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**ALABAMA
HUMANITIES
FOUNDATION**

MOSAIC

Spring 2015

MAGAZINE



VETERANS & LITERATURE

New program having a lasting impact

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PHILOSOPHY LITERATURE ETHICS • HISTORY JURISPRUDENCE HISTORY OF THE ARTS LANGUAGES **ALABAMA HUMANITIES FOUNDATION**

MISSION STATEMENT:
Alabama Humanities
Foundation fosters
learning, understanding and
appreciation of our people,
communities and cultures.



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The Alabama Humanities Foundation (AHF), founded in 1974,
is the state nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Alabama Humanities Foundation **Enhancing Minds ... Enriching Lives**

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A PLACE FOR ALL OF US

From Executive Director Armand DeKeyser

Having been involved over the years in many forms of government, I've heard my share of complaints about government not working. We all have our personal stories of situations, where complaints are well founded, but it is not always the case.

I was reading my *Rotarian* magazine the other day, and a particular article started me to thinking about one government institution that seems to be effective and low cost and serves our communities with little controversy.

This place serves as a gathering spot, an educational center, a safe haven, a melting pot, a playground. We all like going there. Yet, it sits there somewhat taken for granted, hidden from view in plain sight until it isn't there anymore.

It's our public library.

Those of us in the humanities can easily be expected to like a library. Where else could we go to spend some time with our favorite author, research some family genealogy or listen to the gentle hum of knowledge?

At Alabama Humanities Foundation, we love our libraries! Across Alabama, in libraries large and small, we see their impact firsthand.

In Florence and Mobile, they serve as the meeting grounds for our Prime Time Family Reading. In Dothan, the library served as a valuable resource center as we examined our racial past through literature.

In Demopolis, the Southern Literary Trail will use the facility for its annual gathering. In Valley, the library served as the host for the very popular Museum on Main Street exhibit. In Hoover, they helped new citizens to this country acclimate through English-as-a-Second-Language programs. Birmingham's exhibition on the Shackelford's history provided a glimpse into early 20th-century life.

Countless libraries have hosted our varied programs in Road Scholars presentations. We have a long history of working together and using public libraries as a bridge to help our citizens all across Alabama.

Yet most communities don't realize what a gem they have in their midst with the local public library. Where in our communities can you go to someplace



that offers so much, and it is almost always FREE? Where in our communities can we go that is so open, so non-judgmental? All facets of our communities can gather there under one roof to share a desire for knowledge, begin an adventure or explore the past and the future.

This inanimate brick-and-mortar structure, your library, can be so inspirational for so many. I love the magazine author's last line because it is so true. "The library is not just a House of Knowledge. It is the House of Dreams."

So, go, visit, learn, enjoy and, yes, dream!

And remember, your local library is a government agency that does work!

Editor's Note: The full article by Joe Queenan can be found in The Rotarian, March 2015

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Armand".

AHF Executive Director



MOSAIC



ALABAMA HUMANITIES FOUNDATION

About the Cover: The image illustrates the aim of a new Alabama Humanities program on college campuses in the state, Literature and the Veteran Experience, for men and women heading back from their overseas/military deployments and into the classroom.

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For more on the Alabama Humanities Foundation,
go to our website www.alabamahumanities.org



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THIS IS AUBURN.

New leadership joins the board

New leadership of the Alabama Humanities Foundation Board of Directors has taken the helm with goals of supporting and improving programs already in place and taking on new projects to keep humanities strong throughout the state.

Nancy Sanford, executive director of the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library, is chair of the board. New members are Edgar Welden, chairman of Alabama Sports Hall of Fame; Ann Florie, executive director of Leadership Birmingham; and Sally Greenhaw, retired Montgomery County circuit judge.

Immediate Past Chair is Guin Robinson. In passing the gavel to Sanford, he noted that for 40 years, Alabama Humanities Foundation has been “the state’s leading advocate and organization in fostering learning, understanding of our people, communities and cultures. For the past year, it has been my great honor and privilege to have played a small role in furthering such an important mission.”

Sanford is not new to a leadership role in AHF. She served as vice chair in 2014, and she chaired and was involved in various committees.

“I am proud to be serving as chair of AHF,” said Sanford. “I have been working with the organization for a number of years — on the board and through its programs that benefit the library and so many other organizations throughout the state with which I am involved. This is truly an honor for me.”

Sanford joined the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library in 2004 as executive director after more than 25 years of experience in public education, higher education, marketing and public relations as well as in a variety of cultural, nonprofit and community development and involvement activities.

She is a graduate of Leadership Shoals and Leadership Alabama, a member of the SunTrust Bank Board of Directors, past president of the Sheffield Rotary Club and a Paul Harris Fellow. She was named Sheffield Citizen of the Year in 1993.

Her community service has included working with the Tennessee Valley Art Center, the Music Preservation Society, United Way of the Shoals, the YMCA of the Shoals, Sheffield Education Foundation, University of North Alabama Alumni Association, the Shoals Branch of the Association of University Women, and the Inter Faith Council of the Shoals.

She is married to Ian Sanford, who is serving his fourth term as mayor of the city of Sheffield, and they have two children. Daughter Julia, a graduate of Auburn University and the University of Texas, is working in Birmingham, and son Tabb, a graduate of the University of North Alabama, also is working in Birmingham.

W. Edgar Welden is a successful businessman, public servant and chairman of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame Museum.

A native of Wetumpka, he attended The University of Alabama and received his B.S. degree from the School of Commerce and Business Administration.

Welden, his brother, Charles V. Welden, and the late Peter W. Field formed numerous business ventures operating under the umbrella of the Welden Field Welden families to become some of the most successful real estate development, mortgage and property management companies in the Southeast.

He is former chairman of the Alabama Republican Party, served as director of the Alabama Development Office, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and as Special Assistant to the Governor for Economic Affairs. He serves on the President’s Cabinet of The University of Alabama and was honored with the 2010 Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Welden has served as president of the Bryant-Jordan Student-Athlete Program, which awards more than 100 scholarships



Edgar Welden, Sally Greenhaw and Ann Florie

annually to Alabama high school seniors. He was captain of the Birmingham Monday Morning Quarterback Club and vice chairman of the Crippled Children’s Foundation.

He created the Birmingham Athletic Partnership (BAP), a non-profit organization supporting the Birmingham City public school athletic and band programs to provide the necessary leadership, education, facilities and equipment so students have opportunities to excel in sports and related extracurricular activities. BAP has provided more than \$2.5 million in financial support.

In 1998, he formed Will Publishing to publish his personal journey, *TimeOut, A Sports Fan’s Dream Year*, which chronicles Welden’s year of traveling to all 50 states and attending 250 sporting events. Since then, Will Publishing has aided other authors needing assistance to publish their worthwhile stories. The company also partnered with Seacoast Publishing to produce *The Alabama Roots Biography Series*, 45 books detailing the life and history of significant men and women in Alabama history. It fills a void of quality, regional non-fiction for students in the middle grades.

Welden is a former Alabama Humanities Award winner and has served as a board member for the Alabama Music Hall of Fame, Alabama National Bancorporation and Troy University Foundation Board.

“It is an honor to have the opportunity to serve with a board of directors who are dedicated to sharing the history and culture of this great state and passing it along to the next generation.”

A native of Weldon, Ark., Ann Florie received a B.A. in Political Science from Newcomb College of Tulane University. She is the executive director of Leadership Birmingham, a program that yearly brings together civic and business leaders to discuss the challenges and opportunities in the Birmingham area.

Florie was the founding executive director of Region 2020, Inc., which led efforts to promote regional cooperation and citizen involvement in the areas of affordable housing, education, arts and culture, transportation, and land use in a 12-county area in Central Alabama.

She is on the Board of Trustees for Brookwood Medical Center, Jefferson County Personnel Board and Birmingham Water Works Board. She also serves on the executive committee of the Birmingham Business Alliance, Board of Directors for the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama (PARCA), Leadership Alabama, the Freshwater Land Trust and the Addiction Coalition.



