

Learn about the woman who became a movement.



More than sixty years ago, Rosa Parks' simple act of bravery became an important symbol of the Civil Rights Movement. Today, you can step back in time and experience the sights and sounds that forever changed our country. Troy University's Rosa Parks Museum is a state-of-the-art, interactive facility that honors one of America's most beloved women. Visit today and learn all about this freedom warrior firsthand.



For ticket information and hours, visit troy.edu/rosaparks.

# MOSAIC







## ALABAMA HUMANITIES FOUNDATION

**About the Cover:** On opening day of *Making Alabama*. A *Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit*, students from Mobile tour it at the capitol. In the photo, students are delving deeper into the history of a particular period through an interactive computer tablet. In the background is a display of notable people who helped shape Alabama's history.

*Photo and cover by Graham Hadley* 

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

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

#### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

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



alabamahumanitiesfoundation



**AlabamaHumanities** 



@AHF



Alabama Humanities

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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<sup>\*</sup> Denotes Gubernatorial appointments

## Let The Celebration Begin

## By Armand DeKeyser

It's funny how the little things can spark a memory that had been tucked away like a keepsake from long ago. But on March 2, as the Old Supreme Court Library in Montgomery began to fill with citizens from all over this state opening crates full of exhibit pieces – extraordinary artwork that tells the story of Alabama – that old familiar feeling was back.

In just three days, *Making Alabama*. A Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit would open to the public, the culmination of years of preparation for this very moment.

As representatives of communities who will host the exhibit over the next 18 months opened the crates and began putting the exhibit together, the pride was evident.

It was the kind of pride I felt when I wore this country's military uniform. It is the pride I felt when my children were born. It is the pride that comes with knowing that even when the road gets rough, good has a way of making a triumphant return.

For the past three years, Alabama Humanities Foundation has been on a long road with many a turn that brought us to this point. The idea. The planning. The execution. And now, here it all was, ready to make its debut. That's how *Making Alabama*. A Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit came to be. And to say I was proud would certainly be an understatement.

This kind of pride came not merely because AHF was putting our 200 years of statehood on display and touring it in all 67 counties, but because our state – my state – is celebrating its 200th birthday, and we are honored to play a small role in this grand party we call the bicentennial.

All across this state, people are celebrating. Large cities, small towns and mid-size communities are as one as they laud 200 years of *Making Alabama*. After all, they are just as much a part of the story as those pieces of art that convey it.

Making Alabama debuted March 5, fittingly, in our state capitol. As you'll learn in our exhibit, Montgomery was not the first capital of Alabama. In fact, four others came before it. When Alabama was just a territory, the town of St. Stephens in what is now Washington County served as the capital.

When Alabama became a state in 1819, the capital moved north to Huntsville, the site of the first state constitutional convention. After an ensuing power struggle, it moved to Cahawba, in what is now Dallas County. But as that power shifted, so did the site of the



capital. It moved to Tuscaloosa and remained there until 1846 before centrally locating to Montgomery.

I tell that story because it is one of countless stories of conflict, struggle, power, conviction and change – some of the themes found in our exhibit – that define Alabama and its history. It isn't always pretty. But they serve as a lesson and a prelude to hope for the future, whether it was back in 1819 when a territory became a state or when cotton was king.

Perhaps the story of Alabama and hope for its future is told when the industrial age arrived or when brother fought brother in the Civil War. Maybe it can be found in the struggle for Civil Rights or when scientists in Huntsville helped put a rocket into outer space.

The fact is, the story of Alabama – the making of Alabama – is all those things and more. For the past few years, we have been on an epic journey to help Alabamians learn about and learn from Alabama's history through this exhibit.

From Montgomery, it will head to each one of our state's 67 counties, who have their own stories to tell. That's the beauty of all of this – Alabamians telling their stories in ways as different and as similar as they are.

It is with great pride that Alabama Humanities Foundation presents 200 years of *Making Alabama*. Let the celebration begin!

AHF Executive Director

## AHF BOARD

## **New Leadership to move AHF forward**



Michon Trent, senior director of Civic Engagement for the City of Mobile, has taken the reins of Alabama Humanities Foundation as its chair of the board of directors for 2018.

Vice Chair is Dr. Carmen Burkhalter, Florence; secretary, Velma Tribue, Dothan; treasurer, Beth Wise, Huntsville, and new board members are Dr. John Kvach, Huntsville, and Judge David Rains, Ft. Payne. Jimmy McLemore, Montgomery, is immediate past chair.

"Our organization is fortunate to have these accomplished and talented individuals leading our board," said AHF Executive Director Armand DeKeyser. "They all have a strong record of leadership in our state and will add much to our board and the workings of AHF over the next year."

## **Michon Trent**

Joining Mayor William S. Stimpson's senior staff in 2016, she leads large scale mayoral initiatives focused on greater civic engagement, such as homelessness, financial empowerment, workforce development in the area of technology, volunteerism, and expanding arts and cultural activities across the city. She also oversees, Maritime Museum, Mobile Museum of Art and The City of Mobile's Special Events Department.

She spent most of her professional career working with and advocating for vulnerable populations – in particular, adults and children suffering from mental illness, lack of access to quality public mental health services and education.

Prior to joining the city of Mobile, she worked as the Major Gifts, associate director of Development for the University of South Alabama Health System. During her tenure there, she created donor engagement events, community engagement events, created Emergency Medical endowment and assisted in the design content for the first Medical Center Magazine – all to ensure residents of Mobile would have access to public healthcare.

Trent has played a number of community leadership roles. In addition to chair of AHF, she serves on the statewide board of Voices for Alabama Children as secretary and locally on the boards of Bank on South Alabama, Distinguished Young Women, United Way Women's Initiative, Mobile Community Action, Inc. and Homeless Coalition Alabama Gulf Coast Continuum of Care. She previously served on Boys and Girls Clubs of South Alabama, Providence Hospital Foundation and Family Promise.

She graduated with a bachelor's degree in Social Work from Azusa Pacific University in Azusa California and earned a master's degree in Social Welfare from the University of California at Los Angeles.

"Serving as the board chair this year during our 200 Alabama Bicentennial is going to be a remarkable opportunity for Alabama Humanities Foundation," Trent said. "We will help build an understanding of our communities through our rich programming that we will be offering throughout the state and our traveling exhibit which talks about our rich cultural heritage and diversity in Alabama."

## Elizabeth (Beth) Machtolf Wise

Wise retired as the director of Business Management for the Department of the Army's Program Executive Office, Tactical Missiles. Her career achievements were recognized with the Department of the



Army's highest civilian award, the Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service. She retired in 2004 after 37 years of service.

From 2007-2008, she served as President and CEO of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra. Her volunteer service spans more than 50 years and includes long-term involvement with many organizations. She served as president of the Junior League, the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Guild, the Huntsville Botanical Garden Board, the Huntsville Botanical Garden Foundation, The Arts Council, the Huntsville Pilgrimage Association, Randolph Parents Association, Volunteer Center Board, Huntsville Alumnae Panhellenic Association and Delta Delta Alumnae.

She chaired Under the Christmas Tree, co-chaired the Crescen-Dough Auction and led the Search Committee for executive director of the Arts Council. A graduate of Leadership Huntsville/Madison County Class 3, she was program chair and served on steering committees to develop several new programs, including FOCUS, the one-day executive program, the IMPACT program and the Management Academy.

In addition to her treasurer's role at AHF, she serves as Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Board of Trustees Finance chair, Huntsville Botanical Garden Foundation president, League of American Orchestras Volunteer Council secretary and Study Circle vice president.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Auburn University and a Master of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of Alabama, Huntsville. She is a graduate of the Columbia University Senior Executive Program and has completed extensive professional leadership, management and technical training. "Serving on the AHF board is both an honor and a privilege. As treasurer, I continue (my second year) to observe first-hand the phenomenal work of the AHF staff and board," Wise said. "Through thoughtful, careful management of available funding, countless excellent opportunities are provided for all Alabamians."

## Dr. Carmen Burkhalter

Burkhalter is the dean of Arts and Sciences at the University of North Alabama. Prior to her arrival in the Shoals area, she spent 20 years at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. While at UA, she was a faculty member in the Department of Communicative Disorders, senior associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences and director of Technology for the College of Arts and Sciences.



She is originally from Columbia, SC. Her degrees are from Columbia College and The University of Alabama.

