

{2016 Annual Report}

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The Mission of the Alabama State Council on the Arts is to enhance the quality of life and economic vitality for all Alabamians by providing support for the state’s diverse and rich artistic resources.
The Alabama State Council on the Arts celebrated its 50th year of supporting the arts and artists in Alabama. Initially created by executive order by George Wallace issued on April 6, 1966 and then by legislation the following year, the State Council on the Arts has functioned through following years as the official state arts agency of Alabama. During the 2016 Legislative Session Senator Tom Whatley sponsored a Senate Resolution recognizing the Council’s contributions to the arts and arts education over its half-century of existence. That resolution is provided in this annual report with details about the Council’s work that is worth noting and celebrating. To say the least, much has changed since the spring of 1966. The cultural landscape in Alabama relative to the visual, performing and literary arts has significantly improved. Instruction and innovation in arts education in our schools has demonstrated the power of the arts to enhance academic performance in all areas of learning. But much more needs to be done in this arena. The traditional arts and artists of the state have been preserved, presented and celebrated in ways that have garnered national recognition. Multi-faceted arts programming in communities large and small has enhanced the quality of life for Alabama citizens statewide. Over the years the arts have played and continue to play an important role in recruiting new business and creating strategies for sustained economic development. The arts have established a higher profile in Alabama and have evolved in exciting ways in the last fifty years.

With the Bicentennial of Alabama Statehood approaching in 2019, including recognition of the territorial period of 2017 and 2018, the Council has been deeply involved in planning efforts that will showcase the importance of the arts over the past two hundred years. The extended celebration, coordinated by a blue ribbon Bicentennial Commission, chaired by Senator Arthur Orr from Decatur, will include exhibitions, performances, festivals, publications, emphasis on history education, breakthroughs in genealogy research, and celebrations of important events and people associated with the great State of Alabama. The Council will be playing a leadership role in this statewide endeavor.

Another chapter was written in June 2016 regarding the cultural exchange involving the Council on the Arts, the city of Montgomery and the city of Pietrasanta, Italy. This newest chapter includes the city of Florence and the entire region of Tuscany which adds an exciting component to the exchange landscape. Representing the State Council on the Arts, I have been a proud partner in this unique exchange since its inception in 2006. A long drive and conversation with Cultural Commissioner, Daniele Spina in Alabama in 2006 and the subsequent dedication of the “Peace Frame” by the Alabama artist Nall in Pietrasanta in 2007, got the initial exchange rolling. It has since been rewarding to see relationships take root that have cast a spotlight on great art, outstanding artists, visionary public officials, progressive cities and very diverse cultures.

The Council highlighted the diversity of cultures in 2016 mounting an exhibition in Pietrasanta of the Black Belt featuring the photography of Chip Cooper, Robin McDonald and Jerry Siegel. These three highly respected photographers from Alabama conveyed powerful images of a culture-rich region not often seen or understood by a foreign eye.

While a successful cultural exchange connects arts organizations, cities, government agencies and a wide range of partners, the real benefit and impact takes place between people and in relationships formed. To this point, the primary energy behind the current version of the cultural exchange is the friendship between Mayor of Pietrasanta, Massimo Mallegni and the Mayor of Montgomery, Todd Strange. These are two men possessing political skills, unlimited energy, appreciation
for quality of life and a vision of how to make a difference as a public official. For the exchange; success made possible by both of these men, we are all grateful. Our expectations remain high for ongoing success due to their leadership and generous support.

The Council’s mission has always included supporting and celebrating cultural diversity. Clearly, Alabama is rich in both traditional and contemporary art forms reflecting great diversity of expression and an undeniable “sense of place.” Sharing our unique southern culture while at the same time opening doors for visiting artists from other countries has strengthened appreciation and understanding for all involved. A success story associated to this goal and a highlight in the Council’s 50-year history has clearly been the cultural exchange with the great city of Pietrasanta.

A changing of the guard in council leadership occurred in the customary two-year cycle in 2016. Assuming the position of Chairman was Dora James, long-time veteran of the Council from Opelika. Dora has served as Vice-Chair, Secretary and chairman of multiple committees during her tenure. She brings great experience to this important position and will represent the Council in an outstanding way in her new role as Chairman. Serving as Vice-Chair is Joel Daves from Mobile. Joel is in his second six-year term on the Council having chaired the Grants Review and Long Range Planning Committees in his past years of service. He is currently a member of the Mobile City Council. Dr. Rachel Fowler is another veteran of the Council and she was elected Secretary. She has served as Chairman of the Grants
Review Committee and, in addition to her Secretary duties, chairs the Long Range Planning Committee. Rachel and her husband share their residency between Columbia and Birmingham. Rounding out the Executive Committee are Julie Friedman from Fairhope, chairing the Grants Review Committee for a second time, and Jim Harrison from Tuscaloosa, past chairman of the Council. Three new members were appointed to the Council by the Governor for six-year terms which began in January of 2016. Dr. Henry Panion from Birmingham, Kim Mitchell from Decatur and Mary White from Florence are all outstanding additions to the fifteen-member council. Their individual and collective impact on the Council has already been significant.

So, 2016 was a productive year, characterized by a modest, yet important, increase from the Legislature, arts organizations will continuing exciting programming, the introduction of a new comprehensive state plan for arts education (see Art Education report, page 10), resumption of a cultural exchange with Italy and preparation for a grand Bicentennial celebration in Alabama. It is accurate to say, the Council is staying very active sharpening its focus on “building a better state through the arts.”
The fifteen board members for the Alabama State Council on the Arts are appointed by the Governor to serve for a six year term. Ideally, the Council is made up of people representing all areas of the state, and they are eligible for reappointment by the Governor. I have had the great honor of serving as a member of the Council for the past twelve years. This year I am incredibly blessed to serve as Council Chairman. I have a great group of officers and committee chairs that include Joel Daves IV, Vice Chairman; Rachel Fowler, Secretary, and Chair of the Long Range Planning Committee; and Julie Friedman who serves as Chairman of the Grants Review Committee. Rounding out the Executive Committee is Jim Harrison III, who is a past chair and a veteran Council member. To have such an amazing group of people serving alongside me is such a source of strength for me. Al Head, Executive Director of the Council and his dedicated staff, are the tireless leaders who provide professional guidance, advice, direction, research and encouragement as we seek to serve in our capacity as board members. Special gratitude is extended to Al and his staff for many years of dedicated service in promoting and supporting the arts and artists of our state.

In this 2016 Annual Report, I also want to make note of this year being the 50th Anniversary of the Alabama State Council on the Arts. Over this fifty-year period significant contributions to the arts have been made by the Council’s work, with great progress in enhancing the vast cultural resources in Alabama. There has been outstanding leadership from countless individuals who have served on the Council. These members have generously given of their time, expertise, and wise perspective over periods ranging from six to over eighteen plus years. Senator Tom Whatley sponsored a Senate Resolution in the 2016 Legislative Session that captured the extensive contributions of the Council over this fifty-year period. We deeply appreciate his gesture of support and recognition. That resolution has been made part of this annual report.

In recent years, the Council adopted “A State Blueprint for Supporting the Arts.” This document was the result of twenty-four months of evaluation, needs assessments, data collection, and envisioning the future. The mission statement for the Council resulting from this document is: “To enhance the quality of life and economic vitality for all Alabamians by providing support for the state’s diverse and rich artistic resources.” The goals of this mission statement are inclusive of all the arts and cover all areas of the state.

The Council’s primary function is grantmaking made possible through an annual appropriation from the Alabama Legislature and additional funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. The granting process is set up under the Council’s guidelines and funds programs that are fair, equitable and responsive to the needs of artists and organizations throughout the state, thereby nurturing and encouraging the entire cultural environment of the state. It is especially encouraging to see how many talented individual artists in all fields are emerging and receiving great recognition for their work. I am also so impressed by how arts organizations’ programming in the visual, performing and literary arts are enriching Alabama’s cultural landscape. K-12 schools, colleges and universities continue to make important progress in arts education and are providing exciting opportunities for students of all ages. The arts are especially part of the life-long educational experience.

The Council funds many of the programs that advance Arts in Education, Community Arts, Arts and Cultural Facilities, Folklife, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, and Literary Arts. Mr. Head, his staff and council members are always willing to help anyone interested in applying for a grant and facilitating that
process. The doors of the Council are always open to assist a diverse constituency in any way that they can.

Personally, my favorite days of serving on the Council are when our grant applicants come to the Council’s office in Montgomery and meet with the Council members. At these public hearings, individuals either representing themselves or seeking support for their arts organization, meet with the board for a short period of time to review their grant request. “We are constantly amazed and delighted to see how passionately and compelling these ideas and needs are presented. It gives us great satisfaction to encourage and support these individuals and organizations.”

Alabama has a rich cultural heritage combining both nationally and internationally recognized authors, artists, musicians, actors, actresses, dancers, poets, composers, architects... the list could go on and on. We can be very proud of all of these artists and of their contributions in many areas, but, we can’t rest on the laurels of the past. We must provide educational and financial support to those individuals and groups who will be building Alabama’s artistic landscape in the future. It’s up to us to provide these opportunities so that the arts will remain a vibrant part of our environment and legacy to future generations.

I love the life story of Helen Keller who was born in Tuscumbia, Alabama in 1880. Helen was deprived of her sight, hearing, and ability to speak, yet, she became one of the most extraordinary persons who ever lived. Despite her physical handicaps she went on to amazing accomplishments. Somehow, in her soul, she found richness and purpose in life that inspired and guided her. She discovered a beauty to life that sustained her. I like to think that the arts can offer us beauty and richness that can sustain us, too. The arts can inspire, uplift, enrich, and, in the end make us into better people and stronger communities. The arts can change lives and what better investment can we make.

