

THE HOTTEST TICKET IN THE CITY! A LOOK AT THE DEW DROP INN

HISTORY OF THE DEW DROP INN

Established in 1939, the Dew Drop Inn became a cornerstone of Black culture and Queer performance during the Jim Crow era. As one of the few Black-owned hotels in New Orleans, it was a vibrant hub for top entertainers and a crucial gathering place for the community. It embodied the resilience and spirit of Black New Orleanians cultivating a sound that would later become known as Rhythm and Blues. Today it is the only Black-owned museum-hotel in Louisiana—showcasing a unique model of integrating historical preservation with contemporary community needs.



Dew Drop Inn website (2022) ©



Dew Drop Inn website (2023) ©

THE DEW DROP INN NOW

Today the Dew Drop Inn Hotel epitomizes the intersection of Black history, community activism, and innovative museum practices. This case study illustrates how historical preservation and community engagement can create dynamic experiences that honor the past while addressing contemporary needs. This research underscores the importance of preserving spaces where minority communities connect with their history and influence their present, paving the way for a more inclusive and vibrant future in historical spaces.

Restorative Design, First Voice Museums, Public Practice and partnerships

Connor Joseph, Dew Drop Inn Museum (2025)