She is a champion and advocate of the liberal arts, of which the humanities serve as the core. She looks forward to continuing her participation in AHF and promoting the values that are "at the heart of our democratic values which make our society so great."

## Dr. John Kvach

Kvach is associate professor of History at The University of Alabama in Huntsville. His teaching fields and research focus on the 19th Century South, Civil War and Reconstruction and Public History.

He has written numerous articles, conference papers and book chapters on the antebellum and postbellum South. He is the author of *De Bow's Review: The Antebellum Vision of a New South (2013)*, published by the University Press of Kentucky for its *New Directions in Southern History* series.



Kvach has worked extensively with the Alabama Humanities Foundation and the Smithsonian Institution on numerous traveling exhibits and programs, and he serves on numerous regional and statewide boards, including his new role as an AHF board member. "I am excited to help spread the good word," Kvach said.

## **Velma Tribue**

Tribue is an agent with State Farm Insurance in Dothan, previously serving as administrative supervisor of the Houston County Department of Human Resources.



A graduate of Alabama State University with a bachelor's degree, she also holds a master's degree in Social Work from Ohio State University.

In community work, she serves on the board of trustees at Alabama A&M University, is a graduate of Leadership Alabama, served on the AHF board and the Dothan-Houston County Intellectual Disabilities board.

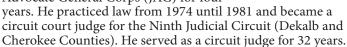
She is past chairman of Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, Dothan By Design, a member of the Houston County Personnel Board, Southeast Alabama Regional & Planning Development Commission Revolving Loan Administration Board, Houston County Industrial Development Authority and Dothan Area Alumni Chapter of Alabama State University.

"I am very honored to serve as secretary and be a part of an organization where the leadership and staff work diligently each day to bridge the gap and enhance greater understanding among Alabamians," Tribue said.

## **Judge David Rains**

Rains is a Dekalb County native. He attended The University of Alabama and The University of Alabama School of Law, graduating in 1970.

He entered the United States Air Force in 1970 and served in the Judge Advocate General Corps (JAG) for four



As a circuit judge, he earned wide legal experience, including the handling of complex civil litigation in his home circuit as well as other venues in this state. In 1991, the Alabama State Bar Association conferred on Judge Rains the Judicial Award of Merit, the Bar Association's highest honor for judicial excellence. He was only the second active-duty circuit judge to be so honored.

Rains was selected by the Alabama Circuit Judges' Association to serve on the Alabama Court of the Judiciary (COJ), a nine-member court established by the Alabama Constitution to hear and decide charges of judicial misconduct.

As the senior circuit judge on the COJ, Judge Rains was the presiding judge when the appellate court member of the COJ was unable to preside.

The Alabama Circuit Judges' Association also selected him to serve on the Alabama Sentencing Commission, which the Legislature created to review Alabama's sentencing practices and recommend reforms to eliminate unwarranted disparity in sentencing and assure public safety while making the most efficient use of correctional resources. Rains served on the Commission for approximately 12 years.

He is a member of the board of directors of the Birmingham Pledge Foundation, a grassroots organization committed to the removal of prejudice from our lives one person at a time.

Rains has served on the Board of Directors of the Friends of Alabama Archives, which through support of public programming and other projects has helped the state Department of Archives and History tell the story of Alabama. He is very interested in the history of Dekalb County, including the Civil War Era and the Fort Payne Boom.

He is an avid collector of Dekalb County memorabilia, including photographs, postcards, pottery and other artifacts and has served on the board of directors of the Fort Payne Depot Museum.

The Dekalb County Chamber of Commerce recently recognized the professional and civic contributions of Rains by honoring him with the 2017 V.I. Prewett Lifetime Achievement Award. "I am honored to be a member of an organization the mission of which is to enrich and enhance the lives of Alabamians by fostering leaning, understanding and appreciation of our people, communities, and cultures," Rains said. "I am pleased to have the opportunity to work with the diverse and talented board of directors of the Alabama Humanities Foundation, which is charged with the responsibility of promoting that cause and advancing that mission."

## AHF tops \$200,000 mark in grants awarded in 2017

In the latest round of grant giving in September, AHF awarded 22 grants totaling \$72,753.27. For 2017, that brought AHF's total of major and mini grants to 62 for \$208,713 awarded to organizations in 24 counties.

In the September round grants, a brief description and counties served were:

## **MAJOR GRANTS**

## Alabama Folk School at Camp McDowell – Bluegrass & Gee's Bend Workshops

Walker County

Classes in this immersive workshop will feature lessons in skills fundamental to Alabama's unique culture and heritage, including banjo, fiddle, mandolin, guitar, bass, and repertoire, with award winning musicians and artists, and quilting with Gee's Bend quilters, China and Mary Ann Pettway. AHF funds will enable 20 individuals from underserved, underrepresented demographics statewide to attend.

## Alabama Shakespeare Festival – 2017-2018 Shakespeare in Schools

Baldwin, Butler, DeKalb, Lee, Madison, Mobile, Pickens, Sumter counties

ASF will tour its production of Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* to schools throughout Alabama. Each performance will be followed by a question-and-answer session and an interactive, educational workshop. The educational activities are designed to foster students' critical thinking and analytical skills.

## Birmingham Museum of Art – 30 Years of Acting Up

Jefferson County

As part of Birmingham's city-wide One In Our Blood initiative, BMA will present a panel discussion to address the US blood donation policy as both a civil right and a science issue, and its connection to HIV/AIDS, art, and activism. The panel will feature: ACT UP founding member and current GMHC Vice President of Public Affairs and Policy Eric Sawyer; ACT UP founding member and TAG co-founder Peter Staley.



## Historic Blakeley State Park – 2018 Eastern Shore: Place and People

*Baldwin County* 

This year-long, multi-faceted, collaborative programming is designed to encourage the greater Eastern Shore Area community to discover and explore the rich natural and cultural heritage of the region and better equip local teachers to include local history and heritage instruction in the classroom. It will include lectures, tours, and an educator workshop taking place at the Spanish Fort Public Library and Historic Blakeley State Park.

## Jefferson State Community College – Red Mountain Writing Series

Jefferson County

This annual series hosts vibrant writers and

scholars in conversation with students and the public at Jefferson State Community College. Through lectures, workshops and discussions, participants will explore tools for critical thinking and the making of meaning, using the humanities as a common ground. All activities are designed to show the power and importance of the literary arts, as well as their utility in opening minds and sharing imaginative experiences.

## Northeast Alabama Community College English Department – Magnolias Meet the Mountains: 25 Years of

#### Southern Literature at NACC

DeKalb County

NACC's 25th annual Arts and Humanities Speakers' Forum will feature panel discussions with six Alabama authors: Darnell Arnoult, Silas House, Mark Powell, Tom Franklin, Michael Knight and George Singleton. Moderating the two panels is Dr. Don Noble, host of the APT series, *Bookmark*.

## Oakwood University – Revisiting the Montgomery Bus Boycott of 1955

Madison and Montgomery counties

A four-day workshop will enable teachers to "picture" this American cultural landmark. Teachers will examine cultural texts (film, poetry, autobiography) and historical landmarks associated with the boycott. Participants will develop a resource portfolio of curricular materials on the Montgomery Bus Boycott of 1955 for use in the classroom.

## Shelby County Arts Council – 2018 Writing Our Stories

*Shelby County* 

Writing Our Stories is a proven anti-bullying creative writing program taught in the 7th grade English classroom. The program was developed by The Alabama Writer's Forum and is administered to the schools through Shelby County Arts Council at no cost to the student or school. A published poet and writer guides the students through a 10-week session at the end of which

they receive bound anthologies of their own poems. Students leave the program as published authors.

## Alabama Symphony Orchestra – Alabama Bicentennial Run-Out Programs Featuring ASO and Bobby Horton

Jefferson County

In celebration of the state of Alabama's Bicentennial, Bobby Horton and the Alabama Symphony Orchestra are again collaborating to tell our state's story to Alabama students through folk music of different eras.

This program will tour the state, visiting undeserved schools and communities. For each performance, the ASO will provide complimentary materials to schools to extend the learning experience.

## Spring Hill College –110: Story of the Last Enslaved Africans Brought to America Mobile County

To honor the 110 enslaved Africans illicitly brought to the US on the schooner Clotilda in 1860, Spring Hill College will produce a documentary film that will attempt to capture the essence of these people by focusing on the lived experiences of one member, Cudjo Lewis. This will allow the audience to connect with the heroic journey of the Africans on the ship, their enslavement in Alabama, and the establishment of Africatown, one of the only known settlements of exclusively native Africans in the United States.