I love the quote of Helen Keller that says, “The best and most beautiful things in life cannot be seen, or even touched, but must be felt with the heart.” What better example do we have of how the arts change hearts than in our own Harper Lee’s epic novel “To Kill a Mockingbird?” Art can change people’s hearts, and the arts can ultimately also change lives. And, in the end, isn’t this what it’s all about?
We are committed to artistic and creative literacy for our students to provide for better schools and a better Alabama.
Jordan

When I was with Mr. Ethan
I thought he knew a lot about acting, stage directions, and technical jobs was very hard work to learn. But on the second week I was amazed. We made the prop and wrote scripts. When we finally got to do the play I was so excited and so happy.

The End
most in need. In FY 2016, twenty-five schools from eighteen rural counties booked performances by Debbie Bond, Nathifa Dance Company, Russell Gully, Ron McCall and Christi Strickland Toyer.

The Arts in Schools Program is available by application to the fifteen Black Belt school systems including Bullock, Choctaw, Dallas, Greene, Hale, Lowndes, Macon, Marengo, Perry, Pickens, Sumter, and Wilcox Counties as well as Demopolis City, Linden City, and Selma City. Priority is given to proposals that communicate activities of artistic excellence, and address the statewide goals of the Artistic Literacy Consortium. Grantees in FY 2016 focused funding on professional development for teachers, and artist residencies.

The Collaborating Artist Program is for schools that would like to explore the process of working through the arts to increase student success in other subjects. The Program is designed to support schools by offering an innovative way to address a unique learning challenge identified by each school. The program provides intensive arts integration for a targeted group of students. The Council provides planning facilitation for collaborating artists and teachers, on-going support in arts curriculum design, a program handbook, and fully paid artist fees. In FY 2016 ten schools participated in this program.

The Visual Arts Achievement Program provides local and state recognition for student achievement in the visual arts. The program is designed to offer encouragement to school systems, schools and teachers that provide quality instruction in the visual arts. Student artists, grades 6-12, showcase their work in regional and state adjudicated exhibitions. Awards are assigned by professional juries. In FY 2016 over 1500 students participated within six districts statewide, with over 90 works being exhibited in the Georgine Clarke Alabama Artists Gallery in Montgomery. Five high school seniors were awarded scholarships to higher education institutions.

Poetry Out Loud, a national initiative founded by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, celebrated its 11th season in 2016. Schools and regional partners in Mobile, Auburn, Tuscaloosa and Huntsville held preliminary competitions and provided workshops for teachers and students. In FY 2016, the winner of our state’s Original Poetry competition was Abigail Kunkle, a 10th Grader at Sparkman High School. Her teacher was Renee Quaife. The winner and state champion in the national program was Raina Verser, a 10th grader at New Century Technology High School. Her teacher was Rebecca Savage-Owens. Raina represented Alabama in Washington DC, where she competed with 52 other champions representing each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.
The community is where people and the arts intersect. Early encounters with children’s theater or hearing music at a downtown festival may spark a child’s interest in the arts. Hands-on experience in classes and workshops sparks creativity in both children and adults. Public planning for good design results in communities with well-used, aesthetically pleasing public spaces. Cultural centers created by restoring former school buildings and movie houses provide places for participating in the arts as hands-on learners and as members of an audience. The grants offered through the Community Arts Program facilitate these and many other kinds of artistic intersections through various categories of support.

General Operating Support grants enable eligible organizations to provide programming, planning, and support for the arts and artists in their communities. For example, Arts Huntsville offered four core programs: Arts Community Support and Promotions, which serves more than 230 member organizations/individual artists; Arts Education; Public Art; and Community Events, including Panoply Arts Festival, Concerts in the Park and Monte Sano Art Festival. Another general operating grantee, the Gadsden Cultural Arts Foundation serves as a hub of community arts and offers over 1,000 arts-based programs annually that affect more than 80,000 people.

Project grants once again supported a varied range of events and activities around Alabama. In Mobile, the Mobile Arts Council partnered with the Mobile Museum of Art to provide a workshop which enabled artists to learn more about best business practices for artists. At the Tale Tellin’ Festival, produced in Selma by Arts Revive, storytellers from around the Southeast shared their stories and encouraged festival-goers to join in at the Swapping Grounds. With the help of professional musicians and volunteers, a group of Huntsville students developed their rhythmic skills in the Huntsville Community Drumline. Administrative project grants provided staff assistance for the Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project and an arts programs director for the Grove Hill Arts Council. In Marshall County, the RSVP Program held year-long dulcimer instruction for senior citizens with a well-attended community concert at the end of the program. Arts Councils in Coffee County and Sumter County brought musicians and performers to their towns through presenting grants.

Arts and Cultural Facilities grants enable organizations to plan, design, and construct new spaces for the arts or the adaptive reuse of an existing space. Kentuck Museum Association renovated the Kentuck Museum Building, providing additional exhibition space as well as space for other special events and educational programming. The Cloverdale Playhouse built a courtyard stage for outdoor performances and events.

The Arts Administration Fellowship recipient for FY 2016 was Peter Prinz, CEO and co-founder of Space One Eleven in Birmingham. Mr. Prinz used his fellowship to attend conferences, seminars, and workshops to learn more about Change Capital in the Arts. He plans to apply the methodology and resources from his experience to strengthen the financial and organizational health of Space One Eleven.

ASCA expands its reach through its partnerships with statewide organizations. DesignAlabama is a partner in promoting the benefits of excellence in design to communities throughout the state. 2016 was a successful year for DesignAlabama. It was a year for new projects and programming for DesignAlabama, which proved very exciting and opened many doors to partnerships.

DesignAlabama began the year by moving to a monthly online newsletter, rather than the quarterly DesignAlabama printed for many years. The new monthly format has allowed the organization to promote all of the design disciplines advocated for in a more frequent and visible way.

DesignAlabama also embarked on a new multi-year project titled ConnectLivity in January 2016. After receiving a $50,000
Your Town Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the organization embarked on a series of six regional design charrettes titled ConnectLivity. The charrettes examined local/regional assets for collective reasons to visit - for a day, a weekend, a week - our great Alabama towns. The goal: itineraries, and, long-range plans to help regions develop their assets/attractions; as well as tools for recruiting the amenities necessary for tourism, and for thriving, livable places that can then attract entrepreneurs, retirees and new businesses with their livability. The result of this program will be “A Guide to Alabama” which will be a series of maps and highly curated itineraries to help regions promote the discovered assets in their areas as well as allow visitors to the regions a quick and easy way to “get started.” In addition to the NEA, partners for this program included Copperwing Design, The Bi-Centennial Commission, The Alabama Historical Commission, The Walker Area Community Foundation, the Black Belt Community Foundation and the Alabama State Council on the Arts.

DesignAlabama began to lay the foundation for a new program, DesignPlace during 2016. The DesignPlace program will be a next step for communities who have participated in the DesignAlabama Mayors Design Summit and are ready to move to the next step in putting ideas generated at the Mayors Design Summit into a plan for future action. The DesignPlace program will be a two day charrette process where a team of design professionals will work with community leadership and citizens to create a set of design proposals, strategies and recommendations, which will be summarized in a booklet for the communities to use as they implement all of the former.

Along with all of the programming, DesignAlabama launched a new website, participated in the 4th Annual Southern Makers Event, had a booth at the Pepper Place Makers Market and participated in a number of panels and speaking engagements throughout the year.

The Black Belt Community Foundation is another important partner. The Black Belt Arts Initiative is the artistic division of the Foundation. Their work is guided by Black Belt Arts Alive!, the arts and culture committee for the BBCF. The committee has established four goals to advance the arts in the twelve Black Belt counties served by the BBCF. The goals are as follows:

1. Work in partnership with local community based organizations to forge collaborations with local schools to advance arts education,
2. Document and promote the region’s artistic assets.
3. Assist arts organizations in becoming more efficient and effective.
4. Provide opportunities for citizens of the Black Belt region to be exposed to and participate in the arts.

Grant funding in 2016 went to in-school, after school and summer arts education programs, professional development and arts exposure. For example, Aliceville Museum’s summer art program, which focused on drawing, painting, and sculpture was funded. The Camden County Youth Development Center received support for a six-week summer art program which included instruction in music, visual art, and folk art. Funding went to Too Good for Drugs in Macon County for a photography and journalism project and to Gaineswood in Demopolis to support demonstrations of traditional crafts such as pottery and basket-making during their Heritage Days. Two larger Arts Education grants went to Woman-to-Woman in Greene County and Black Belt Treasures in Wilcox County for on-going programs.

The BBCF also serves the region with capacity-building activities like the two workshops held in January, 2016. Twenty-six people from around the Black Belt attended “Building Stronger Museums in the Black Belt” to learn about exhibits, programming and use of social media. Thirty-two people gathered for the “Stronger Museums in the Black Belt” workshop, which focused on funding and sponsorship opportunities. Jo Taylor, program manager for the arts, maintains contact through site visits and emails, providing a regular link to information and assistance.
Classical Dance of India
The Alabama Center for Traditional Culture and Folklife Grants Program

The Alabama Center for Traditional Culture (ACTC) is the folklife division of ASCA and is staffed by Joey Brackner, Jackie Ely, Steve Grauberger and Anne Kimzey. The Center is both a grants-making office and research group working to identify, preserve, and present Alabama folk arts and traditions. We work closely with the Alabama Folklife Association (AFA), our statewide non-profit partner in achieving our goals. Alabama folklife consists of those aspects of our state’s culture that are traditional and are learned within communities from generation to generation. As a result, these cultural traditions reflect community values and aesthetics. Folklife includes folk arts such as traditional crafts, music and dance, as well as regional foodways, folk architecture, beliefs, storytelling, myths, and medicinal practices. Folklife is regional, reflecting the process of adaptation by various ethnic groups to a geographical area. Because it is a product of a historical and geographical process, Alabama folklife, in its many facets, uniquely reflects the personality of our state and its communities. Through the staff of the Alabama Center for Traditional Culture, ASCA works to identify folk traditions and present them through educational products such as television and radio programs, documentary CDs, traveling exhibits, lectures, and publications. Folklife represents a large part of the content of the Alabama Arts Radio series produced with WTSU Public Radio and Journey Proud produced with Alabama Public Television. The Center’s Folklife Project Grants Program supports non-profit organizations in projects seeking to present and preserve the state’s folk culture.

