

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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## **WYES CELEBRATES HALLOWEEN IN HOMAGE TO TELEVISION ICON—MORGUS THE MAGNIFICENT**

**New Orleans, LA**—Grab your ghoulish friends and celebrate Halloween with WYES. Whether you're a fan of New Orleans' own Morgus the Magnificent or just love Halloween—join WYES for a spooktacular evening during **WYES PRESENTS MORGUS MADNESS** on **Friday, October 18** from 7-10pm at WYES located at 916 Navarre Avenue in New Orleans.

The event was inspired by Morgus the Magnificent, who was a fixture on local television beginning in 1959. The local television icon was created and portrayed by Sid Noel Rideau, who died in 2020. Noel's daughter, Natalie Rideau, attended last year's inaugural event and will be a part of this year's event benefitting WYES.

Attendees will enjoy live music from The Consortium of Genius, a mad science-themed, funny-music, rock band. Included in the \$45 ticket price will be wine, beer and food from local restaurants and businesses including Theo's Neighborhood Pizza, Lucky Dog, T-Saint, Elmer's CheeWees, Swiss Confectionery, Silk Road, Short Stop Poboy's, Mandina's, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Randazzo's Family Restaurant, Desi Vega's Steakhouse and more.

Guests will want to participate in our costume contest with fabulous prizes from Briquette, Breaux Mart, 504 Funk and Casa Nola Limoncello. Categories include 'Best Costume from the Morgus show' (including Chopsley and E.R.I.C. too) and three awards for 'Best Overall Costume.' We are excited to have the following as contest judges — WYES senior producer & host Peggy Scott Laborde, Janet Shea (who portrayed Morgus' landlady, Mrs. Fetish), "Oldie King" and longtime local radio broadcaster Bob Walker and Natalie Rideau, daughter of Morgus creator Sid Noel Rideau.

Please note, you don't have to dress up to attend. The event is for ages 21 and older.

Special thank you to our event co-chairs: Wendy Lodrig Bart and Cheryl Cotten. Thank you to our event committee: Taryn Brown, Renee Carrere, Mark Elamm, Nicole Ferrier, Laurie Guimont, Debbie Holzenthal, Janie Kahn, Tamica Lee, Sara Lewis, Gail McKenna, Cesily Roberts, Sandra Thompson Herman, Anna Tusa and Sylvia Vellino.

WYES would like to thank our generous sponsors: Keesler Federal Credit Union, People's Health and Big Cheese Photos. Media sponsor is Inside New Orleans.

In addition to the **WYES PRESENTS MORGUS MADNESS** event, on Saturday, October 26 at 9pm, WYES will once again bring Morgus the Magnificent back to local television. In a special presentation, viewers will see three restored 1980s MORGUS PRESENTS episodes. Watch as Morgus the Magnificent and his assistants Chopsley and E.R.I.C. experiment with the scientific method and create a device Dr. Morgus says can end crime and empty jails. Later, an invisible mad scientist who cannot return to normal visits Morgus' lab for help. Then, in the final episode, Morgus decides he needs an heir to carry on his work and must marry the right girl. But who?

For program and event details, and to purchase tickets to **WYES PRESENTS MORGUS MADNESS**, go to [wyes.org](http://wyes.org).

### **About WYES:**

WYES is the storyteller for New Orleans, southeast Louisiana and the Mississippi Gulf Coast. For 67 years, WYES has earned a reputation for quality PBS programming, award-winning local documentaries and cooking series. Events like this help spread WYES' mission as a vital source of education, information and entertainment — on air and online. For more information, call (504) 486-5511 or visit [wyes.org](http://wyes.org). Like us on Facebook. Follow us on Instagram.