## Troy University Montgomery Campus – 2018 Alabama Book Festival

*Montgomery County* 

The Alabama Book Festival celebrates the pleasures of reading and the cultural importance of books with a free, day-long festival that annually draws 4,000-5,000 attendees from throughout the state to Montgomery's Old Alabama Town. Featuring a mixture of panels by published authors across all genres, writing workshops, and crafts and activities, the event is a family-oriented affair that appeals to readers of all ages and tastes.

## **GRANTS**

## Troy University Dothan Campus – 2018 Wiregrass Blues Festival

Houston County

The 2018 Wiregrass Blues Fest will present two public presentations and Blues in Schools workshops by Blues Scholar and Musician Vanessa Collier, and a screening of one mini-documentary on blues artist Mike McCarty. These events will feature talk-backs with the audience to stimulate humanities-based discussions. They will inform participants and promote a deeper understanding of the unique and unsung blues tradition of the Alabama Wiregrass region as well as the entire state.

## Unitarian Universalist Church Birmingham – Bending the Arc to Justice: Unheralded Allies of the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama

Jefferson County, statewide media

Documentary film will examine the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama in the 1960s and the role played by a small group of white citizens who joined African-Americans in the fight for racial justice. The film will feature first-hand accounts of African Americans and whites who remember the culture of segregation in Alabama in the 1950s and 1960s, their memories of key events, and their thoughts on the challenges that remain today in the struggle for true racial equality.

## **Vulcan Park and Museum – Celebrating the Rosedale Community and Its People**

Jefferson County

In keeping with Alabama's Bicentennial celebration theme of "honoring the people," VPM will expand its oral history and traveling exhibit collection by celebrating the Rosedale Park Historic District. Established in 1886, historic Rosedale was the first African American community settled in Birmingham's 'over-themountain' suburbs. VPM will partner with members of the Rosedale community to recognize, celebrate and document the history of the residents of this historic neighborhood.

## **MINI GRANTS**

## Mobile Symphony – 2018 Take Note! Pre-concert Lecture Series

*Mobile County* 

This concert and lecture series will explore the historic contexts around the music and composers featured in concerts after the lectures, which will occur on Saturday evening and on Sunday afternoons. The 40-minute lectures also include information about other art forms created in the same period, such as visual arts, dance and literature, and biographical details about the composers' lives.

## University of North Alabama College of Education – STEAMing into Alabama's Bicentennial History Institute for Elementary Teachers

Lauderdale County

This teacher institute will offer creative methods for utilizing local community assets to teach Alabama's Bicentennial history within the STEAM framework (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math). Elementary teachers, instructional coaches and administrators are invited to attend this full-day, hands-on workshop exploring history through the lens of STEAM and collecting innovative strategies for integrating and celebrating Alabama's Bicentennial across the curriculum.

## University of North Alabama English Department – UNA 2018 Writers Series

Lauderdale County

The University of North Alabama Writer's Series, under the auspices of the English Department, will host a reading and workshop by poet, memoirist and performer Joy Harjo. The reading and performance will include a question and answer session. The performance will be followed by a reception and book signing.

Wallace State Community College – Fifteen Minutes: Homage to Andy Warhol Cullman County



This exhibition, an introduction to the legacy of Andy Warhol, features both audio and visual artistry in its collection of silkscreen prints and original recordings. The audio works range from spoken word to music created by a diverse roster of artists, writers and performers who knew, worked with or were inspired by Warhol.



## **Auburn University Montgomery – AUM Southern Studies Conference**

*Montgomery County* 

AUM's Southern Studies Conference features peer-reviewed panels on topics spanning the fields of anthropology, geography, art history, American history, American literature and theater, music history, communication studies, mass communication and sociology. Distinguished speakers are:

University of South Alabama Writer-in-Residence Frye Gaillard and Troy University Associate Professor of History Martin Olliff.

## Northeast Alabama Community College Learning Resources Center – Bringing It Home: WWI in NE Alabama

DeKalb County

NACC will offer a Humanities workshop titled, World War I in Northeast Alabama, the fourth installment in a successful series, *Bringing It Home: Utilizing Local History*  *in the K-12 Classroom*. Four dynamic presenters will provide local K-12 teachers with materials and pedagogical ideas related to World War I for use in their classrooms.

## Black Belt Museum, University of West Alabama – Black Belt Interpretive Project

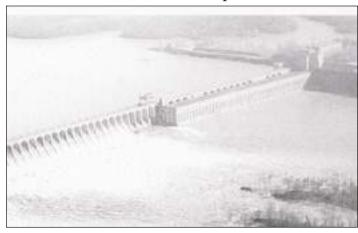
Baldwin, Choctaw, Clarke, Marengo, Mobile, Montgomery, Sumter counties

This project aims to bring history to life using a public historian/educator to portray historical characters and relate their experiences and adventures to students and the public across the state. The project will also present some of the earlier and lesser-known parts of state's past that many people are not familiar with but helps tell the story of our state throughout time.

## Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area, University of North Alabama – The Tennessee River & NW Alabama

Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Morgan counties

From examining the lives of Native Americans who lived on the river's shores during the prehistoric period to the impact TVA had on the modernization of the river valley in the 20th century, The Tennessee River and Northwest Alabama exhibit will encourage viewers to consider how the Tennessee River has impacted life in northwest Alabama. The exhibit explores how the river helped to shape technological innovations, slavery, the Indian Removal Act, the Civil War and economic development.



## TEACHING TEACHERS

# SUPER Institute program presents spring series of workshops around state

In its 27th year, AHF's SUPER Teacher program is transitioning to more one-day workshops to be held during the school year.

In an effort to integrate programming into teachers' academic year and to allow for more intensive longer-term professional development opportunities during the summer, this move to one-day workshops will reflect greater diversity in both subject matter and geography—reaching more Alabama teachers in more places around the state.

Remaining unchanged, SUPER Teacher Workshops are free to all participants. All 4th-12th grade teachers currently teaching in Alabama public and accredited private schools are eligible. School librarians and pre-service teachers will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

For workshops held during the school day, AHF also will reimburse teachers or partner school systems for the cost of a substitute.

### SPRING ONE-DAY WORKSHOPS

From Mines and Mills to Autos and Aerospace: The Industrialization of the American South

Sloss Furnaces National Historic Landmark, Birmingham, AL
March 19, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

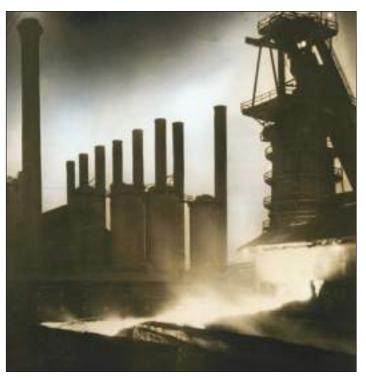
Lead Scholar: Karen Utz (Curator/Historian, Sloss Furnaces National Historic Landmark)

"One of the most persistent impulses in the life of the South since the Civil War has been the desire to develop an industrial economy," noted southern labor historian James C. Cobb said. This urge inspired the trumpet call of such 19th-century New South advocates as Henry W. Grady, who, with a great deal of wishful thinking, wrote: "Surely, God has led the people of the South into this unexpected way of progress and prosperity....The industrial system of the South responds, grows, thrills with new life, and it is based on sure and certain foundations....[It] is built on a rock—and it cannot be shaken."

The promotion of industrial growth has been a major concern of every southern state government since the end of Reconstruction in 1877. World War II gave a vigorous push toward industrialization—with the Office of War Production predicting that within a generation, the South would come to represent "the vanguard of world industrial progress."

This workshop will examine and analyze the social, economic and political aspects of southern industry and labor from Reconstruction to the present (with emphasis on Alabama industry). It will acquaint teachers with the complexity of issues that surround the key areas of southern labor and industry, including those of class, race, gender and ethnicity.

The workshop will introduce teachers to unionization, life in mining and mill towns, immigrant labor, the impact of WWII, environment issues, the convict leasing system—and the impact of industrial expansion on southern life.



