



MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF STATE MUSEUM

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-PRESS RELEASE-

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SMITHSONIAN TRAVELING EXHIBIT COMES TO NATCHITOCHES

The Old Courthouse Museum to host Key Ingredients: America by Food

Curated by Charles Camp, *Key Ingredients: America by Food* explores the connections between Americans and the foods they produce, prepare, preserve, and present at the table – a provocative and thoughtful look at the historical, regional, and social traditions that merge in everyday meals and celebrations. The Smithsonian traveling exhibition will be on display at the Old Courthouse Museum in Natchitoches, 600 Second St., August 15 - October 7, 2006

An exhibit opening will be held at the Old Courthouse Museum on Tuesday August 15 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Kevin McCaffrey and Lili Delphin will discuss historic Creole cooking after a showing of the documentary *A Common Pot: Creole Cooking on the Cane River* at 6:15 pm. At 7:00 pm, folk life scholar Rhonda Gauthier will demonstrate the art of tamale making with samples for tasting. The Service League of Natchitoches will serve a summertime meal from 6:00 – 7:30 pm with recipes from the *Cane River Cuisine* and *Louisiana Living* cookbooks at a cost of \$8.

Through a selection of artifacts, photographs, and illustrations, *Key Ingredients* examines the evolution of the American kitchen and how food industries have responded to the technological innovations that have enabled Americans to choose an ever-wider variety of frozen, prepared, and fresh foods. *Key Ingredients* also looks beyond the home to restaurants, diners, and celebrations that help build a sense of community through food.

For more information on the exhibition and corresponding programs, call 318-357-2270. The exhibition website is www.keyingredients.org. Key Ingredients is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution, Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities and the Friends of the Old Courthouse Museum.

The Louisiana State Museum is part of the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, which is overseen by Lieutenant Governor Mitchell J. Landrieu. The State Museum network includes six museums in New Orleans and sites in Baton Rouge, Natchitoches, Patterson and Thibodaux. For details on sites, exhibitions and programs, visit <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us>.

PROGRAMS IN CONJUNCTION WITH *KEY INGREDIENTS: AMERICA BY FOOD*

Saturday, September 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2006

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Creole Cooking film event and recipe sharing

Old Courthouse Museum, 600 Second St., Natchitoches

Each Saturday during the *Key Ingredients* exhibit, visitors will have a video viewing of *A Common Pot: Creole Cooking on the Cane River* followed by a facilitated discussion of Louisiana food traditions and recipe sharing. Each participant is invited to bring their favorite recipe to share with the group and to be added to the *Key Ingredients* recipe book. For more information, call 318-357-2270.

Saturday, September 9, 2006

9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Make and Take Program: Yeast Breads

Natchitoches State University

In partnership with Northwestern State University Family and Consumer Services Department, participants will learn about a local favorite, yeast bread and rolls. They will make them and take them home. Cost is \$7. Pre-registration required. For more information, call 318-357-2270.

Thursday, September 14, 2006

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Make and Take Program: Meat Pies

Old Courthouse Museum, 600 Second St., Natchitoches

In partnership with Northwestern State University Family and Consumer Services Department, students will learn about Natchitoches' cultural food, the meat pie. They will make them and take them home. This program coordinates with the Natchitoches Meat Pie Festival on September 16, 2006. Cost is \$12. Pre-registration required. For more information, call 318-357-2270.

Friday, September 15, 2006

1:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Make and Take Program: Meat Pies

Natchitoches State University

In partnership with Northwestern State University Family and Consumer Services Department, students will learn about Natchitoches' cultural food, the meat pie. They will make them and take them home. This program coordinates with the Natchitoches Meat Pie Festival on September 16, 2006. Cost is \$12. Pre-registration required. For more information, call 318-357-2270.

Saturday, September 23, 2006

9:30 am – 3:30 pm

Teacher Workshop on Louisiana Voices Website

Old Courthouse Museum, 600 Second St., Natchitoches

Scholar, Sheila Richmond, will instruct teachers on the use of the website and exciting ways to use the Louisiana Foodways activities with students in the classroom. No admission fee. Pre-registration required. For more information, call 318-357-2270.

