

2023 Quarter 4 Isssues and Programs List

WRKF Baton Rouge

October 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023

The licensee of station WRKF has determined the issues listed below were of importance to the community during the past three months and has aired the following programming to address those issues.

- 1. Education
- 2. Race issues
- 3. Criminal justice and law enforcement
- 4. Public health
- 5. 2023 Louisiana gubernatorial election

Issue	Segment/Story/Program Title	Series/Program Name	Air Date	Air Time	Duration	Host / Reporter	Guest(s)	Description	URL
1	Addressing the teacher shortage	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-04	12:00, 19:00	10:00	Adam Vos	Marie Fazio, Megan Hall	In the spring of 2021, there were 2,500 teacher vacancies across Louisiana – and by the fall of 2022, the state still had more than 1,200 open positions. Across the state, districts have launched multiple efforts to increase teacher hiring – from bringing educators out of retirement to quick-turnaround teacher training programs. The Times-Picayune / New Orleans Advocate’s Jefferson Parish reporter, Marie Fazio, tells us about efforts to increase teacher hiring across the state. She’s joined by Baton Rouge high school science teacher Megan Hall, who was recently awarded the District-Level Teacher of the Year award after her first year at Arlington Preparatory School.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-04/filling-teacher-vacancies-why-some-cases-involving-enslaved-people-are-still-cited-as-precedent
1, 2	Southern University among HBCUs shorted of funding, accoding to Biden	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-10	12:00, 19:00	05:00	Diane Mack	Piper Hutchinson	Last month, the Biden administration sent a letter to Gov. John Bel Edwards, saying that the state of Louisiana has underfunded Southern University by more than one \$1.1 billion over the last 30 years. Southern is just one of 15 Historically Black Colleges and Universities that the Biden administration says has been shortchanged. Piper Hutchinson, who covered this story for the Louisiana Illuminator, joins us to explain how it all happened – and what might happen next.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-10/feds-southern-u-one-of-many-hbcus-owed-money-le-petit-theatre-brings-vampires-to-french-quarter

1	LSU looks into AI in teaching	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-24	12:00, 19:00	07:00	Diane Mack	Susan Weinstein, Rachel Howatt	Across the country, educators are bracing for artificial intelligence in classrooms. While some are concerned that AI might enable students to cheat or slack on their work, others are excited about the educational opportunities the new technology might bring. Louisiana State University’s College of Humanities and Social Sciences is aiming to offer AI-engaged courses as early as next semester. Susan Weinstein, chair of the university’s English department, and Rachel Howatt, a professor in the department, tell us how they plan to use AI in their classrooms this spring.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-24/superfog-results-in-deadly-car-pileup-ai-in-lsu-classrooms-theatre-of-blood-comes-to-nola
1	EBR schools under fire	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-30	12:00, 19:00	08:00	Karen Henderson	Charles Lussier	East Baton Rouge Parish School System officials are under fire after a series of missteps. The district was already grappling with a worsening teacher shortage and hefty fines after failing a retirement audit. Now, community members are criticizing school officials’ approval of a property tax break for petrochemical giant ExxonMobil. Charles Lussier has been covering these stories for The Baton Rouge Advocate. He joins us for more on the district’s mounting problems and potential solutions.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-30/baton-rouge-schools-face-worsening-teacher-shortage-why-la-may-start-a-black-bear-hunting-season
1	Accusations against unapproved schools as their enrollment spikes	Louisiana Considered	2023-12-04	12:00, 19:00	08:00	Karen Henderson	Sharon Luyre	During the first two years of the pandemic, public school enrollment in the U.S. fell by more than 1.2 million students. While some enrolled in private schools or formal homeschooling programs, others switched to unapproved schools that have little oversight and don’t need state permission to grant degrees. Sharon Luyre recently published an investigation into these schools for AP News and joins us to discuss the accusations against these institutions, including inappropriate behavior by teachers and accusations of “diploma buying.”	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-12-04/growing-concerns-over-la-s-non-traditional-schools-efforts-to-combat-opioid-crisis-in-acadiana

