

Art by Kevin Leveque.

# What is Historic City Hall?

Historic City Hall Arts & Cultural Center houses world-class exhibitions on national tour. Each touring exhibit is complemented with a variety of programming, including movie screenings, poetry readings, gallery talks, and live music events to enrich visitors' experience.

The center also exhibits works from local and regional artists. Two local art galleries are housed within the walls of Historic City Hall; Black Heritage Gallery and Gallery by the Lake. From historic significance to brilliant artistry, the displays are truly inspirational.

The original City Hall was built in 1903 and destroyed by the Great Fire of 1910. The current building opened its doors in 1911 and served as a utility of city government for 90 years.

In 2004, the City of Lake Charles refurbished and repurposed the building into an arts and cultural center. It is on the National Register of Historic Places and was designed by the notable architects Favrot and Livaudais of New Orleans. The design of the structure is Italianate, a classic design for civic buildings in the early years of the last century.

## gallery hours

Tuesday - Saturday  
10 AM - 6 PM  
Free Admission



The Black Heritage Gallery, a project of Black Heritage Festival of Louisiana, is among the 26 initial sites on Louisiana's African American Heritage Trail. Its mission is to champion and nurture artists at all stages of their career and to lead a diverse audience in discovering works by African American artists.



Gallery by the Lake provides space for a community of visual artists to create, interact, and exhibit. The group regularly sponsors arts education through classes and workshops open to the public, and through partnerships with other arts organizations.



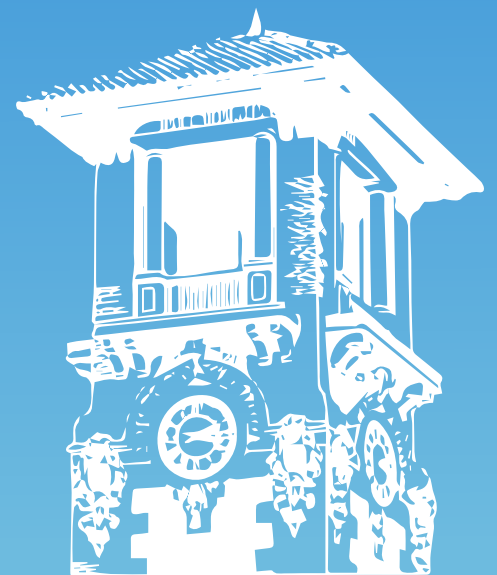
The Charleston Farmers Market provides a great outlet for local farmers to sell their Louisiana-made, kitchen-friendly items. These items can include fresh fruits, vegetables, grains, eggs, gumbo, canned goods, baked goods, honey, herbs, and plants. Local talents also display goods at our artisan booths, including homemade soaps, art, pottery, and jewelry.



Meet Me @ The Market is a more robust version of the Charleston Farmers Market, featuring a larger array of artists and vendors. Meet us on our front plaza on the first Saturday of every month to create, shop, and support small local businesses.

# HISTORIC CITY HALL

arts & cultural center



# HISTORIC CITY HALL

## EXHIBITS 2025-2026

JAN 10 - MAR 8



### RealArt DeRidder

A cozy gallery in a small city, RealArt DeRidder showcases the talent of local artists. This year, the gallery is focusing on embracing greater diversity in its exhibitions. With a rotating collection of 20 featured artists, there's always something new and inspiring to discover.

### Krewe of Contraband 60th Diamond Anniversary

In celebration of its 60th Diamond Anniversary, the Krewe of Contraband is remembering the "Sounds of the 1960s." This exhibit promotes the celebration of Mardi Gras in SWLA by showcasing 10 royal gowns representing various musical genres of the 1960s.



JAN 10 - MAR 8

FEB 1 - APR 26



55 paintings by nearly 15 contemporary realists and hyperrealists, encompassing a broad range of cars, motorcycles, and vintage vehicles from the 1940s to more recent classics.

### LUSTER

In the 1960s, photo-realism elevated motor vehicles to a unique status in American art. LUSTER is a traveling museum exhibition featuring over

### Exquisite Miniatures

Wes and Rachelle Siegrist are a husband and wife duo, mesmerizing viewers with miniature paintings so exquisitely crafted that they are often mistaken for tiny photographs. A hallmark of their work is their ability to convey the feeling of a larger canvas or the essence of the natural world in miniature.



FEB 15 - MAY 3

MAY 22 - AUG 9



### Caught Up...

Caught Up... is an immersive sound and fiber installation that brings together the voices and stories of coastal Louisiana's diverse community. Set against a backdrop of giant handmade fishing nets and layered soundscapes, it explores the challenges of a fragile ecosystem, an unstable industry, and climate change.

### Lake Area Music: Roots, Rhythms, and Resonance

Explore the rich musical heritage of Lake Charles with highlighted genres like Zydeco, Cajun, Swamp Pop, and Rock 'n' Roll. Through photographs, instruments, artifacts, and immersive audio experiences, this exhibit brings the region's vibrant soundscape to life.

MAY 23 - JUL 19

JUN 21 - AUG 9



### Cultural Currency

Each artist in the exhibition explores the idea of monetary value, transforming bills and coins into detailed, beautiful artworks. "The point of it all is to provoke thought about why people want and use money and why they want more," collector Davis Riemer says.

AUG 30 - OCT 25



### Ephemera

Heather Ryan Kelley is a Professor Emerita of Art at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana. The exhibition concerns her longstanding involvement with the medium of collage, involving elements from printed matter, her photographs, and fragments of her own drawings.

### Hit Me With Your Best Shot

Celebrating South Louisiana's beloved bird-watching hot spot, Gallery By the Lake presents a national competition and exhibition of photographs of birds. Boasting the joys and benefits of birdwatching, the exhibit showcases the work of wildlife photographers from across the US and birds from around the world.



SEP 26 - NOV 29

### Selfie Wonderland

Capture the magic of the season at Selfie Wonderland, a Christmas-themed selfie exhibit featuring unique, community-crafted photo stations. Immerse yourself in the season by capturing magical moments in one-of-a-kind holiday settings designed by local creatives.

### Snow Village & Christmas Card Workshop



A 700-piece collection on loan from the McNeese Foundation. The late Mrs. Nancy Stone Crowe annually displayed the Snow Village in her home during the holiday season. The Christmas card workshop will be available to all guests to create a handmade card which will be delivered to local nursing homes.

NOV 21 - JAN 3

# IMMERSIVE PROGRAMS

## YEAR ROUND

Stay tuned throughout the year for opportunities to immerse yourself in arts and culture with us! Get hands-on with workshops and arts and craft pop-ups, or listen in for artist talks and live music. We often feature local establishments for events, such as The Children's Museum, Lake Charles Symphony, Imperial Calcasieu Museum, McNeese State University, and many more.

### CRAFT & create

workshops



Looking to pass the time and embrace your artistic side? Join us for a series of beginner-friendly workshops that will get your creative juices flowing in no time. These workshops are created to inspire our community, catering to a range of styles and interests.

### palette & POUR



A vibrant young professional social celebrating the best of Lake Charles! Sip and stroll between unique pairings of talented artists and restaurants. Meet us on the front lawn once a quarter to savor local art, flavor, and connections.

Scan the QR code to sign up for our newsletter to stay informed about all our latest programs and events!

