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Expert swordsmanship on display during exhibition at Kingsley House

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Fencing enthusiasts face off in the "Grand Fencing Exhibition" a presentation of traditional swordsmanship at Kingsley House. The event is the first of its kind, on such a scale, given in New Orleans since the nineteenth century, hosted by two internationally recognized authorities on traditional fencing, Maestro Ramon Martinez and Maestro Jeannette Acosta-Martinez of the Martinez Academy of Arms in New York City, as well as their provosts, instructors, and students from all across the United States.

The Martinez Academy of Arms present an exhibition where fencers engaged in a series of contests with a variety of weapons and demonstrations of fencing of the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries.

According to organizers, New Orleans

occupies an important distinction in the history of fencing and dueling, as it was once regarded as the dueling capital of the western world. Here, duels were fought more frequently than in any other American city, often on a daily basis.

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