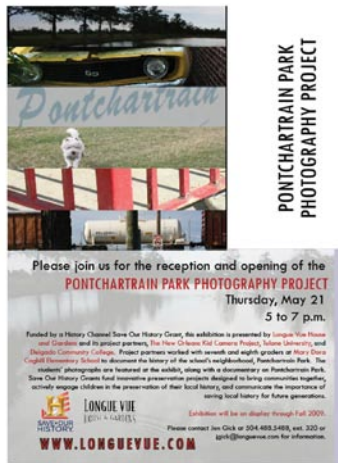




DELGADO MEDIA STUDENTS' DOCUMENTARY DEBUTS AT LONGUE VUE GARDENS



Longue Vue House and Gardens, supported by a *Save Our History* grant from the award-winning channel, History™, will host the opening of The Pontchartrain Park Photography Project on Thursday, May 21, 2009, 5 - 7 p.m. at Longue Vue House and Gardens. This exhibition, comprised of photographs and oral histories taken by the students of Mary D. Coghill Elementary School, documents the history of Pontchartrain Park, the neighborhood in which the school is located. These powerful photographs capture the resident's rebuilding efforts following Hurricane Katrina. Visitors to the exhibition will also have the opportunity to view a documentary, created by students at Delgado Community College as part of a Service Learning initiative. Delgado Media Arts students within the Television Production concentration, lead by Instructor and Service Learning Director Lynn Robertson, planned, filmed, edited and produced the documentary, which chronicles the

Coghill students' journey through the project and features oral histories from neighborhood residents. The exhibition opening is free and open to the public.

The Pontchartrain Park Photography Project, a collaboration between Longue Vue and The New Orleans Kid Camera Project, Tulane University and Delgado Community College, was developed to help Coghill students forge meaningful relationships with Pontchartrain Park, the first neighborhood in New Orleans developed for the African American middle class. The collaboration has enabled students to preserve and share the unique legacy and culture of their predominantly African American enclave, empowered them to positively impact their community, and increased community awareness of local historic neighborhoods and the importance of their preservation.

Longue Vue House and Gardens was one of just eleven organizations nationwide to receive a History™ *Save Our History* grant. "History™ receives stacks of applications for *Save Our History* grants," said Dr. Libby O'Connell, Senior Vice President, Corporate Outreach and Chief Historian, for History™. "Longue Vue and its project partners demonstrated the creativity and commitment to preservation and education that we believe is fundamental to giving our past a bright future. Building partnerships within the community is key to achieving long term preservation goals."

History™, with the counsel of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA) and American Association of State and Local History (AASLH), created the *Save Our History* Grant Program as an extension of the *Save Our History* philanthropic initiative. History™ is committed to inspiring and motivating local communities to learn about and take an active role in the preservation of their past through projects involving artifacts, oral histories, sites, museums or landmarks that exist in their own neighborhoods. In five years, 2,445 historic organizations, representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia have applied for funding through the *Save Our History* Grant Program.

About Longue Vue House and Gardens

Longue Vue House and Gardens, the former home of philanthropists and civil leaders Edith and Edgar Stern, is an internationally recognized historic site that serves as an educational and cultural institution. Longue Vue's mission is "to preserve and use the historical and artistic legacy of Longue Vue and its creators to educate and inspire people to pursue beauty and civic responsibility in their lives." The Pontchartrain Park Photography Project actively demonstrates Longue Vue's commitment to its mission and to serving the Greater New Orleans community. This collaborative project has helped to nurture the growing relationship between Longue Vue, Coghill students, and the residents of Pontchartrain Park, a neighborhood that the Sterns were instrumental in establishing.

Longue Vue's Classical Revival style mansion is surrounded by eight acres of gardens. Longue Vue is open Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Sunday 1 - 5 p.m. General admission to Longue Vue is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. All of Longue Vue's programs are open to the public. For more information, call 504.488.5488 or visit www.longuevue.com.

About Delgado Service Learning Initiative

In the summer of 2006, Delgado Community College began a Service Learning initiative with a task force and grant funding from the Community College National Center for Community Engagement. Service Learning projects were offered in courses across a variety of disciplines, with faculty partnering with Habitat for Humanity, the Red Cross, the New Orleans Public School System and many others that serve the Greater New Orleans region, to design projects specific to their course learning objectives. A teaching method that connects community service to classroom learning, service learning allows students to use what they learn in the classroom and apply that knowledge to real world experiences. This "learning by doing" strategy helps students develop practical skills, build self-esteem and a sense of civic responsibility. From the initiative's inception through spring 2008, 278 students, 48 community partners and 28 faculty members have been involved in grant-funded Service Learning activities, including Television Production students' involvement in the Pontchartrain Park Project.

About Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA)

RPA is an independent, nonprofit service that helps donors to create thoughtful, effective philanthropy throughout the world. RPA provides research and counsel on charitable giving, develops philanthropic programs, and offers complete program, administrative and management services for foundations and trusts. In 2006, RPA advised on and managed more than \$150 million in annual giving in more than 30 countries. For more information, visit www.rockpa.org.

About AASLH

AASLH was born in 1904 as a part of the American Historical Association. Over one hundred years later, AASLH is the only national association dedicated to the people and organizations that practice state and local history in order to make the past more meaningful to all Americans. These history organizations are American leaders in preserving, researching, and interpreting traces of the past to connect the people, thoughts, and events of yesterday with the creative memories and abiding concerns of people, communities, and our nation today. History organizations are foremost education institutions, and they excel in creating the enlightened, engaged citizenry that the founders envisioned. From its headquarters in Nashville, Tennessee, AASLH provides a variety of programs and services, as well as leadership in the national arena.

About Save Our History

Save Our History is an Emmy® Award-winning strategic initiative of History™ that launched in 1998, designed to further historic preservation and history education. The program supplements the teaching of history in America's classrooms, educates the public on the importance of historical preservation and motivates communities across the country to help save endangered local historic treasures. The *Save Our History* campaign includes original documentaries, special teacher materials, national promotion on History™, broadband activities in schools and has worked with The Smithsonian Institution, National Park Service, National Trust for Historic Preservation, National World War II Memorial, American Rivers and The White House 200th Anniversary.

Additional information about the grassroots *Save Our History* program, including a comprehensive school manual containing suggested lesson plans for grades two through 12 and details about working with local preservation organizations, can also be found at www.saveourhistory.com.