



Plan For Arts Education

Created by the
Arts Education Leadership Team

A partnership between the
Alabama State Council on the Arts and the
Alabama State Department of Education

Artistic Literacy Consortium
Creatively Innovating Alabama's Future



Plan For Arts Education

*Artistic Literacy Consortium
Creatively Innovating Alabama's Future*

*Executive Summary
2018*



This plan endorsed by

Alabama State Council on the Arts
Alabama State Department of Education

Alabama A+ Education Partnership
Alabama Alliance for Arts Education
Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts
Alabama Public Television
Alabama School of Fine Arts



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Overview

In September 2013, the Arts Education Leadership Team was established to create a plan for arts education that would make measurable progress toward the development of artistic and creative literacy for all Alabama students. The membership of this task force included executive level leadership in education, business, communities, government, and cultural institutions. During the first year, these diverse stakeholders explored common interests and created a set of goals to accomplish a shared mission. In the second year, task force membership expanded to include 22 students from across the state, and on September 15, 2015, the Leadership Team approved this plan to be submitted for adoption in the state of Alabama.



Need

In September 2012, a survey on access and quality of arts education in public schools in Alabama was administered to school principals through the office of state superintendent. Key findings from this baseline study indicated not only a lack of arts education in many of Alabama schools, but also indicated an inequity of access to specific populations and areas of the state.

Art Matters

- 90% of the highest scoring schools on the ACT Plan have high access to arts education.
- 93% of the lowest scoring schools on the ACT Plan have minimal to no access to arts education.

Who You Are Matters

- Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch in Alabama have a greater risk of receiving no arts education.
- African American students in Alabama have a greater risk of receiving no arts education.

Where You Live Matters



- 76% of students living in rural areas of Alabama have minimal to no access to arts education.
- 63% of students living in urban areas of Alabama have minimal to no access to arts education.
- 48% of students living in suburban areas of Alabama have minimal to no access to arts education.

Age Matters



- 55% of elementary school students have minimal to no access to arts education.
- 80% of middle school students have minimal to no access to arts education.
- 81% of high school age students have minimal to no access to arts education.



Principals Cite Barriers



- Principals cite arts education as a currently under funded and undersupported area of education.
- Principals cite limited funding, schedule inflexibility, and overemphasis on reading and math instruction as obstacles to arts education.

The Executive Summary of the Access and Quality of Arts Education in Public Schools in Alabama Baseline Data Analysis prepared by Dr. Stacy Hughey Surman, Ph.D.; The University of Alabama, College of Education, Department of Educational Studies.
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In Context

Whereas access to arts education in Alabama is bleak, there are many programs, initiatives, and communities working hard to fill in the gaps. Success stories abound, and many classroom teachers receive excellent training in arts integration each year during summer workshops provided by the Alabama Arts Alliance and the Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts. The Alabama State Council on the Arts provides small grants and technical assistance to schools and organizations in support of arts education. The Alabama State Department of Education is



providing seed funding to schools to either enhance arts programs or build new ones. Our state is home to numerous quality arts organizations and individual artists. The arts resources in Alabama are rich and diverse.

What is needed is an alignment of these resources in support of the best possible education for Alabama students.

The Artistic Literacy Consortium

The Arts Education Leadership Team proposed the establishment of the Artistic Literacy Consortium to make collective impact for arts education in the state of Alabama. As a consortium, members join to combine resources to accomplish their shared mission and goals with the desired outcome of providing artistic literacy to every Alabama student.

THE PLAN (In Summary)

This plan, recommended by the Arts Education Leadership Team, is not a plan with responsibilities limited to any one stakeholder, but rather a plan to create collective impact, with the participation of multiple and diverse stakeholders. All stakeholders, whether working locally or statewide, have the power to make measureable progress toward the mission and goals of the Artistic Literacy Consortium. In order to do so, everyone should align their efforts, agree to track progress through a shared evaluation system, and share lessons learned from the information gained through that evaluation.

Multiple Stakeholders

Shared Mission



To provide fully funded, high-quality arts education that enlightens, inspires, and develops in every Alabama student the creative and innovative thinking necessary to ensure college and career readiness.

