



## Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society

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For Immediate Release

### **LGHS Certification Program Popular Among Genealogists**

*(Baton Rouge, Louisiana) 27 August 2025* — The Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society is pleased to announce the certification of nine genealogists for 2025.

“We are so excited that our members are interested in pursuing certifications in genealogy and heraldry,” said Melissa Dauzat-Collins, Program Director. “Two members earned their certification in 2024, the first year of the program. This year, we had a total of nine members complete their certifications. These credentials are for hobbyists, practitioners, or those seeking a professional career in genealogy.”

Demographics of the 11 genealogists:

- Average age is 58
- 72% are female
- 63% are minorities
- 27% are veterans
- 100% have a Bachelor’s degree
- 100% have a Master’s degree
- 18% have a Doctorate degree
- 100% are members of the LGHS
- Genealogy courses taken to satisfy certification requirements:
  - Alison
  - IAP Career College
  - Museum of Jewish Heritage
  - Presentation College
  - Roman Catholic Church
  - University of Strathclyde

“As someone who initially joined LGHS in 2013, this year has truly been a record breaker in terms of new members, programs, and volunteerism,” said Jessica Sanders, the newest addition to the Board of Directors. “Our genealogists are representative of our membership. They come from all walks of life. We have professors, business owners, engineers, retirees, and even a diplomat who have earned their certification. This is a diverse group sharing a common interest and passion in genealogy, history, and Louisiana.”

The review committee currently meets twice a year. The next meeting is scheduled for January.

Requirements, applications and other information regarding the Louisiana genealogist certification program are posted on the LGHS website ([www.laghs.com](http://www.laghs.com)).

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 7 registers: *Indigenous Tribes of Louisiana*, *Founding Fathers of Louisiana*, *First Families of Louisiana*, *Creoles of Louisiana*, *Cajuns of Louisiana*, *Slaves 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)*, *The Savages Creed: Chronicles of the Adai Caddo Warriors*, and *Early Louisiana Families*. Visit us at **[www.laghs.com](http://www.laghs.com)**.

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