



## CREOLE HERITAGE FOUNDATION

*Supporting the Creole Heritage Center since 2004*

January 15, 2010

Dear Creole Friends & Supporters,

### **RE: Creole Heritage Center to Close July, 2010?**

We write this letter with heavy hearts and great concern. Without your help we will be forced to close the **Creole Heritage Center** effective July 1, 2010. This is a result of the current economic times. Continuing budget cuts in higher education, on both the state and federal levels, and well beyond our control, have put our Center in this position. Unfortunately, we have relied mostly on these government funds to drive our Center's existence. Although any and all government funds are important and necessary, we must find a way to become less dependent and take control of our Center's destiny. We are asking that fellow Creoles and supporters, such as you; to please help us do this.

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the **Creole Heritage Foundation**. Our Foundation has been in existence for several years, but does not contain enough funds to keep the Center open. Your contribution to the Foundation allows us more control over how monies are appropriated and spent for the benefit of the Centers' existence.

It is imperative that we raise at least **\$200,000** to keep our Center open for another fiscal year. We pray that by July 2011, economic times will be rosier and we can re-establish some assistance on both the federal and state levels. Please understand that no contribution is too small or too large. Any and all contributions will support the Centers' continued existence. We ask that you send your tax-deductible donation by March 31, 2010, as this will allow us time to plan for the 2011 fiscal year.

Please don't underestimate the importance of your donation to the Centers' survival. Without it, the only National Creole Cultural Agency will cease to exist, and all of your and our hard work over the past 15 or more years will have been for naught. Please don't let this happen. This support will prevent the loss of major programs such as the annual Creole Heritage Celebration, the new Creole Scholarship Initiative, the Creole Family History Database, Creole conferences and conventions, and Creole genealogy research.

It is apparent that the issue of our cultural heritage is important to you. Let's take a stand, be heard, and be counted by taking more control of our destiny. Please send your tax-deductible donation ASAP. May God bless you, and thank you in advance for your donation and support.

Sincerely,

Janet Ravare Colson, Executive Director  
NSU Creole Heritage Center

James L. Billeau, Vice Chairman  
Advisory Board

**DONATE NOW!!**

**Online**

**Via Mail** (download file)

**PLEASE NOTE:** While the Center is struggling to survive for another year, we also acknowledge the desperate situation in Haiti. We have pledged to give 10% of all funds raised during this campaign in support of the **Haitian Relief** efforts. This decision came after the printing of THE letter slated for regular mail distribution, so **PASS IT ON!!**

### NSU CREOLE HERITAGE FOUNDATION

The NSU Foundation is a non-profit organization, which supports the Creole Heritage Center's membership and donations program known as the *Creole Heritage Foundation*. The program was formed in 2004 to generate private financial support for the Creole Heritage Center (CHC) located at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana. The NSU Foundation acts as fiscal agent for all activities associated with the CHC established program. Funding received through this program has served as an integral part of CHC's projects and accomplishments and supports its achievement as a national presence with research symposiums, conferences, conventions and alliance with local, state and federal partners regarding the creolization process and its associated documentation. All donors to the Creole Heritage Foundation will receive a tax letter for their contributions from the NSU Foundation no matter the amount (\$1 to \$1,000,000 or more).

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Creole College Tuition program is in place for THIS year.**