Shared Goals



Build expectations for the arts to enhance economy, community, and quality of life

- target messaging
- strengthen advocacy efforts
- develop public policy

Provide both virtual and actual access and equity to quality arts learning for all students

- provide sequential, standards-based arts instruction by qualified arts educators
- train educators qualified in diverse fields of study to connect standards-based arts learning to their curriculum
- train community arts organizations and teaching artists in effective collaboration strategies that provide standards-based learning

Advance arts education opportunities to facilitate college and career readiness

- align arts instruction to support college and career ready standards
- balance instruction in the arts between creating, performing, and responding to foster the skills needed in a competitive workforce, including creativity, innovation, persistence, and the ability to take risk
- provide opportunities for collaborations between teachers, programs, businesses, community organizations, and arts organizations to engage students in innovative, real world, multi-disciplinary learning



Employ the arts as a catalyst to create and maintain an engaged school and community environment

- connect schools and communities by sharing with and involving parents, local businesses, community organizations, and policy makers
- provide opportunities for community partners and schools to collaborate on the planning and implementation of comprehensive arts education programming
- involve students in identifying and addressing community challenges and opportunities through problem solving in the arts.



Iterative Design Process



Sharing lessons learned is strategic in this plan, because it is not a linear plan with specific methods and outcomes projected along the way. It is designed to be flexible, allowing for experimentation, in order to continually grow and learn and to replicate or adapt what is relevant.

The current plan proposes a vision for a structure that the Arts Education Leadership Team believes has the potential to create substantial impact for arts education in Alabama. At the same time, the team acknowledges that many factors may influence the ability to achieve this vision, and that while the concept may be valid, the implementation of that concept will present its own challenges. While moving toward that vision, other pathways equally as effective, or even more so, may present themselves and cause the plan to change.

For this reason, the Arts Education Leadership Team recommends that the Artistic Literacy Consortium find a way to institutionalize its administrative structure to allow for a consistency of leadership, planning, and purpose. A steady and persistent momentum toward consortium goals will be essential for success.

The ultimate goal for this plan is twofold: every school in the state of Alabama will have fully funded, high-quality arts education programs for every student; and every arts and cultural organization will have high-quality arts education programs that work hand-in-hand with our schools to enhance our communities and our lives.

A Structure For Impact



Resource Centers



The Arts Education Leadership Team proposed a structure that focuses on grass-roots efforts to make regional impact in five years. Regional impact should spread to fill gaps and make statewide impact in ten years. Within this structure a strong partnership between the state department of education and the state arts council will provide the support and expertise needed for schools and communities to maximize the availability of local resources from cross sector stakeholders.

Regional Arts Collaboratives should be strategically placed to provide equitable access. Impact will be strengthened by collaborations with established personnel and initiatives within in-service centers, higher education, and other forms of academic support. Coordination and collaboration with science, technology, engineering, math, and reading initiatives along with Alabama's innovative PreK programs will improve creativity systemically. The use of Regional Arts Collaboratives should not be restricted to schools, but must be open to community organizations that may enhance and embellish arts education through quality partnerships with schools.



As a managing partner for the regional arts collaboratives, the State Department of Education should:

- provide at least one full-time qualified curriculum specialist for each of the five arts disciplines as identified in the Alabama Course of Study (dance, music, media arts, theatre, and visual arts)
- provide at least one STEM collaborator (curriculum specialist in science, technology, engineering or math) with considerable experience in STEM initiatives
- provide at least one CTE collaborator (curriculum specialist with considerable leadership experience in Career Tech programs and initiatives)
- facilitate collaborations between personnel listed above and other regional support centers established by the ALSDE (i.e in-service centers, birth to career centers, higher education partners)

Recommendations for Arts Council



As a managing partner for regional arts collaboratives, the Alabama State Council on the Arts should:

- appoint a major arts organization for each regional arts collaborative to coordinate with ALSDE personnel, providing expertise and contacts to develop community partnerships, programming, professional development, and resources
- support collaborations between ALSDE personnel and communities
- connect regional artists and organizations to schools by training community personnel in strategies for standards-based curriculum and meaningful collaborations
- provide training and consulting services to aid in the use of the shared evaluation system required of all programs that receive funding through an Artistic Literacy Initiative

Arts Collaborative personnel should create and maintain resources to be used by schools and communities. These resource centers should strive to increase possibilities for seamless arts experiences for all young people, at school, at home, and in their communities through school programs, afterschool programs, community arts programs, and virtual environments.



