

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

# Data

News Weekly

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## The Crescent City Catwalk

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Data Zone Page 6

September 27 - October 3, 2025 60th Year Volume 23 [www.ladatanews.com](http://www.ladatanews.com)

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

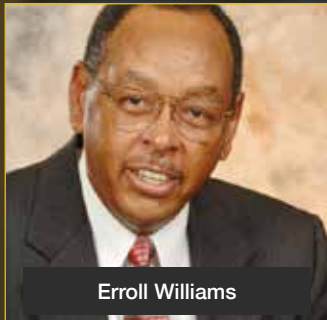
# Data News Weekly Endorsements in the October Election



Edwin M. Shorty



Freddie King



Erroll Williams



Helana Moreno



Delisha Boyd

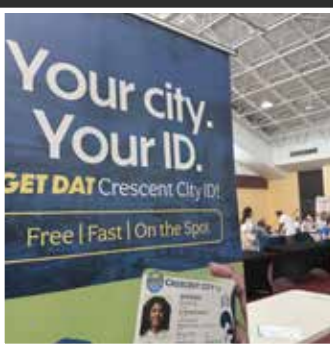


Darren Lombard



JP Morrell

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## State & Local Poetry Slam Helps Young People Express Black Joy



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# Data News Weekly Endorsements in the October Election



Mayoral Candidate Helena Moreno with Data News Weekly Publisher Terry Jones.

**Terry B. Jones**  
Data News Weekly Publisher

As New Orleans prepares for a pivotal election season, Data News Weekly reaffirms our commitment to informing and empowering our community. The leaders we choose will shape how our city addresses challenges in public safety, education, housing, economic development, and justice. After careful consideration, we proudly endorse the following candidates who have shown the experience, vision, and commitment to move us forward.

**Helena Moreno – Mayor of New Orleans**

Data News Weekly proudly endorses Helena Moreno for Mayor of New Orleans. Over her years of public service, Moreno has demonstrated competence, compassion, and a forward-looking vision for the city. As City Council President, she has consistently championed equity, public safety reform, and transparency in government. Moreno has earned a reputation as a bridge-builder, bringing together diverse communities and stakeholders to address challenges collaboratively.

Her leadership on issues ranging from energy, affordability to housing policy has had a direct impact on residents’ daily lives. At a time when New Orleans is facing critical decisions on infrastructure, climate resilience, and economic recovery, Moreno’s track record of delivering results makes her the strongest candidate to guide the city into a new era.

Moreno’s deep understanding of both the challenges and opportunities facing New Orleans, combined with her proven ability to implement meaningful solutions, underscores why she is best prepared to lead. Data News Weekly believes she represents a positive new direction, rooted in competence, compassion, and inclusivity. We encourage voters to cast their ballots for Helena Moreno as the next Mayor of New Orleans.

For more about Data New Weekly endorsements and other election news go to [ladatanews.com](http://ladatanews.com).

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### DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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### Delisha Boyd – City Council-At-Large Division 1

Data News Weekly endorses Delisha Boyd for City-Council-At-Large Division 1. In her time in office as a State Representative, Boyd has been a steadfast champion for New Orleans East and the Lower Ninth Ward, communities that have long faced inequities in investment and development. Her commitment to amplifying the voices of residents and addressing their everyday needs distinguishes her as a true servant-leader.

Boyd has prioritized improving public safety, economic opportunities, and neighborhood revitalization, ensuring that historically underserved areas receive the attention and resources they deserve. Her advocacy has helped secure funding for infrastructure improvements, small business support, and community development projects that are building stronger, more resilient neighborhoods.

In addition to her legislative achievements, Boyd has been a visible, hands-on leader who shows up in her district to listen, engage, and act. Her passion for improving the quality of life is matched by her ability to deliver tangible results. One of her many accomplishments as State Rep. Delisha Boyd Introduced HB279, the Caleb Wilson Act, to Combat Hazing in Louisiana Institutions. The House Bill 279 went into law August 1, 2025. It seeks to educate our children on what is hazing. It's important for our children to understand they don't have to be hazed to join any organization. She is concerned not only about the residents and the children, but she is true community leader.

