Historians have discovered large amounts of information regarding the legal slave trade and New Orleans as the most important slave trading market in the United States during the Antebellum period. However, the illicit slave trade supported by privateers, pirates and businessmen is less understood.

Despite the banning of importing slaves by the federal government in 1808, a huge market for slaves existed in Louisiana. These networks provided access to cheaper slaves without documentation. Privateer Jean Lafitte and Jim Bowie are just two of the most well-known names associated with this trade network.

This year’s symposium will explore the illicit slave trade and the importance of Louisiana and the Gulf South to the Atlantic Slave Trade. For a complete schedule of this year’s symposium, see page 3.

Tickets: $80 FOC Members, $90 General Admission and include both Friday and Saturday presentations. Tickets are limited. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit friendsofthecabildo.org or call the FOC office at 504.523.3939.
Celebrate the holidays with the Friends of the Cabildo! Join us for a self-guided tour of five of the French Quarter’s most cherished properties adorned in traditional Creole Christmas finery. Featured on the tour are the 1850 House Museum, the Gallier House, Beauregard-Keyes House, the Historic New Orleans Collection’s Williams Residence and the Spring Fiesta House. Your Creole Christmas tour experience includes an entertaining presentation of Reveillon traditions and their Creole origins at the Spring Fiesta House as well as an array of delicious holiday refreshments. Tours begin at the 1850 House Museum Shop located at 523 St. Ann Street, on festive Jackson Square.

Advance tickets available at friendsofthecabildo.org or 504-523-3939. Day-of tickets available at the 1850 House Museum Shop. $20 for members, $25 for non-members. Final tours depart at 3 p.m.
Second Thursday Lecture Series
Old U.S. Mint, 400 Esplanade Ave.
6 p.m.–8 p.m.
Free and open to the public.

Thursday, December 8
Archivist Howard Margot

Howard Margot is a native and tenth-generation New Orleanian, and an alumnus of the University of New Orleans, Louisiana State University, and Tulane University, where he earned a master's degree in French literature and linguistics; he also attended the École des Beaux-Arts in Nîmes and the Institute of Political Studies in Paris. Since 2001, he has been working as an archivist, first at the New Orleans Notarial Archives and since 2006 at The Historic New Orleans Collection, where he is also a curator of several of THNOC’s online databases, including the Vieux Carré Survey and Surrey Calendar. He is also the lead consultant on the Louisiana State Museum’s project to put its French Superior Council and Spanish Judicial Records online. While his passion is poring over and translating the French and Spanish manuscripts of colonial Louisiana, his primary responsibility these days is helping archives to “go digital.”

Thursday, January 12
Keith M. Plessy
Check friendsofthecabildo.org for more information.

For more information, contact the FOC office at 504.523.3939 or rachel@friendsofthecabildo.org.

Cultural & Neighborhood Walking Tours
See pages 6 & 7 for details.

New Orleans Music History Tour
Saturday, December 17 | 10 a.m.
Saturday, January 28 | 10 a.m.

Creole Neighborhoods Tour
Wednesday, December 7 | 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, January 11 | 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, January 31 | 10:30 a.m.

Irish Channel Tour
Saturday, January 21 | 10 a.m.

Faubourg St. Mary Tour
Saturday, January 14 | 10 a.m.

Lower Garden District Tour
Saturday, January 8 | 10 a.m.

South Market District Tour
Saturday, December 3 | 10 a.m.

Treme History Tour
Sunday, December 18 | 10 a.m.
Saturday, January 7 | 10 a.m.

FOC Concert Series
Old U.S. Mint, 400 Esplanade Ave.
7 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m.
January 20: Kenny Neal
March 10: Zachary Richard

Created in 2013, the Friends of the Cabildo Concert Series has brought together some of the best musicians from New Orleans and Louisiana to perform and archive their music for the Louisiana State Museum’s Music Collection. Join us for a unique musical experience at the intimate 150-seat, state of the art Old U.S. Mint 3rd Floor Performance Hall.

