar, eventually kicking the coffee habit. I now enjoy eating more veggies, drinking more water and being more observant, only eating when I am hungry not allowing food to become my life source to happiness, depression, and unresolved childhood issues.

Born and raised in New Orleans where we celebrate good food and spirits while entertaining, as many of us continue to struggle with the low vibrations eating certain foods we put in our bodies, not realizing that the foods our ancestors chose were unhealthy because most of the selections were decided upon

due to large families as it was easier to buy processed foods, red meat and chicken, which in the long run caused high blood pressure, diabetes, and heart disease.

It is time for us all to wake up and realize that we are dealing with a health crisis in America, I urge you to take a step back and alter a few days of your life by eating more healthier foods which will then change your way of thinking as you live a more conscious lifestyle and can change the lives of your own family's well-being. Perhaps you cannot give up all the things I have over the course of years, but you can start today awakening your mind, body and soul simply changing your diet as you tap into your divine power.

Never-mind those who may think that you are extreme because in the end, you will have found the fountain of youth, you will make healthy choices and you'll never have to exercise a day of your life because with the right foods your body will become a beautiful vessel without cravings as you continue your journey living your best life while doing the greatest service in loving you more.

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



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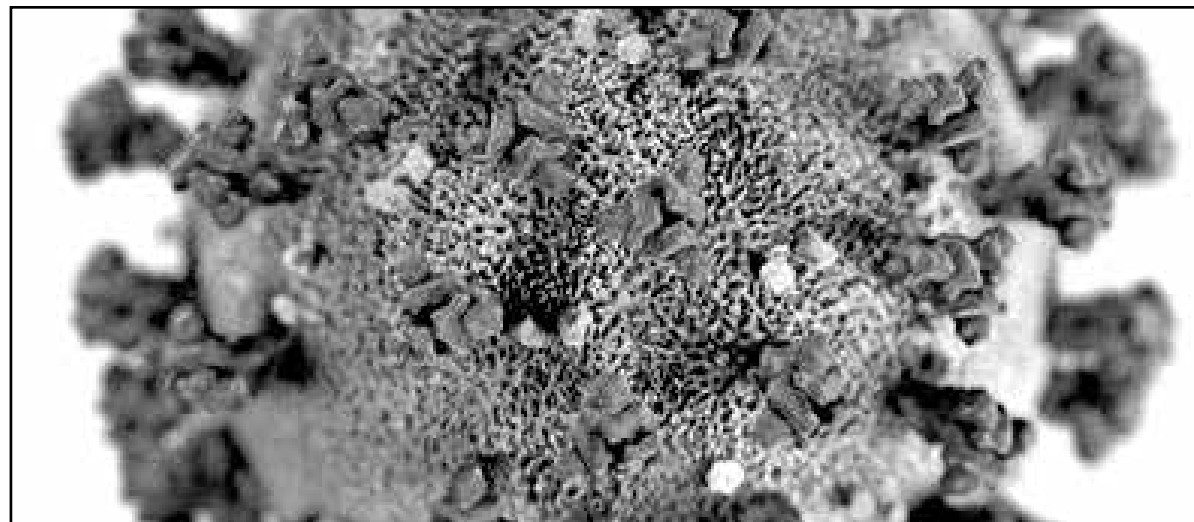
# Here Are the Changes in the CDC's New COVID Guidelines

## Data News Staff Edited Report

Last week, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued major changes to its COVID guidelines, changing the recommendations for quarantine, social distancing and even testing.

The changes, which come more than 2 1/2 years after the start of the Pandemic, are driven by a recognition that an estimated 95% of Americans 16 and older have acquired some level of immunity, either from being vaccinated or infected, agency officials said.

"We're in a stronger place today as a nation, with more tools—like vaccination, boosters, and treatments—to protect ourselves, and our communities, from severe illness from COVID-19," the CDC's Greta Massetti, an author of the guidelines, said in a statement. "We



also have a better understanding of how to protect people from being exposed to the virus, like wearing high-quality masks, testing, and improved ventilation. This guidance acknowledges that the Pandemic is not over, but also helps us move to a point where COVID-19 no longer

severely disrupts our daily lives."

Here is a look at some of the changes made by the CDC:

### Quarantine

The CDC previously said that if people who are not up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations

come into close contact with a person who tests positive, they should stay home for at least five days. Now the agency says quarantining at home is not necessary, but it urges those people to wear a high-quality mask for 10 days and get tested after five.

### Isolation

The agency continues to say that people who test positive should isolate from others for at least five days, regardless of whether they were vaccinated. CDC officials advise that people can end isolation if they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication and they are without symptoms, or the symptoms are improving.

Those who feel sick should also isolate until they receive test results, according to the guidance.