During FY 2016, the Folklife Project Grants Program supported the after school and summer camps of the Alabama Blues Project, a nationally award-winning program in Tuscaloosa. The Sucarnochee Folklife Festival produced by the University of West Alabama in Livingston, the fourth annual Wiregrass Blues Festival in Dothan sponsored by Troy University and the well-established Freedom Creek Blues Festival in Aliceville were aided by ASCA. Project grants were also made for the Jake Landers Bluegrass Festival at the Ritz Theater in Sheffield, the Coastal Alabama Storytelling Festival on Dauphin Island and the Warrior River Fiddler Fest in Northport. In the Wiregrass, grants were made in support of the Pike Piddler’s Storytelling Festival sponsored by the Brundidge Historical Society. Teaching workshops made possible by Folklife Projects Grants included the Lee County Gathering in Loachapoka and two sessions of Camp Fasola held in Anniston and Nauvoo.

Folk Arts Apprenticeship Grants are given to master folk artists for teaching their art forms. Prospective students who have entered into an agreement with a master folk artist may also apply for an Apprenticeship grant. Apprenticeships are one of the primary preservation tools of the Alabama Folklife Program. They are designed to ensure the transmission of a diversity of folk skills using the traditional master apprenticeship system. This year’s teaching grants were awarded to several quilt makers including a number of the celebrated quilters of Gee’s Bend as well as a blues artist, two traditional potters, a Sacred Harp singing master, a hunting decoy carver, a Mobile brass
band instructor, a Greek Orthodox Icon painter, a banjo instructor and a Bharatanatyam (classical Indian) dance master.

Accomplishments during FY 2016 include:

The Alabama Center for Traditional Culture staff worked closely with Alabama Public Television in developing, writing, shooting and editing the third season of a television series profiling a wide variety of Alabama community traditions. Called Journey Proud, the series premiered on October 20, 2013. The series will be produced for one more 9-episode season and then 2-3 shows per year after that. You can view programs at: journeyproudalabama.com.

The Archive of Alabama Folk Culture (AAFC) was founded in 2006 at the Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH) with the cooperation of the Center and the AFA. The Archive houses field documentation generated by the AFA, ACTC, and others. In 2011, Kevin Nutt was named folklife archivist at the AAFC. Since that time, Center staff has worked with him transferring recordings, photographs and other documentary materials generated by ASCA’s public folklorists during the last 40 years. Some of these materials are already available on the ADAH website.

The economic downturn of late 2008-2009 forced the Center staff to abandon plans to present Alabama as a featured state at the 2010 Smithsonian Folklife Festival. However, the staff, along with AFA, used fieldwork from this effort in the now-dormant journal Tributaries, as well as various public presentations such as the interactive exhibits Alabama in the Making: Traditional Arts of People and Place and We’ll All Sing Hallelujah, Sacred Sounds of Alabama currently touring the state. These exhibits produced by the AFA with input from ACTC staff features imbedded iPads where visitors can explore audio and video fieldwork from different regions of Alabama. The AFA has also sponsored a series of quilting workshops called Common Threads which have featured some of the state’s most prominent quilt artists.
The Alabama State Council on the Arts increases awareness of the state’s literary heritage through its support of contemporary Alabama writers, including creative nonfiction writers, novelists, poets, and writers for children. Many literature programs for the general public featured diverse arts education components within schools and workshop settings. In FY 2016, ASCA funded literary project grants and individual artist fellowship awards. It supported a statewide partner organization, the Alabama Writers’ Forum. ASCA also provided information and technical assistance to writers and organizations promoting the literary arts.

To support ASCA’s mission for literary arts, the Alabama Writers’ Forum served constituents statewide and partnered with nonprofit, educational and state government entities to provide programs such as the Alabama Writers Hall of Fame, the annual Alabama Book Festival, the Harper Lee Award for Alabama’s Distinguished Writer of the Year, the High School Literary Arts Awards and extensive networking of writers and literary arts venues through its digital communications. The Forum completed its nineteenth year of Writing Our Stories, an award-winning creative writing program for adjudicated youth in partnership with the Alabama Department of Youth Services. Conducted on two Youth Services campuses and employing professional creative writers in classrooms, Writing Our Stories reached more than 150 youth and resulted in three publications of student work. Writing Our Stories was also conducted for a full semester in the Shelby County School System with students at Columbiana Middle School and Montevallo Middle School.

On September 29, 2016 the Alabama Writers Hall of Fame inducted a class of nine internationally celebrated Alabama authors whose work spans three centuries. These inductees include Sequoyah, T.S. Stribling, Margaret Walker, Mary Ward Brown, Truman Capote, E.O. Wilson, Fannie Flagg, Rodney Jones, and Rebecca Gilman. The Alabama Writers’ Forum, The Alabama Center for the Book, and The University of Alabama Library Leadership Board partnered to produce a gala induction ceremony at the Bryant Conference Center in Tuscaloosa. For more information on the Alabama Writers Hall of Fame see: www.writersforum.org/hall-of-fame.

In FY 2016, ASCA funded a number of programs to promote an appreciation of the literary arts among the general reading public and to benefit emerging writers. The Birmingham Public Library was particularly innovative in encouraging the writing and performance of poetry by youth and adults. The Word Up! Student Poetry Slam expanded the library’s effort to develop teen poets, with more than 400 students from 14 high schools participating in the project. It included the annual slam competition, plus a partnership with Real Life Poets, a non-profit creative writing group, to provide poetry workshops and other activities for the teens. The Birmingham Public Library also engaged adults in a series of monthly poetry slams and open mic performances throughout the year. Bards & Brews offered light refreshments and a public setting for community poets to share their original work. Poets ranging in ages from 18 to 70 performed in the series and the events attracted diverse audiences, averaging 135 attendees per event.

Auburn University hosted the Auburn Writers Conference October 16-17, 2015, an event that brought together 15 writers with the theme: “Literary Harvest: Creativity and Sustainability. Environmen-
tional writers David Gessner and Janisse Ray were the keynote speakers at the conference that offered writing workshops and author readings during the two-day event.

The Jule Collins Smith Museum brought nationally known poets, such as Frank X. Walker, and local poets together in the Auburn community once a month for a Third Thursday Poetry Series. Attendees heard the work of visiting artists and participated in open-mic readings. In addition, the series partnered with the AU graphic design department to produce a beautiful broadside of a poem from each featured poet.

Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM) engaged students from Booker T. Washington Magnet High School (BTW) and the greater Montgomery community with their Three Mondays of Poetry series. Held during National Poetry Month in April, the poetry events featured readings by local poets at KRU, a reading at BTW by Jacqueline Trimble and a workshop at AUM by Alabama poet Tony Crunk.

On September 6, 2016, Oakwood University in Huntsville presented poet Sonia Sanchez, one of the founders of the Black Arts Movement and member of the Alabama Writers Hall of Fame. In addition to giving a reading on campus, Ms. Sanchez led a group of young people in an engaging literary workshop/discussion.

A number of literary festivals received support from the Alabama State Council on the Arts in FY 2016. The Slash Pine Press held its seventh annual Writers Festival April 29-30, a free event featuring public readings in venues at the University of Alabama and downtown Tuscaloosa. Among the 30 poets who read at the festival were Carlo Matos, Joanna Novak, Aubry Hirsch, Sarah Einstein and Sandra Simonds.

The 11th annual Alabama Book Festival took place April 23rd in Montgomery’s downtown historic district at Old Alabama Town. The festival showcased Rheta Grimsley Johnson, Padgett Powell, Homer Hickam and more than 50 other writers from a wide range of literary genres including fiction, history, religion, poetry and children’s literature. The main event drew record crowds this year and associated workshops on publishing, genre fiction, screen writing and illustrating graphic literature also proved to be highly popular. In conjunction with the festival, Troy University presented former U.S. Poet Laureate, Natasha Trethewey, with the Hall-Waters Prize.

Alabama Southern Community College hosted the 19th annual Alabama Writers Symposium in Monroeville, March 31 – April 1. Drawing audiences from across the state, the symposium featured author readings and panel discussions facilitated by Alabama literary scholars. At the annual awards luncheon during the symposium, the 2016 Harper Lee Award for Alabama’s Distinguished Writer was presented to E.O Wilson and the Eugene Current-Garcia Award for Alabama’s Distinguished Literary Scholar was awarded to Frye Gaillard. Marlin “Bart” Barton received the first Truman Capote Prize for Short Fiction by an Alabama Writer.

Based on the University of Alabama, the public radio program Alabama Bound featured 50 weekly book reviews that reached a large audience of listeners, maximizing exposure for Alabama authors and Alabama-related books. Dr. Don Noble’s short reviews were aired on public radio stations across the state during National Public Radio’s Morning Edition and All Things Considered. Text versions of the reviews are posted on the Alabama Public Radio at www.apr.org.

The Alabama State Council on the Arts awarded two Literary Arts Fellowships, recognizing individual writers who have demonstrated artistic excellence and career achievement. Recipients for 2016 were poet Keetje Kuipers, an assistant professor of English at Auburn University’s Creative Writing Program who has published two poetry collections: *The Keys to the Jail* and *Beautiful in the Mouth*, and English professor and poet Jesseca Cornelson, assistant professor of English at Alabama State University. Cornelson’s poems have appeared in journals such as: *Platte Valley Review*, *Mid-American Review* and *Footnote: A Literary Journal of History*.
Performing Arts

The Alabama State Council on the Arts (ASCA) is the state’s leading organization for advancing the arts in Alabama, and, like you, we understand that the performing arts have the power to transform lives, schools, and communities across the state. This year, ASCA’s Performing Arts Program processed approximately $2.1 million in grant requests, resulting in grant awards of $1,033,405 in life-affirming performing art ventures to help build stronger communities in Alabama.

Throughout 2016, time was invested working with stakeholders, board members, and staff of approximately 141 constituent organizations statewide, and, in the process, an overview was gained on how organizations focus their resources and partnerships in transforming Alabama’s communities through the Performing Arts. It is done by engaging, enthralling and enriching. The Performing Arts community is always in motion to inspire, and each of ASCA’s signature program components, from presenting to producing live arts in Alabama, build on this energy and momentum.