## Hail the Rail: Tracking Alabama's Bicentennial History along Historic Rail Lines

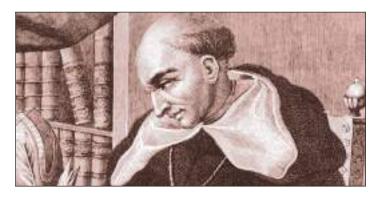
The Tuscumbia Depot & Round House Tuscumbia, AL

April 12, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Lead Scholar: Lorie Johnson (Assistant Professor of Elementary Education, University of North Alabama)



Celebrate Alabama's bicentennial history through an inquiry model easy to replicate in your own classroom. During this one-day workshop, explore Alabama's past along critical rail lines, examine the people, places and events that shaped our present, and engage in collaborative and independent writing activities to document, report, synthesize and process the sometimes torrid and yet always beautiful story of Alabama.



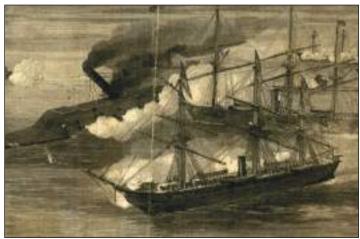
New Views on the Spanish Conquest of Alabama and the Americas University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, AL May 10, time TBD Lead Scholar: Larry Clayton (Professor Emeritus, History, University of Alabama)

While Hernando de Soto led the first major expedition into Alabama in 1540, he was opposed in this endeavor of conquest by the Spanish Dominican friar, Bartolomé de las Casas.

Las Casas traveled over and lived in much of the early territories of the New World and in his work and writings was the most passionate and celebrated defender of American Indians. He was, in fact, what Clayton labeled an "anti-conquistador," who reflected a powerful and deep commitment to Christian principles and teachings in the seminal 16th century. This workshop will open up some new and important views for teachers.

## SPRING FIVE-DAY WORKSHOP

AHF is planning one 5-day SUPER Institute this summer that will deal with the Civil War in the Gulf Coast. This is a rare opportunity for Florida and Alabama teachers to gather for an exchange of resources and techniques used to teach the Civil War in the Gulf South.



Civil War in the American South
University of Mobile
Mobile, AL
June 18-22
Lead Scholars: Sean Patrick Adams (

Lead Scholars: Sean Patrick Adams (Associate Professor and Department Chair, History, University of Florida) and Lonnie Burnett (Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, and Professor, History, University of Mobile)

The American Civil War and Reconstruction radically reshaped the political, economic and cultural fabric of southern states. Alabama and the city of Montgomery served as an early seat of Confederate government. The state remained a source of manpower and commanders.

Florida, meanwhile, was the third state to secede from the Union. Florida became a central supply for beef and salt. The state's expansive coastlines resulted in blockade runners that fought to shift material and men around the union's blockade.

The Florida Humanities Council and the Alabama Humanities Foundation, with generous support from the HTR Foundation, are partnering to create a five-day workshop exploring the Civil War's impact on Florida and Alabama.

Educators from both states will experience an active combination of lectures and discussions with experts and field excursions to relevant historical sites.

## STONY THE ROAD

# AHF institute to share legacy of Civil Rights Movement with teachers

They all have a powerful story to tell of a state in the dramatic grip of the Civil Rights Movement, and those stories will enlighten and engage 30 teachers from across the country in a memorable experience that only eye witnesses to history can give.

An intensive teacher institute, *'Stony the Road We Trod* . . . . . *Exploring Alabama's Civil Rights Legacy*, July 8-28, is the brainchild of veteran educator and vice president of the Jefferson County Board of Education, Martha Bouyer, in partnership with Alabama Humanities Foundation. As part of the National Endowment for the Humanities 2018 Summer Institutes for Teachers, these projects are designed for classroom teachers to expand their knowledge base while honing subject-specific teaching skills. NEH awarded the \$185,907 grant to AHF to produce the three-week institute.

Bouyer has directed over 20 workshops on the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama. This iteration of 'Stony the Road We Trod...' marks the first time it will be offered as an extended institute.

Spanning three weeks, teachers will hear from Movement leaders and some of the country's leading scholars, including: Glenn Eskew, Carolyn McKinstry, Hasan Jefferies, Joanne Bland, Dan Carter, Jeanne Theoharis, Fred Gray, Calvin Woods, Robert Corley, Horace Huntley, Tara White, Ruby Shuttlesworth-Bester, Janice Kelsey, Myrna Jackson, Alvin Wesley, and Catherine Burks Brooks.

Teachers will hear from key figures like Fred Gray, who grew up in Montgomery but left the state to complete his education because African Americans could not attend law school in Alabama. He returned in 1954 and became attorney for Rosa Parks, and his win in the federal courts ended the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

His story, told in *Bus Ride to Justice*, is "A valuable record of the ground-level struggle for civil rights," according to the *New York Times*. The *Commercial Appeal* in Memphis, Tennessee, called the book "a lively account of how one man made a difference in the South."

He is joined by foot soldiers like Ruby Shuttlewsorth-Bester, daughter of Movement icon, the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, who will recount seeing meetings between her father and Dr. Martin Luther King. She recalls



in vivid detail the bombing of her home just before Christmas 1956.

These and other stories are part of this powerfully moving learning experience, providing teachers with new perspectives on this compelling piece of history. In a 2016 interview with WELD, a Birmingham newspaper, Bouyer talked of the impact the group of teachers from across the country can have on their students back home. "I've got 36 teachers representing 22 states," Bouyer said. "If they only stay in the classroom two or three years, if the average person in there... if they've got 140 to 150 kids a year, look at the impact. The real story gets told."

The institute-length program provides an opportunity to study the legacy of the Movement where teachers will travel to key sites of memory dedicated to the preservation of civil rights history. They will review archival film footage, conduct research in Birmingham, Montgomery, Tuskegee and Anniston, and they will examine art, literature and music reflective of the era. Resulting from their studies and experiences, they will develop curricular products for their classrooms.

"I'm very excited for teachers to have more time for exchange and in-depth study," Buoyer said of the extended format. "I'm also looking forward to introducing a wider variety of material and scholars who we haven't been able to include in the past." AHF first partnered with Bouyer in 2015 for an in-state teacher workshop and again in 2016 for an NEH Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshop.

"We have an outstanding opportunity to put on display the rich heritage of Alabama's place in American civil rights history," said AHF Executive Director Armand DeKeyser. "We look forward to working with Martha to present this quality educational experience."

## We're inspired.



We support the Arm and Humanities wholeheartedly for the simple reason that they enhance not only our own lives but the lives of those who consider working and living here. And as we all know good business and good living are both arts worth mastering.



with Alabama

## The Bicentennial Exhibit

## Making Alabama ready to take center stage

## **By Carol Pappas**



Host community representatives put the exhibit together.

All these many months, years actually, Alabama Humanities Foundation had been building to this day, March 2, 2018. Alabama Bicentennial Commission Executive Director Jay Lamar underscored the notion that anticipation had reached crescendo level, noting that Alabama is the only state in the nation to celebrate its bicentennial for three years.

Leading up to that three-year period that kicked off

in 2017 – the 200th anniversary of Alabama becoming a territory – countless organizations on the state level and in every single county in the state have been and still are preparing to celebrate 200 years of statehood in style.

AHF has played a leading role in that planning, preparing a statewide traveling exhibit that opened in Montgomery in the Old Supreme Court Library March 5 and will travel to all 67 counties over the next 18 months.

But on this day, three days earlier, it was time to install and unveil the actual exhibit.

Representatives of communities from around the state who will host the exhibit in the first quarter beginning in April became an installation crew that morning, and they put together *Making Alabama*. A Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit for its debut.

By mid-afternoon, the exhibit was ready. A towering fabric panel perfectly blending art representing each period of history to be displayed and the exhibit's mantra:

We all belong to a larger-than-life story, over two hundred years in the making.



Mike Evans and Tim Robertson of Haleyville carry an exhibit panel into capitol.



Alabama Bicentennial Commission Executive Director Jay Lamar addresses the host communities on importance of their work.

As Alabamians, our story is being crafted by the moments that both define and refine who we are. A tightly woven tapestry of trials, triumphs and transformations, this vibrant tale celebrates our commonalities and honors our individualities. It is an epic adventure, twisting its way through the peaks and valleys of the past and taking hopeful turns for the future. Its plot is steeped in little-known secrets and monumental events forever carved in history. Its setting spans every county in the state and features a full and fascinating cast of local, unsung heroes and world-famous champions of change. Welcome to the unprecedented, unabridged and often unexpected story of

## Making Alabama. A Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit.

A medley of song and speech plays from a speaker atop the rear of the welcoming panel – reflecting moments in time in Alabama's history.