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS Years 1 - 3 (FY 2018-2020)

Recommendations to Lead State Agencies



In order to move toward grassroots support for arts education, the following are priority recommendations to the Lead State Agencies. The goal of these recommendations is to build a network of efficient and effective partnerships to lay the groundwork for collective impact toward quality arts learning for every Alabama student.

Legislative Support



Alabama State Council on the Arts Support



Alabama State Legislature

It is recommended that the Legislature provide additional funding to the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the Alabama State Department of Education, specifically, to support the implementation of the plan created by the Arts Education Leadership Team. Funding should be phased to provide incremental increases for the first five years of the plan, and for maintenance of the plan thereafter, until every student in the state of Alabama has access to fully funded, high-quality arts education that enlightens, inspires, and develops the creative and innovative thinking necessary to ensure college and career readiness.

Alabama State Council on the Arts

Leadership/Facilitator

It is recommended that the Alabama State Council on the Arts provide personnel to lead and facilitate the operations of the Artistic Literacy Consortium.

Shared Evaluation

It is recommended that the Alabama State Council on the Arts, in partnership with the Alabama Arts Alliance, maintain the shared evaluation system and assist in the practice of collecting qualitative and quantitative information to be shared among consortium membership.

Consortium Membership

It is recommended that the Alabama State Council on the Arts lead an effort to recruit a broad, diverse, and cross sector membership for the consortium to establish strong collective impact.

Regional Community Leadership Committees

It is recommended that the Alabama State Council on the Arts begin to identify organizations with an interest in taking a leadership role regionally, while advancing the mission of the consortium. These organizations should work systematically to gather regional support and cross-sector partners to work toward consortium goals.



Expanded Grants Programs

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It is recommended that the Alabama State Council on the Arts create new and expanded grant funding programs to:

- support the creation of a regional infrastructure to aid in the expansion of community and school partnerships at the local level.
- provide various grant options at the regional level to encourage local innovative projects, initiatives, and research in order to enhance arts education.
- engage local artists and arts organizations in training programs that enhance standards-based instruction and increase opportunities for students to become artistically literate, both in school and within the community.
- facilitate private sector partnerships that participate in on-going planning and that provide matching financial support for arts education statewide.

State Department of Education Support

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Alabama State Department of Education

Leadership

It is recommended that the State Department of Education continue to provide personnel that will take a leadership role in the planning and operations of the Artistic Literacy Consortium.

Evaluation and Return on Investment

It is recommended that the State Department of Education conduct research to track return on investment through a system that collects information about access to and quality of arts education in all Alabama schools. This system should include the ability to identify correlations between the arts and academic success.

Policy & Funding

It is recommended that the State Department of Education recognize the arts as integral to the education of every student by exploring ways to:

- revise and update the Alabama Course of Study using current research and best practices and include recommendations for assessments in the arts.
- add statements to the Strategic Plan and the Administrative Code that recognize the value of arts education for every student and create guidelines for developing strong arts programs.
- reinstate an arts graduation requirement. A one credit minimum is recommended.

- Revise and update the Alabama Core Teaching Standards to include artistic literacy as a strategy for teaching and learning for all teachers.
- Revise and update the arts requirements for programs that prepare K-6 teacher candidates, and establish guidelines for the arts in early childhood education programs as well as programs for teacher candidates in PreK-12 in specific fields of study.

Collaborations

It is recommended that the State Department of Education explore possible collaborations between personnel leading initiatives in the Arts, STEM, and CTE and investigate how new collaborations may enhance regional support provided to Alabama schools.

“As a society we must support the arts in our public schools and in our communities. Recently, I saw a show choir performance by a local school. Their performance reinforced my commitment and belief that the arts are important in education. Our young people need to mold their talents and skills through the arts, so that one day they have the opportunity to showcase those skills on the world stage.”

