



Arts New Orleans continues to expand access to art through projects that connect creativity, culture, and community. From powerful new murals to youth-led public art, we are building pathways for dialogue, reflection, and transformation.

UPCOMING EVENTS:



Arts Market New Orleans this Saturday

This Saturday's Arts Market at City Park will feature 50+ local artists with handmade works, along with food and beverage vendors in City Park across from Café Du Monde (55 Dreyfous Dr.). Bring your littles for a special drum workshop by Majek Fingers from 1–2 PM, and don't miss our last summer hours market of the season—open 9 AM to 3 PM.

See the full event calendar at artsneworleans.org/events.



Meet us at Homefest on Bayou Road

This will be our second year at HomeFest! On Saturday, October 18, we'll return to Bayou Road with a community paint activation highlighting the Young Artist Movement (YAM) and the current public art project at Audubon Nature Institute. Hosted by Broad Community Connections and Community Book Center, HomeFest is a vibrant celebration of Black culture, creativity, and commerce rooted in Bayou Road's legacy as New Orleans' Black Wall Street. Join us for this free, family-friendly festival and help bring a new public artwork to life through community painting.

More info at bayouroad.com/homefest.

OUR PROGRAMS IN ACTION



Deeply Rooted Unveiling

On August 31st, the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, we unveiled *Deeply Rooted* — a powerful new mural by lead artists Ojo Akinlana and Da'ra Hoze. Public art carries the stories of a place, honoring memory while opening pathways for the future. This mural honors the Black businesses, communities, and trees of Claiborne Ave. before the bridge; *Deeply Rooted* is both a remembrance and a vision of perseverance. Commissioned through the City of New Orleans Percent for Art Program, this work was guided by our public art team with support from the Mayor's Office, Ujamaa Economic Development Corporation, and community collaborators. Visit the [Claiborne Innovation District](#) to experience the mural in person.