1	EBR rejects rehiring of superintendent	Louisiana Considered	2023-12-11	12:00, 19:00	06:00	Karen Henderson	Charles Lussier	School board members in East Baton Rouge Parish rejected a proposal to rehire Superintendent Sito Narcisse last week. Many are pointing to Narcisse’s proposed salary bump as one of the main reasons. Charles Lussier reports on education for The Baton Rouge Advocate. He joins us for more on Narcisse’s rift with some newer board members and what might happen next.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-12-11/ebr-schools-board-rejects-rehiring-superintendent-drought-and-fire-price-tag-new-brac-report
1	EBR school board president on nonrenewal of superintendent	Talk Louisiana	2023-12-14	09:00, 21:00	21:00	Jim Engster	Dadrius Lanus	President of the EBR Parish School Board Dadrius Lanus speaks on the recent voting against renewing the contract of Superintendent Dr. Sito Narcisse.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/talk-louisiana/2023-12-14/dadrius-lanus-mark-ballard
2	Tracing genealogy of slave descendnets	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-04	12:00, 19:00	09:00	Adam Vos	Justin Simard, Dakho	Slavery was abolished in 1865 – but its echoes remain. In many states, including Louisiana, court cases in which enslaved people were regarded as property are still cited as good legal precedent. Sometimes these cases are used to support lawsuits in the courts today. The Citing Slavery Project is documenting these instances, and calling for change. The project’s director, Justin Simard, is an assistant professor at Michigan State College of Law. He and Audrea Dakho, who is a project editor for Citing Slavery, working on Louisiana-specific cases join us to discuss their work.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-04/filling-teacher-vacancies-why-some-cases-involving-enslaved-people-are-still-cited-as-precedent
2	Play addresses racial injustice	Louisiana Considered	2023-11-07	12:00, 19:00	08:00	Diane Mack	Timothy Douglas	The stage production “Blue” is putting racial injustice front and center at an upcoming performance. The contemporary opera was created by Tony Award-winning composer Jeanine Tesori and Emmy-nominated librettist Tazewell Thompson. Timothy Douglas, the production’s stage director, talks about bringing this story to a Southern stage for the first time.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-11-07/new-opera-highlights-racial-injustice-nola-embarks-on-massive-plan-to-address-homelessness

2	Inspiration of the first Black woman to host her own TV cooking show	Louisiana Considered	2023-11-22	12:00, 19:00	08:00	Adam Vos	Zella Palmer	Lena Richard was the first Black woman to host her own cooking TV cooking show, which aired on WDSU-TV in New Orleans from 1949 until 1950. And Leah Chase broke so much ground at the helm of the Dooky Chase restaurant, that she was the inspiration for Disney’s first Black princess. We spoke with Zella Palmer, endowed chair and director of the Ray Charles Program in African American Material Culture at Dillard University. She also made the 2016 documentary, “The Story of New Orleans Creole Cooking: The Black Hand in the Pot,” and wrote the 2019 cookbook, “Recipes and Remembrances of Fair Dillard.” Today, we revisit our conversation on the history of Louisiana’s pioneering Black female chefs.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-11-22/at-thanksgiving-the-stories-of-black-female-chefs-in-nola-and-efforts-to-fight-food-insecurity
2	Racial legacy of Reconstruction in Louisiana	Louisiana Considered	2023-11-30	12:00, 19:00	08:00	Alana Schreiber	Vann Newkirk	The December issue of The Atlantic is all about the Reconstruction Era – the time period after the Civil War and before Jim Crow laws took over, when Black life flourished in the South. Here in Louisiana, Black-owed businesses prospered, multiple people of color were elected to the state Legislature and educational opportunities were readily available. Vann Newkirk is a senior editor at The Atlantic who contributed to the special edition, “To Reconstruct the Nation.” He hosted the “Floodlines” podcast about Hurricane Katrina in 2020. He joins us to talk about the untold stories of Reconstruction, and their lasting impacts.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-11-30/latest-issue-of-the-atlantic-explores-untold-stories-of-the-reconstruction-era

