



Our story starts here

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The History Museum of Mobile will host a special Learning Lunch Program at 12pm on Wednesday, September 6, 2023 featuring Mardi Gras set designer, Ron Barrett. The topic of his presentation is *The Mardi Gras Theme Whirlwind*.

Known for his elaborate stage design and productions, Ron Barrett is an expert when it comes to Mobile's Mardi Gras Celebration. As a child, Barrett was intrigued by the design of Mardi Gras balls and tableaux. He took that fascination and made it his life-long passion. After returning home from college, Barrett started building stages for Mobile Mardi Gras balls. Now, with almost 50 years of experience, he is the expert in his field and produces over 30 Mardi Gras balls each carnival season with his company, Ron Barrett LLC. The Floral, Stage Set, and Event company is co-owned by Barrett and Jim Sapser. Together, they utilize their combined years of experience to produce lavish and memorable stage designs for Mardi Gras Balls, The Mobile Ballet, Debutante Balls, Corporate Conventions, Holiday Balls, and more.

During Carnival season, Barrett and his team work every single day turning one sensational set into another for the nightly balls. Each set uniquely represents the Mystic Society's ball theme for that year. The set plays an important role in the storytelling of each organization's tableaux. At this presentation, Mr. Barrett will talk about the transitions that have taken place in Mobile's carnival themes.

The History Museum of Mobile invites the public to attend the free Learning Lunch lecture series. Guests are encouraged to bring their lunch and enjoy a presentation on an historical or cultural topic. For more information on Learning Lunch, contact Jennifer Theeck, Curator of Education, at (251) 301-0270 or by email at theeckj@historymuseumofmobile.com.

HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE: The History Museum of Mobile is where Mobile's story begins. Over 118,000 objects weave together the rich, diverse, and often turbulent histories of Mobile and the surrounding area, from the prehistoric past to the present. Located in the heart of downtown, the History Museum is in the Old City Hall - Southern Market building at 111 South Royal Street. For more information, please visit: www.historymuseumofmobile.com

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