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## **Avoyelles Arts & Music Festival Finds Fresh Venue for an Enhanced Experience**

**MARKSVILLE, La.** - The Arts Council of Avoyelles is joining forces with the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana and Paragon Casino Resort to bring the 12th annual Avoyelles Arts & Music Festival to the Paragon Casino Resort. A bold, new experience awaits festival goers at Louisiana's July 4th destination!

"Paragon has served this community for 30 years and our involvement in the parish has been our most valued mission," says Paragon Casino Resort General Manager Marshall Ray Sampson, Sr. "I can't think of a better way to show our love and appreciation than to lend our grounds to host the largest and most anticipated festival of the year."

This exciting move will include entertainment in the cool, air-conditioned Mari Showroom, arts and crafts in the grand hall and, as always, plenty of kid-friendly activities.

"The heart of the festival remains the same," explains Allison Augustine, President of the Avoyelles Arts Council. "Our goal is to highlight art and music in our region while bringing the community together to celebrate our nation's birthday," she added.

The Avoyelles Arts & Music Festival combines everything you know and love about the Fourth of July, from the longest-running July 4th parade in the state, live music from Louisiana musicians, festival queens, food booths, a car show, a dazzling fireworks display and more!

The festival brings over 3,000 visitors to Marksville every year. "The Avoyelles Arts & Music Festival is a wonderful opportunity for visitors to experience the hospitality and culture that Avoyelles has to offer," says Wilbert Carmouche, Executive Director of the Avoyelles Tourism Commission.

The festival is Thursday, July 4, beginning with a parade through Marksville at 10:00 a.m. and opening ceremonies at Paragon Casino Resort following immediately after.

For more details and information on becoming a sponsor or vendor, please visit [www.avoyellesarts.com/avoyellesartsandmusicfestival](http://www.avoyellesarts.com/avoyellesartsandmusicfestival).

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