



New Orleans Service Learning



Purpose

Fifteen scholarship students spent two weeks in New Orleans conducting interviews and gathering materials to create short films and websites to bring attention to the work of three nonprofits that seek to preserve the city's unique culture.

Impact

Videos and websites have brought media attention and donations to support the important work of three nonprofits. Students interviewed six Mardi Gras Indian chiefs to create a 22-minute film (go.osu.edu/MGIndians) and a web site for the Mardi Gras Indian Council (mardigrasindiancouncil.org).

They created a lively video of Sylvester Francis, founder of the Backstreet Cultural Museum, a one-man folk museum archiving jazz funeral obituaries and Mardi Gras Indian suits. The video is prominently displayed on the BCM website (backstreetmuseum.org).

Finally, they took professional photos and gathered information to create a website for Coastal Communities Consulting, providing accessible information on its services to the Vietnamese and Cambodian fishing communities (ccc-nola.org). Several students developed research projects based on their New Orleans experiences and have presented at conferences and won awards.

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THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved
Ohio State Newark
Office of Outreach and Engagement

Community Partners Involved
The Backstreet Cultural Museum
Coastal Communities Consulting
(Lower Plaquemines Parish)
The Mardi Gras Indian Council
Michael Yearling, Yearling Group
Granville Studio of Visual Arts