2016 FRIENDS OF THE CABILDO SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 • OLD U.S. MINT
6:30 P.M. Keynote Speaker: William C. Davis, author of “The Pirates Laffite: The Treacherous World of the Corsairs of the Gulf,” will speak on Privateers, Slavery and the Enterprise of the Brothers Laffite
7:15 P.M. Opening Reception

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 • OLD U.S. MINT
9:00 A.M. Registration
9:30 A.M. Symposium introduction by Dr. Charles Chamberlain
9:45 A.M. Dr. Kevin Harrell, The Shadowy Voyage: The Story of the Clotilda, America’s Last Slave Ship
11 A.M. Dr. Robert Paquette, That Inhuman Traffic: Jefferson, Louisiana, and the Ending of the Slave Trade and Slavery in the United States
NOON Lunch on your own
1:15 P.M. Erin Greenwald, Caught Between Empires: The Legal Status of ‘Créoles de St. Domingue’ Claimed as Property in Louisiana, 1794-1810
2:30 P.M. Dr. Randy Sparks, The Tragic Voyages of the Brig Uncas: New Orleans and the Illegal Slave Trade
The Louisiana State Museum and the Friends of the Cabildo are excited to announce our new interim director. Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser, upon the recommendation of the Louisiana State Museum board of directors, has appointed Timothy J. Chester as the interim director of the Louisiana State Museum, effective immediately. Chester will oversee the day-to-day operations of the system’s nine museums while the Museum’s board of directors undertakes a search for a new director.

Chester is the principal of Timothy J. Chester & Associates, LLC, a national consulting firm providing institutional assessment, senior staff search services, strategic planning, project planning, grant writing, exhibition planning and development services to museums, colleges and universities and nonprofit cultural organizations. He is a member of The Museum Group, a national consortium of senior museum consultants.

His experience includes serving for 18 years as Director and CEO of the Grand Rapids Public Museum, where he was responsible for all aspects of operations and saw the institution through a period of significant growth and expansion, including the planning, fundraising and construction of the $42 million Van Andel Museum Center.

During his tenure, he oversaw the completion of a $20 million collections research and storage facility and finalized plans for the museum’s transition to governance by a single nonprofit board with a $40 million endowment fund. Prior experience includes serving as assistant director of the Grand Rapids Public Museum and associate director for collections at the Louisiana State Museum.

“Famille Vve Paris néé Laveau: The Tomb of Marie Laveau in St. Louis Cemetery No. 1,” by Carolyn Morrow Long

Any guide that conducts tours of St. Louis Cemetery #1 absolutely should own this book. I’d also highly recommended for any French Quarter guides.

The book is more-or-less a companion to Long’s larger book on Marie Laveau, “A New Orleans Voudou Priestess: The Legend and Reality of Marie Laveau,” which is also excellent. It has all of the elements that I love about her work — a lucid, readable prose style built on meticulous research. Plus, this is my favorite kind of book for both tour guides and casual readers — concise. In shorter books like this, the information is by necessity lean and delivered in such a way that it translates easily for the stories that guides need to tell. For the more casual reader, it’s just enough information to get a basic understanding of the subject without making the eyes glaze over.

The focus of the book is the tomb, but Long starts with a background on Laveau herself and about voudou in general. Her tomb is the major draw in St. Louis Cemetery #1. It has been the victim of extensive vandalism and continues to be the subject of fabrications too numerous to track. Long unravels much of that as she covers the tomb, its history and ownership, detailing who is buried there and any known relationship to the Laveau-Glapion family. She also discusses another tomb and wall vault owned by the family and debunks the association with Laveau of two other defaced tombs in the cemetery. Long even covers the origins of the notorious triple-X markings.

I’ll read almost any book about New Orleans, but purchase only a fraction of those that I read. This one’s on the short list.

—Dave Thomas
Your Guide to Holiday Shopping!

For unique Louisiana-themed gifts, stop by the 1850 House Museum Shop on Jackson Square. FOC members, take advantage of your 15% discount. Open daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Find great holiday gifts for everyone from coworkers to kids to family and friends! Feel free to ask any of our knowledgeable staff at the 1850 House Shop for advice on finding your ideal selections.

Jewelry by Julie Vos
New York-based designer Julie Vos is the woman behind her namesake brand. Handcrafted in 24-karat gold over brass, each piece expresses a sophistication that is classically inspired, yet thoroughly modern, and designed to be as comfortable as it is beautiful.

William Spratling Silver
Designer William Spratling, known as the founder of the modern Mexican Silver movement, boldly combined Art Deco and Pre-Columbian motifs in jewelry and tableware design, which are still handmade from the Spratling estate in Taxco el Viejo, Guerrero, Mexico. In 1921, he was offered a position at Tulane University’s School of Architecture. At the same time, he was an active participant in the Arts & Crafts Club and taught in the New Orleans Art School.