City Council-At-Large Division 1 deserves a representative who will continue fighting for fairness and equity at City Hall. With her proven track record, vision for progress, and unwavering dedication, Delisha Boyd is ready to serve all the citizens of New Orleans in the seat of City Council-At-Large Division 1. Data News Weekly urges voters to stand with her.



### Edwin M. Shorty – Criminal Sheriff

Data News Weekly is proud to endorse Edwin M. Shorty for Criminal Sheriff. With decades of experience as a practicing attorney, and as an elected official as Constable, Shorty brings a wealth of legal expertise, professionalism, and integrity to the Criminal Sheriff Office. His work has centered on advocating for clients with fairness and compassion, ensuring that justice is accessible to all, not just the privileged few.

Shorty has earned respect in the legal community and law enforcement communities, praised for his commitment to and knowledge of the law and public safety. These qualities will serve him well as our next Criminal Sheriff.

Beyond his legal career, Shorty remains actively engaged in community service, supporting initiatives that uplift young people, strengthen families, and expand opportunities for underserved residents. His approach to the law is grounded in the belief that courts must serve as a place where ordinary citizens can be safe and thrive in the City of New Orleans.

Data News Weekly believes Edwin M. Shorty will bring integrity, fairness, competence, and experience to the Criminal Sheriff's Office. We urge voters to support him, confident that he will uphold the values of justice and equity that our city deserves.



### Darren Lombard – Clerk of Criminal Court

Data News Weekly endorses the re-election of Darren Lombard for Clerk of Criminal Court. Lombard's career reflects a consistent commitment to efficiency, fairness, and innovation in public service. Having served effectively in this office, Lombard, has already demonstrated his ability to manage complex court systems with transparency and accountability.

The role of Clerk of Criminal Court is crucial for ensuring access to justice. Lombard has in his tenure modernize court operations, improve record-keeping, and expanded digital accessibility so that citizens and attorneys alike can navigate the system more easily. His vision emphasizes efficiency without sacrificing fairness, a balance that is critical to restoring public trust in the Criminal Justice Process.

Lombard also understands the importance of equity. He has been committed to ensuring that the system works for all residents, regardless of income or background. His continued leadership will help sustain a more responsive and people-centered Clerk's office.

With his proven administrative skill, dedication to reform, and vision for modernization, Darren Lombard is well-prepared to continue to serve as Clerk of Criminal Court. Data News Weekly strongly supports his candidacy.



### JP Morrell – City Council-At-Large Division 2

Data News Weekly enthusiastically endorses the re-election of JP Morrell for City Council At-Large Division 2. Morrell brings policy expertise, a proven track record, and deep commitment to reform. On the Council, he has quickly emerged as a leader willing to tackle tough issues, from public safety to fiscal responsibility.

Morrell has focused on strengthening accountability in city government, advocating for stronger oversight and transparency measures. His work has ensured that public funds are used responsibly and that residents' concerns are addressed with urgency. He has also championed Criminal Justice Reform and equitable development, recognizing that New Orleans' future depends on inclusive growth.

As a lifelong New Orleanian, Morrell understands the City's challenges and its potential. His ability to bridge communities and his skill in shaping legislation make him uniquely qualified for the Council-At-Large seat, where he can advocate for all districts.

At a time when bold, experienced leadership is essential, JP Morrell stands out as a candidate who can deliver results. Data News Weekly urges voters to return him to the Council to continue this important work.



### Freddie King – City Council, District C

Data News Weekly endorses Freddie King for re-election to represent District C on the New Orleans City Council. King has proven to be an effective advocate for residents of Algiers and the French Quarter, balancing neighborhood needs with citywide priorities. His leadership has been especially evident in areas of public safety, infrastructure repair, and economic development.

King understands the unique challenges facing District C, from flood protection and drainage issues to the preservation of historic communities. He has worked tirelessly to direct resources where they are needed most, ensuring that residents' voices are heard at City Hall. Importantly, King has fostered open lines of communication with his constituents, making government more responsive and accessible.

