



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Louisiana Shrimp Festival & Shrimp Aid a Resounding Success!
New Orleans Unites to Support Local Shrimpers at First Annual Event

New Orleans, LA — The inaugural **Louisiana Shrimp Festival & Shrimp Aid**, held on **October 20th, 2024**, was an overwhelming success, bringing together the New Orleans and regional Louisiana community in support of Louisiana's struggling shrimping industry. The weather couldn't have been better, and a large crowd of attendees turned out for a day filled with food, music, education, and fun.

Hosted at **The Broadside**, the festival shined a spotlight on the urgent challenges facing local shrimpers, whose livelihoods are under threat from cheap, imported farm-raised shrimp. Attendees not only enjoyed world-class performances by artists like **Louis Michot and Swamp Magic, Sunpie and the Louisiana Sunspots, the 79rs Gang, and Amigos do Samba** but they also had the chance to sample culinary delights from top chefs including **Susan Spicer, Jose Blanco, David Hargrove and Greta Reid**, all using locally-sourced wild-caught Gulf shrimp.

One of the festival's standout features was **Shrimp Aid**, a full-day program in the Pavilion, which included panel discussions and presentations by experts such as **David Williams of SeaD Consulting**, who unveiled new technology to quickly test whether shrimp are wild-caught or farm-raised. Another highlight was the launch of the **Louisiana Seafood Passport**, a program aimed at encouraging consumers to support restaurants that use local Gulf seafood. The discussions were compelling, and shrimpers shared heartfelt stories about the current crisis and their ideas for strategies and solutions for a prosperous future.

The festival also proved to be a family-friendly affair. Kids were delighted by the interactive exhibits, and the whimsical, giant shrimp sculptures provided endless entertainment as children enjoyed riding them.

"We couldn't have asked for a better day or better turnout," said one of the festival organizers. "This event not only raised critical awareness about the issues facing our shrimpers, but it also celebrated the our local fishing communities and showed how much our region cares about preserving this essential part of our heritage and culture"

Proceeds from the festival will go directly to projects and organizations chosen by local shrimpers, with the goal of strengthening existing markets and creating new economic opportunities for Louisiana's coastal communities.

For more information or to get involved with future events, visit LouisianaShrimpFestival.org, or follow us on **Facebook** and **Instagram** @LouisianaShrimpFestival.

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