There are six signature program components of our core funding categories of support which help to sustain our state’s high level of excellence in artistry and innovation in the production and promotion of the performing arts: Administrative Project Support, Collaborative Ventures Support, Operating Support, Presenting Projects Support, Producing Projects Support and Fellowships Awards for individual artists. Great things were accomplished through funding these categories during 2016.

Presenting grants allow organizations to engage artists/companies from other parts of the state, country, and world, thus bringing the best of performing arts to Alabama

Administrative Project Support is granted to organizations with activities geared toward increasing program and organizational capacity which may also enhance the quality of the artistic experience for patrons. These grant requests are structured to making provisions for managerial expenses as part of a project. The Decatur Youth Symphony (Morgan County), Huntsville Youth Orchestra (Madison County), and The Actor’s Charitable Theatre (Tuscaloosa County) are three prime examples of the Council’s investment in the arts to support jobs, generate tax revenues and advance a creative-based economy as part of a strategic plan to strengthen organizations.

The Collaborative Venture Support is extended to interactive, interdependent performing arts organizations, which promote purposeful engagement through networking and targeted outreach. This category is designed to help extend the reach of high impact organizations offering broad statewide services for the advancement of Alabama’s performing arts industry in all areas of artistry, management and production. This support is administered as a partnership agreement.

The Alabama Dance Council (ADC) has distinguished itself in this category for nearly 20 years. ADC has a proven track record of being an industry facilitator and supporter of dance organizations in Alabama and across the region. The ADC produces an annual signature event, The Alabama Dance Festival, which brings dancers, companies and industry professionals together for a unique training and performance experience. Through the years, tens of thousands from across the region have benefited from participation in the annual Festival of activities. The featured artist in 2016 was Jessica Lang Dance, who, in addition to public performances, presented free school matinees for middle and high school students as a means to engage new and underserved audiences.

Operating Support is made available to Alabama based theatre, music and dance production companies that perform

ANNUAL REPORT 2016
Performing Arts (continued)

in a global arena where excellence is determined by the distinct artistic quality of their company. This category of support helps aid Alabama’s companies to realize and maintain a competitive edge. Performing Arts organizations, which qualify for this support, are companies that plan, organize, staff, supervise and control individuals and activities that produce arts for consumers-of-the-arts. Operating Support grants provide funds for discretionary use in the day-to-day institutional activities in order to sustain that high level of artistic excellence in production. Operating Support is awarded to organizations that have a consistent track record of high artistic achievement, public service, and managerial competency. Eligible organizations are expected to also have a well-maintained educational outreach program. In FY 2016, twelve performing arts organizations received Operating Support totaling $664,400. Organizations distinguished in this area of support include the Birmingham Children’s Theatre (Jefferson County), the Mobile Symphony Orchestra (Mobile County) and the Alabama Dance Theatre (Montgomery County).

Presenters recognized in this category have a strong educational component built into the residency wherein the artists may perform for school audiences, or offer master classes for aspiring musicians, dancers or actors. Grantees in this category include the Broadway Theatre League of Huntsville (Madison County) presenting the touring production of Clifford The Big Red Dog, ClefWorks, Inc. (Montgomery County) presenting the chamber music trio Sonic Escape, the Northeast Alabama Community College (Jackson County) presenting the Alabama Ballet of Birmingham in concert and UAB’s Alys Stephens Center (Jefferson County) presenting in concert the Enra Dance Troup from Japan.

Producing Project Support is granted to Performing Arts organizations regularly engaged in mounting dance, music or theatre events with specific outreach to advance the art form or to benefit the community. These grants make funding allowances for such activities as strategic planning, commissioning new works, and touring. The projects that include an educational component and well-planned outreach to the community are a priority for Council funding. Grantees in this category include Alabama Educational Theatre Association (Madison County) hosting the 2016 Alabama Thespian Conference, AROVA Contemporary Ballet, Inc. (Jefferson County) for the production of Boomerang, and the Shoals Symphony Orchestra’s Pirates of the Caribbean Family Concert.

The Council’s Fellowship Award gives support to individual artists who are essential members of the greater arts community. This grant program is designed to recognize excellence in artistic achievement by Alabama’s artists. These cash grants are awarded based on merit of work, career achievement, career potential and service to the state. The Fellowship roster for FY 2016 includes musicians Robert Muse (Lauderdale County) and Laura Usiskin (Jefferson County) as well as scenic designer Ralph Christopher Rich (Pike County). The noteworthy achievements of these exceptional Alabama artists do much to bolster the integrity of their respective disciplines.

As we continue our work at the Council — always with an eye to the future — we will contribute to the development of arts organizations’ growth and expansion, increase arts activities for the community, assist artists in the creation of new work, enhance the quality of artistic productions, and contribute to the cultural enrichment of the public in accordance with the mission of the agency.
The Visual Arts Program of the Alabama State Council on the Arts ensures excellence in visual arts programming for diverse audiences by supporting a wide range of programs across the state. Visual art includes the disciplines of painting, sculpture, printmaking, photography, film and design. Craft disciplines are also recognized and included in the visual arts program. Craft artists have a strong connection to both the processes and materials used to create their artwork and make decorative and/or functional objects using the following: clay, fiber, glass, leather, metal, paper, plastic, wood or a mixture of these materials.

Major art museums in Huntsville, Birmingham, Montgomery, and Mobile hold collections of significant art. They also maintain facilities and programming which brings to Alabama temporary exhibitions ranging from traditional to contemporary expression and showcasing the cultural legacy of cultures from across Alabama and around the globe. These museums provide the highest level of artistic excellence for the people of Alabama, and ASCA supported their activities with Operating Support grants totaling $417,400 in 2016. During the year, these institutions were visited by 353,818 individuals and provided art programming for 149,295 students from over 480 schools. They provided teachers’ resources and educational experiences for children as well as a range of classes for adults and families.

Community art centers and exhibition spaces receive funding to bring art programming to all regions of Alabama. ASCA project funding assisted Arts Revive in Selma, Auburn University’s Jule Collins Smith Museum, Bib and Tucker Sew-Op in Birmingham, Landmarks Foundation in Montgomery, Troy-Pike Cultural Arts Center, and the Wiregrass Museum of Art in Dothan. Other community arts organizations like the Coleman Center for the Arts in York, Montgomery Arts Council, Space One Eleven, and Sarah Towery Carlisle Art Colony received Council support to provide a range of art workshops and classes to youth and adults around Alabama.

Art festivals bring visual arts experiences into community celebrations and can have significant economic impact on the communities where they are held. Council funds also assisted with the Kentuck Festival of the Arts. Festivals like Kentuck offer unique educational experiences for children and adults, as well as opportunities to interact with artists from around the country. A different type of festival, the Magic of Marble Festival in Sylacauga, promotes the marble quarries in the area and the use of marble as a material for sculpture. Continuing the Italian Culture Exchange program which began in 2006, Sylacauga offered a two-week long symposium in marble-carving in April. Master Italian sculptor Giovanni Balderi taught artists from around Alabama and the southeast region and utilized the pure white marble found around Sylacauga.

Public art is becoming increasingly popular in Alabama and the Council has been able to support a number of projects this year that bring large sculptures, murals and mosaics into public spaces. With the assistance of ASCA
funding, the City of Anniston, Walker County Arts Alliance, Main Street Mobile, Jackson Hospital Foundation and the Wiregrass Museum were able to bring diverse art into public spaces for Alabamians to enjoy.

The Council grants Individual Artist Fellowships in the amount of $5,000 that recognize merit of work, career achievement, career potential, and service to the state. These highly competitive fellowships help enable artists to expand their professional careers. The eight artists chosen to receive a fellowship in 2016 were Cal Breed and Robert Taylor in Craft, Bruce Phillips and Clayton Colvin in Visual Art, Nick Corrao and Jessye McDowell in Media/Photography, and Robert Finkel and Natalie Chanin in Design. These individuals have attended workshops, taught, and created new award-winning work during the period of their fellowships. Over half of these recipients teach in Alabama schools.

The Georgine Clarke Alabama Artists Gallery is located at the Council offices in the RSA Tower in downtown Montgomery. The gallery provides a showcase for artists from throughout the state and presents changing exhibitions throughout the year, including award-winning student work from the Visual Arts Achievement Program each April. In the last months of 2015, we hosted Heavy Light, an exhibition of eight artists who received fellowships from ASCA in 2015. From January-March, the gallery presented an exhibition titled Let Us Now Praise Famous Soil featuring photographs from around Alabama’s Black Belt region taken by three well-known photographers: Chip Cooper, Robin McDonald, and Jerry Siegel. In May, we mounted Current Traditions, an exhibition showcasing the work of our 2016 Fellowship recipients, which was on display throughout the summer. From September through October, we hosted the Alabama Watercolor Society exhibition, which featured watercolor paintings from forty-five Alabama artists.
# Grants

for fiscal year 2016 (by county)

**AUTauga**
- Prattville Performing Arts Council .......... Prattville .......... Community Arts .......... Arts Activities, Demos, and Performances .......... $3,000
- SUBTOTAL AUTauga COUNTY ................................................. $3,000

**Baldwin**
- Baldwin Pops, Inc .......................................................... Fairhope .......... Performing Arts .......... Baldwin Pops Outreach Concert Season .......... $3,840
- Coastal Arts Center of Orange Beach .......... Orange Beach .......... Community Arts .......... Orange Beach Festival of Art .......... $2,800
- John McClure Snook Youth Club of Foley .......... Foley .......... Community Arts .......... Arts Access .......... $9,000
- Stockton Heritage Association Inc ............... Stockton .......... Community Arts .......... Experiencing History Through Folk Art .......... $2,770
- SUBTOTAL BALDWIN COUNTY ........................................... $18,410

**Barbour**
- Eufaula Heritage Association ....................... Eufaula .......... Community Arts .......... The 51st Eufaula Pilgrimage .......... $3,000
- SUBTOTAL BARBOUR COUNTY ........................................... $3,000

