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Aislinn Hinyup
WYES Vice President of
Communications
ahinyup@wyes.org
504-460-2850 cell



WYES CELEBRATES HALLOWEEN IN HOMAGE TO TELEVISION ICON—MORGUS THE MAGNIFICENT

New Orleans, LA—Let the ghoulish times roll and celebrate Halloween with WYES! Whether you're a fan of New Orleans' own Morgus the Magnificent or just love all things spooky, join us for the **3rd Annual WYES PRESENTS MORGUS MADNESS presented by Keesler Federal** on **Friday, October 17, from 7–10pm** at WYES, 916 Navarre Avenue, New Orleans. Tickets available at wyes.org/events.

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

Attendees will enjoy live music from The Consortium of Genius, a mad science-themed rock band. Included in the \$45 ticket price will be wine, beer and food from local restaurants and businesses including: Katie's, Byblos Mediterranean Grill, Dooky Chase, Two Tony's, Sun Ray Grill, Junior's on Harrison, Zuppardo's Family Market, Martin's, Sala Nola, Theo's Neighborhood Pizza, G's Grill at Monkey Hill Bar, Swiss Confectionery, Baker Maid, New Orleans Ice Cream Co., Casa Nola Limoncello, Opelousas Chicken & Seafood, Vaucresson's Creole Café, Liuzza's by the Track, Beachcorner Bar & Grill, Cafe Navarre, Ember Indian Cuisine, Ralph's on the Park, Angelo Brocato, Blue Line Sandwich Co., Coca-Cola Bottling Company United and more.

New this year is the VIP Table Experience! Guests who reserve a table for eight will enjoy a specially curated Antoine's menu with dessert, along with wines and cocktails from Dorignac's—including a signature "Blood Bag" cocktail, a playful nod to Dr. Morgus. VIP tables will be in WYES' Studio A, with DJ Bambam Belonge providing music in a dedicated space separate from the main performance area. The VIP Table Experience is \$1,200. To reserve, call 504-486-5511 or visit wyes.org/events.

No Morgus Madness celebration would be complete without a dash of mad science and plenty of style. Costumes aren't required, but guests are encouraged to unleash their inner ghoulish and take part in the costume contest starting at 8pm. Prizes will be awarded in three categories: Best Morgus Show Character, Best Couple and Most Creative Homemade Costume.

Special thank you to our event co-chairs: Debbie Holzenthal and Donna LaNasa. Thank you to the event committee: Wendy Lodrig Bart, Laurie Guimont, Cheryl Lemoine, Jane F Kahn, Heath P Kahn, MD, Sandra Thompson Herman, Taryn Brown, Anna Tusa, Natalie Rideau, Betsy Ibos and Sylvia Vellino.

Continuing the legacy of Morgus the Magnificent, WYES will air **AN EVENING WITH SID NOEL: RECOLLECTIONS OF A MAD SCIENTIST** for the first time. This special event, recorded and originally donated to the Historic New Orleans Collection, will air on Saturday, October 25 at 9pm on WYES-TV. Viewers can also stream it live on wyes.org/live or on the PBS app. Viewers will see Morgus the Magnificent in all his scientific glory, but also get a rare glimpse of his alter ego, Sid Noel, as he recounts the Morgus origin story and reflects on his life and broadcasting career.

About WYES:

WYES is the storyteller for New Orleans, southeast Louisiana and the Mississippi Gulf Coast. For 68 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. Like us on Facebook. Follow us on Instagram.

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