



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 6, 2026

THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS FOR THE 53rd ANNUAL BAYOU CLASSIC

Tickets On Sale Friday, May 8 at 10 a.m. CST

NEW ORLEANS – One of the nation’s most celebrated HBCU traditions returns this fall as the **53rd Annual Bayou Classic, Presented by Procter & Gamble**, takes over New Orleans Thanksgiving weekend, November 26–28, 2026, at the Caesars Superdome.

Tickets for both the Bayou Classic football game and the Battle of the Bands & Greek Show go on sale at **10 a.m. CST on Friday, May 8, 2026**.

The Bayou Classic continues to stand as a defining cultural tradition, bringing together Southern University and Grambling State University for a rivalry that extends far beyond the field. The weekend kicks off on Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 26 – with the Bayou Classic Annual Thanksgiving Day Parade followed on Friday, November 27, with the high-energy Battle of the Bands & Greek Show, and the football game on Saturday, November 28.

“This weekend represents something that continues to evolve and endure,” said Dottie Belletto, President and CEO of New Orleans Convention Company, Inc. (NOCCI), the event management firm for Bayou Classic. “From the game to the bands to the city itself, Bayou Classic is an experience people return to year after year because it lives through those who show up and make it what it is.”

TICKET INFORMATION:

- Football game tickets range from \$20 to \$199 across all seating levels at the Caesars Superdome.
- Battle of the Bands & Greek Show general admission starts at \$25, with reserved seating options available. (Prices increase by \$10 on event day.)

SEATING ASSIGNMENTS:

Football Game:

- Southern University Jaguars will serve as the home team and will be seated primarily on the West Side (Sections 129–156).
- Grambling State University Tigers will be the visiting team and will be seated primarily on the East Side (Sections 101–128).



Presented by 

Battle of the Bands & Greek Show:

- The Southern University Human Jukebox Marching Band will perform on the South End Zone side (near Sections 115–117).
- The Grambling State University World Famed Tiger Marching Band will perform on the North End Zone side (near Sections 111–113).

HOTEL BLOCK INFORMATION:

Fans will be able to access specially discounted rates through the official Bayou Classic hotel block when it launches in the coming weeks. Participating hotels will be located within walking distance or a short ride from the Caesars Superdome.

“The city of New Orleans looks forward to welcoming fans back for another unforgettable weekend,” added Belletto. “It’s a time when the energy of the culture is felt across the entire city.”

For complete event details, tickets, and hotel accommodations, visit www.mybayouclassic.com and follow Bayou Classic on social media at @MyBayouClassic (Facebook) and @bayouclassic74 (Instagram).

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ABOUT BAYOU CLASSIC

Celebrating its 53rd year, the Bayou Classic continues to uphold its legacy as a symbol of excellence and camaraderie within the HBCU community. Year after year, fans gather in New Orleans over Thanksgiving weekend to witness the thrilling football matchup between Southern University and Grambling State University, accompanied by the electrifying Battle of the Bands & Greek Show and the highly anticipated halftime show featuring two of the greatest marching bands in the nation. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.mybayouclassic.com.

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