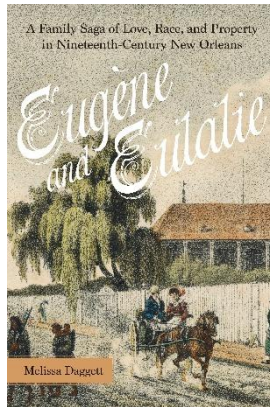


A Law Library of Louisiana FREE CLE

Co-sponsored by the Supreme Court of Louisiana Historical Society and
the LSU New Orleans Earl K. Long Library

EUGÈNE AND EULALIE: A FAMILY SAGA OF LOVE, RACE, AND PROPERTY IN 19TH CENTURY NEW ORLEANS



Presented by Melissa Daggett

Wednesday, August 19 ♦ 5:00 p.m – 6:00 p.m.

**LSU New Orleans Earl K. Long Library, 4th Floor
2000 Lakeshore Avenue, New Orleans, LA**

Refreshments will be served

1.0 Hour CLE credit

The main focus of the lecture will be on the case of *Nicholas Théodore Macarty et al v. Eulalie Mandeville f.w.c.* (3 La. Ann. 239 (1848)). The case involved claims of fraud brought against Eulalie Mandeville, the black partner of a white elite man, Eugène Macarty, who three weeks prior to his death in 1845, transferred \$111,000 to her bank account. This presentation will recount the lifetime relationship between the two and then analyze the arguments of the plaintiffs and the defendant, providing fascinating details. The lecture will include an overview of civil laws that governed inheritance and restrictions placed upon the free people of color in nineteenth-century New Orleans, and a discussion of how interracial couples tried to circumvent onerous inheritance laws.

Speaker

Melissa Daggett is the author of *Eugène and Eulalie: A Family Saga of Love, Race and Property in Nineteenth-Century New Orleans* (LSU Press, 2026). She holds a B.A. from LSU in Political Science and two master's degrees from LSU New Orleans: an M.Ed. and an M.A. in History. Melissa Daggett taught French and Social Studies in Jefferson Parish Public schools and United States history at San Jacinto College in Houston. Her debut book, *Spiritualism in Nineteenth-Century New Orleans: The Life and Times of Henry Louis Rey* (University Press of Mississippi, 2018) chronicles the history of Modern American Spiritualism in the Crescent City with an emphasis on the Black francophone séance circle of Henry Louis Rey. Melissa Daggett is the co-editor of *La Créole*, the journal of the Louisiana Creole Research Association. She has done presentations for the Organization of American Historians, the Louisiana Historical Association, the Louisiana Book Festival, and the Tennessee Williams & New Orleans Literary Festival.