People wander from panel to panel, looking up at the artwork, recognizing the symbolism of these artistic collages that represent eight periods of Alabama history – from the age of dinosaurs to envisioning the future and all the periods in between.

The panels flank kiosks equipped with oversized computer tablets with armatures attached for ease of movement and viewing, giving larger groups an opportunity to see and read about the history they contain. With the swipe of a finger on the screen, the viewer goes deeper and deeper into the history of that period.

"This is so exciting," said a representative from Bullock County. "Isn't this wonderful?," said another.

They stood back to admire their own handiwork, then stepped forward to take a turn at swiping the computer screen, noting that so much history was literally at their fingertips.

Alabama Humanities Foundation Executive Director Armand DeKeyser called it "spring training" in the morning, referring to the group's training on putting the exhibit together when it comes to their community.

By afternoon, they were seasoned pros, and the exhibit surrounded them, giving them ample impetus for excitement.

They talked about their own plans, local history exhibits that will be coupled with *Making Alabama* to add their own signature to this signature event of the Bicentennial. They listed a litany of events they have that will coincide with the exhibit. And they stressed the impact all of it together will have on their community.

They talked of benefits like tourism, raising awareness about the history of the state and of their community and a coming together for not only a celebration, but for a common good.

On opening day, March 5, individuals and groups made their way through the exhibit. They, too, talked of awareness, tourism and understanding history. Racheal Boyd of Chapman, Alabama, was among the first to go through it. "I love it. It's very informative. It's interactive. I love it."

Dave Summers of Rolla, Missouri, stopped in as part of a tour of the capitol on his way for a business trip to Birmingham. "It gets into a lot of detail, much more than it seems," he said. A discovery about Alabama he didn't realize? "The crater," he said, referring to Wetumpka Impact Crater, created from a cosmic event more than 80 million years ago. East of downtown Wetumpka, it is 4.7 miles in diameter.

A French family studied the "Struggle" portion of the exhibit for quite a while, conversing back and forth, apparently discussing what they were learning.



AHF Executive Director Armand DeKeyser assists with frame.

## The Bicentennial Exhibit

The wife was a college professor and working as a visiting professor at the University of West Alabama. Her family joined her in Alabama while they were "on holiday. We decided to stop in Montgomery. We wanted to teach our children about Civil Rights. It is important to know. We French are aware of the US in movies. It is very different when you talk about state history."

For instance, "We didn't know the Confederacy was here," he said. "We are here because of tourism, culture and history."

More specifically about their quest for learning, he noted that his family is from an area of France where wealth was amassed as owners of ships.

"Their wealth was built on slavery," he said. "We wanted to see how this ended with the Civil Rights Movement. We French are very concerned. It is interesting to think about it as a world system. We all have a responsibility to humanity. You must be aware to stay on the right side of history. We are all concerned by that."

It marked the beginning of an exhibit. That much was obvious. But more than that, it marked the beginning of a conversation that AHF expects will be held in every county in the state.

"This whole exhibit is about engagement, enlightenment and what we hope will be a continuing conversation about where we have been as a state, the moments that have shaped us, the people who have influenced us and the places where our history resides," DeKeyser said.

"The conversation, of course, doesn't end there. The ongoing dialogue centers on where we are heading. The name, *Making Alabama*, is purposely present tense even though it's an historic exhibit. Just like everything around us – even history – it is a work in progress."



Demonstrating the interactive tablet – more history at your fingertips.



Volunteers stretch canvas over frame depicting an era of history.



AHF is helping coordinate the traveling exhibit.



Bicentennial ambassador Willliam Scott, Larry Adams, and Frida Cross of Lowndes County stand before a display of William Lowndes Yancey, for whom the county was named.



From left, Alabama Council on the Arts Executive Director Al Head, an AHF board member, Armand DeKeyser, Roy Clem and Sen. Gerald Dial discuss exhibit at reception.



Historian Ed Bridges tests interactive tablet, which allows users to delve deeper into particular periods of history.



Students dig deeper into history with interactive tablet.



Alabama has a rich history in flight, and Airbus is presenting it in a traveling exhibit for the Bicentennial in cooperation with AHF, Alabama 200 and Alabama Community College System.

## The Bicentennial Exhibit

## Making Alabama: Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit hits the road

AHF's signature contribution to Alabama's three-year Bicentennial initiative is *Making Alabama*. *A Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit*. Produced in partnership with the Alabama Bicentennial Commission and the Alabama Department of Archives and History, the exhibit offers a broad view of Alabama's rich history and culture and will crisscross the state from April 2018 through December 2019.

Featuring interactive displays that cover eight time periods, the exhibit makes a big impression – literally – due to large format artwork anchoring each section. Not only will visitors be able to read; they will hear, see and feel 200 plus years of Alabama through use of audio, video clips, and image collages from maps, photographs, postcards, book covers and ephemera.

The goal of *Making Alabama* is to excite interest in Alabama's past – and future – in people of all ages by reflecting our state's rich diversity of cultures and experiences.

Key to *Making Alabama* is the central role that local communities and hosts are playing. "My favorite aspect of our approach to this project is that while the exhibit will look the same at each stop, the way each county and community experiences it will be unique," remarked Laura Anderson, exhibit tour coordinator and AHF's director of Operations. "We can't wait to see how each county uses the *Making Alabama* experience to contribute to the Bicentennial and to consider the future of our beautiful state."

Hosts in each county anticipate a variety of audiences for *Making Alabama*. They expect that families, school field trip groups, retirees, Sunday School classes, business and professional organizations, summer camps, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, and civic organizations, to name a few, will visit the exhibit when it is in their area. *Questions to Ask and Share* for each of the eight time periods will be available for download ahead of a visit – as well as in print on site – to help prompt discussion about the past and future of Alabama. People of all ages should feel welcome to visit *Making Alabama* for thoughtful fun and inspiration.

Making Alabama is a major Bicentennial initiative, and Alabama's Bicentennial, in the words of historian and former state archivist Dr. Ed Bridges, "offers more opportunity for communities to come together in an exchange of viewpoints and visions than we have had in a long time."

AHF could not agree more. Exhibit organizers hope that visitors delight together in the sights and sounds of Alabama and, perhaps, make surprising discoveries about our state's past and its key place in relationship to national and world history.

On March 14, the exhibit was featured during a special legislative reception, where Alabama lawmakers and key stakeholders had high praise for the finished product. AHF Chair Michon Trent credited former board chairs Judge John Rochester, Guin Robinson and Lynne Berry Vallely with the "vision" of the traveling exhibit. "It's amazing," she said.

Alabama Sen. Arthur Orr echoed her remarks, noting that the legislative support for the exhibit was all done with "today in mind. It was a line item (in the budget), and the payoff is today."

"We express our thanks to the legislature," said Steve Murray, executive director of Alabama Department of Archives and History. "We are grateful to the leadership who saw the benefit of this and wanted to do it the right way for the state of Alabama."

AHF Executive Director Armand DeKeyser said the real benefit will be in small towns and rural areas all across the state who will "see the value of what we do. This is Alabama's story, and we think it's a great story to tell. AHF is grateful to be a part of it."

Ultimately, the aim is for visitors statewide to leave the exhibit curious – wanting to learn more about, explore, appreciate, and contribute to...making Alabama.



Armand DeKeyser addresses reception, followed by Sen. Arthur Orr, AHF Board Chair Michon Trent and Alabama Department of Archives and History Executive Director Steve Murray.



