

**For Immediate Release**

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## **A Studio in the Woods breaks ground on the Writer's Cabin**

**NEW ORLEANS, LA** - A Studio in the Woods is pleased to announce that construction on its new Writer's Cabin is underway. This live/work space for artists and scholars will be the fifth structure on the Studio's 7.66 acres of protected bottomland hardwood forest. The Writer's Cabin will enable the Studio to host three artists at a time, instead of its current two, supporting 50% more artists. When completed, the Cabin will deepen A Studio in the Woods' reputation as a destination for emerging and established writers of all genres and backgrounds, expand artist-in-residency programs, add private retreat space, and further community outreach. Over 90% of funds have been raised to date towards the capital project, but the organization is still seeking support to round out its campaign. **The Writers Cabin is set to be completed in time for the Studio's annual FORESTival: A Celebration of Art and Nature on November 16, featuring the Grammy Award winning Lost Bayou Ramblers along with artist presentations, science walks and kids' activities.**

The Cabin will be 500 square feet, including a private workspace with views of the Woods, separate sleeping quarters and dogtrot-style porch. Designed by John Anderson of unabridged Architecture as an in-kind donation, the building slips quietly into the Woods and is simple, yet elegant in its relationship to the environment and the existing buildings on site. The Cabin will be energy efficient and hurricane resistant.

The construction of the Cabin has been perfectly timed to honor the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founders' purchase of the land upon which the Studio sits at 13401 Patterson Road. In 1969, Joe and Lucianne Carmichael purchased the property and established their homestead and studios. For thirty years they created ceramics, wood and metal sculptures, and furniture in their tranquil forest by the Mississippi River while both working in public education. The Carmichaels' strong intention was for this endangered bottomland hardwood forest to provide education and inspiration for artists and students of all ages and be preserved in perpetuity. In order to ensure this, the Carmichaels donated their homestead, studios and property to Tulane University in December 2004. Since 2001 over 130 artists and scholars have come to the Woods to work, to think, to create. The completed Writer's Cabin will continue to build upon this dream and share the deep resources of the forest with artists and scholars for years to come.

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**About A Studio in The Woods:** A Studio in the Woods, located in 7.66 forested acres on the Mississippi River in New Orleans, is dedicated to preserving the endangered bottomland hardwood forest and providing within it a peaceful retreat where artists and scholars can work uninterrupted. A program of Tulane University's ByWater Institute, A Studio in the Woods focuses on interrelated areas of programming including artistic and scholarly residencies, forest restoration, and science-inspired art education for children and adults. More information at [www.astudiointhewoods.org](http://www.astudiointhewoods.org).