

ALABAMA HUMANITIES ALLIANCE

2020 Grant Awards

In 2020, The Alabama Humanities Alliance (AHA) awarded 39 grants totaling \$188,789.01 to nonprofit organizations across the state. AHA awards grants to support public programming that promotes the understanding of history, literature, philosophy, civics, and culture throughout Alabama.

For more information, visit www.alabamahumanities.org or contact Graydon Rust, Grants Director, at grust@alabamahumanities.org, 205-558-3997.

March 2020

Major Grants Awarded (6):	\$32,975.95
Media Grants Awarded (1)	\$10,000.00
Mini Grants Awarded (5):	\$9,009.95
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Total Grants Awarded (12):	\$51,985.90

Sharing the Stories of Flora | Birmingham Botanical Society, Inc.

Birmingham (Jefferson)

As the only public horticulture library in the United States, the Library at Birmingham Botanical Gardens continuing its mission to inspire children and adults to develop a thirst for literature and plants by offering programs for participants to engage with stories through author talks, group discussions, and hands-on activities for children that bring stories to life.

Pride of Place III: The Influence of Architecture on Community Life in Alabama's Black Belt Region | Black Belt Treasures Cultural Arts Center

Camden (Wilcox)

"Pride of Place III" will explore the topic of architecture and its influence on community life through two lecture sessions and group discussions. The organization will present the first session in Newbern, home of Auburn University Rural Studio, and the second in Gee's Bend, home of the world-renowned Gee's Bend quilters. The purpose of the project is to increase a sense of pride and awareness in Black Belt citizens through providing needed information and education.

Philosophy. Literature. Ethics. History. History of the Arts. Languages. Jurisprudence.

James M. Wilson Poetry Readings | Faulkner University Department of Humanities

Montgomery (Montgomery)

Faulkner University Department of Humanities will bring James Matthew Wilson, a professor at Villanova University and distinguished contemporary poet, to Alabama to give readings of his published poems on three university campuses: Faulkner University, Samford University, and Troy University.

Everybody's War: The Valley in World War II Exhibit and Commemorative Events | H. Grady Bradshaw Library and Cobb Memorial Archives

Valley (Chambers)

The "Everybody's War" exhibit and events will commemorate Chambers County's role in World War II through an exhibit showcasing local materials from Cobb Memorial Archives. Public programs, ranging from lectures to a film series, will highlight aspects of life on the home front and a week-long History Detectives Club for students aged 9-13 years of age will offer hands-on learning experiences using letters and artifacts from the collections of Cobb Memorial Archives.

Magic City Memories: An LGBTQ History of Birmingham | Invisible Histories Project

Birmingham (Jefferson)

"Magic City Memories: An LGBTQ History of Birmingham" will be a temporary, interactive timeline of the Birmingham metropolitan area's LGBTQ history held at Space One Eleven in downtown Birmingham in Spring 2021. Invisible Histories Project (IHP) will create the timeline from their own archival collections of and a community-centered research project. IHP will then invite participants to include their own knowledge of local LGBTQ history into the timeline.

The Shakespeare Project | Jacksonville State University Department of English

Jacksonville (Calhoun)

The goal of The Shakespeare Project is to introduce local, underserved high school students to Shakespeare's works free of charge. Jacksonville State University (JSU) believes that the plays are of central importance to the education of young minds and have an edifying effect when presented in a dynamic, modern way. As such, JSU will provide training to local high school teachers, allowing them to present the works of Shakespeare in their classrooms in a more fruitful, engaging way.

American Character Program | Liberty Learning Foundation

Huntsville (Madison)

The American Character Program creates an exciting experience for students to learn lessons in civic responsibility, character building, financial literacy, career development, community engagement, and the Great American story that helps them discover and define their role in America's future.

MCHPS Creole Family Reunion: Revitalizing Mobile's Creole Past | Mobile Creole Cultural and Historical Preservation Society

Mobile (Mobile)

The Mobile Creole Cultural and Historical Preservation Society will present two days of broad and specific programming to the public at no cost. The first day will consist of touring landmarks significant to Mobile's unique blend of African, Creole, and European history with the Dora Franklin Finley African-American Heritage Trail, the Richards DAR House, and the Conde Charlotte House. The second day will include lectures and interactive group discussions on music, Creole language, a previously taped interview of members of Creole No. 1, and a genealogy panel.

Ujima Family Reading Circle | National Hook Up of Black Women

Birmingham (Jefferson)

The Ujima Family Reading Circle will address the ills of illiteracy by promoting books that focus on the family and community. The project will engage families with books and interactive activities that will improve family reading habits, foster children's knowledge of other cultures and people, and promote parents' confidence as educational mentors and leaders.

