

JOIN CLEO WADE IN BRINGING MARDI GRAS HOME WITH A #ZATARAIN'SPORCHPARTY

Zatarain's and Cleo have come together to thank the culture and hospitality workers of New Orleans who make Mardi Gras a must-experience event

GRETNA, La., Feb. 4, 2021 /[PRNewswire](#)/ -- Mardi Gras has always been about coming together – whether that means stepping out your front door and into a celebration or travelling to New Orleans in anticipation of a good time. While we are unable to observe the tradition as we have in years past - in the streets, with lively parades and music - that doesn't mean the Mardi Gras experience has been cancelled. With a little creativity and thought around the elements we most enjoy, Zatarain's partnered with New Orleanian author, poet, and community builder Cleo Wade to capture the spirit of the festivities and invite all to join in by hosting their own #ZatarainsPorchParty.

This Carnival season has been more about community than ever. That includes considering our neighbors by adhering to social distancing guidelines and participating from home with a #ZatarainsPorchParty. For inspiration, Cleo is sharing her bold take on the annual tradition by introducing a new recipe to help us all indulge in the experience through flavor, along with fun tips and decoration ideas so that any space can be transformed into an over-the-top Mardi Gras-esque float. Through this shared activity, Zatarain's and Cleo encourage all to embrace the essence of the holiday with peace of mind.

Additionally, Zatarain's and Cleo selected [Culture AID NOLA](#) as the recipient of a \$25,000 gift. The non-profit has a mission to serve the culture of New Orleans by directing no-barrier, stigma-free aid to underserved members of the hospitality and cultural community. Zatarain's will join Culture AID NOLA starting February 6th, for ten food distribution events over ten weeks. And, for a limited time leading up to Fat Tuesday, Zatarain's will additionally distribute #ZatarainsPorchParty kits in the city, which includes Mardi Gras décor [and Zatarain's rice mix](#).

"I loved growing up in New Orleans and am excited to be bringing the spirit of Mardi Gras to my home celebration this year through a Zatarain's Porch Party with rich flavor and parade-inspired decor," said Wade. "My mom is a fantastic chef, with a catering company in the city. She helped me perfect the dirty rice and crisp panéed catfish recipe I'm sharing. Most importantly, I am proud to partner with such a locally revered brand like Zatarain's, to support the work that Culture Aid NOLA is doing for our community."

Cleo is celebrating at home with her father, who is also a New Orleans native. The two took inspiration from the krewes that make Mardi Gras so unique, and decorated Cleo's porch like the parade floats they love and miss seeing this year. They exchanged favorite memories of spending the holiday in New Orleans, while preparing a recipe passed down from her mother, [Mama's Mambo Veggie Dirty Rice with Crispy Pan-Fried Catfish](#) together using Zatarain's Dirty Rice Mix and Fish Fri broth, which helped shortcut prep time without skimping on the NOLA-inspired flavor.

"Zatarain's is proud to be part of New Orleans' vibrant and bold artistic community, and during these challenging times, we want to continue to support the city that is at the heart of our brand's DNA," said Jill Pratt, Chief Marketing Excellence Officer for Zatarain's. "We hope you will join us in celebrating this beloved holiday from home with your own festive decorations and delicious New Orleans inspired food."

For Cleo's family recipe, Mama's Mambo Veggie Dirty Rice with Crispy Pan-Fried Catfish, and more Mardi Gras celebration tips and cooking inspiration visit www.zatarains.com, [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Pinterest](#). To share your celebration, post with #ZatarainsPorchParty.

About Zatarain's

Since 1889, **Zatarain's** has been the authority on the fun and flavor of New Orleans. From its humble beginnings producing root beer extract, the company has grown to make more than 200 food products from rice dinner and side dish mixes, frozen entrees, pasta mixes, breadings, seasonings and spices to seafood boils, Creole mustard and other products based on authentic New Orleans-Style recipes and seafood preparation.

Now, people across the U.S. recognize that to capture the true flavor of New Orleans cuisine, you have to "Be Bold Like That" For information and recipes, visit www.zatarains.com.

Zatarain's is one of McCormick & Company's (MKC) brands. As a global leader in flavor, McCormick has built a portfolio of leading flavor brands that enhance people's enjoyment of food all around the world. Every day, no matter where or what you eat or drink, you can enjoy food flavored by McCormick. Founded in 1889, McCormick envisions A World United by Flavor where healthy, sustainable and delicious go hand in hand. To learn more, visit www.mccormickcorporation.com.

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