But symptoms also play a role in isolation timelines. The guidelines state:

If you had moderate illness (if you experienced shortness of breath or had difficulty breathing) or severe illness (you were hospitalized) due to COVID-19 or you have a weakened immune system, you

**Newsmaker, Continued on page 7.**

## Commentary

# NBA Great Bill Russell Paved the Way for Two Generations of Social Activist Athletes

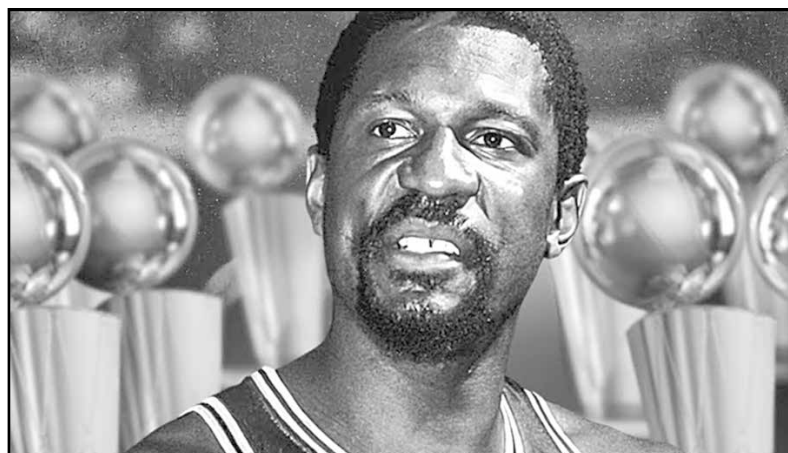


**Marc Morial**  
President and CEO  
National Urban League

When current NBA players speak out against racism and social injustice, they might face criticism from right-wing media, like Laura Ingram's infamous "shut up and dribble" tirade, but they have the backing of their union and of the league.

That wasn't the case in the 1950s and 1960s when Bill Russell risked not only his livelihood, but his very life, to demand equal treatment and respect.

When Milwaukee Bucks players refused to leave their locker room in response to the police shooting of Jacob Blake in August 2018, the NBA cancelled not only the Bucks' playoff game against the Orlando Magic, but every game that day.



The WNBA, Major League Baseball, NHL, and Major League Soccer responded with boycotts of their own.

Sixty years earlier in 1961, Black players were refused service in their hotel's restaurant just before an exhibition game in Lexington, Kentucky. Russell, along with four of his Black teammates and two Black members of the opposing St. Louis Hawks, walked out, but the game went ahead as scheduled. One of the striking Hawks, rookie Cleo Hill, never played another season.

After the walkout, Celtics owner

Walter Brown vowed "never to subject my players to that embarrassment again."

That was the same year Russell first met a 14-year-old who idolized him: Lew Alcindor, later known as Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, who kept a 1956 photo of Russell, then a University of San Francisco track and field star, competing in the high jump.

"There was something else about that photo that affected me even more than Bill's amazing performance," Abdul-Jabbar wrote. "If you do a search of the image, you'll find that most versions are cropped

to frame Bill flying up over the bar. Yet, if you see the complete photo, you'll see about three dozen white people watching him, most of them frowning, glaring, or just staring. But standing beside the post is one young Black kid with a smile on his face. A kid who suddenly saw the possibilities for achievement, despite a crowd of mostly white faces who maybe saw the future of sports in America—and didn't like what they saw."

Abdul-Jabbar would join Russell in what became to be known as the Cleveland Summit of 1967 – a meeting of the nation's top Black athletes regarding Muhammad Ali's refusal to be drafted into the Army. After subjecting Ali to tough questioning about his motives and beliefs, the group decided to back his decision. Russell later told Sports Illustrated,

"I envy Muhammad Ali. He faces a possible five years in jail and he has been stripped of his heavyweight championship, but I still envy him. He has something I have never been able to attain and something very few people I know possess. He has an absolute and sincere faith. I'm

not worried about Muhammad Ali. He is better equipped than anyone I know to withstand the trials in store for him. What I'm worried about is the rest of us."

Any serious debate about the greatest NBA player of all time surely would cite Russell's record 11 championship rings and his unrivaled defensive stats. But what made Russell the GOAT, to quote Washington Post sports columnist Thomas Boswell, "was ferocious, indomitable seriousness of purpose, wedded to elite intelligence ... His presence, his competitive menace, his fearless, reckless abandon in midair and his desire to glare into the opponent's psyche and break some crucial gear made him exhilarate and frightening to watch."

Russell never put his love for the game above the fight for dignity and racial justice. In his final years, he was heartened by the wave of Black Lives Matter protests that swept the nation. As we mourn his passing, we share his unflagging hope that that these kinds of strange days are forever behind us, and that real, lasting change will finally be realized."