As the city navigates post-pandemic economic recovery and ongoing crime reduction efforts, King's steady hand and dedication to equity remain essential. His emphasis on practical solutions and accountability positions him as a leader who will continue to fight for the well-being of District C residents. For these reasons, Data News Weekly strongly supports Freddie King and urges voters to return him to the City Council.

Cover Story, Continued  
on page 4.

# VOTE

## Cover Story

Cover Story, Continued from page 3.



**Erroll Williams – Assessor, Orleans Parish**

Data News Weekly endorses Erroll Williams for re-election as Orleans Parish Assessor. Williams has modernized the Assessor's Office, bringing transparency, efficiency, and accessibility to a system that directly impacts homeowners and businesses across the city.

Since taking office, Williams has implemented technological upgrades that make property assessments clearer and more understandable for the public. His leadership has ensured that the office operates with fairness, consistency, and accountability, qualities that are essential for building trust in local government.

Williams has also made strides in improving public outreach, educating residents about the assessment process and ensuring that property owners have the tools to appeal or correct errors when necessary. His emphasis on customer service reflects his belief that the Assessor's Office must serve the people first.

With decades of experience and a record of steady, professional leadership, Williams has proven that he is the right person to continue leading the office. Data News Weekly urges voters to re-elect Erroll Williams to ensure that fairness, modern innovation, and accountability remain at the forefront of property assessment in Orleans Parish.

### Get Out and Vote

This election is about more than filling offices, it is about charting a path toward equity, accountability, and opportunity. The candidates endorsed by Data News Weekly share a common vision: to serve the people of New Orleans with integrity, transparency, and dedication. These leaders represent the best of our community and the promise of a brighter future. We urge our readers to cast their votes in October and help shape a New Orleans that truly works for all.

# DATA NEWS WEEKLY

## Lighting the Road to Freedom



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**CRAZY 8 SALE!**

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**CRAZY 8 SALE!**

SAVE  
\$1.11  
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LB**

SAVE  
\$2.11



10 - 13 OZ BAG  
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SAVE  
\$1.11



14.5 - 15.25 OZ  
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\$1.08  
When You Buy 3



8 OZ CAN  
**Rouses  
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**3/88¢**

# VOTE

## DATA NEWS WEEKLY

# Your Voice Matters

## EARLY VOTING

September 27 through October 4

EXCLUDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

DARREN <sup>#8</sup>  
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- 1 LAKE VISTA  
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6500 SPANISH FORT BLVD.  
2ND FLOOR, MEETING ROOM**
- 2 VOTING MACHINE  
WAREHOUSE  
8870 CHEF MENTEUR HWY.**
- 3 CITY HALL  
1300 PERDIDO ST.  
#1W24**
- 4 ALGIERS COURTHOUSE  
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**ELECTION DAY IS OCTOBER 11, 2025**

# The Crescent City Catwalk

## NOFW Wraps an Amazing Week



**Tracee Dundas**  
Fashion Stylist

Photos by: Soft Touch  
Photography & Travis Burke

New Orleans Fashion Week once again proved why it's the Premier Style Event of the South, bringing together designers, models, and fashion enthusiasts for an unforgettable celebration of creativity. This year's