Nancy Sanford

She is a former member of the Mountain Brook Board of Education, where she served for 10 years, and is a past president of the Junior League of Birmingham and the Downtown Kiwanis Club. She was a founding board member of the Children First Foundation, First Look Inc., Leading Edge Institute and the Women's Fund. She has served on the boards of the United Way of Central Alabama, the McWane Center, the Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. She is a graduate of Leadership Birmingham, Leadership Alabama and the Momentum Leadership Program.

She earned the Richard Arrington Jr. Achievement Award, the Cahaba Girl Scouts "Women of Distinction" Award, the Girls Inc. "She Knows Where She's Going Award," the BBJ Top Birmingham Women Award and the *Birmingham News* "Up and Coming Leaders" and "Women Who Make a Difference" Awards. She was a recipient of the 2008 NCCJ Brotherhood/Sisterhood Award.

"I consider it a tremendous opportunity to serve with a board of directors dedicated to promoting the humanities throughout our state," Florie said. "The work of AHF has such a positive impact on Alabama, and I am honored to be a part of furthering its mission and goals through its innovative and insightful programs and its far-reaching grant opportunities."

Sally Greenhaw of Montgomery and Birmingham is a retired circuit judge, serving on the bench in Montgomery County for more than 20 years. She is a graduate of The University of Alabama and Cumberland School of Law.

She has been an active community volunteer and is a graduate of Leadership Montgomery and Leadership Alabama. She also was involved with the Alabama Council on Substance Abuse, Family Guidance Center and Department of Human Resources Board.

Judge Greenhaw was married to the late Wayne Greenhaw, who was an Alabama writer and served on the AHF board for many years. AHF's Wayne Greenhaw Service Award is given in his memory to a current or former board member who has made significant contributions to the humanities.

"I am so honored to serve on the AHF board," Greenhaw said. "I look forward to being involved in promoting the many programs that enrich and impact so many lives throughout Alabama and being involved in the challenges ahead. It is such a privilege to work with the other board members in an effort to accomplish these goals."

"We welcome our new chair and newest board members, who I am confident will continue to build a strong legacy for our organization," said AHF Executive Director Armand DeKeyser. "Their diverse experience, dedication and willingness to serve strengthen our mission of advocacy for the humanities throughout Alabama."

Call for nominations for AHF Annual Awards

Alabama Humanities Foundation is now accepting nominations for the 2015 Alabama Humanities and Charitable Organization in the Humanities awards.

Alabama Humanities Award

This prestigious award is given annually to an individual in Alabama who has made an exemplary contribution to the public understanding and appreciation of the humanities. The award is presented at the Alabama Humanities Awards luncheon normally held in the fall. The deadline for nominations is April 15, 2015.

Native Alabamians or Alabama residents who have made substantial contributions to the humanities — or other living persons who have made substantial contributions specifically to the humanities in Alabama — are eligible nominees.

These efforts might include leadership on behalf of a cultural or educational institution, significant scholarly achievement, outstanding teaching of the humanities or public advocacy that embodies the values and perspectives of the humanities.

Current members of the AHF board and staff are ineligible.

Previous winners include:

1989 Winton M. Blount
1990 Dr. Virginia Van der Veer Hamilton
1991 Dr. Wayne Flynt
1992 Judge C.J. Coley
1993 Dr. Leah Rawls Atkins
1994 Philip Morris
1995 Suzanne Wolf
1996 Gov. Albert Brewer
1997 Odessa Woolfolk
1998 Emory Cunningham
2000 Kathryn Tucker Windham & Dr. James Yarbrough
2001 Dr. Ed Bridges
2002 Harper Lee
2003 Dr. Harry Philpott
2004 Senator Howell Heflin
2005 Dr. Neal Berte & Joe McInnes
2006 Dr. Bert Hitchcock
2007 Jack Warner
2008 Senator Richard Shelby
2009 Dr. Bill Carter
2010 Edgar Welden
2011 Dr. Elaine Hughes
2012 Dr. E.O. Wilson
2013 Bobby Horton
2014 Betty McMahon

Individuals, groups, or organizations may submit a letter of nomination. The letter should not be longer than three pages and should describe the contributions of the person nominated. A vita should be included. Nominations remain active for one year. Send to: Alabama Humanities Foundation, ATTN: Awards Nomination, 1100 Ireland Way South, Suite 202, Birmingham, AL 35205 or email Armand DeKeyser: adekeyser@alabamahumanities.org.

Charitable Organization in the Humanities Award

This award is given at the discretion of the board of directors at no set interval but if given, it is awarded at the annual luncheon to honor a member of the corporate/foundation community who has been a valuable contributor to furthering the mission and goals of Alabama Humanities Foundation. The award can be based on a single year or multiple years of support. The deadline for nominations is April 15, 2015.

Previous award winners include:

1995 Jim Wilson & Associates
1997 Energen
1998 Protective Life Corporation
2001 Southern Progress Corporation
2002 Alabama Power Company
2003 AmSouth Bank
2006 The Daniel Foundation of Alabama
2007 Susan Mott Webb Charitable Trust
2010 Robert Meyer Foundation
2011 Wells Fargo Foundation
2012 Regions Bank
2013 Books-A-Million
2014 AAA Cooper Transportation

Visit www.alabamahumanities.org for more information or to submit a nomination.

Board member nominations can be made by any resident of the state of Alabama. To submit a nomination, send a letter of recommendation to: Alabama Humanities Foundation ATTN: Board Nomination, 1100 Ireland Way South, Suite 202, Birmingham, AL 35205 or email Armand DeKeyser and mailto: adekeyser@alabamahumanities.org.

GRANTS

Humanities grants awarded across Alabama

In the September grant round, AHF awarded \$41,300 in major grants and \$11,999.50 in mini grants to deserving humanities projects throughout the state.

Major grant recipients:

Birmingham International Center, Birmingham

The Changing Face of Alabama Schools: Spotlight on China

A series of teacher workshops studying the culture and history of China, this program stems from a growing Chinese community and Chinese studying at Alabama colleges and universities. China is Alabama's second largest export market valued at over \$2.5 billion. The major component of this project is a workshop for K-12 teachers, the general public and college students interested in learning about the rising superpower through presentations and speakers from the humanities disciplines. Workshops will be conducted in Huntsville and Madison, Thomasville, Birmingham and the five-county metropolitan area.

Demopolis Public Library, Demopolis

The Way We Worked Creatively

An exhibit in partnership with the Marengo Historical Society and the Marengo County History and Archives Museum, will add to the Smithsonian's exhibition, *The Way We Worked*, opening in Demopolis on April 6. The exhibit will include displays, wall-mounted history panels of professional design, film clips and speakers to emphasize how writers and similar artists create works. Trades represented are publishing, acting, stagecraft, filmmaking, and interior design. The writers and artists to be celebrated originated in Marengo County or were inspired by its history, people and locations.

Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Montgomery

A History that Refuses to Die: Alabama's African-American Self-Taught Artists in Context

The exhibition examines the African-American experience in Alabama through the works of 16 African-American self-taught artists with state roots. The exhibition addresses historical, social and cultural significance of the artists in the context of the Civil Rights Movement.

Collaborating are Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Centre for the Living Arts in Mobile and Souls Grown Deep Foundation in Atlanta. Themes explored are: Slavery, Hard Times, Agrarian and Industrial Alabama, Commemoration, Autobiography, African-American Women, Civil Rights and Modern Times.

Alabama Southern Community College, Monroeville

18th Annual Alabama Writers Symposium

The symposium promotes literacy and appreciation of literature, especially Alabama literature; brings together Alabama's finest writers and scholars to encourage new writers and foster an idea exchange among writers, scholars and critical readers; recognizes writers and scholars with Alabama connections; presents Harper Lee Award for Distinguished Alabama Writer of the Year and Eugene Current-Garcia Award for Distinguished Alabama Literary Scholar of the Year; promotes interplay of Alabama literature, arts, music and drama, including a community theatre performance of *To Kill A Mockingbird*; promotes literary heritage of Monroeville and Monroe County; promotes new and upcoming Alabama writers, scholars and artists.

