The More You NOLA: Three can't-miss summertime fests

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A runner dashes past a RollerBull charging down the course at last year's San Fermin in Nueva Orleans. The 2016 event takes place Friday, July 8, through Sunday, July 10. The festival was co-founded by Tulane University graphic designer Tracey Bellina-Milazzo. (Photo by Sally Asher)

As the weather heats up, locals prepare for summertime traditions. Like digging into your first sno-ball of the season or peering up at the riverfront's Independence Day fireworks, attending New Orleans' one-of-a-kind summer fests is a long-standing ritual for many. Here are some of our favorites:

Snake Oil Festival

The second annual event grants audiences a glimpse of the popular traveling carnivals prominent throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. It takes place at <u>The Howlin' Wolf</u> (907 S. Peters St.) from Friday (June 24) through Sunday (June 26) and features comedy, circus, burlesque and sideshow performances. Patrons can also browse the festival's market for jewelry and art or attend workshops for budding performers. <u>Tickets</u> are available online.

San Fermin in Nueva Orleans

From Friday, July 8, through Sunday, July 10, the 10th annual San Fermin in Nueva Orleans festival will get locals sprinting and sipping sangria. Inspired by the Running of the Bulls in Pamplona, Spain, more than 18,000 festival-goers clad in red and white participate in the festival's main event — running away from nearly 400 RollerBulls (roller derby skaters armed with plastic bats). The event will also feature live performances from Quickie Mart and Vivaz following the run. <u>Registration</u> benefits local charities <u>Animal Rescue New Orleans</u> and <u>Beth's Friends Forever</u> and is available online.

Whitney White Linen Night

On Saturday, Aug. 6, a sea of locals sporting white attire will stroll through New Orleans' Warehouse District for the annual Julia Street block party. Sponsored by Whitney Bank, the event encourages visitors to peruse the art galleries lining the street from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Guests can also grab a bite from 25 participating restaurants and visit its three live music stages. An after party is scheduled from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Contemporary Arts Center.

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