Making Alabama. A **Bicentennial Traveling** Exhibit will make its way through the state over an 18-month period, beginning with the opening on March 5, 2018, at the state capitol in the Old Supreme Court Library. The plan calls for the exhibit to visit all 67 of Alabama's counties. Following is the schedule to date for host communities:

## 2018

#### **MARCH**

Montgomery, March 5-30, OldSupreme Court Library, State Capitol, Montgomery

#### **APRIL**

St. Clair, Moody Civic Center, Moody

Wilcox, Gee's Bend Ferry Terminal, Camden

Lee, Lewis Cooper Jr. Memorial Library, Opelika

#### MAY

Bullock, venue TBD, Union Springs

Cullman, BurrowMuseum/ Wallace State Community College, Hanceville

Talladega, Heritage Hall Museum, Talladega

Marengo, Marengo Co. History & Archive Museum, Demopolis

#### **JUNE**

Cleburne, The Armory, Heflin

Winston, venue TBD, Haleyville

Dale, Dale County Council of Arts & Humanities, Ozark

Lowndes, Wisteria Cottage, Fort Deposit

#### **JULY**

Marshall, Guntersville Museum, Guntersville

Choctaw, Choctaw County Community Center, Butler

Coffee, National Security Conference Center, Elba

Pickens, Aliceville Museum, Aliceville

#### **AUGUST**

Cherokee, Cherokee County Historical Museum, Centre

Calhoun, The Public Library of

Anniston-Calhoun Co., Anniston

Clarke, The Community House

(H.W. Pearce Memorial Park), **Iackson** 

Russell, venue TBD

#### **SEPTEMBER**

Blount, Blount County Fairgrounds, Oneonta

Covington, LAAC Gallery, Andalusia

Marion, Pastime Civic Center, Winfield

Mobile, Mobile Public Library / Toulminville Branch, Mobile

#### **OCTOBER**

Clay, Ashland Public Library, Ashland

Colbert, Tennessee Valley Museum of Art, Tuscumbia

Hale, Greensboro Opera House, Greensboro

Henry, Solomon Memorial Library, Headland

#### **NOVEMBER**

Autauga, venue TBD, Prattville

Limestone, Athens-Limestone Public Library, Athens

Chilton, Jefferson State Community College, Clanton

Perry, Smith Building Art Gallery, Marion

#### **DECEMBER**

Baldwin, Robertsdale Coliseum, Robertsdale

Houston, Landmark Park, Dothan

## 2019

#### **JANUARY**

Dallas, The Welcome Center, Selma

Geneva, The Vintage Room, Geneva

Jackson, Stevenson Public Library, Stevenson

Randolph, Annie L. Awbrey Library, Roanoke

#### **FEBRUARY**

Butler, Greenville-Butler County Library, Greenville

Chambers, Bradshaw Library, Cobb Memorial Archives in Valley, Alabama

Fayette, Hubbertville School, Hubbertville

#### **MARCH**

Barbour, Clayton City Hall, Clayton

Conecuh, venue TBD Coosa,

venue TBD

Lauderdale, Rogersville Town Hall, Rogersville

#### **APRIL**

Bibb, Bibb County Board of Education, Centreville

Monroe, Monroe County Public Library, Monroeville

Tallapoosa, venue TBD, Dadeville

#### **MAY**

Escambia, venue TBD Macon, venue TBD

Madison, Early Works Museum Complex, Huntsville

Jefferson, Hoover Public Library, Hoover

#### JUNE

DeKalb, Coal & Iron Building, Fort Payne

Pike, Pike County High School, Brundidge

#### **JULY**

Lawrence, venue TBD

#### **AUGUST**

Greene, venue TBD

Shelby, SCAC Complex, Columbiana

#### **SEPTEMBER**

Crenshaw, Harrison Cultural Center, Luverne

Franklin, venue TBD, Red Bay

Lamar, Vernon City Complex, Vernon

Sumter, Black Belt Museum, Livingston

#### **OCTOBER**

Elmore, venue TBD

Etowah, Gadsden Public Library, Gadsden

Walker, Bankhead House and Heritage Center, Jasper

#### **NOVEMBER**

Washington, venue TBD, Chatom

#### **DECEMBER**

Morgan, venue TBD, Decatur

Tuscaloosa, Tuscalossa County Public Library, Tuscaloosa

Montgomery, OldSupreme Court Library, State Capitol, Montgomery



# AHF, AUM partner to coordinate Alabama History Day

Alabama Humanities Foundation and Auburn University at Montgomery have joined forces in a new partnership to produce Alabama History Day, a statewide competition for middle and high school students.

This year's contest will be held at AUM Friday, April 6, with division winners earning the chance to compete against students from around the world at the National History Day Contest, June 10-14 at the University of Maryland at College Park.

"AHF is excited to serve as the convening organization for this newly formed partnership," said Armand DeKeyser, Executive Director at AHF. "Building upon the past success of Alabama History Day at AUM and our ongoing collaborative work with the Alabama Department of Archives and History for the Alabama Bicentennial, this is a perfect moment to highlight not only Alabama's history but our state's exceptional teachers and students."

Every year, National History Day® frames students' research within a historical theme. The theme is chosen for the broad application to world, national, or state history and its relevance to ancient history or to the more recent past. This year's theme is Conflict and Compromise in History.

National History Day® is a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to promoting teaching and learning of history in middle and high schools around the world through an array of programs for teachers and students.

The largest program is the National History Day Contest, which was established in 1974. It is a catalyst for more than half a million middle and high school students around the world to conduct original research on historical topics of interest.

Students present projects at the local and affiliate levels, such as Alabama History Day, and the top two projects from every category are invited to the Kenneth E. Behring National History Day Contest at the University of Maryland at College Park.

Through their research, interpretation and creative expression en route to their presentation, these sixth through 12th grade students become writers, filmmakers, web designers, playwrights and artists as they recreate history in contemporary ways, according to National History Day\*.



Alabama contestants

# STATE OF THE ART IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA

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# INSIDE OUT - Dorm rooms, cell blocks & understanding

Story and photos by Carol Pappas

There was no familiar bell signifying the beginning or end of class, just the sound of an iron door clanging shut behind a dozen or so young women – college students – filing into an oversized room where their classmates awaited.

Clad in all white uniforms, men of varying ages greeted their fellow students with ease. And they all took their places, not in desks but in a circle of metal chairs, illustrating all were equal – everyone had a voice. The circle, University of North Alabama Assistant Professor Katie Owens-Murphy explained, takes on a new meaning in the book they just read. "Openness," said a student. "Consensus," added an inside (incarcerated) student sitting next to her.

"Nobody's voice matters more than the other," said Owens-Murphy, underscoring her class' conclusions. And for the next two hours, they sat in that circle – inside student, college student, inside student, college student – drawing parallels between their own lives and circumstances and what they gleaned from the first book of the course, Restorative Justice.

The book and others along with it, made possible through a grant from Alabama Humanities Foundation, form the basis of the course in a pilot program at Limestone Correctional Facility known as Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program. The program's center is headquartered at Temple University, where it was created.

Among this national program's objectives is to "create a connection between those 'outside' of prison walls and those on the 'inside.'

It is more than a class. It is an experience, putting college students and inside students together to test and hone their skills of understanding literature and criminal justice through reading, critical analysis, self-expression and deliberative dialogue. Those words are part of the course description.

But what happens in class is a coming to life of those words.

It began two weeks before in an opening session where students from UNA – all female this semester – met their newfound classmates – male inside students at Limestone Correctional Facility.



Students and incarcerated learners sit side by side in a circle.

A series of one-minute "ice breakers" helped break down barriers quickly, they got to know one another personally, and the end result was a second class session where they greeted each other like old friends.

Except for the unmistakable white uniforms and correctional officers seated just a few yards away, it would have been hard to distinguish the circle of discussion from any other college class. They turned in their homework at the beginning of class and then embarked on an explorative dialogue on crime and punishment.

In Philosophies of Sanctioning – Deterrence, Incapacitation, Rehabilitation, Retribution and Restoration – students examined those concepts' meaning and related them to their own personal situations.

For an inside student, deterrence meant "a punishment so great that it deters you from doing it again." A college student related incapacitation to the central character in The Scarlet Letter, a woman who was "removed from society, ostracized."

Rehabilitation, an inside student explained, is "what prison is supposed to be. It's not what the punishment does to you, but what your mind tells you to do, to think about."

At the opposite end, retribution "seeks to punish. It has one goal and one end," surmised another student.

## **Connecting the dots**

One by one, they defined the concepts and then connected them in a variety of ways. An inside student said he could not see a difference between incapacitation and retribution. "They are reactive. Not proactive. Nothing in them seeks to prevent the behavior."

In Restorative Justice, crime is defined as "any wrong or harm done to someone else. Harm comes from multiple directions," said Owens-Murphy. "Obviously, not all 'harms' are criminal," she added. "Restorative justice recasts crime as harm and treats this harm as a social breach that requires active mediation among victims, offenders and their communities."

To put it into further context, she noted that many early restorative practices relied on circles for facilitating these mediation conferences, "which is why we related our circle formation to our course reading in the early minutes of the session."