Birmingham AIDS Outreach, Birmingham

Family Matters: LGBTQ Youth Perspectives

A photography exhibition by nationally recognized, Birmingham artist Carolyn Sherer. *Family Matters* consists of portraits of 13 self-identified LGBTQ youths, ages 15-23, from Birmingham. Accompanying narratives were produced by them with assistance from the Education Department of the Birmingham Museum of Art about family and perceptions of family understanding. It launched with the Southern Poverty Law Center's commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Selma-to-Montgomery March. Other venues are Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Arts at Auburn University, The University of Alabama and the Mobile Museum of Art. Each opening includes panel discussion of scholars on LGBTQ youths in contemporary America; rapid changes in society regarding LGBTQ people; minority group struggles for understanding within communities, families and society; and the powerful role of art in engaging and affecting society and culture.

Friends of the Alabama Archives, Montgomery

ArchiTreats 2015

Monthly lunchtime lectures comprised of 40-minute scholar presentations and 20-minute Q&A and audience discussion.

The series includes several programs that complement the *Becoming Alabama* initiative to help commemorate and examine the legacy of the War of 1812/Creek Wars, the Civil War and the Civil Rights Movement. Others are: Alabama Political Stories; How Huntsville Made Sense of its German Rocket Team's Nazi Past; Makers of the Sacred Harp; Early Aerial Experimenters in Alabama; HBCU Laboratory Schools and Alabama State College Lab High in the Era of Jim Crow; Afterlife Beliefs in the Antebellum South; Alabama's "Invisible Map" of 1818 and the Origins of the Great Seal of Alabama; and Collards: A Southern Tradition from Seed to Table.

Fairhope Film Festival, Fairhope

Fairhope Film Festival 2014

Second annual film festival to bring cultural enlightenment through the opportunity to see world-class, award-winning films in Fairhope. The inaugural festival attracted nearly 3,000 attendees from across the country. Screenings selected for the festival included only feature films, documentaries and shorts that have been finalists at noted national and international film events during the past year. Film scholars, directors, actors and screenwriters participate in the screenings through panel discussions, short workshops and Q&A sessions during festival events. Film panels, discussions and Q&As facilitated by film, television and humanities scholars are the cornerstone of its mission of arts and humanities entertainment and education.

Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, Huntsville

Georgia Bottoms: The Value of Narrative Methods

Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Music Director and Conductor Gregory Vajda, a native of Budapest, has composed a modern opera based on the novel, *Georgia Bottoms*, by the 2014 Harper Lee Award recipient, Mark Childress. HSO presented the world premiere of this opera, *Georgia Bottoms: A Comic Opera of the Modern South*, and Childress and Vajda discussed the work in a public forum to promote a better understanding of how literature, music and the arts inform and empower culture and communities in Alabama. It used as a focus and point of reference the text of the book, the libretto and musical composition of the opera. Themes of women, religion, and racism in the 21st century South were examined, relying heavily on the text of the book, the insight of the author, the expertise of literary scholar Anita Garner, and the expertise of humanities scholar, Dr. Hugh Long.



Red Mountain Theatre Company, Birmingham

Mandela

Using performing arts to bring the humanities to life, a new work from playwright Cheryl L. Davis on the life and impact of Nelson Mandela and his interactions with Martin Luther King, Jr. serve as the basis for engaging audiences in a post-performance, constructive dialogue about human rights, exploring themes of justice, kindness and sacrifice. Performed in spoken word poetry by world-renowned artist Shariff Simmons, *Mandela* will tour statewide for performance and discussions in local colleges, churches, civic centers, and theaters. Mr. Simmons' spoken word poetry provides a unique, fresh approach to the study of history, appealing to a broad base. RMTTC will coordinate with that community's leaders to lead, along with Simmons and a facilitating scholar an audience discussion. Post performance audience discussion will include Simmons and community leaders in an explanation of the piece and Mandela's impact on the world decades later.

Southern Literary Trail, Birmingham TrailFest 2015

The fourth TrailFest features examinations of celebrated authors – from or influenced by Alabama – along with revelations about less heralded writers of Alabama. General public and school students will be engaged through texts and objects – books, plays, short stories, articles, music, photographs, paintings and film. The translation of the Alabama-based classic play, *The Little Foxes*, by Demopolis writer Lillian Hellman into a film by director William Wyler will be discussed by his daughters Catherine Wyler and Melanie Wyler at a film screening at the Mobile Public Library. Tennessee Williams biographer Dr. Kenneth Holditch will comment on the playwright's stage dramas at the Marian Gallaway Theatre at the University of Alabama and in the parlor of Gainswood in Demopolis. Contemporary pianist John Davis will present a Blind Tom series of lecture-recitals about the 19th century piano prodigy, the first African American entertainer to perform in the White House, at The University of Alabama and in Mobile, Demopolis, and Tuskegee. Additional TrailFest events in Alabama are: Monroeville, Hartselle and Decatur. TrailFest 2015 spans Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia.

Walker County Arts Alliance, Jasper Tallulah Bankhead Tribute

A three-day Tallulah Bankhead Tribute, to be presented in Jasper, her hometown, June 12-14. Among the scheduled events are performances of *Tallu*, *Dahling*, an original show about Tallulah and her famous family; a showing of the Alfred Hitchcock film *Lifeboat*, in which Tallulah

Grant deadlines & procedures

Grant deadlines are: February 15, June 16, and September 15

Mini Grant: Up to \$1,500 in Outright funds. Requires a 1:1 cost-share match, which may include in-kind.

Mini Grants are designed for flexibility and ease for smaller organizations, but all eligible organizations are welcome to apply. Mini Grants support a wide variety of public humanities projects from workshops and small exhibitions to reading/discussion programs. Mini Grants are different from Major Grants in that they feature significantly reduced and simplified application requirements. Mini Grants are non-federal funds.

Mini Grant applications require the following:

- Project Narrative (two-page max)
- Budget Narrative
- Project Director (abbreviated vita – one-page max)
- Humanities Advisor (abbreviated vita – one-page max)

Major Grants: Up to \$7,500 in Outright funds. Requires a 1:1 cost-share match, which may include in-kind.

Major Grants accommodate the broadest possible range of topics and formats for imaginative proposals. Project formats include, but are not limited to, public discussion programs (reading/discussion, lecture/discussion, and other community forums which encourage scholar/audience dialogue), exhibitions, festivals, and teacher workshops and institutes. Applicants are encouraged to develop projects for a wide variety of audiences including library and museum patrons, teachers and scholars, youth, senior citizens,

nursing home residents, hospital patients, the economically disadvantaged, the incarcerated, and the hearing and sight impaired.

Media Grants: Up to \$2,000 in Matching Funds for Research and Development Phase. Up to \$10,000 in Matching Funds for Production Phase. Requires a 2:1 cash match of third-party, non-federal funds.

Media Grants provide support for films, videos, web-based projects, as well as television and radio programs with an Alabama-specific focus.

All media projects must be accompanied by online, interpretive study or resource guides. Applicants must have extensive experience with media production techniques. Media Grants are challenge awards. Outright funds are not awarded in this category.

Preliminary Grant Application Requirement

For a proposal to be considered for funding, a Preliminary Grant Application must be submitted via email to the Grants Director at least six weeks in advance of the application deadline.

The Preliminary Grant Application must consist of a two-page Summary Narrative outlining project goals, humanities focus and scholarship, intended audience, key project personnel, and publicity and marketing strategy, and a Budget Narrative detailing proposed grant funds and proposed applicant cost share, which may include in-kind. Applicants should contact AHF Grants Director Thomas Bryant, tbryant@alabamahumanities.org, with any questions or concerns prior to submitting the Preliminary Grant Application and Final Grant Application.

starred; and an array of events and activities honoring her achievements, appreciating her wit and celebrating her hometown. In addition, Tribute participants will hear about Tallulah's life and achievements in "talkbacks" with two individuals who knew her. In post-show conversations, the audience will be free to ask questions of these visitors, helping them better understand Tallulah's personality and relationships and gain insight into her life and accomplishments. Commentators are Tandy Cronyn, daughter of actors Jessica Tandy and Hume Cronyn, featured in a talkback after the *Lifeboat* showing; and Brook Ashley, Tallulah's goddaughter (the daughter of Tallulah's co-star and confidante Eugenia Rawls), who will participate in a talkback after both performances of *Tallu*, *Dahling*.

