

2026 NEW ORLEANS SESSION

Location: Intercontinental Hotel – 444 St. Charles Ave.

Date: July 16-18, 2026



Agenda Items

Thursday, July 16	5:30/5:45 PM	Meet in Lobby to get nametags – take bus to reception
	6:00-7:30/8:00 PM	RECEPTION: The Cabildo (701 Chartres) (Dress: business casual)
Friday, July 17	7:45-8:45 AM	Buffet Breakfast – Frenchmen II– 2 nd Floor
	8:45- AM	Move to Frenchmen I– 2 nd Floor Announcements and Packet Overview
	9:00 AM	Welcome/Regional Overview/ Walt Leger, III, President/CEO, New Orleans & Company State of Education: A Brief History of Education Policy
	9:45 AM	<u>Early Childhood: Investing and Prioritizing the Future</u> Libbie Sonnier, CEO, Louisiana Policy Institute for Children ('22 Alum)
	10:45 AM	Break
	11:00 AM	Public Education: Statewide Reforms and Vision Dr. Cade Brumley, Superintendent, Louisiana Department of Education
	11:45 AM/12:00N	Load Bus - Lunch

12:15 PM	<u>Café Reconcile: Community Leadership in Action</u> <i>Caitlan Scanlan, Chief Development Officer, Café Reconcile</i>
1:00 PM	Load Bus – Head to New Orleans Career Center
1:30 PM	<i>Workforce Training: Preparing High School Students for the Future</i> <i>Cate Swinburn, CEO of YouthForce NOLA</i> <i>Claire Jecklin, CEO of New Orleans Career Center</i> <i>Stacey Alexius, Work-based Learning Coordinator, St. Tammany Parish Schools</i>
2:15 PM	<i>Tour New Orleans Career Center: Training Options in Action</i>
3:00 PM	Load Bus – Head to The Nieux
3:30 PM	The Louisiana Economy <i>Susan Bourgeois, Secretary, Louisiana Economic Development</i>
4:15M	AI Technology and Group Work and Happy Hour Tim Williamson, Founder, Nieux ('08 Alum)
5:00/30PM	Head Back to Hotel (Break)
6:00 PM	Carpool or walk to dinner Tableau 616 St. Peter Drinks at 630 Dinner at 700 PM.
Saturday, July 18	
7:45-8:45 AM	Buffet Breakfast – Frenchmen II– 2 nd Floor Sign Up for Door Prizes
9:00 AM	Move to Frenchmen I– 2 nd Floor News Panel

- *Arnessa Garrett, Managing Editor, The Advocate, ('25 Alum)*
- *Julia O'Donoghue, Senior Reporter, Louisiana Illuminator*
- *David Hammer, Chief Investigative Reporter, WWL TV*

10:00 AM BREAK

10:15 AM Troop NOLA

- Commander Rodney Hyatt. Troop NOLA

11:15 Community Action in Addressing Crime

- Michael Hecht, CEO, GNO, Inc.
- Rafael Goyeneche III, President, Metropolitan Crime Commission

12:00 PM Adjourn -- Have a safe trip home!

See you in Monroe, September 17-19.

"Thank You!" to our *2026 LEAD Statewide Underwriters:*



Coughlin-Saunders Foundation

"Thank You!" to our *NOLA Region Sponsors:*