**Data Zone,**  
Continued on page 7.



Tracee Dundas honored by City of New Orleans, Terry Davis & Alana Harris



Designer Stephen Goudeau |  
Photographer: Travis Burke



Designer Stephen Goudeau |  
Photographer: Travis Burke

## + EARLY VOTING

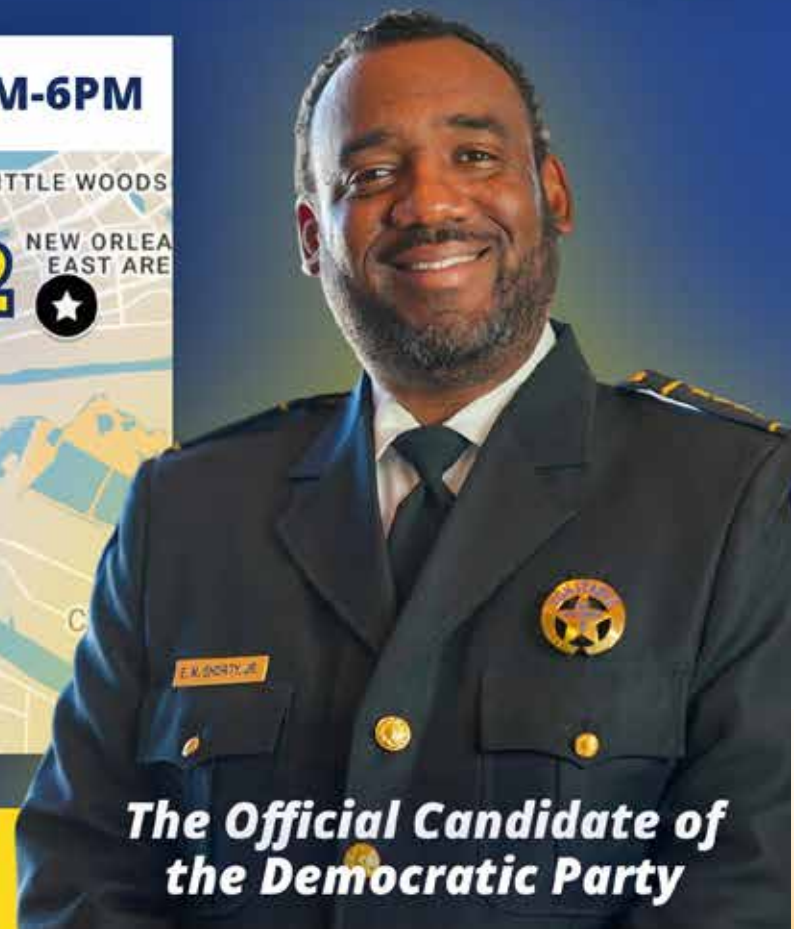
**September 27 through October 4**

EXCLUDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

- 1** LAKE VISTA COMMUNITY CENTER  
6500 SPANISH FORT BLVD.  
2ND FLOOR, MEETING ROOM
- 2** VOTING MACHINE WAREHOUSE  
8870 CHEF MENTEUR HWY.
- 3** CITY HALL  
1300 PERDIDO ST.  
#1W24
- 4** ALGIERS COURTHOUSE  
225 MORGAN ST.  
RM#105



**EDWIN M. SHORTY**  
FOR SHERIFF #5  
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*The Official Candidate of  
the Democratic Party*

**ELECTION DAY IS OCTOBER 11, 2025**

Data Zone, Continued from page 7.

fashion fête extended beyond a week, spanning a full nine days of stylish programming. The much-anticipated week highlight was the Designer Showcase hosted at the luxurious Canal Place for the first time. From Avant-Garde Couture to ready-to-wear collections, designers unveiled bold visions that celebrated culture, individuality, and innovation.

Beyond the runway, NOFW fostered collaboration through panels, networking events, and community-driven initiatives that spotlighted sustainability, diversity, and the growing Southern Fashion Movement. Guests were treated to an immersive experience where art, music, and fashion intersected, reflecting the city's vibrant spirit, and leaving attendees inspired and energized. The week concluded with NOFW

Founder/Executive Producer receiving the prestigious Mayor's Crystal Fleur de Lis Award from the City of New Orleans. This award is in honor of her career excellence and trailblazing achievements in building a fashion platform and fashion community.