The class then had 15 minutes to define those multiple directions of harm through a page of questions – one side of the paper dealing with their reflections on experiencing harm; the other, causing harm. How did it feel when someone harmed you? What impact did it have on your life? How did the experience change your way of looking at the world and at yourself? Is there anything now you wish you had done that you didn't do then? Was the person who harmed you held accountable? If so, were they held accountable in a way that was helpful to you?



Students - inside and out - put thoughts on paper about the acts of harm and being harmed.



Dr. Owens-Murphy displays words from both groups that describe feelings about harm.

What did you lose through this experience? What, if anything, did you gain?

Then came more questions ... How did it feel when you harmed someone? What motivation did you have for what you did? Did you cause the harm accidentally or on purpose? Additional questions resembled the experiencing harm side, centering on impact, change in perceptions, accountability, loss and gain.

To illustrate, Owens-Murphy asked the class to write on a small piece of paper a single word that would describe those acts of experiencing and causing harm. They placed them in a plastic bag, she shook them to mix and then had each member of the class draw a word.

It wasn't meant to be the word they used, but the word used by someone else. Why? "To put yourself in someone else's shoes," an inside student replied. "Relating," said another

Nodding in agreement, Owens-Murphy added, "It's easier to talk about someone else's experience instead of your own."

#### Cause and effect

In the hour that ensued, college students and inside students alike recounted their own experiences related to the word they had drawn and later, offering parallels between words they used and the words of others.

On the experiencing harm side, they talked of "hurt," "betrayal," "shame," "anger," "apathy," "resentment" and "confusion."

They described what was lost from that experience as "innocence," "purpose," "self-respect," "worthiness," "trust" and even, "childhood." The loss of "trust" was the word scribbled on pieces of paper six times, more than a quarter of the class.

The subject of causing harm drew similar results from the participants. Causing harm evoked memories and descriptors like "fear," "anger," "helpless," "lost," "guilt" and "justified." The word, "anger," like trust on the other side, was a recurring theme, used half a dozen times.

As for their loss from causing harm, they used the words, "freedom," "friendship," "admiration," "morality," "self-worth," "family," "everything."

## **Dealing with emotions**

As they dug deeper into the meaning of those words, they turned inward, telling their own stories. They made connections between 'experiencing' and 'causing' harm by circling and drawing lines from word to word among the patterns of feeling expressed on the board and narrating those connections.

"This is what led them to talk about their own experiences," Owens-Murphy explained. "This is ultimately what demonstrates why many victims of harm tend to perpetuate this harm by paying it forward."

One inside student talked of the connection between betrayal and anger in terms of harm. "It makes me feel justified in the way I treat them."

A college student described the loss of innocence in inflicting harm. "You trust yourself," thinking you would react one way but instead, act another. "You realize you are capable of that."



AHF provides funding for books in the class; UNA's College of Arts & Sciences funds transportaion to the correctional facility, more than an hour away from the university.

Another college student echoed that emotion with a twist. She had been physically, emotionally and verbally abused as a teenager. "The first time it happened, you have a preconceived notion, 'I know what I would do.' You don't," she said. For her, it was followed by feelings of blaming herself and being "too ashamed to tell."

You think, she continued, "This is your fault. It happened because of you. It's a brutal cycle. You didn't react like you thought you would. It is the root of all these emotions."

One inside student had already used lessons he learned from his class readings in dealing with his daughter in real life. He has been incarcerated for 19 years. "I lost hope in a lot of different ways. My daughter, I thought I lost her." But now, they talk. From age 18 to 21, she was in an abusive relationship. "It became who she was. She lost her identity. I was telling her about our class. If you know why," he told her, "you can always deal with the who."

Another had been in prison since he was 31. At 69, he described his time as "a long, slow process to admit responsibility."

And yet another called himself a victim from his own experience. "My brother was killed, and that put fear in my life that was unimaginable." He talked of having a gun pointed in his face, and "I took that fear to a whole new level. That's why I'm here."

His conclusion was an acknowledgement, he said, not excusing it.

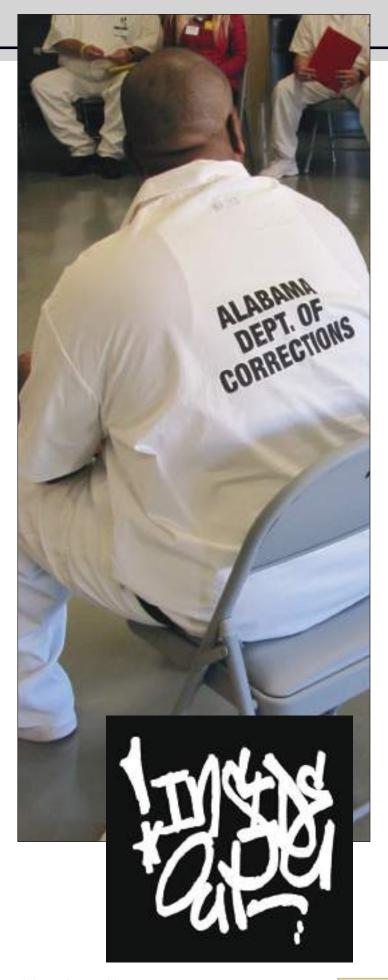
"Restorative justice deliberately complicates the binary between victim and offender by acknowledging that many offenders are also victims of traumatic harm," Owens-Murphy explained.

## Returning to the scene

The final few minutes of the class were perhaps the hardest for these college students and inside students. They were to describe their feelings at that moment in time with one word.

The words they used were as varied and as similar as they were. "Disconnection," "impressed," "confused," "introspective," "hopeful," "curious," "enlightened," "overwhelmed," "intrigued," "understanding."

It was that last word that they say will make them return to the next class. Understanding. From starkly different angles, they drew a straight line from what they had read and the lessons they learned from life. They made a connection. And that's precisely what will keep them coming back for more.



# ALABAMA COLLOQUIUM



By Carol Pappas

When Alabama Humanities Foundation unveiled The Alabama Colloquium in 2017, organizers hoped it would be a refreshing departure from a traditional annual luncheon awards format. What happened next did not disappoint.

The board of directors chose four Alabama Humanities Fellows as its inaugural class, joining all past Alabama Humanities Award winners, who were inducted as a group.

Those Fellows – Kamau Bell, Rod Frazer, Cassandra King and Judge Myron Thompson – along with moderator Michel Martin of National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*, took center stage in a lively conversation that had the audience laughing, musing and critically thinking about life in Alabama.

"We couldn't have asked for a better debut of a new event for our state," said Executive Director Armand DeKeyser. "It captured precisely what humanities is all about inspiring, teaching, critical thinking. It was provoacative, entertaining and enlightening all at the same time. Our fellows and our moderator were ideal in their roles as examples of humanities' impact. And we couldn't be prouder of their success and that of our first Colloquium." While all four fellows are distinguished in diverse careers and successes, they shared a common thread. All four have ties to Alabama, and they were not shy about their impressions.

"I thought the Colloquium was a resounding success," said Frazer, former CEO and chairman emeritus of Enstar Group. "It beautifully cut across the lines of diversity. Intellectually, the doors were wide open. Anything went. That was my impression. No constraints, that was my principal reaction."

"I took it as a great compliment," Frazer said. Being chosen in the inaugural class of Fellows was a "distinct honor. I have always respected the organization, and being selected was a high honor."

King, a best-selling author, agreed. "Being a part of the inaugural fellows class was unquestionably one of the great experiences of my life. What an honor to be onstage with Kamau Bell, Rod Frazer, and Judge Thompson; and then to be interviewed by the incomparable Michel Martin! Most of all, I was uplifted by the enthusiasm of the vibrant community I met and their dedication to promoting the humanities in Alabama."

Bell, Emmy Award winning host of CNN's *United Shades* of *America*, surprised the audience with a special financial pledge to the teachers who won the Jenice Riley Memorial

Scholarship, obviously moved by what he experienced that day.

"It was truly inspiring to sit onstage with a group of people who, although we may not have a lot in common on the surface, all believe in the goodness and the potential of Alabama. People who all know that Alabama is a place that values diversity of voices and perspectives. And people who are all using their privilege to uplift the people who need uplifting the most. I was honored, humbled and excited to be there."

Judge Myron Thompson agreed. "The State of Alabama has such a rich history and culture. We are extremely fortunate to have the Alabama Humanities Foundation as a deep source and inspiration from which all citizens can draw. To be one of its first Fellows is both a great honor and a heavy responsibility."

