



CALLING ALL FUN-LOVING MICHIGANDERS!

On Saturday July 20, HNGD will march in the Farmington Founders Parade. We are looking for marchers of all ages to join us and have a good time while advertising for the Bèl Bagay Lakay Festival. Don't miss the opportunity to let the community at large know that there is a strong Haiti-Michigan connection in the area. The 40+ people who participated last year will tell you that the whole family will enjoy it!

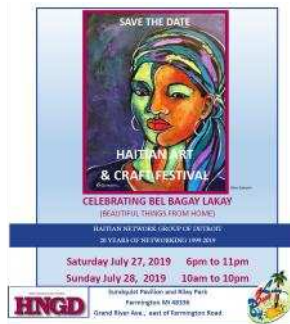
Our theme for this year is Pirates of the Caribbean. Straight from the Island of Tortuga, off the coast of Haiti, the loot will include swords, gemstones, gold coins, treasure chests, etc. You name it, we will have it!

Ahoy Mattey! Let's get together and help Farmington discover the treasures of Haiti. Aaarr!

For more information call 248-231-5767 ■

BEAUTIFUL THINGS FROM HOME ARE HEADING YOUR WAY

On Saturday July 27 (6pm to 11pm) and Sunday July 28 (11am to 10pm), Downtown Farmington will welcome HNGD for the 3rd edition of the biennial art and craft festival Bèl Bagay Lakay.



We are proud to announce that once again this activity will be supported by the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs (MCACA) Minigrant Program, administered by CultureSource. MCACA believes that our state's arts and cultural scene are important and that they can bring quality-of-life to our communities and even help the economy thrive.

Although we have had great success the previous years, the committee is not sitting on its laurels. Once again we are pushing the envelope and trying to make the event more appealing than the previous years by adding an extra layer to the already rich program and making a concerted effort to bring products that reflect the aesthetic as well as the plurality of the talent among Haitian artists and artisans. In addition to the colorful and beautiful paintings, festival goers will get a chance to purchase hand-made jewelry, sandals, metal and wearable art and many items at an affordable price.

The festival entertainment line-up will offer something for everyone: young and old, Haitians and non-Haitians. Thanks to a grant received from Farmington & Farmington Hills

Foundation for Youth and Families (FFHFYF), the young ones will have the unique opportunity to hear Haitian Folktales through the magical art of **Charlot Lucien, a Master Storyteller from Boston**. FFHFYF supports programs and provide funds to improve the quality of life for children, youth and families in need within the communities of Farmington and Farmington Hills. The dance and drumming sessions will get the public to clap their hands, move their feet and wanting more even after the *rara* parade. The kids will once again learn to play games and make kites the same way their counterparts do it in Haiti. For the Kompa lovers, **J. Perry's music** will bring the right amount of "chalè" to create the party atmosphere. Zumba adepts don't be surprised if you hear some familiar tunes! Last but not least, the **fashion show by Soledad Couture** will bring the fashionista out of all of us.

All this would not have been possible without the support of our Event Partner Royal Caribbean International, along with the following entities: DTE Energy Foundation, Ascension Providence, Dr. Jean Alcè, New Light Recovery Center, Evolve Bank Trust, Madonna University, the Consulate General of Haiti in Chicago, State Representative Christine Greig, JoeMar Travel, Carmina Mevs, Magesco, Caribbean Community Service Center, Corkery Appraisal Services, Kola Restaurant & Ultra Lounge and the Chrysler Motor Citizens Volunteers.

The 2019 Bèl Bagay Lakay Festival Committee: Shirley Alcè Konaté, Régine Beauboeuf, Jennifer Berkemeier, Andréle Brutus, Maggy Corkery (Chair), Alain Desvallons Mentor, Kristina Graham, Carinne Hails, Janny Magloire Milton, Bill McNeece, Valerie McNeece, Carmina Mevs, Fritz Momplaisir, Soledad Nelson. ■

HNGD STILL NEEDS YOU!

We are looking for individuals who would like to help increase the organization's visibility and strengthen the Haitian presence in Metro Detroit.

We welcome everyone regardless of age, race, gender or nationality. All that's required is a strong love for Haiti and the desire to help others discover and appreciate the richness and the uniqueness of the Haitian culture.

There are several ways that you can help:

- ◆ **Become a member**, the annual membership fee is only \$35 and you can pay for it on the HNGD website. Students can join for free!
- ◆ **Volunteer at the 2019 Bèl Bagay Lakay Festival Committee.** Volunteers are essential to the success of the festival. Send us an email at info@haitiannetworkdetroit.org.
- ◆ **Participate in the Farmington Founders Parade on July 20.** Help us spread the word about the festival. Remember it's a free event for the whole family! ■