Ninth Denim | Photographer Travis Burke



Designer Elicia Lewis | Photographer Soft Touch



Designer Danny Nguyen | Photographer Soft Touch



Designer Danny Nguyen | Photographer Soft Touch



Designer De'Andre Beverly | Photographer: Travis Burke



The Closet by SCSC +Krewe | Photographer: Travis Burke



The Closet by SCSC +Krewe | Photographer: Travis Burke

#28  
**DELISHA BOYD**  
CITY COUNCIL AT-LARGE, DIV. 1

**VOTE EARLY**

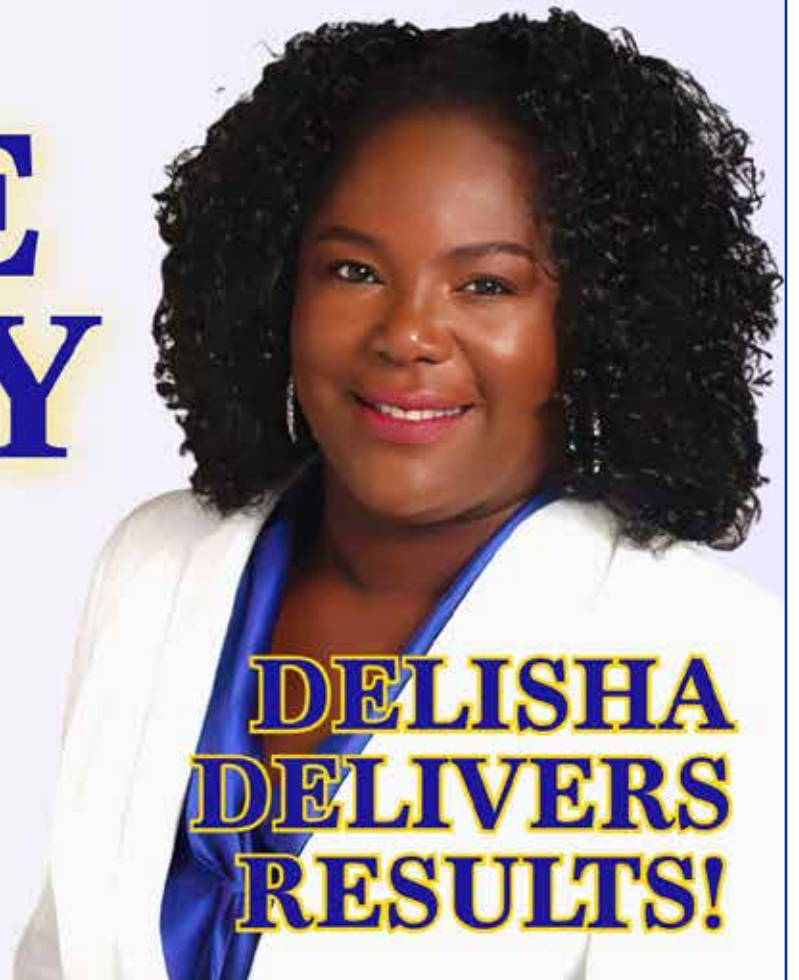
**September 27-October 4**

EXCLUDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

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ELECTION DAY IS **OCTOBER 11, 2025**

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MID-CITY DEMOCRATS



NOMAR



TREME TIPS



# New Card Program Helps Residents Access City Resources

Story and Photos by  
Ivanna Washington  
Data News Weekly  
Contributor

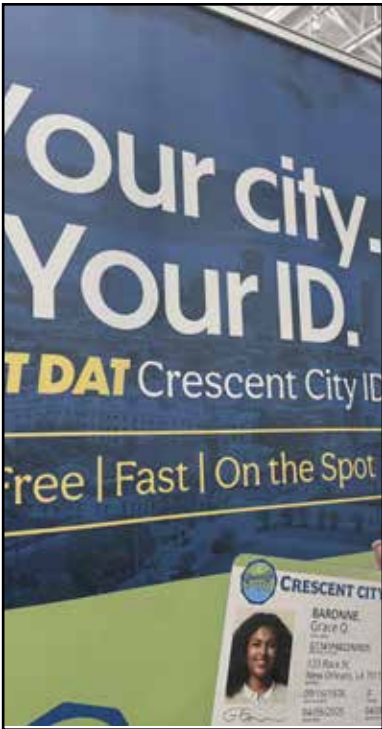
Across this month, residents were able to attend several mobile pop-ups across the city, allowing them to apply for a new identification that will provide them access to multiple city resources that includes the New Orleans Recreation Department, and the New Orleans Public Library Card, among other services.