Wallace Community College, Dothan

History, Art, and Legacy of the Gee's Bend Quilters

Exhibition and public discussion will explore the visual arts that parallel African American history in southeast Alabama from the slave era to present day. Art historian Stephanie Burak Fehlenberg along with Gee's Bend quilters, China and Mary Ann Pettway, will discuss the role that art, in particular quilting, played in the rural, African-American culture of the South from slavery through the Jim Crow Era, the Civil Rights Movement and today.

GRANTS

Mini grant recipients:

Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham
BMA Speaks/Gandhi Jayanti Celebration
Annual essay contest for middle school, high school, and college students in honor of Gandhi Jayanti, the birthday celebration of Mahatma Gandhi, focused on the influence of Gandhi on Martin Luther King, Jr., and the influence of both leaders on civil rights movements worldwide. BMA is combining the event with its BMA Speaks event. Student participants of the contest were given awards and top students read their essays aloud. It also included poetry and spoken word readings by local amateur artists on the same subject followed by the featured speaker, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and writer, Vijay Seshadri.

Florence-Lauderdale Public Library, Florence
Tracing the Past: The War of 1812 in the Tennessee Valley

Event explores the many significant connections between the Shoals area and the War of 1812, including scholarly lectures on John Coffee (as both war general and Florence surveyor) and the strategic use of the historic Natchez Trace and Jackson's Military Road for troops in their journey from Nashville to New Orleans. The themes of Native American history, anthropology and archaeology are presented through discussions on the Creek War and artifact displays. The display of the Tennessee State Museum's exhibition, *Becoming the Volunteer State: Tennessee in the War of 1812*, serves as a guiding text for discussions and interpretations. It contains three cases with artifacts, four framed objects, two life-size and fully equipped soldier mannequins, and two personality cut-outs. Exhibition panel themes include "Causes of the War," "Fort Mims and the Creek War," "Battle of Horseshoe Bend," "Battle of New Orleans" and "Leaders."

Historic Mobile Preservation Society, Mobile
Reimagining Oakleigh
After the recent discovery that the "Cook's House" on the Historic Oakleigh Mansion property is in fact a Union barrack dating to 1866 rather than a detached kitchen as it had been identified by docent-lore, the building underwent extensive restoration and an exhibit was opened in the space in February 2014. MHS will develop a curriculum and pilot a field trip and teacher development program in conjunction with the Mobile Public School System to enrich local 4th grade classrooms. Program launch is 2015 Spring Semester.

Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery, Montgomery

Rivers in Becoming Alabama
A one-day symposium, the 14th annual in the very successful *Becoming Alabama* series, will focus on the early history of the region and defining role of Alabama's rivers. Eight speakers will give presentations followed by Q&A on geological, geographical, archaeological, historical and sociological points of view. Sessions will include "Crossing Rivers," "Geology and Geography of Rivers," "Rivers Importance in pre-historic and historic Indian Culture," "Role of Piachia in DeSoto's Crossing the Alabama River," "Rivers of History," "A Town Between Two Rivers," "Ante Bellum Travelers on Alabama Rivers," and "Paddling Through the Heart of Alabama Territory."



Levite Jewish Community Center, Birmingham
Magic in the Attic
Nationally acclaimed playwright Bess Welden conducts a series of post-show panel discussions about her original children's play, *Magic in the Attic*, adapted from Eastern European/Yiddish folktales. The play, a story within a story, allows the morals of folktales and the impact of intergenerational storytelling to connect generations. Children and adults can explore their history through stories and imagination. Drawing connections between generations through oral history and passing down cultural and religious values in Jewish families is important in Judaism, but the play's theme transcends any particular culture. Discussions focus on the importance of oral history and personal growth; the history, current use and revival of Yiddish language; folktale adaptations and preserving historical context; and relevance to contemporary themes.

Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Montgomery
Theatre in the Mind 2015
Saturday lectures, pre-show BardTalks, *Will's Notes*, and the *In the Limelight* student series. This season's program will touch upon the themes of modern language, literature and the theatrical arts. All Saturday lectures, along with other production information, will be

recorded and posted to ASF's YouTube page, where teachers can incorporate the lectures into their curriculums before bringing their students to SchoolFest. SchoolFest is a comprehensive, student-matinee program that introduces students from across the Southeast to the arts and literature by providing subsidized tickets to an ASF play. *In the Limelight* will maximize students' comprehension and appreciation for the arts and literature. This school year, 30,000-40,000 Alabama students will benefit from these videos.

Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts and Humanities, Auburn
Send the Alabamians

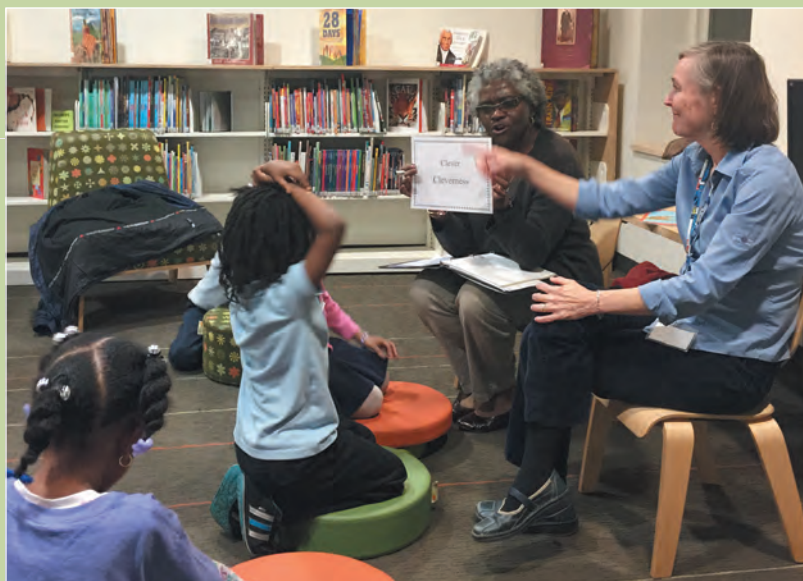
Planning project for future documentary, *Send the Alabamians*, which brings to life Alabama's part in the Great War. Based on Nimrod T. Frazer's book, *Send the Alabamians: World War I Fighters in the Rainbow Division*, the project will commemorate the centennial anniversary of the state's involvement in the war that shaped a century of history. Part of the planning for the documentary will consist of a meeting of noted WWI scholars on June 22 at the Alabama Department of Archives and History to discuss the contributions of Alabamians to WWI. The planning will identify and develop humanities themes that should be included in a documentary production, including the proper contextualization of the 167th Division of 3,600 Alabamians. On June 23, ADAH will host a public symposium of presentations, panel discussions and roundtables. The program also will provide an opportunity for discussing and planning centennial activities in 2017-18.

Lowndesboro Landmarks Foundation, Lowndesboro
War on the Home Front: Remembering Wilson's Raiders, 1865
Symposium commemorates the sesquicentennial of the end of the Civil War in Alabama, featuring five scholars covering events that directly affected the Black Belt home front. Through history, events and illustrations, scholars will provide a window into the past. The audience will be guided through the circumstance of the invasion of Union General James Wilson's Raiders in the Central Alabama region.

The audience will gain a clear understanding of the "setting" in the last days of the Civil War and better understand the historical events that impacted Wilson's Raiders and the trauma of the people affected. Through scholarship and photographs, letters and documents, the program is aimed at a broad range of interested students and individuals.

PRIME TIME

Organizations investing to expand reading program in Alabama



By Carol Pappas

As Prime Time Family Reading Time continues to grow in Alabama, support from major foundations is growing right along with this innovative, whole-family approach to literacy.

Why? It works. Decision-makers with those organizations have recognized its game-changing potential in a state where one in four adults is functionally illiterate, and they are designating foundation dollars to keep it going and growing.

"One of the primary focus areas for the Wells Fargo Foundation is education," noted Senior Vice President and Community Affairs Manager for the Southeast Paula A. Beck. "We strive to address closing the achievement gap for pre-K through 12th-grade public education. Providing a literacy program that involves the entire family is such a critical foundation for future learning."