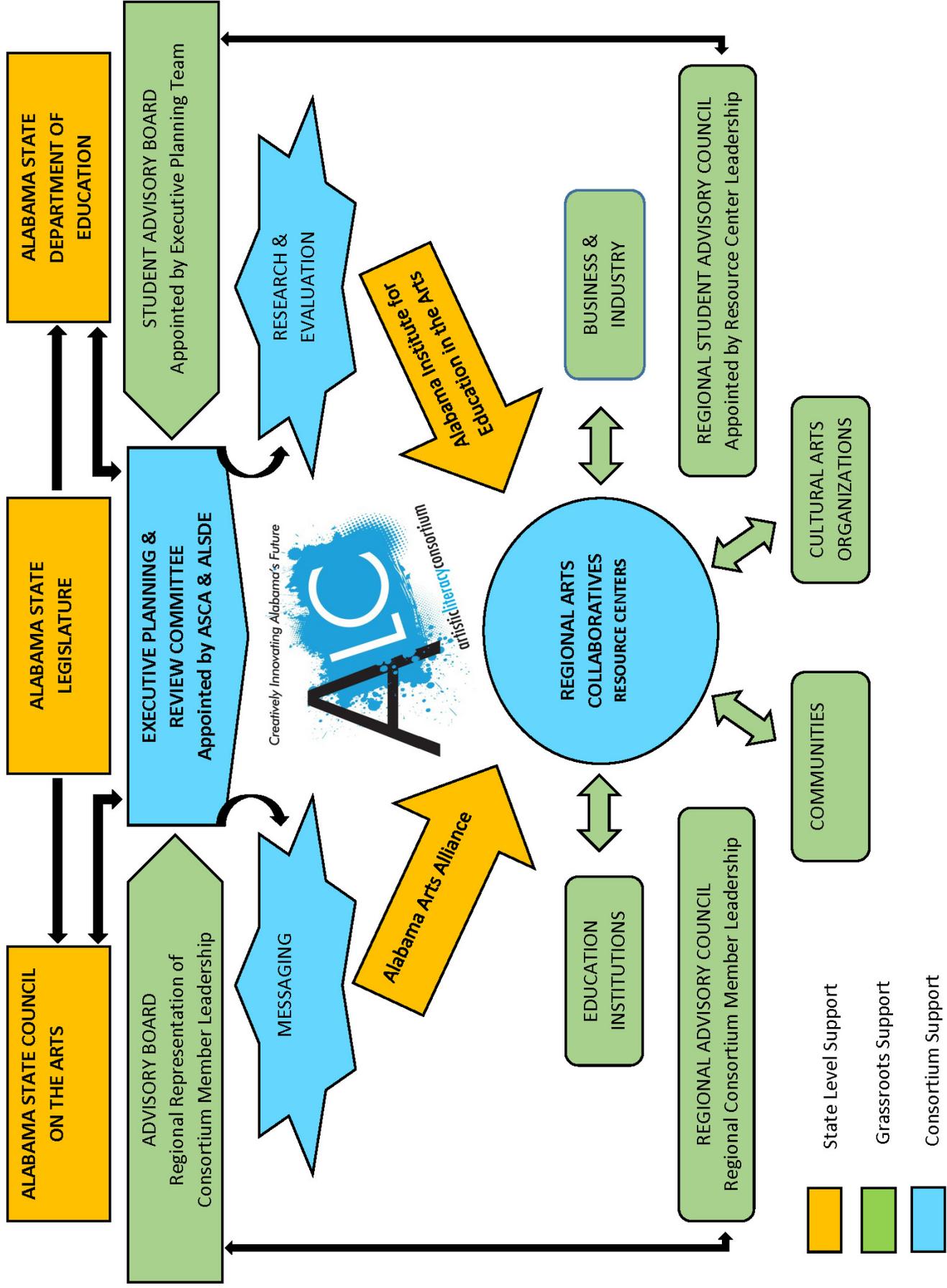
Governor Kay Ivey

“We know from research that involvement in the arts is closely associated with academic gains. Improvement in math, reading, and critical thinking has been shown to go hand-in-hand with education in the arts. But, we also now know that there are other far reaching benefits. Arts education fosters empathy, reasoning, complex thinking, and self-awareness. The long-lasting impact of the arts cannot be overemphasized.”

