



## Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society

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For Immediate Release

### **LGHS Launches First Certification Program for Louisiana Heraldists**

*Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 12 February 2025* — The Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society is pleased to announce that it has launched the first certification program for Louisiana heraldists.

“Many of Louisianans have European roots, particularly from France, Spain, and the Holy Roman Empire. Their families have armorial bearings or a coat of arms,” said Melissa Dauzat-Collins, Program Director. “Members struggled with finding heraldists and resources that could assist in this aspect of their genealogical research. In response for this growing need, LGHS offered seminars in heraldry and established the first heraldry program in the state: Louisiana Certified Heraldist (LCH).”

Requirements for the program are posted on the LGHS Facebook page. Additional details, applications, and reference materials are available on the LGHS website.

The LGHS was founded in 1953 to collect, preserve, and publish genealogical and historical materials for the state of Louisiana and its people. The society works closely with genealogy and ancestry libraries, historical societies, state agencies, research facilities, and universities. LGHS is headquartered in Baton Rouge and sponsors two seminars each year at the Louisiana State Archives building and at alternating location typically at a genealogical library or historic site. The society provides for a certification and renewal program for genealogists and heraldists. Additionally, the society maintains the official state registries containing 6 registers: *Indigenous Tribes of Louisiana*, *Founding Fathers of Louisiana*, *First Families of Louisiana*, *Creoles of Louisiana*, *Cajuns of Louisiana*, and *Manilamen of Louisiana*. For over 70 years, the society has published *The Louisiana Genealogical Register* – an eclectic collection of Louisiana records as well as historical and genealogical articles. Over 100 libraries subscribe to this journal. Other publications include historical books such as *Louisiana Soldiers in the War of 1812*, *Federal Census of 1810 for Territory of Orleans*, *A Guide to Printed Sources for Genealogical and Historical Research in the Louisiana Parishes*, *Be it Known and Remembered: Bible Records (Volumes 1-5)*, and *Early Louisiana Families*.

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