

THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS MARTINET LEGAL SOCIETY & FOUNDATION
TO HOST THE ANNUAL JAZZ BRUNCH & SCHOLARSHIP GALA

NEW ORLEANS -- The Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc. (“Martinet”) and the New Orleans Martinet Legal Foundation, Inc., the 501(c)(3) non-profit branch of Martinet (the “Foundation”), will host The Annual Jazz Brunch and Scholarship Gala, entitled ***“The Future of the Black Bar: Celebrating 65 Years of Leadership, Excellence & Service,”*** on **September 24, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at The Higgins Hotel, 1000 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana! The cocktail hour will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end promptly at 11:00 a.m. A Rooftop Social to follow the Gala at 1:00 p.m.**

The annual event benefits the New Orleans Martinet Legal Foundation, Inc., the 501(c)(3) non profit branch of Martinet, which provides scholarship funds to both undergraduate and law students at local universities and also funds Martinet’s community service efforts that effectuate change and benefit our community-at-large.

SBA Region 6 Administrator Edward “Ted” James will serve as this year’s keynote speaker. Administrator Edward "Ted" James was appointed by President Joe Biden to serve as the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Regional Administrator for Region 6 South Central Region in December of 2021. In this position, Ted oversees the administration of SBA products and services in ten district offices; with one each located in Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Arkansas and six located in Texas. As a former Louisiana State Representative and Chairman of the Administration of Criminal Justice Committee and the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, ed is known across the state and country as a champion for working people, the disenfranchised, and an unapologetic and proud fighter for the voiceless.

WVUE Fox 8 Anchor/Reporter Kelsey Davis will serve as the Mistress of Ceremonies. Kelsey Davis joined the WVUE FOX 8 family in September of 2020. She co-anchors FOX 8 Morning Edition along with anchors John Snell, Meg Gatto, Rob Krieger, Meteorologist Zack Fradella and Traffic reporter Kristi Coleman. During her journalism career, Kelsey has covered a wide range of topics—everything from severe weather (tornados, floods and hurricanes) and politics to sports and Mardi Gras. In her free time, Kelsey enjoys spending time with her family and friends, shopping, seeing musicals, eating really good food, hitting her Peloton bike, running and traveling all over the world.

During the event, Martinet will also honor several leaders in our community for their outstanding contributions, as well as their enduring commitment and civic leadership that advance the mission of the Greater New Orleans Martinet Legal Society. This year, we are honoring the following award recipients:

- **The Honorable Ernestine Gray (ret.)** - Lifetime Achievement Award
- **The Honorable Rachael Johnson** - Ernest N. Morial Award
- **Ashley Heilprin-Hunter** - A.P. Tureaud Award
- **Bianca N. Moore** - Louis A. Martinet Award
- **Dante Butler** - Dr. Norman C. Francis Award

- **Phoebe Ferguson and Keith M. Plessy** - Earl J. Amedee Award

In addition, the Martinet President has the opportunity to recognize a member or members who have given exemplary dedication, service, time, commitment, and energy to Martinet. This year, we are honoring the following President's award recipients:

- **Janell McFarland-Forges and Troy L. Bell** - CLE Committee Co-Chairs
- **Whitney M. Antoine, Monette M. Davis, and Shanice Z. Smith-Banks** - Young Lawyer Committee Co-Chairs
- **Arisa B. Forest** - Community Service Committee Co-Chair

In addition to raising funds to provide scholarships for deserving students, the Annual Jazz Brunch and Scholarship Gala marks the culmination of the Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society membership year. During this membership year, our society reached new heights in programming, membership, and within the legal community. The efforts of our organization and members received the **Outstanding Local Affiliate Award, the Young Lawyer Division** and the **Guardian of Diversity Award from the Louisiana State Bar Association**. We encourage you to become involved in our organization, as our organization continues to go to new heights in the upcoming bar year!

ABOUT THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS MARTINET SOCIETY

The objective of the Louis A. Martinet Society is to encourage the interchange of ideas, promote legal scholarship, advance the science of jurisprudence, promote the administration of justice, uphold the order and ethics of the courts and the profession of law, and promote the welfare of the legal profession in Louisiana. The Martinet Society has chapters across Louisiana. The Louis A. Martinet Society was founded in 1957 by—Earl J. Amedee; Israel M. Augustine; Louis Berry; Lionel Collins; Robert F. Collins; Niles R. Douglas; Norman C. Francis; Benjamin J. Johnson; Alvin Jones; Vanue B. LaCour; Ernest N. Morial; Justice Revius Ortique, Jr.; J. T. Powell; James Smith; A. P. Tureaud; Freddie Warren and Lawrence Wheeler. These African-American lawyers, committed themselves, just as Martinet Society members do today, to combating racial injustices and inequalities in and outside of Louisiana's courtrooms. The Martinet Society has chapters throughout the state of Louisiana.