Past, Present & Future: A Model for Preserving and Conserving History in Northwest Alabama | University of North Alabama Collier Library

Florence (Lauderdale)

The University of North Alabama Collier Library will host a two-day archival event where attendees will identify and explore techniques related to the nature of artifacts, agents and causes of deterioration, common conditions and issues related to preservation, methods and materials, and collection housing solutions. The project will expand upon prior efforts in northwest Alabama to inventory archival collections and best practices and build capacity for future gatherings.

The Women of Alabama Exhibit: A Musical Journey from the 1900s to 2020 | Valley Arts and Entertainment

Huntsville (Madison)

Valley Arts and Entertainment will host a series of 45-minute presentations of "The Women of Alabama Exhibit," a collection of life-size color photographs of six women performers who have impacted the musical heritage of Alabama, accompanied by short film clips aimed to educate and engage both seniors and youth with open discussion and questions. A closing lecture by Kristin Atkins follows with first-hand accounts about Dinah Washington, her aunt.

WBHM Magic City Walking Tour | WBHM 90.3 FM

Birmingham (Jefferson)

The Magic City Walking Tour will be a multimedia oral history storytelling project about landmark Birmingham buildings that will be accessible via mobile app, on-air, and on WBHM's website. The Tour will capture stories of older city residents and connect younger generations to Birmingham's past in an interactive, meaningful way. This new digital resource will give Alabama residents (as well as tourists) a deeper understanding of and appreciation for Birmingham's complex history.

June 2020

Major Grants Awarded (7):	\$33,138.50
Media Grants Awarded (3)	\$33,138.50
Mini Grants Awarded (1):	\$1,950.00
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Total Grants Awarded (11):	\$53,338.50

16th Street Baptist Church Digital Interpretation and Virtual Tour Program (Phase 1) | 16th Street Baptist Church

Birmingham (Jefferson)

16th Street Baptist Church will implement immersive augmented and virtual reality content of its history in three phases that will enable visitors to take a journey through time on the role of the church in history and the civil rights movement. The church will expand their partnership with TimeLooper, a global storytelling company that specializes in the design, production, and distribution of augmented and virtual reality content for historic sites, museums, and cultural institutions.

Building Alabama Support for Preservation Statewide | Birmingham Black Radio Museum

Birmingham (Jefferson)

The Birmingham Black Radio Museum (BBRM) will work to assess the capacity of identified partners in eight Alabama cities facilitate the collection, identification, preservation and cataloging of important local ephemera and oral histories related to the history of black radio in Alabama. The organization will conclude the project with a public program in Huntsville to bring the community and members of local Black radio and institutions together to archive their recollections of early Black radio's impact on the community as individuals, entrepreneurs, and movement activists.

EarlyWorks Online Virtual Field Trips | EarlyWorks Family of Museums

Huntsville (Madison)

As schools prepare for a new year with blended and virtual learning, the EarlyWorks Family of Museums will support the educational community through high-quality interactive virtual field trips. The organization will make programs available to all schools, including educational partners in North Alabama who would usually visit the museums in person each year.

Bethany Collins "My Destiny is in Your Hands" Exhibition and Programming Support | Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association

Montgomery (Montgomery)

The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA) will present "My destiny is in your hands", a solo exhibition of the work of Bethany Collins, a native of Montgomery currently living in Chicago. Collins' works explore the intersection between race, language, and history. In addition to the exhibition, MMFA will present a brochure, an artist-designed musical performance, an artist talk, and additional programs that explore how the changes in rhetoric have shifted throughout time and have changed history.

Family History: A Webinar for Beginners | Northeast Alabama Community College Learning Resources Center

Rainsville (Jackson)

The Northeast Alabama Community College (NACC) Learning Resources Center will host three introductory webinars on the topic of family history using newly licensed software. The program's purpose will be to assist people who have an interest in family history research but are not sure where to begin. Additionally, it will help people in Jackson and DeKalb Counties better understand the history and culture of the region.

Voices of Heritage: The Negro Spiritual | Providence Missionary Baptist Church, Inc.

Grand Bay (Mobile)

Through lectures, workshops and musical interpretations, Providence Missionary Baptist Church will present the history of the Negro Spirituals to make those in attendance aware of the circumstances under which Negro Spirituals developed in this country. The overall goal is to raise the level of awareness of an important American genre by presenting its historical, religious, musical, linguistic, and ethical background.

Virtual Preservation Lecture Series | Restore Mobile, Inc.

Mobile (Mobile)

Restore Mobile will produce six virtual lectures on diverse cultural, preservation, and architectural history topics pertaining to the City of Mobile and the immediate region. From the first Native American settlers to the European and African-Americans who followed, Restore Mobile will explore their impacts through the geography, heritage sites, and the architectural landscape that makes Mobile what it is today. The organization will air the series via Facebook Live monthly from July through December.