The new card falls under the Crescent City ID Program and officials hope it will provide more ease for residents to engage in the local economy and better utilize public resources.

“I’m excited to see the Crescent City ID become a reality. It’s open-



Residents at the Treme Recreation Center learn about the new City ID.



ing up so many new possibilities for our residents,” said Crescent City ID Program Manager, Daisy Retes-Cabral at one of this month’s pop-up events.

“Beyond access to city services, the program connects people to local resources and allows them to enjoy their city like tourists with pride and ease,” she added.

The city announced the new identification in July and is bringing it to Community Centers this month and throughout the fall to encourage more residents to sign up for the cards. Across September, the pop-ups took place at the Rosa Keller Library on Broad Street, and the Tremé Recreation Center. Other pop-ups took place at Crescent Care on Elysian Fields Avenue

**Newsmaker,**  
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## We power life.™

# Trump Intensifies Campaign to Rewrite American History

**Stacy M. Brown**  
Black Press USA Senior  
National Correspondent

The Trump Administration has intensified its campaign to rewrite how America tells its history, ordering federal agencies to remove exhibits and materials that emphasize slavery and racial injustice by September 17th. The directive, issued by Interior Secretary Doug Burgum, has set off a wave of protests, most prominently in Philadelphia, where activists gathered this weekend to defend the President's House site. That outdoor memorial, located steps from Independence Hall, documents the reality that George Washington enslaved nine people while serving as the nation's first president.

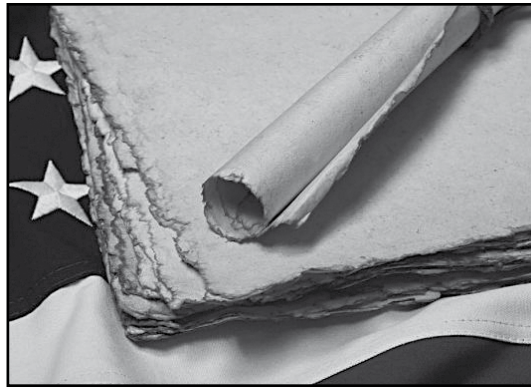
The President's House Exhibit, formally titled "Freedom and Slavery in the Making of a New Nation," includes multimedia displays and detailed accounts of individuals such as Ona Judge, who escaped to freedom. Panels such as "The Dirty Business of Slavery," which describe the economics and human cost of bondage, are now targeted for removal under the administration's order. Community leaders warn that the directive is designed to sanitize history rather than confront it. "Black History is American history, and we won't be silenced," said Rev. Carolyn C. Cavaness of Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church, speaking to supporters at Saturday's rally.

In March, Trump signed an executive order claiming the Smithsonian Institution was being influenced by a "divisive, race-centered ideology." The order specifically named the National Museum of African American History and Culture, once praised by Trump early in his first term, as "oppressive." It also empowered Vice President JD Vance to review Smithsonian programming and remove what the president has called "improper ideology." Historians and curators say the move represents a direct attempt to censor scholarship and erase evidence of Systemic Racism.

Other federal agencies have already scrambled to comply. Earlier this year, the National Park Service briefly altered its Underground Railroad webpage to minimize the role of Harriet Tubman before restoring it under public pressure. The Department of Defense removed, then

reinstated, information about Baseball Legend Jackie Robinson's Military Service and the Medal of Honor earned by Maj. Gen. Charles C. Rogers, one of the highest-ranking Black servicemembers in Vietnam. Meanwhile, the mural at Black Lives Matter Plaza in Washington was demolished in March, in what critics say was another symbolic effort to erase visible reminders of the struggle for racial justice.

Trump's rhetoric has only sharpened. In recent weeks, he referred to museums as remnants of a "woke country" that dwell on slavery and racial injustice rather than celebrating national achievements. At a White House event, he declared that Smithsonian institutions were filled with "divisive propaganda" and threatened to cut funding if changes were not made. His remarks represented an about-face



from 2017, when he called his tour of the African American History Museum "a meaningful reminder of why we have to fight bigotry, intolerance, and hatred."