2	Documenting history of Rosenwald schools in the South	Louisiana Considered	2023-12-08	12:00, 19:00	10:00	Alana Schreiber	Andrew Feiler	The Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience in New Orleans has a new photo exhibit that tells the story of Rosenwald schools, a joint project started by Jewish philanthropist Julius Rosenwald and Black educator and activist Booker T. Washington in the early 1900s. Together, they built schoolhouses for Black children throughout the South, which for many, provided their first educational opportunity. Andrew Feiler traveled throughout the region collecting stories and taking photos of the more than 100 Rosenwald schools that remain. Most buildings have long been abandoned, while others have seen new life. He joins us for more on the schools and stories he captured on his journey.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-12-08/new-photography-exhibit-explores-history-of-rosenwald-schools-direct-air-capture-coming-to-la
3	Clemency considered for 57 death row inmates	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-09	12:00, 19:00	08:00	Karen Henderson	James Finn	In June, nearly all of Louisiana’s 57 death row inmates filed clemency applications with the Louisiana Board of Pardons, asking Gov. John Bel Edwards to commute their sentences to life in prison. Edwards declined to commute the sentences, but asked the state’s Committee on Parole to set clemency hearings for the inmates. But the clemency effort was brought to an abrupt halt when prosecutors struck a deal with the state pardons board to consider only five clemency applications, at most. James Finn, who covers state politics for The Times-Picayune / The Advocate, joins us for more about this blow to the historic death row clemency effort – and what it means for the incarcerated people at the center of the movement.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-09/settlement-delivers-blow-to-death-row-clemency-effort-hospital-launches-maternal-mental-health-unit

3	Update on investigation into BRPD internal affairs and misconduct allegations	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-11	12:00, 19:00	09:00	Adam Vos	Clarissa Sosin, Daryl Khan	Last Spring, New Orleans’ Verite News published “In the Dark,” a five-part investigative series that looked into misconduct, complaints and community mistrust of the Baton Rouge Police Department’s internal affairs division. But the news hasn’t stopped since their initial report. Over the summer, BRPD police chief Murphy Paul announced his resignation. And news of the department’s now-infamous unmonitored interrogation facility, known internally as the “Brave Cave,” has also come to light. Verite reporters Clarissa Sosin and Daryl Khan join us with updates from their latest reporting.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-11/misconduct-and-mistrust-at-the-brpd-spreading-alzheimers-awareness-in-la-latino-communities
3	Study: Many inmates who experience unnatural deaths behind bars not yet convicted	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-18	12:00, 19:00	08:00	Adam Vos	Andrea Armstrong	A recent study out of Loyola University shows that as many as one in four inmates in Louisiana’s jails and prisons who died an unnatural death behind bars had not yet been convicted of a crime. These deaths have been linked to drug overdoses, accidents and not receiving adequate and timely medical care. Andrea Armstrong is a professor at Loyola University’s College of Law and the report’s lead author. She was recently awarded a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation so-called “genius grant” for her work, including the Incarceration Transparency Project, a database that tracks deaths in every prison, jail and youth detention facility in Louisiana since 2015. She spoke with WRKF’s Adam Vos earlier this year.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-18/first-all-women-crew-referees-la-high-school-football-game-deaths-behind-bars-rta-bus-delays

3	Life Beyond Bars: Stories of formerly incarcerated	Louisiana Considered	2023-11-01	12:00, 19:00	08:00	Adam Vos	Anjali Niyogi, Desiree’ Morrison	Just a few weeks ago, we brought you a conversation about deaths behind bars. Today, we’re discussing the opposite: Life beyond bars. At least, that’s the title of a new photovoice exhibit that delves into the lives of formerly incarcerated people, in their own voices. The exhibit, which was created with the Formerly Incarcerated Transitions Clinic, opens today at Southern University in New Orleans. Dr. Anjali Niyogi, a professor at Tulane University and director of the FIT Clinic, and Desiree’ Morrison, a participant in the project, tell us more about the exhibit and the message they hope it sends.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-11-01/formerly-incarcerated-people-share-their-stories-in-new-exhibit-history-of-pig-roasts-in-louisiana
3	Drop in people granted parole	Louisiana Considered	2023-11-02	12:00, 19:00	07:00	Bob Pavlovich	Richard Webster	A new report from the Prison Policy Initiative found a steep drop across the country in the number of people who were granted parole and early release from prison over the last few years. Louisiana’s numbers were some of the starkest. Richard Webster covered the report for Verite News in New Orleans. He joins us to explain the causes and consequences of fewer paroles being granted in Louisiana.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-11-02/meet-ag-candidates-liz-murrill-and-lindsey-cheek-why-la-is-seeing-a-steep-drop-in-parole-numbers
3	Darryl Gissel on BR police chief search	Talk Louisiana	2023-11-30	09:00, 21:00	20:00	Jim Engster	Darryl Gissel	The Baton Rouge City-Parish’s former chief administrative officer for Mayor Broome, Darryl Gissel, speaks on his experience as chief of staff and also his thoughts on the search for a police chief.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/talk-louisiana/2023-11-30/darryl-gissel-mark-ballard
4	First inpatient maternal mental health unit	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-09	12:00, 19:00	07:00	Karen Henderson	Rene Ragas, Cheri Johnson	In September, Woman’s Hospital in Baton Rouge announced that it will open Louisiana’s first inpatient maternal mental health unit. The unit will serve pregnant and postpartum patients in an effort to increase maternal health care in a state that consistently has higher than average maternal complications and mortality. Woman’s Hospital president and CEO Rene Ragas, and Cheri Johnson, the hospital’s executive vice president and chief nursing officer, join us to discuss the groundbreaking clinic.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-09/settlement-delivers-blow-to-death-row-clemency-effort-hospital-launches-maternal-mental-health-unit