**Foot Soldiers: The Unsung Heroes of the Civil Rights Movement | Safe House Black History Museum
Greensboro (Hale)**

Safe House Black History Museum will recognize those who risked their lives and incomes to fight for justice, civil rights, and voting rights for African Americans in the 1960s. The organization will frame each unique story in its historic context, along with freedom songs, and upload the videos to YouTube and the museum's website as part of its oral archives. The organization will also present the foot soldiers with medals of honor for their services.

**The Humanity of Black Music in Alabama and the Civil Rights Movement | Tennessee Valley Jazz Society
Huntsville (Madison)**

The Tennessee Valley Jazz Society will invite scholars, including educators and artists, to teach and demonstrate The Humanity of Black Music in Alabama and the Civil Rights Movement. This project will present both educational and entertaining events including a panel discussion, exhibits of significant historical humanities collections, visiting lecturer and musical demonstrations, workshops, and performances.

**Chuck Morgan and the Angelic Troublemakers | University of Alabama Honors College
Tuscaloosa (Tuscaloosa)**

The University of Alabama Honors College will create a website where it will produce and post films about Chuck Morgan and others in Alabama who fought for social justice and civil rights. In addition to the films being free and available to the general public and educational institutions, the website will also feature a training program that will empower students to find someone from their own community who fought for justice and make a film about that person that can also be posted on the website.

**Nobody Knows My Name | Urban Impact Birmingham
Birmingham (Jefferson)**

Urban Impact Birmingham will generate rich content about the about people, places, and structures in the history of the civil rights movement and the Historic Fourth Avenue Business Districts. The organization will interpret their role in the Birmingham community, advance civics education about the crucial growth of this community in American history, and ultimately help the protection of endangered African American sites and architecture while inspiring black business development as part of cultural heritage.

September 2020

Major Grants Awarded (6):	\$41,811.00
Mini Grants Awarded (3):	\$5,360.94
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Total Grants Awarded (9):	\$47,171.94

Food for Thought and Book Talk Series 2021 | Friends of the Archives

Montgomery (Montgomery)

The Friends of the Archives will host an Alabama history lecture series held on the third Thursday of every month at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Food for Thought presentations feature humanities scholars discussing a wide variety of topics relating to the state of Alabama, including environmental history, the 1901 Constitution, and Reconstruction. The Friends of the Archives will also host a quarterly Book Talk series featuring authors of recent publications about Alabama history, culture, and archival work.

Girl Scouts Civil Rights Trek | Girl Scouts of Southern Alabama

Montgomery (Montgomery)

Girl Scouts of Southern Alabama will execute a series of videos that focus on the role that women played in the civil rights history of Montgomery. The virtual tours will showcase Montgomery as a progressive city, highlighting fundamental decisions that sparked change and provoked growth in our nation's history. The tours will be available to a wide audience across Alabama and other states.

Fighting for Freedom: African American Soldiers at the Battle of Fort Blakeley | Historic Blakeley State Park

Spanish Fort (Baldwin)

Historic Blakeley State Park will bring nationally-noted scholar John David Smith to the park to discuss his research into the Civil War experience of the United States Colored Troops (USCT). One of the largest concentrations of the USCT during any battle in the war took place at Blakeley, where over 4,000 black troops, most of them former slaves, participated in the siege and storming of the primary Confederate position defending the city of Mobile.

Kentuck Art Center's 2021 Season: The Mystic Cords of Memory | Kentuck Art Center & Festival Northport (Tuscaloosa)

"The Mystic Chords of Memory," Kentuck's 2021 season of outreach and events, will focus on collective and individual memory with programs centering around the Civil Rights Movement, memory paintings, and artists whose work focuses on memory. Humanities activities include artist talks, guest speakers, and field trips that incorporate age appropriate literature. All events will be filmed and edited into virtual content on Kentuck's website for those who cannot attend in person.

Cultural Crossroads: Reconstruction and its Legacies in Alabama | Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery

Montgomery (Montgomery)

Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery will host the first of a series of three Cultural Crossroads symposia on the topic of Reconstruction and its enduring legacies in Alabama's history. Cultural Crossroads is an annual symposium for teachers, public historians, local historians, and other everyday Alabamians. Landmarks Foundation will host the event in person at Old Alabama Town in Montgomery with digital streaming available online.

Let's Visit Alabama | Lawrence County History and Preservation Society

Moulton (Lawrence)

The Let's Visit Alabama project will provide virtual visits to several historic attractions in the Shoals area to classrooms throughout the state. Students will see museums and birthplaces in north Alabama through the eyes of children who sharing the stories of courageous Alabama men and women who earned the respect of the world. In addition to the virtual tours, classroom teachers will also receive curriculum guides specific to each of the sites visited.

Hello Black Belt! | Stillman College

Tuscaloosa (Tuscaloosa)

Stillman College will produce the Hello Black Belt! pilot program—a virtual, 30-minute reading program providing multi-sensory learning opportunities through literature for children attending six schools in Dallas County. Modeled after Mr. Rodgers Neighborhood, the program will use a rural setting that most children will be familiar with and will also include professional development for teachers.