The aim of Prime Time is to bond families around the act of reading and learning together. It reinforces the role of the family, and it encourages parents and children to read and discuss humanities topics.

It features award-winning children's books that spark discussion of humanities themes and relates them to issues of everyday life. Each 90-minute session, held in the evening, centers on the reading of up to three books by a storyteller with discussion facilitated by a humanities scholar.

Because it involves six-week programs built upon the foundations of reading, discussion and storytelling and mainly held in public libraries, it naturally helps parents and children become active library users. It underscores the importance of the library in local communities and everyday life.

In 2015, the sites are:

- Woodlawn Branch of Birmingham Public Library
- Inglenook Branch of Birmingham Public Library
- Florence-Lauderdale Public Library
- Coosada Elementary School in Millbrook
- Holtsville Elementary in Deatsville
- Five Points West Branch of Birmingham Public Library

The AHF program, now in its second year, was adapted from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities program created in 1991 and is made possible, in part, through a grant from LEH and a cooperative effort with the American Library Association Public Programs Office.

Organizations in Alabama recognize the program's potential, and they are beginning to step up to help fund expansions of it. "We commend those foundations and companies that are seeing the need for programs such as Prime Time in our state and are willing to get involved with financial support to grow it," AHF Executive Director Armand DeKeyser said.

"With a 24-year track record of improving literacy rates, we feel that the Prime Time Family Reading Time program is a great vehicle by which to impact not just children, but the whole family," said Maria Kennedy, executive director of The Daniel Foundation of Alabama. "By creating a special time for the family to come together, share a meal and engage in reading and discussion, we feel that we are positively affecting multiple generations and strengthening families."

She and Beck, along with other executives of granting organizations across the state, agree that Prime Time is an effective tool in reversing Alabama's dismal literacy numbers by taking a whole-family approach to reading and reading comprehension.

"Wells Fargo is proud to support the Prime Time Family Reading program for communities that need it the most," Beck said.

"The Daniel Foundation of Alabama is committed to projects across the state that change outcomes for our citizens," Kennedy added. "We believe that education is key to reducing poverty in our state."

For more information about Prime Time in Alabama, contact AHF Programs Director Dionne Clark at: dclark@alabamahumanities.org.

To learn how your organization can help grow Prime Time in Alabama, contact AHF Director of PR and Development Paul Lawson at plawson@alabamahumanities.org. ■

Think, Learn, Understand

Think. Learn. Understand.

Those are guiding the principles of AHF's SUPER (School and University Partners for Educational Renewal) Teacher Program, which has impacted the teaching of Alabama educators since its inception in 1991.

SUPER provides quality, content-based workshops and institutes as professional development for Alabama educators and administration and education professionals, who in turn take what they have learned to share in the state's classrooms. It is graduate-level, content-rich, professional development for outstanding fourth-12th-grade public and private school teachers, school librarians and administrators who wish to expand and deepen their knowledge of a particular subject or theme within the humanities. Through the help and support of private sponsors and institutional partnerships, SUPER is provided to Alabama educators entirely free of charge. In its 24-year history, SUPER has served more than 4,000 teachers of the humanities, social sciences and arts, and reached more than 500,000 students.

Primary Goals

SUPER increases participants' subject knowledge and, in turn, their confidence, enthusiasm and effectiveness as educators. Upon completion of a SUPER program, participants receive in-service hours earned toward professional development for submission within their own districts.

Through SUPER, AHF seeks to foster long-lasting relationships between Alabama's institutions of higher education, public and private elementary and secondary schools, and the state's many important historical and cultural organizations.

Past Institutes

A leader in professional development, SUPER is dedicated to expanding an awareness of the humanities, providing a varied array of one-day workshops and multi-day institutes that complements classroom instruction. Below are just a few of the institutes and workshops from which teachers have benefitted:

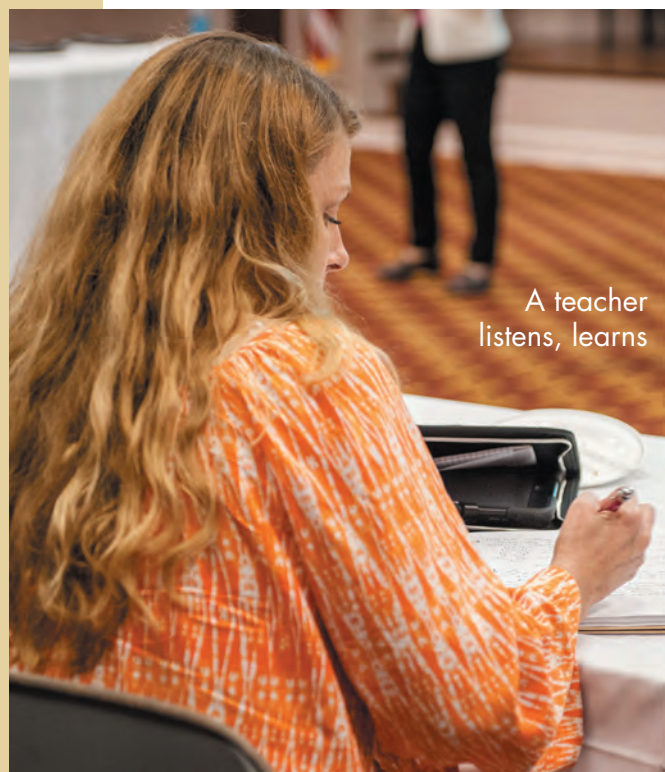
- Alabama's Gulf Coast: A Sense of Place
- The Freedom Rights Movement in Alabama: From the 13th Amendment Through the Voting Rights Act of 1965
- Humanities and Human Rights
- Transcendentalism Light and Dark: Strategies for Teaching the Writings of Emerson, Thoreau, Poe, Dickinson and Whitman
- Exploring Argentina: History, Literature, and Popular Culture. Spanish Immersion.



Institute at Troy



Montgomery and Selma institute



A teacher listens, learns

Looking Ahead: 2015 Institutes

This year's workshops and institutes continue to provide a varied approach to the humanities and provide teachers with content-based professional development that easily translates into today's classrooms.

Already taken place have been *The History and Literature of World War I: F. Scott Fitzgerald and the Literature of the Great War* and *Selma and Montgomery: A Tale of Two Cities – An Examination of How the Events Changed America*

Upcoming institutes include:

Language, Culture and Landscape of Peru (June 1-4, 2015)

This program will provide a comprehensive overview of the history, politics and current issues in Peru. Participants will do a selection of readings about different critical moments in Peruvian history. The institute will be particularly helpful to Spanish teachers who are interested in broadening their knowledge of the Hispanic culture, improving their own linguistics skills, and finding the connections between the current situation in Peru and other Hispanic countries.

The Trojan War in Western Literature and Culture (June 8-11, 2015)

The emphasis in this program will be on the value of Trojan War material for our students today and for all people interested in understanding the Trojan War Tradition's continuous development over the last 3,200 years (the suggested date of the actual war is c.1150 BC, and the most recent works using the material are current to today's date).



American Slave Narratives: Their Impact on Fiction and Film (June 15-18, 2015)

Slave narratives are one of the most riveting types of autobiographical writing ever produced in America. This four-day SUPER seminar that will provide teachers with the background to teach slave narratives in their history and English classes.

For more on SUPER institutes and to register, go to alabamahumanities.org. ■

New to the AHF:

Meet Caroline Shook, our Community Relations Specialist



Caroline Shook has joined the staff of Alabama Humanities Foundation as community relations specialist, where she is involved in development, marketing and public-relations efforts for the organization.

She is a magna cum laude 2014 graduate of The University of Alabama, where she majored in marketing and French with a minor in public relations. During her college career, Shook earned communications and marketing internships across the Southeast, including Teach for America and the U.S. State Department.

Upon graduation, she served as press secretary for the Parker Griffith for Governor campaign.

"We welcome Caroline to our staff here at AHF," said Executive Director Armand DeKeyser. "She is already proving to be an asset to our staff, and her energy, enthusiasm and experience will work well for our organization."