**Bibb**
- Miller, Hendon E ...................................................... Brent .......... Folklife .......... Folk Pottery Apprenticeship .......... $2,000
- SUBTOTAL BIBB COUNTY ................................................ $2,000

**Bloat**
- Southeastern School ..................................... Remlap .......... Rural School Touring .......... 2016 ATAP/Christie Toter (K-6) .......... $800
- Southeastern School ..................................... Remlap .......... Rural School Touring .......... 2016 ATAP/Russell Gulley (7th-12th) .......... $800
- SUBTOTAL BLOUNT COUNTY ......................................... $1,600

**Bullock**
- SUBTOTAL BULLOCK COUNTY ......................................... $4,500

**Butler**
- Greenville Elementary School ....................... Greenville .......... Arts in Education .......... Collaborating Artist Program .......... $4,200
- SUBTOTAL BUTLER COUNTY ........................................ $5,000

**Calhoun**
- City of Anniston ......................................................... Anniston .......... Visual Arts .......... Anniston Art Outings .......... $5,250
- SUBTOTAL CALHOUN COUNTY ........................................ $5,250

**Chambers**
- Chambers County Board of Education ............... Lafayette .......... Rural School Touring .......... 2016 ATAP/Ron McCull .......... $800
- SUBTOTAL CHAMBERS COUNTY ..................................... $800

**Cherokee**
- Breed, Cal ............................................................... Ft. Payne .......... Visual Arts .......... Craft Fellowship .......... $5,000
- Cherokee County Board of Education ............. Centre .......... Rural School Touring .......... 2016 ATAP/Russell Gulley .......... $800
- Cherokee County Board of Education ............. Centre .......... Rural School Touring .......... 2016 ATAP/Russell Gulley .......... $800
- SUBTOTAL CHEROKEE COUNTY ..................................... $6,600

**Chilton**
- SUBTOTAL CHILTON COUNTY ..................................... $800

**Clarke**
- Grove Hill Arts Council, Inc ......................... Grove Hill .......... Community Arts .......... Administrative Support Art Director .......... $4,500
- Grove Hill Arts Council, Inc ......................... Grove Hill .......... Arts in Education .......... Art Education Program .......... $2,100
- SUBTOTAL CLARKE COUNTY ..................................... $6,600

**Cleburne**
- Central High School of Clay County ............... Lineville .......... Arts in Education .......... Clay Central Arts Program/The Beginning .......... $1,800
- SUBTOTAL CLEBURNE COUNTY ..................................... $1,800
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<td>CULLMAN</td>
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<td>City of Ozark/Leisure Services Division, Ozark, Community Arts, Ozark’s Crawdad &amp; Music Festival</td>
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<td>DALLAS</td>
<td>AfricA, Enslavement Civil War Museum, Selma, Community Arts, Martin Duty Calls</td>
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<td>Arts Revive-Selma, Alabama, Selma, Community Arts, 37th Alabama Tale Tellin’ Festival</td>
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<td>Mentone Area Arts Council, Mentone, Community Arts, Mentone Summer Music Series 2016</td>
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<td>Mentone Arts and Cultural Center, Mentone, Design Arts, Architectural Design of Mentone Center</td>
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<td><strong>SUBTOTAL DEKALB COUNTY</strong></td>
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<td>Hogan, William C, Wetumpka, Folklife, Shape Note Singing Apprenticeship</td>
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<td><strong>SUBTOTAL ELMORE COUNTY</strong></td>
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**ANNUAL REPORT 2016**

**ALABAMA STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS**

35
### ANNUAL REPORT 2016

#### ETOWAH
- Etowah County Board of Education...Gadsden......  Arts in Education...... String Orchestra Program ........................................ $ 5,250
- Gadsden Cultural Arts Foundation, Inc. Gadsden...... Community Arts...... Operating Support ........................................ $ 44,300
- **SUBTOTAL ETOWAH COUNTY** ......................................................... $ 49,550

#### FRANKLIN
- Franklin County Board of Education ......Russellville......  Rural School Touring...2016 ATAP/Deborah Ferguson ........ $ 800
- **SUBTOTAL FRANKLIN COUNTY** ......................................................... $ 800

#### GENEVA
- Geneva Co School Funds...............Geneva......... Rural School Touring...2016 ATAP/Debbie Bond ........ $ 800
- **SUBTOTAL GENEVA COUNTY** ......................................................... $ 800

#### GREENE
- Eutaw Primary School...............Eutaw ............ Rural School Touring...2016 ATAP/Christi Toyer ........ $ 800
- **SUBTOTAL GREENE COUNTY** ......................................................... $ 800

#### HALE
- Hale County Board of Education ......Greensboro ..... Black Arts ........ 2016 Black Belt Initiative ................ $ 7,000
- **SUBTOTAL HALE COUNTY** ......................................................... $ 7,000

#### HOUSTON
- Patti Rutland Jazz, Inc..................Dothan...........  Arts in Education...... Patti Rutland Jazz Outreach Program ........ $ 3,750
- South AL Symphony - DBA Music South Dothan......... Performing Arts...... Music South Concert Series ........ $ 3,600
- Southeast Alabama Dance Company Dothan......... Performing Arts...... Peter Pan and Another Land ........ $ 5,250
- Southeast Alabama Dance Company Dothan......... Performing Arts...... Southeast Alabama Dance Expo ........ $ 5,250
- The Cultural Arts Center............Dothan...........  Arts in Education...... Smart Through Art ........ $ 5,250
- The Cultural Arts Center............Dothan...........  Community Arts...... ARTpower ................ $ 1,575
- Wiregrass Blues Society.............Dothan...........  Folklife................ Wiregrass Blues Festival ........ $ 3,500
- Wiregrass Museum of Art, Inc........Dothan...........  Visual Arts......... Alabama Makers exhibition ........ $ 3,000
- Wiregrass Museum of Art, Inc........Dothan...........  Visual Arts......... Collections- Digitization ........ $ 4,850
- Wiregrass Museum of Art, Inc........Dothan...........  Visual Arts......... Artist in Residency Pogram ........ $ 5,250
- Wiregrass Museum of Art, Inc........Dothan...........  Visual Arts......... Administrative Support-Development ........ $ 1,875
- **SUBTOTAL HOUSTON COUNTY** ......................................................... $ 43,150

#### JACKSON
- Northeast Alabama Community College Rainsville......... Performing Arts...... Alabama Ballet in Northeast Alabama ........ $ 2,800
- **SUBTOTAL JACKSON COUNTY** ......................................................... $ 2,800

#### JEFFERSON
- Alabama Asian Cultures Foundation Birmingham...... Community Arts...... Alabama Asian Cultures and Food Festival ........ $ 3,000
- Alabama Asian Cultures Foundation Birmingham...... Performing Arts...... Bangamela Dance Peromance ........ $ 3,000
- Alabama Dance Council, Inc. Birmingham...... Performing Arts...... Dance/USA Annual Conference ........ $ 500
- Alabama Dance Council, Inc. Birmingham...... Performing Arts...... Dance Across Birmingham ........ $ 5,250
- Alabama Dance Council, Inc. Birmingham...... Performing Arts...... Musical Theatre Dance Program ........ $ 1,000
- Alabama School of Fine Arts Foundation Birmingham...... Arts in Education...... Mark Morris Choreography Residency ........ $ 1,985
- Alabama School of Fine Arts Foundation Birmingham...... Arts in Education...... Guest Artist for Theatre Arts ........ $ 1,255
- Alabama Symphonic Assoc Inc Birmingham...... Performing Arts...... Russian Art Show and String Quarter Perf.. ........ $ 1,000
- Alabama Symphonic Assoc Inc Birmingham...... Performing Arts...... Operating Support........ $ 178,200
- American Gospel Quartet Convention,Inc Birmingham...... Folklife........ Quartet Music’s Contribution ........ $ 3,500
- AROVA Contemporary Ballet........... Birmingham...... Performing Arts...... BOOMERANG ........ $ 1,200
- AROVA Contemporary Ballet........... Birmingham...... Performing Arts...... Spring Performance Series ........ $ 5,250
- Better Basics, Inc. Birmingham...... Arts in Education...... I Rise: The Poetry of Maya Angelou ........ $ 2,100
- Bib & Tucker Sew-Op Birmingham...... Visual Arts...... QUARK ........ $ 1,000
- Birmingham Art Music Alliance Birmingham...... Performing Arts...... Birmingham New Music Festival ........ $ 5,250
- Birmingham Chamber Music Society Mountain Brook...... Performing Arts...... Cynthia Raim and David Wehr, Piano Duo ........ $ 5,250
- Birmingham Chamber Music Society Mountain Brook...... Performing Arts...... Arianna Quartet & Piano-Concert&Outreach ........ $ 4,845
- Birmingham Chamber Music Society Mountain Brook...... Performing Arts...... Voces8 concert & master class ........ $ 3,990
- Birmingham Children’s Theatre Birmingham...... Performing Arts...... Operating Support........ $ 29,900
- Birmingham Civil Rights Institute Birmingham...... Community Arts...... Juneteenth Cultural Festival ........ $ 3,000
- Birmingham Museum of Art (BMA) Birmingham...... Visual Arts...... Operating Support........ $ 167,000
- Birmingham Public Library Foundation Birmingham...... Literary Arts...... WORD UP! Student Poetry Slam ........ $ 1,000
- Birmingham Public Library Foundation Birmingham...... Literary Arts...... Bards & Brews ................ $ 1,200

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<td>Community Arts</td>
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<td>WWII Exhibition and Veteran’s Day Salute</td>
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<td>The Seasoned Performers</td>
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<td>UAB’s Alys Stephens Center</td>
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<td>Your Town Alabama, Inc.</td>
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**LAUDERDALE**

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<td>Banjo and Guitar Apprenticeship</td>
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<td>Shoals Symphony Orchestra</td>
<td>Florence</td>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>Shoals Symphony String Project</td>
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**LAWRENCE**

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<td>Community Information &amp; Ed Radio</td>
<td>Moulton</td>
<td>Community Arts</td>
<td>Downtown Live! 2016</td>
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**LEE**