Ruby Pickens Tartt: An Alabama Original | University of West Alabama Black Belt Museum

Livingston (Sumter)

Ruby Pickens Tartt: An Alabama Original is a traveling exhibit that celebrates the contributions of "Miss Ruby" toward the collection and preservation of African-American folk music, folklore, legends and history from the 1930s to 1960s in Sumter County. The real focus of the exhibit, however, are the African Americans who shared their knowledge of folk music and folklore with Ms. Tartt and the scholars who came to Sumter County.

Vulcan Goes Virtual: Thinking Outside the Park and Increasing Accessibility | Vulcan Park and Museum

Birmingham (Jefferson)

Vulcan Park and Museum will create professional video content integrated into a mobile-platform for self-guided tours of park and museum. The app will be available for visitors to enhance their onsite visit and for teachers and students in virtual classroom learning environments across the state. The creation of the mobile app will position Vulcan to provide an even richer educational experience where anyone can access the park at any time.

December 2020

Major Grants Awarded (6):	\$34,292.67
Mini Grants Awarded (3):	\$2,000.00
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Total Grants Awarded (9):	\$36,292.67

Spirit of Our Ancestors Festival 2021 | Clotilda Descendants Association

Mobile (Mobile)

The Clotilda Descendants Association will host the Spirit of Our Ancestors Festival—an annual celebration of the history, customs, and culture of the last African captives brought to America. The 2021 virtual festival will give the public the opportunity to share their story through all the women—known and unknown—who were brought to Mobile in 1860. Dr. Hannah Durkin from Newcastle University will serve as the keynote speaker and share her research findings on Clotilda survivors Sally Smith and Matilda McCrear, who are now known to have outlived Cudjo Lewis.

Cell Phone Cinema | Flourish Alabama

Birmingham (Jefferson)

The Flourish Alabama will deliver Cellphone Cinema, a film production project geared toward teaching students how to create one-minute humanities-focused films. Each week, The Flourish Alabama will engage students in interdisciplinary project-based learning activities that allow them to analyze, interpret, and synthesize their current life experiences during 2020 and produce introspective and socially aware projects. The project will culminate in a virtual film festival hosted and facilitated by The Flourish Alabama.

Alabama Women's History Docuseries | Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama

Birmingham (Jefferson)

Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama will produce a docuseries on Alabama women's history, which will be available to stream for free on our Roku channel and mobile apps Trailblazer TV and on TrailblazerTV.org, primarily for Alabama girls in kindergarten through 12th grade and their families. The docuseries will share the often-untold stories of Alabama women and feature women historians from across Alabama who will provide context to the viewers on how the subjects' stories fit into what was happening in the state at the time.

Selma Ties: Presented by Global Ties Alabama and the Jackson Museum | Global Ties Alabama

Huntsville (Madison)

Selma Ties will bring together scholars and historians to uniquely explore the Jackson Museum in Selma, Alabama. Through an interactive virtual seminar and a live broadcast of a museum tour, audiences will learn of the rich history of the museum, the significance of the diplomatic relations that took place, and the everlasting legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other leaders who utilized the home to plan, meet, and strategize the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s.

American Character Program | Liberty Learning Foundation, Inc.

Huntsville (Madison)

The Liberty Learning Foundation will expand their American Character Program offerings to 7th graders throughout Alabama. The American Character Program creates an exciting experience for students to learn lessons in civic responsibility and character building by exploring the history behind ten pivotal American historical characters. Students are engaged and informed by an innovative, comic book-style, curriculum format followed by more in-depth lessons.

Fitz Tales: The Short Stories of F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald | The Scott & Zelda Fitzgerald Museum

Montgomery (Montgomery)

The Scott & Zelda Fitzgerald Museum will produce the podcast "Fitz Tales: The Short Stories of F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald," featuring dramatic readings of the short stories of F. Scott Fitzgerald and Zelda Sayre Fitzgerald followed by a literary discussion of each story with noted Fitzgerald scholars. To mark the 100th anniversary of the publication of Scott Fitzgerald's first novel, Fitz Tales will begin by focusing on 12 of Scott's stories published in 1920.

Beth El Civil Rights Experience Digital Tour | Temple Beth-El

Birmingham (Jefferson)

Temple Beth-El will design and release "Jewish Birmingham and Black Civil Rights," a free, app-based audio featuring stories at the intersection of Birmingham's Jewish and Civil Rights histories. The audio tour will stand as a key element of The Beth El Civil Rights Experience—a larger multimedia project exploring Birmingham's Jews and the struggle for black civil rights. The Experience will include a permanent space for learning and dialogue at Temple Beth El that will open in Fall 2021.