“Jenny Giraffe Discovers Papa Noel” | $16.99
“Cajun Night Before Christmas” | $20.00

Handcast gold bee with freshwater pearl necklace | $42.00 (also available in silver)

Local artist Jax Frey French Quarter & New Orleans Mugs | $13.95
Watercolor holiday cards | $5.50 each

New Orleans votive candles | $2.95 each

New Orleans Christmas Music (various artist) | $15.95
Kermit Ruffins “Have A Crazy Cool Christmas!” | $17.95

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Put on your best walking shoes, bring a bottle of water and a good camera, and join us for an FOC special walking tour! Tickets are limited to 15 spots for each tour, and no tickets are sold the day of the tour. Don’t miss out. Reservations are required.

To purchase tickets online visit friendsofthecabildo.org or call the FOC office at 504.523.3939.

Members $20
Non-members $25

Treme History
Sunday, December 18 | 10 a.m.
Saturday, January 7 | 10 a.m.

The Friends of the Cabildo walking tour of Treme provides a rich, detailed perspective on one of the city’s oldest and most storied neighborhoods. Originally known as “back of town,” the old Creole feel of Treme makes it easy to imagine the early 1800s multicultural community formed by immigrants, free people of color, and refugees from Saint-Domingue. An important center of the city’s African-American and Creole culture, Treme is the cherished home of fourth and fifth generation residents who strive to maintain the area’s cultural and social traditions. We will trace the origin and development of Treme through the amazing nineteenth century architecture (including Creole cottages, townhouses, and shotgun houses), geography, and urban influences dating from the subdivision of this land by Claude Treme in the 1790s to the present day.

Meeting Location: Basin Street Station (501 Basin Street)

Creole Neighborhoods
(Formerly Marigny/Esplanade)
Wednesday, December 7 | 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, January 11 | 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, January 31 | 10:30 a.m.

Did you know that New Orleans used to have streets named “Love,” “Craps,” and “Good Children?” These fanciful names were designated by the colorful Bernard de Marigny when he subdivided his plantation in the early 1800s to form the city’s first primarily residential subdivision, Faubourg Marigny. Join us as we explore this fascinating area adjacent to the French Quarter. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and a city-designated historic district, Faubourg Marigny has many well-preserved nineteenth century Creole cottages, a style popular with immigrants from Saint-Domingue, Creoles and free people of color who flocked to the new faubourg. We will also tour Esplanade Avenue, originally the site of fortifications built by the French and Spanish colonial governments, was transformed after the Louisiana Purchase to a grand European-style boulevard with palatial townhouses and mansions flanking a wide neutral ground with stately live oaks.

Meeting Location: Old U.S. Mint (Esplanade Avenue Gate)

Irish Channel
Saturday, January 21 | 10 a.m.

Most New Orleanians have enjoyed a sloppy roast beef po’boy at a legendary Irish bar off Magazine Street, or caught cabbages, potatoes and carrots at the annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade. But not everyone has stopped to consider the history of the immigrant populations who lived and worked near the docks along the Mississippi River, their culture and traditions forming the foundation of the area we now know as the Irish Channel. The Friends of the Cabildo’s Irish Channel Tour explores this diverse home of working class immigrants, natives and free people of color. From famous churches to Irish bars, unique architecture, famous historic figures and notable festivals, the Irish Channel Tour reveals the many facets of this neighborhood beloved by locals and visitors alike.

Meeting Location: St. Vincent’s Guest House (1507 Magazine Street)
Faubourg St. Mary
Saturday, January 14 | 10 a.m.

Walking along the busy concrete sidewalks of the Central Business District today, it is difficult to imagine that the streets now shaded by skyscrapers were originally part of Belair, the plantation of city founder Bienville—part of his 1719 land grant which stretched to the present-day Jefferson Parish line. The Friends of the Cabildo Faubourg St. Mary walking tour reveals the history behind the present day commercial district, from the plantation beginnings through the explosive American growth during the peak years from 1830–1860, to the present day. Marvel at historic buildings on Lafayette Square, St. Charles Avenue, Julia Street, Lee Circle, and more! This tour provides a historic backdrop for a new appreciation of the American Sector.