EDMUND PETTUS BRIDGE

Crossing the bridge
50 years later

SELMA and MONTGOMERY

A Tale of Two Cities

Story and photos by Dionne Clark

Imagine following in the footsteps of history 50 years later, realizing that your very steps retrace moments that changed the course of a nation.

That was the experience of teachers from across Alabama who came together for an intensive study of two events that shaped human and civil rights in this country — the Selma to Montgomery March of 1965 and the Montgomery Bus Boycott of 1955.

The 2015 SUPER Teacher Institute, *Selma and Montgomery: A Tale of Two Cities — An Examination of How the Events Changed America* took place during the 50th commemoration of Bloody Sunday and the Selma to Montgomery March, actually held in those two cities. Leading the institute were Dr. Glenn Eskew, professor of History at Georgia State University and author of *But for Birmingham: The Local and National Movements in the Civil Rights Struggle*, and Martha Bouyer, Executive Director of the Historic Bethel Baptist Church and NEH Project Director of Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops for Teachers.

The institute opened with *Archives after Dark*, a welcome and orientation workshop hosted by the Alabama Department of Archives and History in Montgomery. AHF Executive Director Armand DeKeyser opened with a welcoming message urging the teachers to look deeply at “the events that changed the nation.”

Dr. Glenn Eskew followed with a detailed analysis of the events and social and political landscape that made Alabama and America ripe for the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955 and the Selma to Montgomery March 10 years later.

Eskew talked of Martin Luther King Jr.’s beginnings in a movement that was already formulated and brewing in the South, underscoring the notion that “a national rebellion was at hand.” It was inevitably headed toward a time when national legislation for civil and human rights in America could no longer be ignored or pushed aside.

Living history proved to be a powerful lesson for the teachers as they listened to a personal testimony of the horrors, heroism and hope of the Civil Rights Movement from Ruby Fredricka Shuttlesworth Bester, daughter of Civil Rights leader and activist Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth. She was able to set the stage with her real-life experiences.

More history spoke to them during a personal tour from Archives’ Debbie Pendleton of the Voices of Alabama Exhibit.

Teachers spent the next day in Selma, discussing and learning about the struggle for voting rights and civil and human liberties in the Jim Crow South. Bouyer introduced teachers to what life was like in 1966 Selma through the documentary *Lay my Burden Down* (1966) by Jack Willis.



The film takes a deep look at tenant farming in Selma, but highlights the hardships of living in the Jim Crow era in the Heart of Dixie.

Teachers toured the Lowndes County Interpretative Center and received a personal tour of Selma by Joanne Bland, a foot soldier of the voting rights movement in Selma. Bland took teachers to major sites, such as Brown Chapel (the site of the Selma and Montgomery March), Tabernacle Baptist Church (site of the first voting rights mass meeting), Good Samaritan Hospital (the only black hospital that could serve blacks in Selma and where Jimmie Lee Jackson died from a fatal gunshot wound trying to protect his parents from segregationists).

Teachers heard a riveting lecture from Dr. Tara White of Wallace State Community College on the “unequal protection” of African American women and their defining role in the Modern Civil Rights Movement. Teachers also received direct curriculum and instruction implementation strategies from Master Teacher Charzetta Richardson of Hueytown Middle School and Bouyer. The evening concluded with a chilling account of Viola Liuzzo’s death from her daughter, Mary Liuzzo Lillboe, and Tony Liuzzo.

Saturday’s agenda focused on the Montgomery Bus Boycott and led teachers on an academic pilgrimage to major sites of the movement. They began with a tour of Troy University’s Rosa Parks Museum and Children’s Museum and had the opportunity to discuss new projects and exhibits with the museum’s curator.

They were given a tour of the Montgomery’s Civil Rights Memorial and brief history on the work of Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). Teachers were given a chance to place their name on the SPLC’s Wall of Tolerance.

SELMA and MONTGOMERY



Readying for march



Southern Poverty Law Center



Historic Tabernacle Baptist Church

Teachers also toured Martin Luther King Jr.'s parsonage, and they received a detailed tour of the items in the pastor's quarters and the significance of the parsonage to the movement.

The Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, where King was pastor, provided a powerful backdrop to the role of the Black Church in civil and human rights activism. Teachers also met and heard from Deacon Fagan of Montgomery's Dexter Avenue Baptist Church on the inspiration for his creation of the Civil Rights mural in the basement of the church.

The evening concluded with teachers joining hundreds to watch the premier of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Teaching Tolerance documentary, *Selma: Bridge to the Ballot*. Shown at the Montgomery Performing Arts Center, audience members included national dignitaries and civil rights activists such as Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives; Julian Bond, leader of the Civil Rights Movement and former chairman of the NAACP; and Rev. Robert Graetz, supporter of the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

On Sunday they attended the historic Tabernacle Baptist Church, hearing inspiring words from the senior pastor, Otis Dion Culliver; Dr. Johnetta B. Cole, director of Smithsonian's African Art Museum; and Honorable Deval Patrick, former mayor of Massachusetts. Ruby Shuttlesworth led freedom songs and was joined by her daughter Audra Bester.

And just as those foot soldiers made their way across the Edmund Pettis Bridge in Selma 50 years before, the institute came to a close with teachers taking those same steps in the Crossing of the Bridge Re-enactment.

They gathered with thousands to re-enact the historical crossing, peacefully making their way to the "other side" as they reflected on the lives lost and paid for voting rights, civil rights and human rights in America.

And with each step, a dozen Alabama teachers walked away with an experience they would never forget. ■



LITERATURE & THE VETERAN EXPERIENCE



MAKING AN IMPACT

Story by Carol Pappas

A half dozen young men gathered in a college lounge, seemingly from different backgrounds, heading in different directions to the life that lies ahead for them.

But for that hour or so, discussing literature and how the words relate to them personally, they were one, brought together by a common bond – they all are returning veterans of wartime service.

The words flowed freely as they analyzed such works as *Shiloh* and *How to Tell a True War Story*. It didn't matter that one was a Civil War piece; the other, from Vietnam. Their military experience transcends generations and wars. They relate.

And that's precisely the aim of a new Alabama Humanities program on college campuses in the state, Literature and the Veteran Experience, for men and women heading back from their overseas/military deployments and into the

classroom. It also is open to older veterans and non-students.

It is an effective way to reach and teach, and discussion groups like these are convening at The University of Alabama, Auburn University and Troy University to help ease the transition from service to school. While it is only at colleges at present, it may expand to program through other veteran organizations.

On this day in Tuscaloosa, a facilitator sparks discussion about the literature they are studying by setting the stage. When the character in *Shiloh* talks about what he sees going on around him on the battlefield as a lower ranking soldier, he admits he cannot see the big picture.

One modern day veteran concurs. "It's more like chaos. You don't see what's going on. It's where we all were."

"I've been there," another added. "Do as you're told."

LITERATURE & THE VETERAN EXPERIENCE

This program has received major support from the NEH's Standing Together initiative, created to promote understanding of the military experience and to support returning veterans.





Veterans in Tuscaloosa share a moment together after the session.



STANDING TOGETHER

THE HUMANITIES AND THE EXPERIENCE OF WAR

“Chaos of a combat scene,” another said.

In analyzing *How to Tell a True War Story*, one veteran remarked that if it’s not fresh, say two years later, the words would be “detached.” If you’re writing it while you’re there, it would be more descriptive. It’s not fresh on your mind, but you still remember it.”

The facilitator, a veteran himself, steered the conversation to the choices and moral dilemmas of war. In *Shiloh*, the character grapples with whether he should kill a fellow soldier who has an open head wound so that he no longer suffers.

The scene evoked the reference of “brutality” in war from one of the veterans. It is understood only by those who have walked in those same boots. “Soldiers are estranged from the community that sent them,” he said. “Nobody understands what goes on over there unless you were there.”

In the story from Vietnam, which centers on a letter a soldier sends to the sister of his buddy who was killed, the emotion pours out into his writing. But she never writes back. To a non-veteran, it seems cruel. To the veteran, “it is what it is.”

