



### 1ST FLOOR:

- 1 **ENTRANCE**
- 2 **ATRIUM:**
  - **REGISTRATION**
  - **PROP CHECK**
  - **MERCH & CONCESSIONS**
  - **FREE PLAY ARCADE**
  - **FREE PHOTO BOOTH**
  - **OFFICE (STAFF ONLY)**
- 3 **MAIN STAGE (AUDITORIUM)**
- 4 **PANEL ROOM 1 (CHOIR ROOM)**
- 5 **PANEL ROOM 2 (1104)**
- 6 **PANEL ROOM 3 (1105)**
- 7 **MAID CAFE (SPECIAL ED ROOM)**
- 8 **COURTYARD (NON-SMOKING)**
- 9 **KIDS' CORNER (ANIME CLUB)**
- 10 **QUIET ROOM (RESOURCE ROOM)**

- 11 **VIDEO GAME ARENA (COMP LAB)**
- 12 **WRITING WORKSHOP (LIBRARY)**
- 13 **TABLE GAME ARENA (LIBRARY)**
- 14 **MUSIC STAGE (MUSIC ROOM)**
- 15 **WAKANDAVISION (BLACK BOX)**
- 16 **GREEN ROOM (DANCE STUDIO)**
- 17 **WOMEN'S ROOM (STAFF ONLY)**
- 18 **MEN'S ROOM (STAFF ONLY)**
- 19 **FOOD COURT (REAR PARKING)**
- 20 **PARKING LOT (FREE PARKING)**

### 2ND FLOOR:

- 21 **VENDOR HALL (GYM)**
- 22 **COSPLAY HQ (2202)**
- 23 **COSPLAY PREP (2306)**



## EVENT SCHEDULE

# BLERD 2025 NEW ORLEANS

MAY 17, 2025

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Supported by a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council, as administered by Arts New Orleans. Funding has also been provided by the National Endowment of the Arts.

10% OF PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT



SAT, MAY 17, 11-6 • **THEME: MELANIN MAGICKE**

11:00 • **DOORS OPEN:** Badge pick-up! (All Day)

• **VENDOR HALL:** Get your merch on! (All Day)

• **VIDEO GAMING:** Free play & tournaments! (All Day)  
**HOST:** IGL Foundation **LOCATION:** Video Game Arena

• **TABLE GAMING:** Free play & tournaments! (All Day)  
**GAMEMASTERS:** Go 4 Games **LOCATION:** Table Game Arena

• **FREE PLAY ARCADE:** Get your game on! (All Day)  
**LOCATION:** Atrium

• **FREE PHOTO BOOTH:** All the pix you want! (All Day)  
**LOCATION:** Atrium

• **KIDS' CORNER:** Free play & craft workshops! (All Day)  
**LOCATION:** Library

• **MERCH/CONCESSIONS:** T-shirts! Totes! Snacks! (All Day)  
**LOCATION:** Atrium

• **QUIET ROOM:** Chill out in a mellow space. (All Day)  
**LOCATION:** Library

11:15 • **OPENING REMARKS:** Kicking off our 4th Festival!  
**HOSTS:** BLERDFEST! Staff **LOCATION:** Main Stage

• **FILM SCREENING: FILM BLOCK A:** Come see student-made short films and talk to the filmmakers!  
**HOST:** Cool Cooperative **LOCATION:** WakandaVision Theater

11:30 • **PANEL: VISUAL ARTISTS:** Come hear how MELANIN MAGICKE manifests in the world of visual art!  
**MODERATOR:** Professor Erika Witt **LOCATION:** Main Stage

• **PANEL: MUSICIANS:** Come hear how MELANIN MAGICKE manifests in the world of music!  
**MODERATOR:** Travis Smith **LOCATION:** Panel Room 1

• **LECTURE: INTRO TO LOLITA FASHIONS:** Learn about the history, sub-styles, and basic build of Lolita Fashion!  
**LECTURER:** Jalyn Gottschalk **LOCATION:** Panel Room 2

• **ACTIVITY: YES, YOU CAN BELLY DANCE OR RAQ SHARQUI WITH ME:** A beginner's belly dance class!  
**INSTRUCTOR:** Alimaah **LOCATION:** Panel Room 3

• **PERFORMANCE: LIVE MUSIC:** Rock out with performances from your favorite nerdy acts! (All Day)  
**LOCATION:** Music Stage

• **WORKSHOP: WRITING:** Improve your storytelling skills with the help of award-winning Authors!  
**FACILITATOR:** Mythik Camps **LOCATION:** Library

• **PERFORMANCE: MAID CAFE:** These Cosplay/Dere Performers sing, dance, do improv, play games & more!  
**HOSTS:** Sweet Heart Maids **LOCATION:** Atrium

11:45 • **COSPLAY THROWDON: SIGN-UPS:** If you want to be in the Throwdown, you have to sign up before 12:45!  
**HOSTS:** Cosplay Coordinators **LOCATION:** Cosplay HQ

12:00 • **PERFORMANCE: MAID CAFE:** They sing, dance, do improv, play games & more! (Separate fee for this service)  
**HOSTS:** Sweet Heart Maids **LOCATION:** Maid Café