Historians warn that the shift is part of a coordinated effort to control the country's historical narrative. Chad Williams, a Professor at Boston University, compared the administration's approach to the

"Lost Cause" ideology promoted after the Civil War, when southern states sought to glorify the Confederacy while downplaying slavery as the cause of the conflict. "It sends a very dangerous message about how the government is seeking to control this country's narrative with a very

narrow and propagandistic version of American History," Williams told a local news outlet.

For community leaders in Philadelphia, the danger appears immediate. The President's House Exhibit opened in 2010 after years of advocacy and archaeological work confirmed that Washington enslaved people on the site. Its panels and digital displays have since

served as an educational tool for millions of visitors. "The first-time enslaved Africans were brought here, it was a ripping away of their history, a taking away of their names and their culture," said Jo Banner, Co-Founder of the Descendants Project in Louisiana, connecting the federal order to broader patterns of erasure. "If we want our own liberation, we have to own telling our true history."

With the approaching deadline, activists in Philadelphia are pressing for urgent meetings with the National Park Service. They say the stakes are larger than a single site, representing a test of whether Americans will allow federal power to strip away the unvarnished truth of the nation's past. "We will not allow our history to be erased," Rev. Cavaness told the rally.

## IMPORTANT MUST READ PRESS RELEASE

Sept. 16, 2025

### Registrar of Voters Reminds Residents About Upcoming City Council District Adjustments.

**New Orleans, LA** — The City of New Orleans reminds all residents that, in accordance with **Section 3-103(2)** of the City's **Home Rule Charter and Ordinance No. 28968** of March 2022, changes were approved for some wards and precincts that may affect **City Council Districts**.

Although these adjustments won't take effect administratively until the new council is seated in **January 2026**, some voters may notice changes on their **upcoming Oct. 11, 2025, ballots**.

Before any **election**, the **Registrar of Voters** encourages residents to **verify their voter registration**, voting locations, and districts using the online voter portal at **geauxvote.com**, by downloading the **free GeauxVote mobile app**, or by contacting the **Orleans Parish Registrar of Voters**.

**Sample ballots** are also available through the portal and app to confirm the candidates available on the **voter's ballot**.

For **more information** about the redistricting process, including maps, visit **nola.gov/council-maps**.

If voters have additional **questions**, contact the **Orleans Parish Registrar of Voters** at **(504) 658-8300. ###**

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#13

Re-elect

**Erroll  
Williams  
Assessor**

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# Poetry Slam Helps Young People Express Black Joy

Adia Fienagha  
Data News Weekly  
Contributor

From poems that explored what it means to be a Black man in America, to how White Supremacy affects American Society, to the silences Black women endure in corporate settings, young people are turning to forms of expression to evoke Black joy and love at a time when they say there is much going on that concerns them.

"The gratification and relief found in poetic expression is unmatched," said Ásháki Haroon, who is the Head of Access Services and Student Resources at Xavier University of Louisiana's Library.

"We hosted a poetry event in 2022 featuring a New Orleans na-



1st place - Caleb Kuper (\$300) right. 2nd Place - Angelica Lebrun (\$200) left. 3rd place - Simone Loper (\$100) middle.

tive poet, Sunni Patterson. The response from the students were overwhelmingly enthusiastic," Haroon said, so they revived the poetry slam for college students on Sept. 16th, with winners earning cash prizes.

Each poet was given a time limit of three minutes to present their

piece to a panel of judges. The first-place winner received an award of \$300; second-place winner received an award of \$200; and third place winner received a prize of \$100. The runners-up received library branded swags filled with school supplies, hand sanitizer, and post cards.

"The event was really cool. Y'know poetry is something really personal. It was nice to have that community," said Gabrielle Mitchell, a senior psychology student attending Xavier, from Vacherie, LA, who participated in the event with her poem "A Tale of Three."

"Just do it! I believe in exposure therapy so even if it's embarrassing now, you're not going to be embarrassed the next time you gotta do something like that," Mitchell said, encouraging others to put themselves out there in creative platforms.