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<td>Arts Build a Better Alabama</td>
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<td>Administrative Support for APAEP</td>
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<td>Auburn University</td>
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<td>Auburn Univ CMD Center Arts/Humanities</td>
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<td>Literary Arts</td>
<td>Auburn Writers Conference</td>
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<td>Carson, Carole Bandy</td>
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<td>Arts for the NAACP Image Awards</td>
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### ANNUAL REPORT 2016

<table>
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<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kuipers, Keetje</td>
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<td>Literary Arts</td>
<td>White Oak Basketry</td>
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<td>Lee County Historical Society</td>
<td>Loachapoka</td>
<td>Folklife</td>
<td>Lee County Gathering</td>
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<td>McDowell, Jessye</td>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>Media Arts Fellowship</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Arts Association of East Alabama</td>
<td>Opelika</td>
<td>Community Arts</td>
<td>Performance Series</td>
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<td>Opelika</td>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>Gulf State Touring Project</td>
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### LIMESTONE

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Huntsville Music Teachers Association</td>
<td>Athens</td>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>Composition Commission and Premier</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limestone County Board of Education</td>
<td>Athens</td>
<td>Rural School Touring</td>
<td>2016 ATAP/ Ronald McCall</td>
<td>$800</td>
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### MACON

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuskegee Institute Middle School</td>
<td>Tuskegee Inst.</td>
<td>Arts in Education</td>
<td>2016 Collaborating Artist Program</td>
<td>$4,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuskegee Repertory Theatre, Inc</td>
<td>Tuskegee</td>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>Performance: “The Wives of Booker T.”</td>
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<td>SUBTOTAL MACON COUNTY</td>
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### MADISON

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<td>Huntsville</td>
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<td>English &amp; Theatre Shakespeare Residency</td>
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<td>Madison</td>
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<td>Alabama Thespian Festival</td>
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<td>Alabama All State Orchestra Festival</td>
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<td>Alabama Youth Ballet Theatre</td>
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<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>The Dance Connection Outreach Program</td>
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<td>Ars Nova Incorporated</td>
<td>Huntsville</td>
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<td>Ars Nova presents The Tales of Hoffmann</td>
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<td>Broadway Theatre League of Huntsville</td>
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<td>Clifford the Big Red Dog Live</td>
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<td>Hot Peas ‘N Butter</td>
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<td>Challenger Elementary School</td>
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<td>Community Ballet Association, Inc.</td>
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<td>Public Relations/Development</td>
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<td>Dance All Productions, Inc.</td>
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<td>Fantasy Playhouse Children’s Theater</td>
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<td>All Area Free Youth Percussion Program</td>
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<td>American Shakespeare Center on Tour</td>
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<td>Independent Musical Productions, Inc.</td>
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<td>Summer Production “Mary Poppins”</td>
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<td>Oakwood University</td>
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<td>Sonia Sanchez: Poet of Social Values</td>
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<td>Oakwood University</td>
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<td>Performing Arts</td>
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<td>Sacred Harp Musical Heritage Association</td>
<td>Huntsville</td>
<td>Folklife</td>
<td>Camp Fasola</td>
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<td>Tennessee Valley Jazz Society, Inc.</td>
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<td>Celebrating 30 Years of Jazz</td>
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### MARENGO

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Program Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jackson, Estelle</td>
<td>Demopolis</td>
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<td>White Oak Basketry</td>
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<td>Black Arts</td>
<td>Arts in Schools</td>
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ANNUAL REPORT 2016

MARION
Brown and Sons Pottery
City of Winfield Pastime Theatre
City of Winfield Pastime Theatre

Folklife
Community Arts
2016 Four-performance concert series

Folk Pottery Apprenticeship
Admin Support Coordinator/Manager

$1,000
$4,500
$6,000

SUBTOTAL MARION COUNTY

$11,500

MARSHALL
Marshall Co Retired/Senior Vol Program
Dauphin Island Heritage & Arts Council
Main Street Mobile Inc.
Mobile Arts Council
Mobile Chamber Music

Guntersville
Dauphin Island
Mobile
Mobile
Mobile

Community Arts
Folklife
Visual Arts
Community Arts
Performing Arts

Melodies and Musings ~ Our Appalachian
Seafood Gumbo Apprenticeship
"TALL Tales"
Art as Business
3 chamber music concerts & 3 outreach

$4,500
$2,000
$3,000
$2,060
$6,000

SUBTOTAL MARSHALL COUNTY

$4,500

MOBILE
Centre for the Living Arts
Champion, Bettie B.
Main Street Mobile Inc.
Mobile Arts Council
Mobile Chamber Music

Mobile
Mobile
Mobile
Mobile
Mobile

Visual Arts
Folklife
Visual Arts
Community Arts
Performing Arts

Exhibitions and Programs
Seafood Gumbo Apprenticeship
Equino
Part-time Development Director
Operating Support

$25,600
$2,000
$3,750
$4,500
$22,800

SUBTOTAL MOBILE COUNTY

$115,200

MONROE
Alabama Southern Community College
Monroe Intermediate School
Monroe Intermediate School

Montgomery
Montgomery
Montgomery

Literary Arts
Rural School Touring
Arts in Education

19th Annual Alabama Writers Symposium
2016 ATAP/Ron McCall
Operating Support

$3,000
$800
$4,200

SUBTOTAL MONROE COUNTY

$8,000

MONTGOMERY
Alabama Alliance for Arts Education
Alabama Craft Council
Alabama Dance Theatre
Alabama Institute for Ed in the Arts
Alabama Institute for Ed in the Arts
Alabama Shakespeare Festival
Alabama State Univ/Theatre Arts/Dance
Alabama State Univ/Theatre Arts/Dance
Auburn University at Montgomery
City of Montgomery (for NPSPA)
ClefWorks, Inc.
Cloverdale Playhouse
Cornelson, Jessica
Jackson Hospital Foundation
Landmarks Foundation
Landmarks Foundation
Landmarks Foundation

Montgomery
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Montgomery
Montgomery

Arts in Education
Visual Arts
Performing Arts
Community Arts
Arts in Education
Performing Arts
Performing Arts
Performing Arts
Visual Arts
Visual Arts
Performing Arts
Design Arts
Literary Arts
Visual Arts
Community Arts

Collaborative Ventures - POL/VAAP/CAP
Alabama Clay Conference
Operating Support
Support for Change: Site Visits
Artists in Education
Performing Arts
Strategy for Change: Site Visit
Performing Arts
Community Dance Initiative at ASU
Day of Dance, Health & Wellness at ASU
Literary Arts
Visual Arts

$52,430
$3,600
$18,100
$5,250
$5,250
$15,000
$138,600
$10,500
$5,250
$1,000
$4,100
$800
$9,000
$5,000
$2,000
$1,100
$16,000
$2,600
$800

SUBTOTAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY

$397,050

(Continued)
ANNUAL REPORT 2016

The Arts Council of Montgomery .......... Montgomery .... Visual Arts........... Doing Our Own Thing (DOOT) ........ $ .... 1,300
SUBTOTAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY ................................................................. $ .... 456,575

MORGAN
Carnegie Visual Arts Center .............. Decatur ............. Folklife ................ Folklife Exhibition and Education ........ $ .... 1,500
Decatur Youth Symphony, Inc. .......... Decatur ............. Performing Arts ....... Decatur Youth Symphony Admin. Support $ .... 2,980
Decatur Youth Symphony, Inc. .......... Decatur ............. Performing Arts ....... Concert Series and Small Ensembles $ .... 7,000
SUBTOTAL MORGAN COUNTY ................................................................. $ ....11,480

PERRY
Francis Marion High School .......... Marion ............. Arts in Education .... Collaborating Artist Program $ .... 4,200
Perry County Board of Education .......... Marion ............. Black Arts ......... Arts in Schools $ .... 5,000
SUBTOTAL PERRY COUNTY ................................................................. $ .... 9,200

PIKE
Brundidge Historical Society .......... Brundidge .......... Folklife .......... PIKE Piddlers Storytelling Festival $ .... 4,500
Pike Liberal Arts School Foundation Inc. Troy .......... Arts in Education .... Collaborating Artist Program $ .... 4,200
Pioneer Museum of Alabama .......... Troy ............. Folklife .......... Pioneer Days $ .... 3,000
Rich, Ralph Christopher .... Brundidge .......... Performing Arts ... Theatre Fellowship $ .... 5,000
Troy Arts Council .......... Troy ............. Community Arts .... Pike County Area Arts Programming $ .... 5,085
Troy-Pike Cultural Arts Center, Inc. .. Troy ............. Design Arts ....... Renovations to Provide Classrooms $ .... 15,000
Troy-Pike Cultural Arts Center, Inc. .. Troy ............. Visual Arts .......... Mary Ann Casey: “Stories & Totems” $ .... 5,250
Troy-Pike Cultural Arts Center, Inc. .. Troy ............. Arts in Education .... ArtBridges In Schools $ .... 1,750
Troy-Pike Cultural Arts Center, Inc. .. Troy ............. Arts in Education .... ArtBridges Teacher Dev Workshops $ .... 5,250
SUBTOTAL PIKE COUNTY ................................................................. $ ....49,035

RUSSELL
Dixie Elementary School ........ Opelika ............. Rural School Touring .... 2016 ATAP/Deborah Ferguson $ .... 800
Mount Olive Primary School .......... Fort Mitchell ........ Rural School Touring .... 2016 ATAP/Deborah Ferguson $ .... 800
SUBTOTAL RUSSELL COUNTY ................................................................. $ .... 1,600

SHELBY
Pool, Agnes Marie .......... Columbiana .......... Folklife .......... Quilting Apprenticeship $ .... 2,000
Shelby County Arts Council .......... Columbiana .... Arts in Education .... Writing Our Stories $ .... 5,250
Shelby County Arts Council .......... Columbiana .... Community Arts .... Gallery Exhibition $ .... 4,000
SUBTOTAL SHELBY COUNTY ................................................................. $ ....11,250