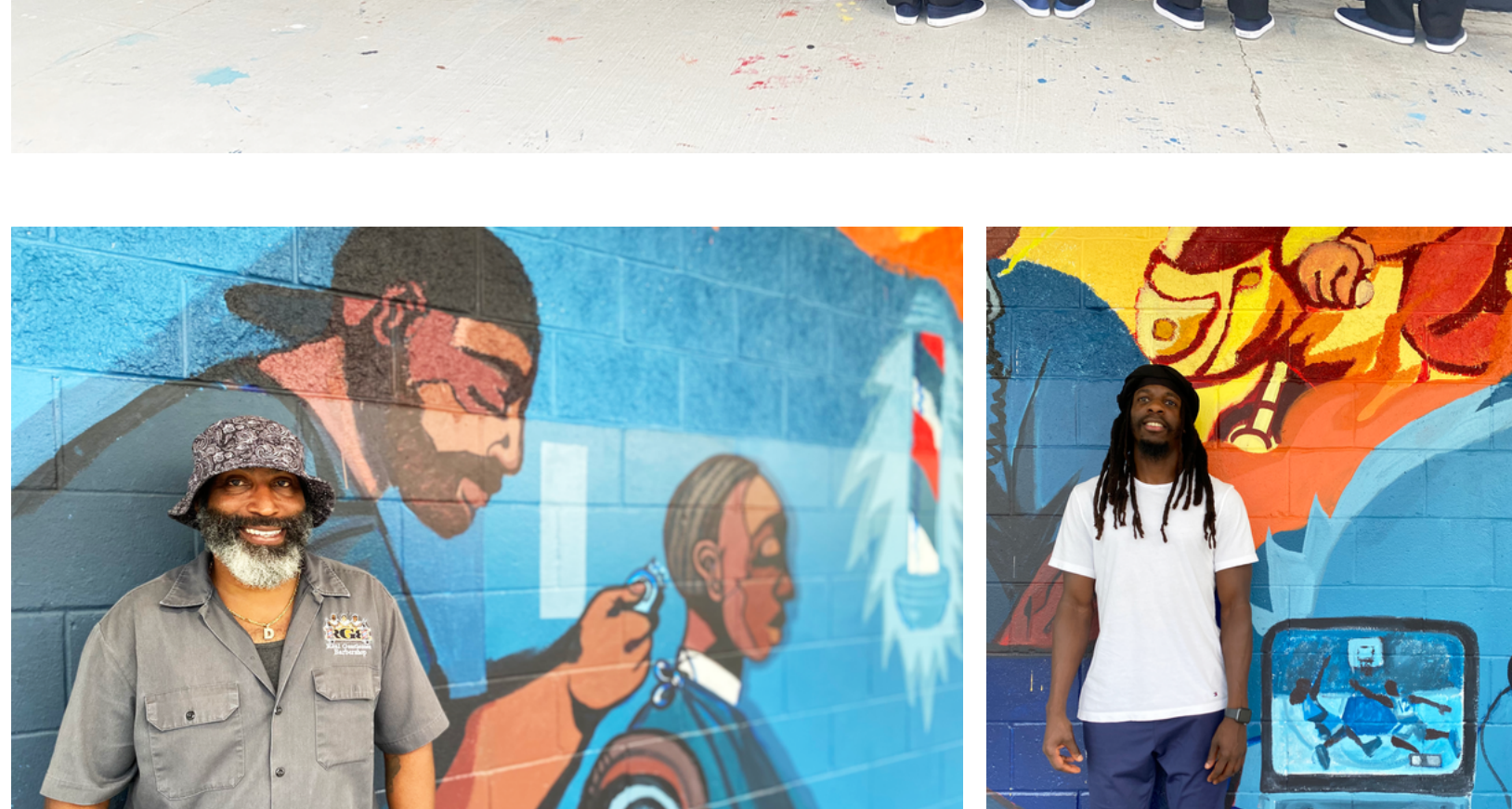


Audubon Nature Center Project

A collaborative project has been taking shape since the beginning of the summer along the pathway from Joe Brown Park to the Audubon Louisiana Nature Center, weaving together creativity, community, and the natural environment. Designed to create welcoming spaces for reflection and exploration, the project features two public artworks: mosaic furniture and birdhouse sculptures that celebrate the ecology of the Nature Center.

Under the guidance of lead artist [Jamar Pierre](#) and [Northern Ninth](#), students from the Young Artist Movement (YAM) Diversion and Studio cohorts completed the project's first set of mosaic tables—drawing inspiration from the landscapes and wildlife that make this area so special. The YAM cohorts wrapped up their experience with a joyful celebration, certificate ceremony, and a day of kayaking. Building on this momentum, YAM cohorts participated in an artist talk from lead artist [Trinity Barriere](#) who is commissioned to complete the birdhouses, which will provide habitat for local bird species while serving as vibrant artistic guideposts.

Together, these milestones reflect the powerful ways art can create community impact while honoring the beauty of our shared spaces. We look forward to sharing another update on the project's progress soon.



A Phone Call Home

A Phone Call Home is a powerful new mural led by artist [Langston Alston](#) in the Juvenile Justice Intervention Center (JJIC). The work explores the emotional weight of phone calls made by incarcerated teens to their loved ones.

At its center, a young person on the phone is watched by a security officer, a stark reminder of confinement. Yet as the mural unfolds, the call becomes a bridge, transforming the detention center into scenes of home, community, and cultural memory. The youth are depicted gaming, reading, playing cards, and painting—activities that reflect both daily life inside and dreams beyond incarceration.

Community figures who mentor and inspire them are also honored in the mural. Daniel, the barber who regularly cuts hair at JJIC, is represented as a source of care and continuity. The likeness of Kevin, a YAM facilitator and basketball coach at SUNO, appears as a figure in a video game, locks pulled back and wearing a #4 jersey, a symbol of guidance and resilience.

As the imagery shifts from cool blues to radiant oranges and reds, family gatherings, second line musicians, and a maternal figure holding a baby emerge as symbols of love, culture, and hope. Surrounded by various aspects of New Orleans celebratory practices, this scene of warmth and cultural rhythm highlights the nostalgia of home, the place to which each detained teen is teleported when they hear the voice of a loved one on the line.

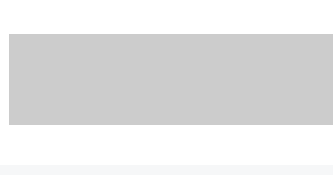


Restoring a Post-Katrina Landmark

Have you seen the blue-ringed poles lining Elysian Fields Avenue and wondered about their story?

Watermarks by artists [Mitchell Gaudet](#) and [Erica Larkin](#) was installed in 2007 to mark the height of Hurricane Katrina's flood line, stretching from the Mississippi River to Lake Pontchartrain. The project was part of our [Art in Public Places](#) initiative, funded by The [Joan Mitchell Foundation](#) in 2009, which commissioned 19 public artworks across the city in the years following the storm. Recently restored, *Watermarks* continues to serve as a powerful public reminder of memory and history.

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