



## Calling All Cajuns,

Irises and dragonflies will soon create a colorful display along the banks of the Bayou Teche and with that comes the Annual Acadian Memorial Festival on March 14th and 15th! Let me share the highlights to entice your presence at the museum-style festival. We promise a

wonderful showcase of Acadian Cajun traditions loaded with visuals and fun for all ages!

On Friday evening from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m., downtown St. Martinville will be the site for the festival "kick-off" with a first "La Promenade on Historic Main Street". This will be a showcase of businesses and attractions including tours, food, live Cajun music, children's art show and visiting! A crawfish boil fundraiser for the festival will be held at Maison de Tours on Main Street. The Teche Theatre will host a Renovation Open House featuring live music and display a collection of French history posters.

On Saturday March 15th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. the festival begins with the opening highlights. Christy Maraist, past President of the Acadian Memorial Foundation will expand on the festival theme, "A Tribute to the Spirit of the Acadian Women" and the Renaissance Cadienne dance troupe will fire up the day of celebration!

At 1:00 p.m., the Re-enactment of the Arrival of the Acadians on the Bayou Teche will begin with the honoring of two Acadian families Bourque and Landry. A very special Acadian, Dr. Darrell Bourque, first Louisiana Poet Laureate, 2008-2009 and Professor Emeritus of English, University of Louisiana Lafayette, will be inducted as the an Honary Acadian and member of the Acadian Memorial L'Ordre Du Bon Temps. Dr. Bourque will also assist with the re-enactment welcome of the Acadians to St. Martinville. Immediately after the ceremony he will offer a presentation of Acadian poem readings and discussion in the Acadian Memorial Hall. He will start with poems on the Bourque family name.

Dress in Acadians costumes if you wish and join in a beautiful Acadian Cajun day.

*Impassioned by Acadian History*

*Brenda Comeaux Trahan*

*Curator Director of Acadian Memorial*

*Director of St. Martinville Tourism Department*