ST. CLAIR
St Clair County Bd Of Education .......... Moody ............. Rural School Touring .... 2016 ATAP/Ronald McCall $ .... 800
St. Clair County Board of Education .......... Ashville ........ Rural School Touring .... 2016 ATAP/Debbie Bond $ .... 800
SUBTOTAL ST. CLAIR COUNTY ................................................................. $ .... 1,600

SUMTER
Coleman Center for the Arts .......... York ............. Visual Arts .......... Consolidated Artist Projects $ .... 9,750
Coleman Center for the Arts .......... York ............. Visual Arts .......... Education Programs $ .... 4,850
Sumter County Board of Education .......... Livingston .... Black Arts .......... Arts in Schools $ .... 7,000
Sumter County Fine Arts Council .......... Livingston .... Community Arts .... BCT’s performance of Tuxedo Junction $ .... 825
Sumter County Fine Arts Council .......... Livingston .... Community Arts .... Legacy Concert: Black History Month $ .... 500
Sumter County Fine Arts Council .......... Livingston .... Community Arts .... Birmingham Children’s Theatre $ .... 825
Sumter County Fine Arts Council .......... Livingston .... Community Arts .... An Evening in Italy: The Mobile Opera $ .... 1,000
The University of West Alabama .......... Livingston .... Folklife .......... The Sucarnoochee Folklife Festival $ .... 2,220
SUBTOTAL SUMTER COUNTY ................................................................. $ ....26,970

TALLADEGA
Antique Talladega/Ritz Theatre .......... Talladega .......... Performing Arts .......... Gulf States Presenter Consortium $ .... 4,000
SUBTOTAL TALLADEGA COUNTY ................................................................. $ ....8,850

TALLAPOOSA
Alexander City Arts, Inc .......... Alexander City ..... Community Arts .... 2016 Performance Season $ .... 5,740
Alexander City Jazz Festival, Inc. .......... Alexander City ..... Community Arts .... 6th Annual Jazz Fest $ .... 3,000
Sarah Carlisle Towery Art Colony .......... Alexander City ..... Visual Arts .......... A five-day art workshop $ .... 3,000
SUBTOTAL TALLAPOOSA COUNTY ................................................................. $ ....11,740
### TUSCALOOSA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama Blues Project</td>
<td>Northport</td>
<td>Folklife</td>
<td>Summertime Blues Camp</td>
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<td>Alabama Blues Project</td>
<td>Northport</td>
<td>Community Arts</td>
<td>Admin Support - Program Manager</td>
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<td>Alabama Blues Project</td>
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<td>Folklife</td>
<td>19th Annual Freedom Creek Festival</td>
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<td>Northport</td>
<td>Folklife</td>
<td>After School Blues Camp</td>
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<td>Performing Arts</td>
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<td>Arts &amp; Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa</td>
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<td>Community Arts</td>
<td>Operating Support</td>
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<td>Bounds, Sharon W.</td>
<td>Northport</td>
<td>Folklife</td>
<td>Old-Time Fiddling Apprenticeship</td>
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<td>Community Foundation of West Alabama</td>
<td>Tuscaloosa</td>
<td>Folklife</td>
<td>Black Warrior River Fiddle Festival</td>
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<td>Corrao, Nick</td>
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<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>Media Fellowship</td>
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<td>CSFO Tuscaloosa City Schools</td>
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<td>Rural School</td>
<td>2016 ATAP/Alabama Blues Project</td>
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<td>Kentuck Museum Association</td>
<td>Northport</td>
<td>Design Arts</td>
<td>Kentuck Museum Building Renovation</td>
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<td>Kentuck Museum Association</td>
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<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>Glass Exhibition</td>
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<td>Magic City Smooth Jazz</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>Jazz in the Park</td>
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<td>Magic City Smooth Jazz</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>Celebrating Women in Jazz</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<td>The University of Alabama</td>
<td>Tuscaloosa</td>
<td>Literary Arts</td>
<td>Alabama Bound - Book Reviews</td>
<td>$4,875</td>
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<td>Theatre Tuscaloosa</td>
<td>Tuscaloosa</td>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>2015-16 Season - Making Fun!</td>
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<td>Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra Assoc</td>
<td>Tuscaloosa</td>
<td>Community Arts</td>
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<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>Downtown Chamber Orchestra Series</td>
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<td>Tuscaloosa</td>
<td>Literary Arts</td>
<td>Slash Pine Writers Festival</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
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**SUBTOTAL TUSCALOOSA COUNTY** $155,528

### WALKER

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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
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<td>Alabama Conference of Theatre (ACT)</td>
<td>Jasper</td>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>ACT State Theatre Festivals</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
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<td>Walker County Arts Alliance</td>
<td>Jasper</td>
<td>Community Arts</td>
<td>Summer Musical Theatre Camp</td>
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<td>Walker County Arts Alliance</td>
<td>Jasper</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>Paint the Town</td>
<td>$1,875</td>
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**SUBTOTAL WALKER COUNTY** $12,375

### WILCOX

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<th>Project Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jones, Marlene Bennett</td>
<td>Boykin</td>
<td>Folklife</td>
<td>Quilting Apprenticeship</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<td>Pettway, Emma</td>
<td>Boykin</td>
<td>Folklife</td>
<td>Quilting Apprenticeship</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<td>Pettway, Mary Ann</td>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>Folklife</td>
<td>Quilting Apprenticeship</td>
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**SUBTOTAL WILCOX COUNTY** $5,000

### WINSTON

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<tr>
<td>Double Springs Elementary School</td>
<td>Double Springs</td>
<td>Rural School</td>
<td>2016 ATAP/Russell Gulley</td>
<td>$800</td>
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<td>Winston County Board of Education</td>
<td>Double Springs</td>
<td>Community Arts</td>
<td>Return To Looney’s Tavern</td>
<td>$2,960</td>
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**SUBTOTAL WINSTON COUNTY** $3,760

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### STATEWIDE IMPACT GRANTS

<table>
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<th>Organization</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Black Belt Community Foundation</td>
<td>Selma</td>
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<td>Black Belt Arts Alive!</td>
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<td>Alabama Dance Council, Inc.</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>Community Arts</td>
<td>Bill Bates Arts Leadership Institute</td>
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<td>Alabama Dance Council, Inc.</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>Special Projects</td>
<td>Grant Management</td>
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<td>Alabama Dance Council, Inc.</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>ADC Statewide Services 2015-16</td>
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<td>Alabama Folklife Association</td>
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<td>Alabama Alliance for Arts Education</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>Arts in Education</td>
<td>Statewide Services</td>
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<td>Alabama Writers’ Forum, Inc.</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>Literary Arts</td>
<td>Services and Programs in Literary Arts</td>
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<td>DesignAlabama, Inc.</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>Community Arts</td>
<td>DesignAlabama Annual Programming</td>
<td>$55,320</td>
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**SUBTOTAL STATEWIDE GRANTS** $461,01

*The Black Belt Community Foundation funds organizations in 12 of Alabama’s Black Belt Counties including: Bullock, Choctaw, Dallas, Greene, Hale, Lowndes, Macon, Marengo, Perry, Pickens, Sumter, and Wilcox.*
**Financial Report**

### REVENUES
- Education Trust Fund Appropriation $4,184,496

### FEDERAL FUNDS
- National Endowment for the Arts $743,800
- NEA Partnership Grant $551,000
- Arts in Education $52,100
- Poetry Out Loud $17,500
- Arts in Underserved Communities $105,200
- Folk Arts Infrastructure $18,000

**TOTAL** $4,928,296

### EXPENDITURES

#### ARTS IN EDUCATION PROGRAM
- Organizational Grants $233,950
- Black Belt Arts Initiative/Schools $30,000
- Alabama Touring Artist Program $20,000
- Technical Assistance/Services to the field $110,479

#### COMMUNITY ARTS PROGRAM
- Organizational Grants $395,810
- Arts Administration Fellowship $5,000
- Black Belt Arts Initiative/Communities $143,690
- Art & Cultural Facilities $102,000
- Technical Assistance/Services to the Field $52,377

#### FOLKLIFE PROGRAM
- Organizational Grants $95,273
- Apprenticeships $30,200
- Technical Assistance/Services to the field/Alabama Center for Traditional Culture $361,639

#### LITERATURE PROGRAM
- Organizational Grants $104,330
- Fellowships to Individual Artists $10,000

#### PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM
- Organizational Grants $1,018,405
- Fellowships to Individual Artists $15,000
- Technical Assistance/Services to the field $63,984

#### VISUAL ARTS PROGRAM
- Organizational Grants $516,150
- Fellowships to Individual Artists $30,000
- Technical Assistance/Services to the field $104,851

#### GRANTS MANAGEMENT/INFORMATION SYSTEMS/GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
- $1,135,158

#### SPECIAL LINE ITEM APPROPRIATIONS
- Alabama Center for the Arts $350,000

**TOTAL** $4,928,296
Council Staff

ALBERT B. HEAD
Executive Director

BARBARA EDWARDS
Deputy Director

RITA GRAY ALLEN
Grants Assistant

JACQUELINE BERRY
Executive Assistant

DEBORAH BOYKIN
Arts & Cultural Facilities
and Community Arts Program Manager

WANDA DEJARNETTE
Grants Officer

DIANA F. GREEN
Arts In Education Program Manager

YVETTE JONES-SMEDLEY
Performing Arts Program Manager

ALABAMA CENTER FOR TRADITIONAL CULTURE

JOEY BRACKNER
Director

JACKIE ELY
Administrative Secretary

STEPHEN GRAUBERGER
Folklife Specialist

ANNE KIMZEY
Folklife Specialist

ANNE KIMZEY
Literature Program Manager

ELLIO KNIGHT
Visual Arts Program Manager
and Gallery Director

JOHN MEYERS
Gallery Assistant

BARBARA REED
Public Information Officer

DEXTER SMITH
Security

VINNIE WATSON
Programs Assistant
Photos Captions & Credits

Cover: (Clockwise from top left) April Mae and the June Bugs, a New Jersey Rockabilly and Boogie group perform during RadioVizions, a production of the Big Wills Arts Council, Ft. Payne; R.C. Hatch second graders creating story settings; Alabama Shakespeare’s production of *King Lear*. Photo by Stephen Poff; A sculptor uses a hammer and chisel to carve Alabama marble at the 2016 Magic of Marble Festival in Sylacauga.