Meeting Location: World War II Museum Main Entrance (945 Magazine Street)

New Orleans Music History
Saturday, December 17 | 10 a.m.
Saturday, January 28 | 10 a.m.

When someone says “history of New Orleans,” do you immediately think “history of jazz?” The FOC’s New Orleans Music History tour will excite both aficionados and novices alike, exploring locations that have defined the New Orleans music scene for generations. Walk in the footsteps of Louis Armstrong, Sidney Bechet, George Lewis, and Danny Barker to venues including Preservation Hall and the Palm Court Jazz Club. Understanding the music of New Orleans begins with experiencing its birthplace. Join us for this unique and popular tour!

Meeting Location: Old U.S. Mint Barracks Street Gate (across from Louisiana Pizza Kitchen)

Lower Garden District
Sunday, January 8 | 10 a.m.

Nineteenth century residential life in New Orleans comes alive through the Friends of the Cabildo Lower Garden District Tour! The district’s extensive collection of 1800s residences—primarily side hall, double-galleried homes in the Greek Revival and Italianate styles—will capture your imagination with both the romance and realities of life in these grand homes in the age before modern conveniences. Bounded by the Mississippi River Bridge, the Mississippi River, Jackson Avenue, and St. Charles Avenue, the Lower Garden District was developed as six different faubourgs, and it is known for its many irregularly shaped parks. You will gain a new understanding of the history and culture of the area through a review of its architecture, geography, and famous residents.

Meeting Location: Muses Statue at Prytania and Terpsichore Streets

South Market District
Saturday, December 3 | 10 a.m.

A booming area of revitalization at the intersection of the Central Business District, Medical District, and the sports/entertainment corridor of downtown, the South Market District is experiencing a renaissance placing it squarely in the up-and-coming areas of the city. But what was the historical significance of South Market before the construction projects? What are the stories behind the buildings being redeveloped as apartments, condominiums, hotels, and restaurants? Join the Friends of the Cabildo as we examine the fascinating mix of adaptive reuse, historic preservation, and new construction in the “Old CBD.” This unique tour of rapidly transforming South Market will provide a snapshot of techniques used to resurrect this district while preserving its historic character.

Meeting Location: Rouses parking lot (corner of O’Keefe and Girod)
**FRIENDS OF THE CABILDO CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**DECEMBER 2016**

1. Member Holiday Party
2. South Market District Tour
3. Creole Neighborhoods Tour
4. Second Thursday Lecture: *Historic New Orleans Collection Archivist Howard Margot*
5. Symposium 2016 | Day 1: *Outside the Law: Piracy and the Illicit Slave Trade in Louisiana*
7. New Orleans Music History Tour
8. Treme History Tour
9. Creole Christmas Home Tours
10. Creole Christmas Home Tours

**JANUARY 2017**

7. Treme History Tour
8. Lower Garden District Tour
9. Creole Neighborhoods Tour
10. Second Thursday Lecture: *Keith Plessy*
11. Faubourg St. Mary Tour
12. FOC Concert Series: *Kenny Neal*
13. New Orleans Music History Tour
14. Creole Neighborhoods Tour

**FEBRUARY 2017**

4. Rex Den Showing
5. Hidden Treasures: *Carnival Edition*
6. Hidden Treasures: *Carnival Edition*
7. Hidden Treasures: *Carnival Edition*
8. FOC Concert Series: *Zachary Richard*

**MARCH 2017**

10. FOC Concert Series: *Zachary Richard*

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**Join the Friends of the Cabildo for our Annual Member Holiday Party!**

On Thursday, December 1 from 4:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m., the FOC is hosting a holiday open house in the 1850 House Courtyard. Drop by for some holiday cheer (holiday cocktails, eggnog & food), and start your shopping early. If you’re an FOC member, you can take advantage of your 15% member discount!

**Lunch with Friends**

This year’s Walking Tour Guide and Volunteer Holiday Luncheon will be held Monday, December 12 at Ralph’s on the Park, 900 City Park Ave. The cost is $30 per person, including tax and tip. Please RSVP by December 5 via email to rachel@friendsofthecabildo.org or call the FOC office at 504.523.3939. *Hope to see you there!*

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*For more information on these events, visit friendsofthecabildo.org or call the FOC office at 504.523.3939.*

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