Alumni enjoy Jazz Fest brunch

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As thousands of festival-goers flocked to the New Orleans Fair Grounds to take in a weekend of music, Tulane alumni started their day at the Bea Field Alumni House with a cheery Jazz Fest brunch on Saturday (May 3).



Alumni gather for a brunch at the Bea Field Alumni House before heading to the second Saturday of the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival. (Photo by Sabree Hill)

With tents shading the yard on a beautiful morning at the alumni house, guests in attendance were treated to tasty brunch favorites like alligator cheesecake, crawfish cheese grits and bread pudding from Jacques Imo"s Café. The Tulane Brass Band strolled the grounds throughout the morning, entertaining with classic jazz music and traditional Tulane songs while alumni sipped mimosas and caught up with classmates.

"The brunch was a great way to connect with friends in town for the festivities as well as alumni from other classes," said Bryan Davis of New Orleans, who received bachelor"s and master"s degrees in English from Tulane in 2009 and 2010. "Between bites of that delicious cornbread, we all talked about the upcoming Reunion Weekend in the fall, which looks to be another great time with friends old and new."

As the event drew to an end, alumni were shuttled off to the New Orleans Jazz Fest in Tulane buses to enjoy the likes of Bruce Springsteen, The Revivalists and Allen Toussaint.

The brunch, co-hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations, Tulane Fund and the A. B. Freeman School of Business, welcomed alumni who biked from nearby neighborhoods and flew in from as far as London. Business alumni in town for the weekend also enjoyed the Freeman Centennial Celebration.

The event was hosted for Tulane Fund leadership donors, including members of the Aldrich Society and Tulane Associates, with special invitations to alumni celebrating undergraduate reunions in 2014.

Reunion year alumni in attendance also had an opportunity to learn more about their upcoming celebrations this fall during Homecoming. Reunion Weekend festivities will take place Nov. 13â?"16 and honor the classes of 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004 and 2009.

Bradley Charlesworth is associate director of Undergraduate Reunion Weekend in the Office of Alumni Relations.