Page 3: Albert B. Head. Photo by Paul Robertson.

Page 4: (Clockwise from left) Alabama artist Nall, Daniele Spina, Al Head and Massimo Mallegni at the dedication of Nall’s “Peace Frame” in Pietrasanta, Italy in 2007. At this event, the groundwork was laid for the cultural exchange between Alabama and Pietrasanta. Photo by Steve Grauberger; Alabama photography exhibit in Pietrasanta featuring Chip Cooper, Robin McDonald and Jerry Seigel. Photo by Andrea Berti; Pietrasanta Mayor Massimo Mallegni and Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange show off their signed cultural exchange documents. Photo by Andrea Berti.

Page 5: (Clockwise from top left) Massimo Mallegni and Al Head share a moment at the 2016 cultural exchange. Photo by Andrea Berti; New Council members: Dr. Henry Panion, Kim Vice Mitchell and Mary Wadsworth White; Massimo Mallegni, Todd Strange and Al Head with an art piece created in 2008 by Alabama artists Charlie Lucas and Bruce Larsen. Photo by Andrea Berti; Dancers Adria Ferrali and Curran Tel-lalian Interpret *American Indian Song* around the sculptures of Heldon Xhixha in Pietrasanta. Photo by Andrea Berti.

Page 6: (Clockwise from top) Chair Vaughan Morrissette (2014-2015) leads discussion during a Council meeting. Photo by Barbara Reed; Dora James and Al Head at the 2011 Celebration of the Arts Awards. Photo by Andy Meadows; Council members at the 2011 Celebration of the Arts Awards, (front row left to right) Vaughan Morrissette, Lisa Weil, Julie Friedman, Dora James, Becky Quinn, Sontonia Stephens. (Back row left to right) Elaine Johnson, Linda Rochester, Ceil Snow, Lee Sentell, Ralph Frohsin, Jim Harrison III and Al Head. Photo by Andy Meadows;

Page 7: Dora Hanson James. Photo by Jerrigan’s Photography, Opelika.

Page 8: Current Council Members (front row, left to right): Ceil Snow, Dora Hanson James (Chair), Dr. Rachel Brown Fowler (Secretary), Neely Jones Portera, Sontonia T. K. Stephens, Mary Wadsworth White and Julie Hall Friedman. Council Members (back row, left to right): Joel Daves IV (Vice Chair), Doug Purcell, Will Sellers, Elaine Johnson, Dr. Henry Panion III, Kim Vice Mitchell, Jim Harrison III, and Al Head, Executive Director of the Council. (Not pictured, Rebecca T. B. Quinn). Photo by Barbara Reed.

Page 9: (Clockwise from top) Dora James (Current Chair) celebrates the Council’s 50th anniversary with several former Council Chairs, Jim Harrison III, Jim Inscoe, Rebecca Quinn, James Sledge, Ralph Frohsin and Joe McInnes. Photo by Barbara Reed; Al Head with Lyndra Daniels (Chair 1997-1999); Al Head and Ann Delchamps (Chair 1995-1997); Council members (front row, left to right) Dora James, Julie Friedman, Becky Quin, Evelyn Allen, Vaughan Morrissette, Ceil Snow and Jim Harrison III. (Back row left to right) Dyann Robinson, Carol Zippert, Ralph Frohsin, Elaine Johnson, Frank Helderlan, Judge Vanzetta Penn McPherson and Lee Sentell. Photo by Barbara Reed; Elmore and Jim Inscoe with Judy and Al Head at the Council’s 50th anniversary celebration. Photo by Barbara Reed.

Page 10: (Clockwise from top left) R.C. Hatch second graders creating story settings; Mrs Cunningham’s Class Desegregation of UA Tableaux; Third graders showing their Set Designs at Challenger Elementary School.

Page 12: (Clockwise from top left) Raina Verser, a sophomore at New Century Technology High School in Huntsville is named the 2016 Poetry Out Loud Champion; Tuskegee Institute Middle School with the Sixteen Suns project; A student’s note regarding what he learned from a project; A student learning etching and printmaking techniques at O’Conner Studios in Tuscaloosa.

Page 14: (Clockwise from top left) Community arts programs enable students to take part in hands-on arts activities; Aaron Head at mike during a radio interview conducted by Deb Boykin; Avril Bird performs at the Florence Library.

Page 16: (Left to right) A patron enjoys Art Night at Kentuck as well as the grand reopening of the Kentuck Museum building in Northport; Herschel Sizemore with his signature Sizemore mandolin.

Page 18: (Clockwise from top) An episode of *Journey Proud* on APT featuring classical dance of India and Sudha Raghuram and a Bharatanatyam student; Gourd craftsman Weldon Vickery demonstrates during a *Journey Proud* episode; The group Branson On The Road were featured performers of the Coffee County Arts Alliance.

Page 20: (Clockwise from top) April Mae and the June Bugs, a New Jersey Rockabilly and Boogie perform during RadioVizions, a production of the Big Wills Arts Council, Ft. Payne; Anne Kimzey, folklorist for the Council interviews Helidon Xhixha in Pietrasanta. Photo by Andrea Berti.

Page 22: (Clockwise from top left) Alabama Writers Hall of Fame inducting E. O. Wilson at the 2016 ceremony; Storybook characters June B. and Olivia entertain during the 2016 Alabama Book Festival, Old Alabama Town, Montgomery; Booths and tents located on the southside of the Alabama Book Festival, Old Alabama Town, Montgomery.

Page 24: (Clockwise from top) Rick Bragg, always a crowd favorite, entertains under the writer’s tent during the 2016 Alabama Book Festival, Old Alabama Town, Montgomery; Book lovers having their books signed during the 2016 Alabama Book Festival, Old Alabama Town, Montgomery; A student signs the latest publication of *Open Door*, an anthology created under the Writing Our Stories program. Writing Our Stories is an award-winning creative writing program for adjudicated youth in partnership with the Department of Youth Services. It allows incarcerated youth to work with professional writers to tell their stories. Photo by Barbara Reed.

Page 26: (Clockwise from top left) ASF’s production of *A Mid-summer’s Nights Dream*. Photo by David Robertson; The Alabama Dance Theatre’s production of *Dracula*. Photo by Richard Calmes; The Lyric Theatre Lyric opening performance featuring Jan Hunter and Kristi Tingle Higginbotham.

Page 28: (Top to bottom) Mobile Symphony’s opening night for 2015-2016 season featuring Pablo Villegas. Photo by Ben Harper; Opera Birmingham’s production of *Hamlet*. Photo by Steven Ross.

Page 30: (Clockwise from top left) - Alabama artist Ken Lever sculpts a chunk of Alabama marble during the 2016 Magic of Marble festival in Sylacauga; Steel sculpture by Adam Walls installed on the grounds of the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art as part of the Out of the Box juried sculpture exhibition; Ceramic artist Paul Lewing demonstrates how to paint on porcelain tile at the 31st annual Alabama Clay Conference, which was held in Gadsden in February 2016; Alabama artist Enid Probst designed and created a mural which incorporates designs of plants and animals native to Alabama for the new Family Birth Center at Jackson Hospital in Montgomery.

Page 32: (Clockwise from top) Gallery assistant John Meyers surveys the exhibition *Let Us Now Praise Famous Soil* in the Georgine Clarke Alabama Artists Gallery; Steve Loucks demonstrates throwing on the wheel at the 2016 Alabama Clay Conference in Gadsden; Alex Podesta’s Self-Portrait as Bunnies (The Bathers) installed in the pond in front of Auburn’s Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art as part of the Out of the Box juried sculpture exhibition.
Resolution

RECOGNIZING THE ALABAMA STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS
ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

By Senator Whatley

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Council on the Arts was created by Executive Order No. 29 on April 8, 1966, by Governor George C. Wallace; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Council on the Arts was established as the official “State Arts Agency of Alabama” by Legislative Act 551 and signed by Governor Lurleen B. Wallace on September 8, 1967; and

WHEREAS, over a 50-year period, the State Council on the Arts has provided significant support to schools, school systems, teachers, and arts organizations for the advancement of arts education; and

WHEREAS, over a 50-year period, the Council has established a nationally recognized folk arts program engaged in diverse projects and providing support to folk artists and a wide range of organizations and educational institutions preserving and presenting Alabama’s rich folk culture; and

WHEREAS, from 1966 to 2016, the Council has provided matching grants to hundreds of arts organizations statewide for programming in the visual, performing, and literary arts reflected in community concerts, exhibitions, festivals, and in-school presentations; and

WHEREAS, in the past 50 years, the Council has supported and recognized outstanding Alabama artists with fellowships, award programs, employment in grant funded projects, residencies in the classroom, apprenticeships, films, and through a wide range of promotional activities; and

WHEREAS, the Council has consistently highlighted the economic impact of the arts in Alabama emphasizing the important role public and private partnerships play in creating and sustaining a substantial creative industry; and

WHEREAS, the Council has provided significant support for the planning, design, and construction of multi-use of cultural facilities including restoration of old theatres, historic buildings converted to art centers, museum expansion, and performance spaces in communities large and small; and

WHEREAS, the Council, in its 50-year history in partnership with many arts groups, educational institutions, other governmental entities and thousands of creative individuals, has enhanced the quality of life and cultural landscape in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the Council has been led by a group of outstanding council members appointed by the Governor from all parts of the state and a committed staff over this long period; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA
That we hereby recognize the 50-year Anniversary of the Alabama State Council on the Arts and extend our appreciation and congratulations for its 50 years of important work and that, by copy of this resolution, we extend our sincere gratitude for its service and warm best wishes for continued success.

I hereby certify that the above is a true, correct and accurate copy of Senate Resolution No. 16-142, filed with the Senate of Alabama on April 19, 2016.

Patrick Harris
Secretary of Senate

Kay Ivey
Lieutenant Governor