12:45 • **PANEL: FILMMAKERS:** Come hear how MELANIN MAGICKE manifests in the world of film & TV!  
**MODERATOR:** Justice Singleton **LOCATION:** Main Stage

• **PANEL: COMEDIANS:** Come hear how MELANIN MAGICKE manifests in the world of comedy!  
**MODERATOR:** DC Paul **LOCATION:** Panel Room 1

• **LECTURE: WARRIOR GODESSES OF AFRICA & BEYOND:** Learn about Deities that grace Africa's history!  
**LECTURER:** Liliith Dorsey **LOCATION:** Panel Room 2

• **LECTURE: HAS TELEVISION LEFT STAR TREK BEHIND?:** Is Star Trek's storytelling style obsolete?  
**LECTURER:** John Slade **LOCATION:** Panel Room 3

• **COSPLAY THROWDOWN: PRE-JUDGING:** If you want to be in the Throwdown, you must go to pre-judging!  
**JUDGES:** Maya's Fire; OnKey Cosplay **LOCATION:** Cosplay HQ

1:00 • **FILM SCREENING: FILM BLOCK B:** Come see student-made short films and talk to the filmmakers!  
**HOST:** Cool Cooperative **LOCATION:** WakandaVision Theater

1:45 • **PERFORMANCE: MAID CAFE:** They sing, dance, do improv, play games & more! (Separate fee for this service)  
**HOSTS:** Sweet Heart Maids **LOCATION:** Maid Café

2:00 • **PANEL: ACTORS:** Come hear how MELANIN MAGICKE manifests in the world of acting!  
**MODERATOR:** Demetrius Grosse **LOCATION:** Main Stage

• **PANEL: WRITERS:** Come hear how MELANIN MAGICKE manifests in the world of writing.  
**MODERATOR:** Sha'Condria "ICON" Sibley **LOCATION:** Panel Room 1

• **PANEL: YOUNG GAME DESIGNERS:** Chalmette High School Students will demo their Unity Platform games!  
**MODERATOR:** Dr. Brucetta McClue **LOCATION:** Panel Room 2

• **WORKSHOP: MAGIC OF HEAT & DESIGN:** Attendees will have the chance to create custom designs!  
**HOSTS:** Rondreka, Jessica, & Johnell **LOCATION:** Panel Room 3

• **WORKSHOP: WRITING:** Improve your storytelling skills with the help of award-winning Authors!  
**FACILITATOR:** Mythik Camps **LOCATION:** Library

2:45 • **FILM SCREENING: FILM BLOCK C:** Come see student-made short films and talk to the filmmakers!

**HOST:** Cool Cooperative **LOCATION:** WakandaVision Theater

3:00 • **PERFORMANCE: MAID CAFE:** These Cosplay/Dere Performers sing, dance, do improv, play games & more!  
**HOSTS:** Sweet Heart Maids **LOCATION:** Atrium

3:15 • **FEATURED PANEL: SINNERS:** Y'all seen the movie – come hear Cast & Crew discuss making this locally-shot film!  
**MODERATOR:** Pamela Wood **LOCATION:** Main Stage

• **GAME: ANIME JEOPARDY! FAMILY FEUD STYLE:** We will determine if anime characters are frauds or not!  
**HOSTS:** BrosWhoThink **LOCATION:** Panel Room 1

• **LECTURE: EXPLORING THE EARLY YEARS OF BLACK CARTOONS:** Come learn the history!  
**MODERATOR:** Mitchell Faust **LOCATION:** Panel Room 2

• **ACTIVITY: CHANNELING YOUR INNER ANIME HERO YOGA:** A beginner's yoga class, set to anime music!  
**HOSTS:** Britney/GeekOut Wellness **LOCATION:** Panel Room 3

3:30 • **PERFORMANCE: MAID CAFE:** They sing, dance, do improv, play games & more! (Separate fee for this service)  
**HOSTS:** Sweet Heart Maids **LOCATION:** Maid Café

4:30 • **COSPLAY THROWDOWN: THE MAIN EVENT:** All-ages Cosplay contest! Win prizes and bragging rights!  
**JUDGES:** Maya's Fire; OnKey Cosplay **LOCATION:** Main Stage

5:30 • **CLOSING REMARKS:** A chance to check in with y'all and give you a preview of things to come!  
**HOSTS:** BLERDFEST! Staff **LOCATION:** Main Stage

6:00 • **DOORS CLOSE:** As the saying goes, "ya don't gotta go home, but ya gots to raise up outta here!"

9:00 • **AFTER PARTY:** Get your shwerve on with your favorite Grown & Sexy Blerds! Live Music! No cover! (21+)  
**HOSTS:** BLERDFEST! AFTER DARK/Royal Frenchmen **LOCATION:** Royal Frenchmen Hotel & Bar, 700 Frenchmen St

SUN 12-6 • **BLACK FAE DAY:** The day after BF2025, come picnic with Krewes of Aziza at the Fly! BYO food/drinks!  
**HOSTS:** BLERDFEST!/Krewes of Aziza **LOCATION:** 600 Mag. St

SUN 2-8 • **ANIME SUNDAY:** The day after BF2025, chill with your favorite Blerds! No cover! Show your badge for a free shot!  
**HOSTS:** BLERDFEST!/Nostalgia NOLA **LOCATION:** 125 Camp St