# Serena Williams Keeps it Real About Taking Your Life (and Health) Seriously

**The 23-time Grand Slam champion reminds us that focusing on home, family, and work-life balance is essential to our health and well-being.**

Alexa Spencer  
Word In Black

Serena Williams — one of the greatest of all time in women's tennis — has announced she's retiring her racket to focus on her business ventures and family.

After a historic career, including 23 Grand Slam Championship wins, Williams shared her decision on Aug. 9 in Vogue Magazine, writing that she "never wanted to have to choose between tennis and a family. I don't think it's fair."

Williams said accepting that she'd have to move on from playing tennis wasn't easy. She hardly talked about it with her husband and couldn't even speak with her parents about it. But in the midst of it all, she found comfort in speaking to a therapist.

"I've been reluctant to admit that I have to move on from playing tennis," she says. "It's like a taboo topic. It comes up, and I start to cry. I think the only person I've really gone there with is my therapist!"

As one of the latest athletes to express her personal experiences with therapy, Williams and others, like four-time Grand Slam Champion Naomi Osaka and seven-time



Olympic Medalist Simone Biles, are leading the way for Mental Health Advocacy in the Black community.

With nearly one-in-five Black people, or 6.8 million, reportedly living with mental illnesses, celebrities and researchers alike are working to end the Black Mental Health Crisis affecting folks of all classes.

"I'm here to tell you that I'm evolving away from tennis, toward other things that are important to me.

-SERENA WILLIAMS

Williams is also among the many Americans seeking to bring balance to work and life. According to a 2018 survey from Gartner, work-life balance is valued more than health benefits among employees. Like the tennis star, many people find it increasingly important to have an opportunity to focus on home and

family.

"I'm here to tell you that I'm evolving away from tennis, toward other things that are important to me," she said in the as-told-to article.

Williams has had to overcome many obstacles on her way to the top — including having a baby that resulted in several health complications.

Her story made national headlines, as Black women are three to four times more likely than white women to die from pregnancy-related health problems.

Williams recognized that some might say she isn't the GOAT because she didn't pass Margaret Court's 24 Grand Slam record — but she encouraged us to look at all that she accomplished as a mother and a player.

"I went from a C-section to a second pulmonary embolism to a

grand slam final," Williams wrote. "I played while breastfeeding. I played through postpartum depression. But I didn't get there. Shoulda, woulda, coulda. I didn't show up the way I should have or could have. But I showed up 23 times, and that's fine. Actually, it's extraordinary. But these days, if I have to choose between building my tennis résumé and building my family, I choose the latter."

Nowadays, she's enjoying time with her 5-year-old daughter, Olympia — and in a nation that bombards us with negative images and stories of dysfunction, Williams regularly provides a much needed visual of healthy Black motherhood.

"I want to teach her how to tie her shoes, how to read, where babies come from, and about God. Just like my mom taught me," Williams wrote of her time with Olympia. "As she grows, it's something different every month. Lately, she's been into watching baking shows, which we do together. Now we bake with Play-Doh, which is so much fun. She loves this game called The Floor Is Lava, where you have to do whatever, you can to avoid touching the ground," she wrote.

While the court lights shut off on Williams's tennis career, the community will always remember the beaded-hair Black girl who made a profound statement in the sport.

"...this is it, the end of a story that started in Compton, California, with a little Black girl who just wanted to play tennis."

## Social Distancing

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also said people no longer need to stay at least six feet away from others in some situations.

The guidelines emphasize that "physical distance is just one component of how to protect yourself and others."

"It is important to consider the risk in a particular setting, including local COVID-19 Community Levels and the important role of ventilation, when assessing the need to maintain physical distance," the CDC states.

## Newsmaker, Continued from page 6.

need to isolate through day ten.

If you had severe illness or have a weakened immune system, consult your doctor before ending isolation. Ending isolation without a viral test may not be an option for you. If you are unsure if your symptoms are moderate or severe or if you have a weakened immune system, talk to a healthcare provider for further guidance.

Also, if you leave isolation but your symptoms worsen, you must restart isolation for another 10 days.

After you have ended isolation, if

your COVID-19 symptoms worsen, restart your isolation at day zero. Talk to a healthcare provider if you have questions about your symptoms or when to end isolation.

## Testing

The new guidelines also include information about testing asymptomatic people and those who had severe symptoms.

Recommending screening testing of asymptomatic people without known exposures will no longer be recommended in most community settings.

If you had severe illness or have a weakened immune system, con-

sult your doctor before ending isolation. Ending isolation without a viral test may not be an option for you. If you are unsure if your symptoms are moderate or severe or if you have a weakened immune system, talk to a healthcare provider for further guidance.

Also on Thursday, the Food and Drug Administration updated its recommendations for how many times people exposed to COVID-19 should evaluate.

Previously, the FDA had advised taking two rapid antigen tests over two or three days to rule out infection. Now the agency recommends three tests.

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We can't wait to hear from you!

### Job Opportunity

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