“We edit our stories depending on who we’re talking to,” one said. “How much you open yourself up is based on instinctual trust.”

As an example, he related a story of returning home and speaking to the third-grade class of an officer’s son. “‘Did you kill somebody?’” a child asked him. “Kids are the worst,” he told his fellow veterans, who nodded in agreement.

He called it a “lose-lose” question. “I used it as a teachable moment. I told the child it was not fair

to ask any returning vet that. It’s not an appropriate question.”

On the other side of that example is the opening up with someone who does understand, someone who’s been there, he explained. One day, one of the participants remarked, he was in a Veteran’s Administration office, and he met one of the oldest vets, and they began a conversation. “We shared war stories and experiences between us for a long while.” Eventually, the older veteran’s wife came up to him and said, “I am eternally grateful to you. In 50 years of marriage, I heard more about the war in here than he ever said to me.”

“It left an impact on me,” he recalled. “There was a generational gap, but we had immediate common ground.”

Another vet talked of the experience of war itself. “Those who have experienced the most have the least to say about it. If you’ve really been through combat, you’re not coming back, talking about it.”

A fellow vet agreed. “My wife – there are things I don’t ever want to share with her. I want to keep the pieces in my life that are beautiful and perfect as beautiful and perfect as it can be.”

There are flashbacks, said another. “It’s ingrained in my mind. The smell of the sand. I don’t think that will ever leave me. Whether I go into detail depends on the audience.”

The audience this day in this lounge was able to bring out details of their service experience and relate it to the literature they were studying. It was more than words on paper to them. They had lived it, and it gave rise to a greater understanding of what they were reading.

Parallel to what those on the outside may see only as a reading discussion group, a bonding was taking place. They were not alone in what they felt. They saw how their military experience shaped the interpretation of what they read. And they understood how literature and their own veteran experience can be connected – just like them. ■

MUSEUM on MAIN STREET

Traveling Smithsonian exhibit making its mark in communities



Because of unexpected wintry weather taking its toll on the region and ‘popular demand’ requests, Cullman County had the opportunity to extend its exhibition of *The Way We Worked* at Wallace State Community College in Hanceville into late March.

By the exhibition’s end, thousands of people had toured the traveling Smithsonian exhibit that featured along with it a local-history exhibit as well as a special collection of original oil paintings by Lee Nabors titled, *How Have You Made Your Mark? A Study of Hands*.

The Way We Worked exhibition in Cullman County marked the fourth appearance in the state along a six-city tour over a yearlong period. Cullman was chosen for the exhibit along with Pell City, Valley, Athens, Demopolis and Dothan. So far, the 2014-15 Alabama tour has been seen by more than 36,000 people with two more stops to go.

This national exhibit of the Museum on Main Street program is made possible through a partnership of Alabama Humanities Foundation and the Smithsonian Institution with support from Alabama Power Foundation, Norfolk Southern Railroad, AAA Cooper Transportation and ALFA.

And its impact has been felt around the state. “Museum on Main Street is an



Study of Hands
exhibit at Cullman

immensely important program for AHF as it directly touches so many people in various, smaller cities and rural communities across the state,” said AHF Grants Director Thomas Bryant, who oversees the program in Alabama. “At the heart of MoMS is the collaborative effort between AHF, the Smithsonian, and the local host organization and countless individuals passionate about their city.”

Through what Bryant described as “the exceptional leadership” of local project directors and volunteer committees – along with support from local museums and libraries, schools, chambers of commerce, city halls, historical societies and other cultural institutions – cities spend a year or more preparing to tell their local story, through exhibits, festivals, public discussions, lectures and teacher-student oral history collections.

The oral history process is facilitated by MoMS Lead Scholar, Dr. John Kvach of the University of Alabama at Huntsville, and the communities’ oral histories complement the national narrative presented in the Smithsonian exhibit. The University of Alabama Center for Public Television and Radio collects and produces the oral histories shown at each venue.

“The resulting six-week exhibition is truly amazing and inspiring to behold,” Bryant said. “In addition to the renewed interest and pride in local history that attendees take away from these exhibits, there is the successful model of communitywide collaboration to be put to use in future local projects. And in many cases, there is momentum for establishing a local museum or archives in the cities that do not yet have an institution committed to protecting and telling the local story.”

Host cities announced for 2016 exhibit

In 2016, *Hometown Teams* will be making its debut in the state in host cities Anniston, Brewton, Enterprise, Gadsden, Haleyville and Livingston.

“Given the prominence of sports in Alabama, we are extremely excited to be hosting this tour,” Bryant said. “It will enable local communities to share their own sports history alongside the national story from the Smithsonian.”

“Few aspects of American culture so colorfully and passionately celebrate the American experience as sports,” said Bob Santelli, curator for *Hometown Teams*.

“It promises to be a popular exhibit, and we thank all involved for giving Alabama and these host cities the opportunity to see it and be a part of this historic event across our state,” Bryant said.

Hometown Teams will tour Feb. 27, 2016 — Dec. 11, 2016. Refer to alabamahumanities.org soon for the finalized schedule. ■



Hometown Teams coming in 2016

Everything you ever wanted to know about Alabama — Online

New website and more content

By Carol Pappas

What is 191 miles wide, 332 miles long, 2,407 feet at its highest point and has three nicknames? If you guessed Alabama, you would be right.

If you needed to find all that information and so much more, it's all in one place at Encyclopedia of Alabama – a free, online resource on Alabama history, culture, geography and natural environment. And now, it's new and improved. EOA has redesigned its website to keep pace with cutting-edge technology at encyclopediaofalabama.org, offering articles on Alabama's famous people, historic events, sports, art, literature, industry, government, plant and animal life, agriculture, recreation, and well beyond.

"When we first designed the site, it was smaller. There were no handheld devices or larger monitors," said EOA Communications Director Laura Hill. The new site is designed to adapt to all kinds of devices that can view it. The graphics are larger. The navigation is easier, and the presentation is "more eye pleasing."

It has new features, like collections of articles related to specific events, such as Alabama Day, which by the way is Dec. 14. All of the articles related to the day Alabama became a state are just a click away.

The home page now features two special sections, Becoming Alabama and The Federal Road Initiative. Becoming Alabama is a state initiative commemorating the state's role in "three periods of national upheaval" – The Creek War of 1813-14, the Civil War and Emancipation, and the Civil Rights Movement.

Over the next five years, those periods will take on significant emphasis as Alabama moves toward its bicentennial in 2019. Becoming Alabama helps tell the story of the events that shaped Alabama as a state. A wealth of information is found in that section.

The Federal Road Initiative is a project of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System to highlight historical and cultural sites along the Old Federal Road route that spanned from Milledgeville in Georgia to the coast of Alabama. It was first a Native-American trading route, then used by the military in the War of 1812 and later became the main route of early 19th Century settlers. Content in that section centers on articles about all kinds of people, places and events along what is now a 13-county route.

With the multi-year bicentennial celebration being planned now, these features are the beginning of several aggregated content sections related to Alabama's statehood. EOA is heavily involved in the bicentennial planning, playing a support role on all three of the Bicentennial Commission's committees — Education, Local Activities and Statewide Initiatives.

Hill anticipates EOA helping with projects communities across the state develop around the Bicentennial celebration, offering a comprehensive resource center for all kinds of activities and projects.

EOA was created in 2008 through a partnership of Auburn University and Alabama Humanities Foundation and launched by Alabama Gov. Bob Riley at AHF's Annual Luncheon. Its partners include Alabama State Department of Education and The University of Alabama. It is housed on the campus of Auburn University at the Ralph Brown Draughon Library.

To date, 5 million visitors from around the world have viewed 10 million pages of EOA. Its 1,000th article has been posted, and it has been cited as a source nationally by such news outlets as *Time Magazine*, *CNN*, *The New York Times*, *Slate* and *The Huffington Post*. ■

Editor's Note: Join millions of others who have turned to Encyclopedia of Alabama as a valuable, informational resource at www.encyclopediaofalabama.org.



Quick Facts



AGRICULTURE



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SPORTS & RECREATION

Featured Content



Alabama Governors

Alabama has played an important role in many of the most significant events in U.S. history, from the period of territorial expansion, to the Civil War, to the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s. Throughout all these events and up...



