



XAVIER
UNIVERSITY of LOUISIANA

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**Xavier University to Host Popular Music Concert:
The Sacred and the Sinful: Hymns and Blues in New Orleans Jazz.**

New Orleans LA - Continuing with its Culture of New Orleans Series, Xavier University of Louisiana will host a repeat presentation of a popular musical concert and discussion, "The Sacred and the Sinful: Hymns and Blues in New Orleans Jazz," Sunday, March 18, at 2:00 p.m. in the University Center McCaffrey Ballroom (3rd floor), located at 4980 Dixon Street, The evening is presented and hosted by Dr. Michael White, Xavier's Keller Endowed Chair in the Humanities.

The afternoon will include a discussion and musical examples of black hymns and blues and their influence on traditional New Orleans Jazz. The focus will be on the makeup of hymns and blues, and how their vocal effects and structures became an important part of the early jazz repertoire and sound. Also included will be examples of the earliest recorded hymns in the jazz style and their use in functions like jazz funerals, church processions and second line parades and concerts.

The following featured artists are scheduled to perform: Dr. Michael White and the Original Liberty Jazz Band, trumpeter Leon Brown, gospel singer and pianist Cynthia Girtley, and a surprise guest.

The event is free and open to the public.

Culture of New Orleans Series

Xavier's Culture of New Orleans series was founded in 2001 by Xavier University Keller Endowed Chair in the Humanities, Dr. Michael White. Its purpose is to present various aspects of authentic New Orleans culture, featuring community practitioners, scholars and participants. Since its founding, the series has presented over two dozen programs, which have always been free and open to the public. Each event is designed to be a unique experience that is both informative and entertaining.

About Xavier University of Louisiana

XULA students *Leave Ready* to serve, lead, and care for their communities. For more information about Xavier University of Louisiana visit us online at www.xula.edu or follow us on Facebook, YouTube, or Twitter @XULA1925. Take a moment to learn more about how Xavier is preparing students for the future at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sD4mb-jYZC8>.

Once again, Xavier University of Louisiana received national accolades as one of the best universities in the country. Most notably, XULA is ranked as the best value among southern regional colleges and universities in the 2018 edition of "Best Colleges" by the U.S. News Media Group. Xavier also ranked No.1 in its grouping, heading the list of only 15 schools that qualified for the Southern Region category listed under "Great Schools, Great Prices."

To book interviews about our recent accomplishments and or to speak with our experts in the field of pharmacy, premed, public health, science, technology, math, business, English, communications and the arts, contact Patrice Bell Mercadel, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer at 504-520-5452 or via email at pbellmer@xula.edu.

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