



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact:** Bess McCoy

**February 10, 2025**

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## **SOULARD MARDI GRAS HEATS UP WITH VERIZON CAJUN COOK-OFF**

**Soulard, MO** – Ready your taste buds for the Cajun Cook-Off where the flavors of Mardi Gras come alive! This culinary showdown will feature some of the region's most talented amateur chefs, all vying for top honors and bragging rights in front of a panel of hungry and discerning judges. Admission includes an open bar, live music, and samples of Cajun food specialties.

Admission starts at \$70 and includes a full open bar and live music by the Johnny Henry Band. Find tickets and more information at **STLMardiGras.org**.

### **Event Details:**

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 15, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Bud Light Party Centre in Soulard Market Park

**INTERVIEW** Bess McCoy, Mardi Gras Foundation

**AVAILABILITY:** Professional and amateur chefs

**VISUALS:** Amateur chefs facing off in cooking competition. Delicious Cajun creations prepared by local professional chefs Casey Jovick and Jack MacMurray. Revelers in vibrant Mardi Gras attire and festive atmosphere.

Photos are available for download at

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/896xlrzscmyaikayjy8j/h?dl=0&rlkey=nh16wexqcs9ynqj3zuq2v1pjx>

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### **About Soulard Mardi Gras**

The Soulard Mardi Gras season will light up St. Louis with a full and varied calendar of celebrations until Fat Tuesday, March 4. This year, Grand Parade Day is Saturday, March 1. Details on all Soulard Mardi Gras events can be found at **STLMardiGras.org**.

Mardi Gras, Inc., a 501(c)(4) not-for-profit organization, is responsible for producing the Mardi Gras celebration in St. Louis, which celebrates its 46th year in 2025. Soulard's celebration, which began with a house party among five friends in search of a theme, is now recognized as one of the largest Mardi Gras celebrations in the world. The dozen events of the entire Soulard Mardi Gras season regularly draw thousands of annual visitors to the Gateway City and generate more than \$20 million in economic activity for the region.

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## **2025 Mardi Gras Calendar**

<b>January 6</b>	Twelfth Night
<b>January 18</b>	Family Winter Carnival
<b>February 8</b>	Scavenger Hunt
<b>February 15</b>	Cajun Cook-Off
<b>February 22</b>	5K Run for your Beads
<b>February 22-23</b>	Taste of Soulard
<b>February 23</b>	Purina Pet Parade and Tito's Vodka Wiener Dog Derby
<b>February 28</b>	Mayor's Mardi Gras Ball
<b>March 1</b>	Bud Light Grand Parade