4	Outdoor workers deal with extreme temperatures	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-10	12:00, 19:00	04:00	Danny McArthur	n/a	This August was among the hottest on record for the Gulf South, and above-average temperatures have persisted into the fall. With the absence of federal or state guidelines for heat exposure, outdoor workers are more vulnerable. The Gulf States Newsroom’s Danny McArthur spoke with construction workers and landscapers in one Mississippi town who are finding ways to navigate extreme temperatures on their own.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-10/feds-southern-u-one-of-many-hbcus-owed-money-le-petit-theatre-brings-vampires-to-french-quarter
4	Alzheimer's awareness among Latinx community	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-10	12:00, 19:00	07:00	Adam Vos	Delores Hurst, Tatiana Gonzalez Quiroga	According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 5.8 million people in the U.S. have Alzheimer's and related diseases – but awareness around the disease still isn’t universal. Delores Hurst, executive director of the Louisiana chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, and Tatiana Gonzalez Quiroga, the chapter’s director of public policy, join us for more on how their organization is working to spread awareness about the condition among Louisiana’s Latino communities.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-11/misconduct-and-mistrust-at-the-brpd-spreading-alzheimers-awareness-in-la-latino-communities
4	New program offering postpartum home visits	Louisiana Considered	2023-11-14	12:00, 19:00	07:00	Diane Mack	Josie Abugov	We hear about a recently launched a program to offer free postpartum home visits to anyone who gives birth at the Touro Infirmary. Advocates of this initiative see it as a way to tackle Louisiana’s high rates of maternal and infant mortality. Josie Abugov, a reporter for Verite News, joins us to talk about what the program has accomplished so far – and what nurses see as the biggest obstacles.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-11-14/how-nolas-water-board-falsified-testing-data-at-home-postpartum-care-twilight-symphony-show

4	Expansion of reproductive health services post-Roe v. Wade	Louisiana Considered	2023-11-27	12:00, 19:00	08:00	Karen Henderson	Tamika Thomas-Magee	Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast expanded its service in Baton Rouge this month, following a similar expansion at the organization’s New Orleans location earlier this fall. Neither clinic performed abortions before the state’s near-total ban went into effect last year. Since then, both clinics have added pre- and post-abortion care and are connecting patients to abortion providers out of state. Tamika Thomas-Magee, director of clinical services, joins us to discuss the new services and how her organization is adapting to the post-Roe v. Wade landscape.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-11-27/planned-parenthood-gulf-coast-expands-its-pre-and-post-abortion-care-services-whats-driving-a-statewide-spike-in-syphilis-among-babies
4	Spike in newborn syphilis	Louisiana Considered	2023-11-27	12:00, 19:00	08:00	Karen Henderson	Samuel Burgess	Louisiana saw a spike in cases of syphilis among newborn babies last year. Samuel Burgess, director of the Louisiana Department of Health’s STD/HIV program, explains the magnitude of the problem and how public health experts are addressing it.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-11-27/planned-parenthood-gulf-coast-expands-its-pre-and-post-abortion-care-services-whats-driving-a-statewide-spike-in-syphilis-among-babies
2, 4	Update on Bogalusa Heart Study	Louisiana Considered	2023-11-29	12:00, 19:00	09:00	Adam Vos	Lydia Bazzano	This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Bogalusa Heart Study. Started in 1972, this study looks at the impact of vascular and metabolic changes on health throughout the lifespan. And, it's one of the longest ongoing health studies of a biracial, semi-rural Southern community. Back in January, Dr. Lydia Bazzano, who directs the Tulane Center for Lifespan Epidemiology I74Research, joined us to discuss what researchers have learned from the half-century of research. Today she joins us for an update on some new projects in the study that examine the connection between the heart and the brain.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-11-29/half-of-nola-sidewalks-not-ada-compliant-updates-on-the-bogalusa-heart-study-la-wind-industry