The goal was to help students find an escape through expression and relaxation with carnival games to trivia games including Something Fishy, Guess the Target, Cups of Knowledge, and Library Plinko that entered them in a raffle

to receive \$100, \$50, or \$25 Visa Gift Cards and a catered meal from Boswell's Jamaican Grill.

"Poetry has impacted my idea of expression. The library is giving chances to be heard and motivating people to be listened to," said Nia Youngblood, a second-year psychology student at Xavier, from Henderson, Nev., who was an audience member at the poetry slam.

"They feel they aren't just making it for themselves or for nothing," Youngblood said.

Haroon said she hopes that these activities will provide much needed release for the challenging times ahead.

"[We] support accessibility, collaboration, and community...providing young creatives with a space that allows for creative expression," Haroon added.

Newsmaker, Continued from page 8.



Residents access resources with the new Crescent City ID Program.

and Bridge House Thrift Store on Earhart. On Thursday, Sept. 25th, the pop-up will come to the Algiers Regional Library on the West Bank and on Sept. 30th at Joe W. Brown Recreation Center.

The Crescent City Card is more than just for identification, it accesses discounts for local businesses who are city partners for the card. Some of the early businesses that have signed on include St. Noir Café, Melba's Po'boy, the Prytania Theatre at Canal Place and JAM-NOLA.

"This particular event is a city event for the public's new City ID which is a really good thing," said Tremé Recreation Center worker, Tommy Atley at the mobile pop-up in September. "It helps out a lot of

people who don't have an ID at all so if they need medical attention or law enforcement, they have some type of identification on them," he added.

Officials say residents can attend any of the mobile pop-ups as walk-ins, present their information and once inside, they are able to have their picture taken and the ID printed all in a short amount of time.

"The Crescent City ID helps to overcome barriers for those who have identification or lack identification," said Kahlida Lloyd, the Director of the Office of Human Rights and Equity.

"It's something for everybody and brings together a little pride and acknowledgement of being a New Orleanian," Lloyd added.

Re-Elect **FREDDIE KING**

#42

CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT C

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- Made the French Quarter the Cleanest It's Ever Been
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ELECTION DAY: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025 • EARLY VOTING: SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 4

# An Open Letter to President Trump from Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr. Statement on Preserving “The Scourged Back” and the Full Truth of American History

**Troy A. Carter, Sr.**  
Congressman Louisiana  
2nd Congressional District

Some truths are too powerful to erase. They must be told, they must be taught, and they must never be forgotten.

You may try to sidestep this history, but we will not forget what our ancestors endured through slavery and beyond. We cannot erase our past—we must face it, learn from it, and teach it so it is never repeated.

As a son of the South and a proud Black man serving Louisiana in Congress, I speak from the very place where one of America’s most powerful photographs was taken. In 1863, in Baton Rouge, Union doctors examined an enslaved man named Peter—later called Gordon—whose back carried deep scars from whippings. Photogra-



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A rare historical photo of “Scourged Back” documenting the brutality of slavery in America. This haunting image became powerful evidence for abolitionists, exposing the horrors of bondage.

phers captured that image, known as “The Scourged Back.”

The photograph shook the nation. Published in abolitionist papers and in Harper’s Weekly on July 4, 1863, it revealed the cruelty of slavery more clearly than words could. Leaders like Frederick Dou-

glass and Sojourner Truth used it to awaken the conscience of the country. Gordon’s escape, his survival, and his later service as a soldier turned his story into a call for freedom and justice.

This is not “divisive” history. It is honest history.

Recent reports of efforts to remove artifacts like “The Scourged Back” from national displays are troubling. Whether or not this specific image was taken down, the message is clear: trying to hide painful truths weakens America instead of healing it.

This photograph belongs in classrooms, museums, and monuments. It tells the story of a people who built this country, endured its worst injustices, and still rise with faith and resilience.

As Louisiana’s Representative, I will not be silent. We must teach our children—of every race—what happened, so they can lead with open eyes and better hearts.

Mr. President, I urge you to make clear that America will preserve and teach its full history—including the hardest parts. Only then can we grow stronger as a nation.

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