Mobile and Mardi Gras

Now largely a secular festival, Mardi Gras originated as a Christian celebration. The season runs between the Feast of Epiphany and Ash Wednesday in the spring, culminating in the revelry of Mardi Gras (French for "Fat Tuesday")...



Women's History Month

The accomplishments of Alabama women resonate across the state, the nation, and the world. Three famous women from the state have received the nation's highest civilian awards: Helen Keller, the Congressional Medal of Freedom; Rosa Parks...



Becoming Alabama

This feature highlights EOA articles related to the Creek War of 1813-14, the Civil War and Emancipation, and the Civil Rights Movement and draws attention to the role that Alabama played in these significant periods of national upheaval.

Alabama Bookshelf



Alabama's history, culture, geography, and natural environment are covered in a wide selection of books. Here are a few we think you will enjoy. Several of the authors listed have written entries for the Encyclopedia of Alabama.

Spotlight on Women's History

- [Lurleen Wallace](#)
- [Angela Davis](#)
- [Fran McKee](#)
- [Dorritt Hoffleit](#)
- [Condoleezza Rice](#)

Donor Honor Roll

The Board of Directors and staff of the Alabama Humanities Foundation wish to take this opportunity to thank the following donors who provided important philanthropic support.

This Honor Roll acknowledges the contributions, memorials and honorariums received in 2014

We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of our lists. Please phone 205.558.3992 about any omissions.

Tribute Gifts

In memory of Nancy Corbeille
Carol Ashburn Roach
In memory of Wynell Gilmore Gantt
William Gantt
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In memory of Wesley P. Newton
Merlin Newton
In memory of Alma S. Ozment
Suzanne Ozment

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Alabama Alliance for Arts Education
Alabama Association of Foreign
Language Teachers
Alabama Association of Nonprofits
Alabama Heritage Magazine
Alabama Institute for the
Deaf and Blind
Alabama Power Company
Alabama Public Television
Alabama Southern Community
College Office of the President
Alabama State Council on the Arts
Alabenton Genealogical Society
Altamont School
Arlington Historical Association
Armstrong Osborne Public Library
Association of College English
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Auburn University
College of Liberal Arts
Autauga Genealogical Society
B. B. Comer Memorial Library
Balch & Bingham LLP Birmingham
Baldwin County United
Bessemer Public Library
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Birmingham Southern College
Office of the President
Bradley, Arant, Boulton and
Cummings LLP
Burritt on the Mountain
Cherokee County Public Library
City of Daphne
City of Red Bay
Coosa County Historical Society
David Mathews
Center for Civic Life
Decatur Public Library
Episcopal Place
Fayette Music Study Club
First Presbyterian Church
Foley Public Library
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Houston Love Memorial Library
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Huntsville Museum of Art
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Randolph School
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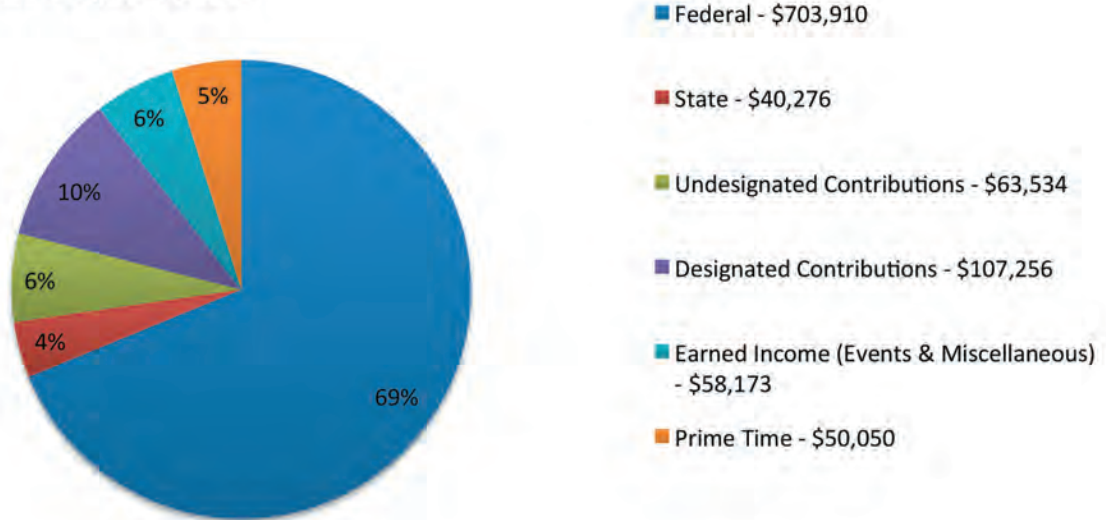
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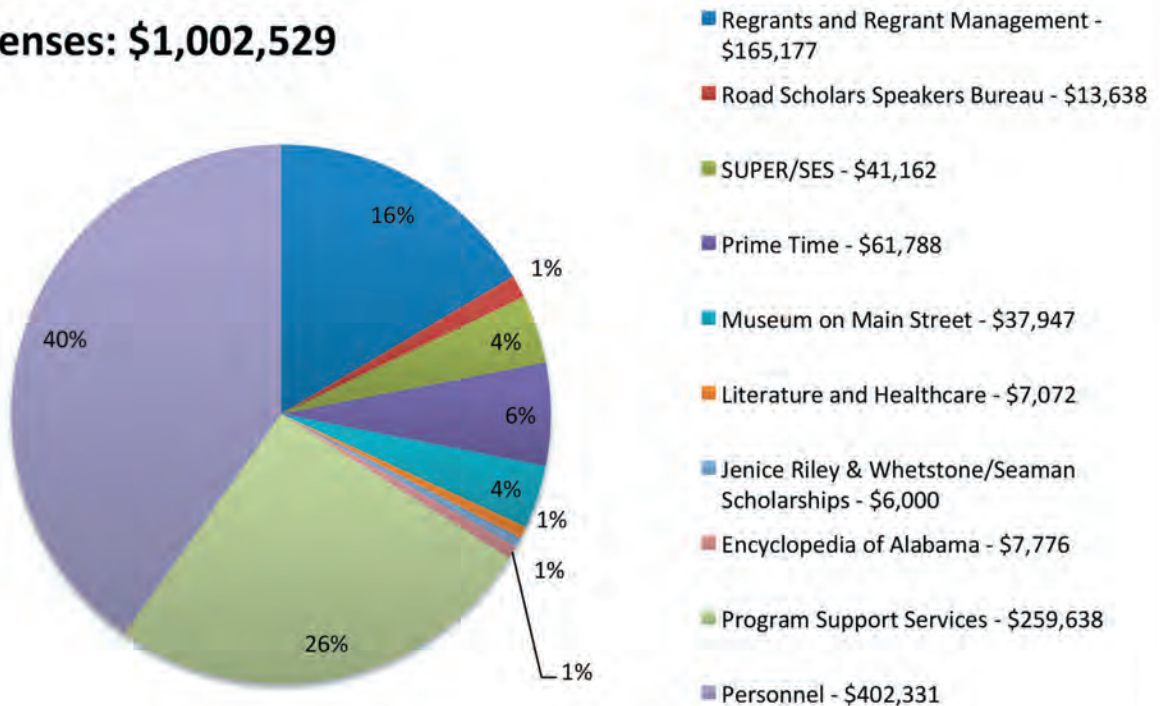
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2014 Annual Report

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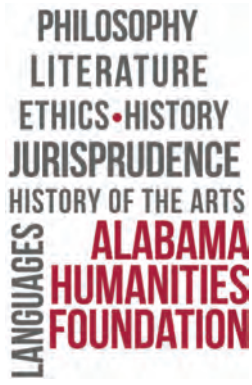


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Mosaic is the magazine of the Alabama Humanities Foundation and is printed in the Fall and the Spring. The publication's purpose is to educate on humanities topics, provide resources and information about humanities events, and instill pride and excitement in all Alabamians concerning the rich humanities in our state. *Mosaic* is free of charge and is available for online reading at alabamahumanities.org.



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