4	Hospital grant to combat opioid addiction	Louisiana Considered	2023-12-04	12:00, 19:00	08:00	Alana Schreiber	Alena Maschke	Ochsner Lafayette General Hospital recently received a \$1 million dollar grant to combat opioid addiction and abuse in rural communities. The grant, which comes from the Health Resources and Services Administration will be used to pay for preventative programming and educational outreach, among other initiatives. Alena Maschke covers health for the Acadiana Advocate and The Current. She spoke with our managing producer Alana Schreiber.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-12-04/growing-concerns-over-la-s-non-traditional-schools-efforts-to-combat-opioid-crisis-in-acadiana
5	Last-minute update ahead of the primary	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-12	12:00, 19:00	05:00	Bob Pavlovich	Stephanie Grace, Molly Ryan	Stephanie Grace, editorial director and columnist for The Times Picayune / The Advocate, and Molly Ryan, our statehouse reporter, joins us for all the last-minute election updates you need, ahead of the primary.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-12/nopd-chief-confirmation-hearing-nola-musician-receives-macarthur-fellowship-election-updates
5	Landry is governor outright after primary	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-16	12:00, 19:00	04:00	Karen Henderson	Molly Ryan	The results from Louisiana’s primary are in, and Attorney General Jeff Landry’s outright victory in the governor’s race isn’t the only election worth discussing. Politics reporter Molly Ryan joins us for a rundown of wins, losses and runoffs across the state.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-16/election-results-outgoing-first-lady-donna-edwards-on-fighting-human-trafficking-in-la
5	Why Landry’s win prompted one LSU prof to resign	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-19	12:00, 19:00	07:00	Bob Pavlovich	Robert Man	On Sunday, Robert Mann, Manship Endowed Chair in Journalism at LSU’s Manship School of Mass Communication, announced that he’s resigning, and will leave his post next spring after 18 years with the university. “My reasons are simple,” the historian, journalist and Louisiana Politics Hall of Fame member said in a thread posted to social media on Sunday. “The person who will be governor in January has already asked LSU to fire me. And I have no confidence that the leadership of this university would protect the Manship School against a governor’s efforts to punish me and other faculty members.” Mann joins us today to discuss his decision to leave LSU	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-19/why-landrys-win-prompted-one-lsu-prof-to-resign-how-to-teach-students-about-israel-hamas-conflict

5	How Landry won governorship with less than 20% of registered voters	Louisiana Considered	2023-10-23	12:00, 19:00	05:00	Karen Henderson	Molly Ryan	Turnout in Louisiana’s primary was historically low — so low that Republican gubernatorial candidate Jeff Landry was able to win the race for governor outright with less than 20% of all registered voters voting for him. State politics reporter Molly Ryan talked to some voters at the polls, and at an LSU tailgate, to better understand the causes and consequences of low voter turnout.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-10-23/restoring-wetlands-in-the-lower-ninth-ward-new-efforts-to-prepare-new-dads-for-fatherhood
4, 5	Landry criminal justice appointment	Louisiana Considered	2023-12-07	12:00, 19:00	05:00	Bob Pavlovich	Stephanie Grace	The Time- Picayune/The Advocate’s editorial director and columnist Stephanie Grace joins us to discuss Gov.- elect Jeff Landry’s latest appointees – and a recent announcement he made alongside Orleans Parish District Attorney Jason Williams.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/louisiana-considered/2023-12-07/landrys-appointees-new-university-of-new-orleans-president-increasing-safety-at-nola-crosswalks
5	Franklin Foil on upcoming Landry inauguration	Talk Louisiana	2023-12-22	09:00, 21:00	22:00	Jim Engster	Franklin Foil	State senator Franklin Foil addresses politics approaching the upcoming inauguration of governor Jeff Landry.	https://www.wrkf.org/show/talk-louisiana/2023-12-22/franklin-foil-clancy-dubos-philip-manuel