"We couldn't have asked for a better debut of a new event for our state," said Executive Director Armand DeKeyser. "It captured precisely what humanities is all about – inspiring, teaching, critical thinking. It was provoacative, entertaining and enlightening all at the same time. Our fellows and our moderator were ideal in their roles as examples of humanities' impact. And we couldn't be prouder of their success and that of our first Colloquium."

Colloquium Chair Trey Granger called the event "a real success and provides a strong foundation upon which the humanities can be celebrated annually in Alabama. The Alabama Humanities Fellowship is designed to honor those persons who boldly contribute to the cultural fabric of our great state, and the Colloquium will be the cornerstone event of Alabama Humanities Foundation that allows all of us an opportunity to listen in upon a marvelous and enriching conversation."

Granger noted, "Alabama is home to a rich and diverse culture of people – including artisans, jurists, writers, industrialists, educators, performers, designers, culinary craftsmen and philanthropists. The opportunity to bring four noted but diverse Alabamians together on one stage for an inspiring conversation highlights the robust aspects of Alabama culture while underscoring the many components of our common humanity."

"We look forward to an enhanced offering for the 2018 Colloquium," Granger said, "and remain confident that the Alabama Colloquium will soon become one of the premier events on everyone's calendar."



On stage in thoughtful conversation, from left, Martin, Frazer, King, Bell and Thompson.











Photos by Jonah Enfinger

## Humanities & \_\_\_\_\_ LAW ENFORCEMENT

Over the course of the past year, Alabama law enforcement officers were provided a new training and education viewpoint by AHF. HUMANITIES & LAW ENFORCEMENT gives sworn officers in the state an opportunity to learn about the so-called "Scottsboro Boys" case and consider its meaning and relevance – through a law enforcement lens – to their work in the 21st century.

Participants, including law enforcement executives, receive continuing education credits through an agreement between AHF and the Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission (APOSTC).

Slated to end in spring 2018, the pilot course has provided lessons for AHF and participating law enforcement officers alike. From participants, AHF learned there is a need for humanities-based education in professions such as law enforcement. From AHF, participants learned that humanities-based courses can contribute meaningfully to their professional development.

Responding to a call for proposals from then-NEH Chair William "Bro" Adams, AHF received funding for the course as part of a 2016 national initiative, *Humanities and the Legacy of Race and Ethnicity in the United States*. Planning began with consideration of scholars, namely Steve Brown of Auburn University's Department of Political Science – a Constitutional Law expert with great interest in the Scottsboro case and its legacy.

Also curator of "Alabama Justice: The Cases and Faces that Changed a Nation," a traveling exhibit set to tour in 2019 as a Bicentennial initiative, Brown was eager to be involved in the pilot effort and signed on as lead scholar.

Serving is co-lead scholar is Jim Lakey of Jasper. Multi-credentialed and the son of two parents in law enforcement, Lakey relates well to participants given his own experiences as an officer, a police chief and one-time head of campus police at the University of South Alabama. A retired attorney, Lakey also brings experience as an instructor of Human Relations, Criminal Justice and History. Having researched and written about lynching and vigilantism in Alabama,



The Scottsboro Defendants

Lakey shares Brown's passion for teaching the Scottsboro case.

Together they explore with course participants the usefulness of history in addressing today's issues in law enforcement and community relations.

Rounding out the scholar roster is Limestone County Archivist Rebekah Davis of Athens, who adapted her popular AHF Road Scholar presentation, *Pen Strokes of Justice: Judge Horton and the Scottsboro Boys*, to serve a law enforcement audience.

"The world," she explains, "was captivated in spring of 1933 by the re-trial in Decatur, Alabama of one of nine black teens previously found guilty of raping two white women on a train outside Scottsboro. From around the world, people wrote to Judge James E. Horton Jr. to beg for justice, whatever they deemed justice to be." When the trial ended, and Judge Horton had lost his judicial career over his decision to overturn the jury's guilty verdict, he took the more than 700 letters, telegrams, resolutions and newspaper clippings he had received and stowed them in a tin lard bucket. Davis, in her words, takes the lid off the bucket, helping law enforcement officers learn details of the case and its continuing effect on both Alabama memory and the American justice system today.

Eight-hour HUMANITIES & LAW ENFORCEMENT courses have taken place in Decatur, Mobile, and Clayton. Through presentations and facilitated discussion sessions, officers are encouraged to reflect together on what it means to carry out the charge to protect and serve Alabama communities.

Reviews and evaluations indicate that law enforcement agencies -- and possibly other professions in need of continuing education – are an untapped reservoir of partners eager for humanities-based learning opportunities.

When asked what humanities topic would interest them for future courses, more than one officer or deputy answered, "Any!," and most expressed thanks for information on the Scottsboro case, an Alabama story about which they previously knew very little.

In looking to the future of AHF programming, staff grows ever more convinced that Alabamians from every walk of life are open to opportunities to employ the humanities in both their personal lives and professional development.



In March 1931, nine young black men were removed from a train and arrested in Jackson County, Alabama, and then falsely accused of rape. All nine were convicted by all-white juries and sentenced to be executed, but the verdicts were overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court in November 1932. Over the next several years, the defendants would undergo numerous trials, reversals, and new trials. The case would become one of the most infamous miscarriages of justice in U.S. history. On April 19, 2013, Alabama governor Robert Bentley signed an historic document pardoning all of the men posthumously. EOA staff report that the Scottsboro case article is perennially among the most frequentlyaccessed articles from outside and across the United States, with thousands of page views every month.



Professor Steve Brown of Auburn University's Department of Political Science outlines the Scottsboro case for participants in Humanities & Law Enforcement courses.



Officers from three counties gathered to participate in AHF's first Humanities & Law Enforcement course.



Instructor Jim Lakey (center) points out a downtown Mobile lynching site to Humanities & Law Enforcement course participants.

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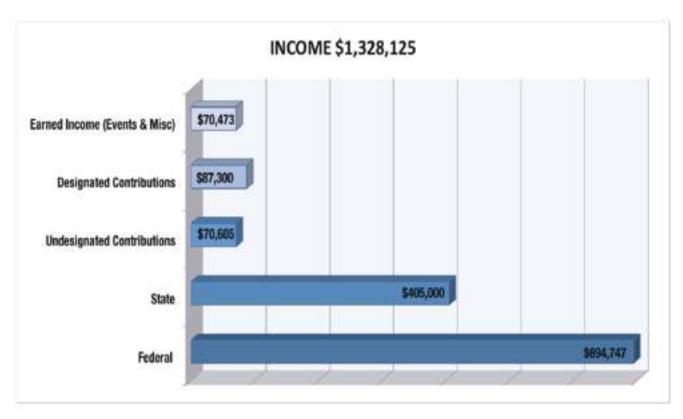
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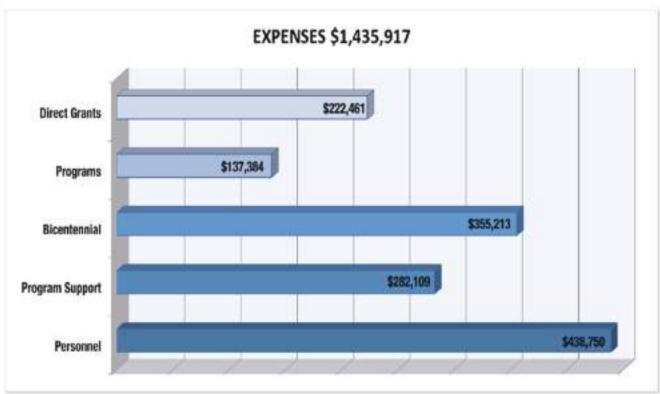
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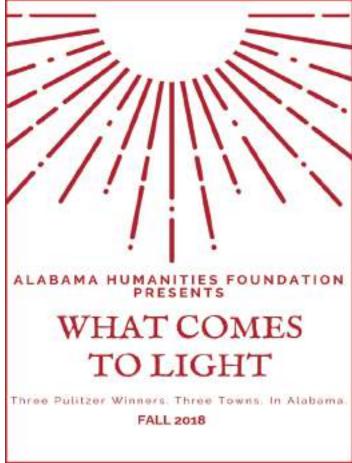
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Mosaic is the magazine of the Alabama Humanities Foundation and is printed in the Fall and Spring. The publication's purpose is to educate on humanities topics, provide resources and information about humanities events, and instill pride and excitement 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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