Jeffery E. Langham, Ed. D.
Deputy State Superintendent of Education

VISION FOR SUCCESS

ARTISTIC LITERACY CONSORTIUM



TASK FORCE

Arts Education Leadership Team

Carolyn Akers, Executive Director, Mobile Area Education Foundation
Hector Baeza, 21st Century Learning Center, Gadsden City Schools
Roy J. Clem, Executive Director, Alabama Public Television
Priscilla Hancock Cooper, Executive Director, Birmingham Civil Rights Institute
Randy Davis, House of Representatives
Randy Foster, Executive Director, Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts
Hal W. Fulmer, Ph.D. Associate Provost and Dean, Troy University
Cathy Gassenheimer, Executive Vice President Alabama Best Practices Center
Diana Green, Arts in Education Program Manager Alabama State Council on the Arts
Darius Hill, Visual Arts, Alabama School of Fine Arts
Allison Dillon-Jauken, Executive Director, The Arts Council, Inc., Huntsville
Val Jones, Visual Arts, Secondary, Guntersville City Schools
Martha Beasley Lockett, Executive Director, Arts Revive, Community Development
Andy Meadows, Arts Education Specialist, Alabama State Department of Education
Dr. Michael W. Meeks, Executive Director, Alabama School of Fine Arts
Robin Nelson, Instructional Services, Alabama State Department of Education
Buddy Palmer, President & CEO, Create Birmingham
Robert D. Powers, President, Eufaula Agency, Inc.
Donna Russell, Executive Director, Alabama Alliance for Arts Education
Tina Watts, Global Corporate Citizenship, The Boeing Company
Dr. Sara Womack, NBCT, Music, Greystone Elementary School
Dr. Sara Wright, Academic Dean, Trinity Presbyterian School

Junior Arts Education Leadership Team

Ivana Angion, Dallas County High School
Delima Bhagat, Spain Park High School
Sarah Burgner, Alabama School of Fine Arts
Brittany Carey-Fox, Everest Academy
Courtney Cooper, Madison City Schools
Shilo Cupples, University of North Alabama
Cole DeBardelaben, Trinity Presbyterian School, Troy University
Ashley Edwards, Grissom High School
Tristan Fowler, Dothan High School
Kendell Brooke Gullede, Jacksonville State University
D'Anthony Jackson, University of West Alabama
Hannah A. Johnson, Wallace Community College, Andalusia
Maia Julianne Kennedy, Huntsville High School
Megan Kesting, Huntsville High School
Mürron Marchik, Scottsboro High School
Amani Moore, Jefferson County IB School
Meredith Moore, Trinity Presbyterian School
John Pettway, Keith High School
Mollie Schaefer, University of North Alabama
Erin Shockey, Bob Jones High School, University of North Alabama
Morgan Leigh Stokes, Florala High School
Mustafaa Tajuddin, Wallace Community College, Selma

Artistic Literacy Consortium - Founding Members 2016-2017

Academy for Academics & Arts
Alabama A+ Education Partnership
Alabama Alliance for Arts Education
Alabama Best Practices Center
Alabama Bicentennial Commission
Alabama Conference of Theatre
Alabama Dance Council
Alabama Dance Theatre
Alabama Educational Theatre Association
Alabama Folklife Association
Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts
Alabama Music Educators Association
Alabama PTA
Alabama Public Television
Alabama School of Fine Arts
Alabama Shakespeare Festival
Alabama State Council on the Arts
Alabama State Department of Education
Alabama Symphony Orchestra
Alabama Writers' Forum
Alabama Youth Ballet Theatre, Inc.
Alexander City Arts, Inc.
Alexander City Schools
Andalusia Ballet
ARS NOVA, Inc.
Art Ed Central
ARTS Artists Responding to Students
Arts Association of East Alabama
Arts and Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa
ArtsHuntsville
ArtsRevive Community Development Corporation
Azalea City Center for the Arts
Baldwin County Alliance for Arts Education
Belgreen High School
Birmingham Education Foundation
Black Belt Community Foundation
Black Belt Treasures Cultural Arts Center
Burritt Museum
Carnegie Visual Arts Center
Central Elementary School
City of Auburn
Cloverdale Playhouse
Community Education Association
Corner Theatre Academy (Corner High School)
Create Birmingham
Creative and Performing Arts Magnet at Lee High School
The Dance Academy of Mobile
Dance All Productions, Inc.
The Dance Foundation
Dance Without Limits
Decatur Youth Symphony
DesignAlabama
Dora High School
Etowah County Schools
The Eufaula Agency, Inc.
Fantasy Playhouse Children's Theatre & Academy
Full Scale School of Music
Gadsden Cultural Arts Foundation
Grove Hill Arts Council, Inc.
Guntersville City Schools
Heritage Hall Museum
Historic Talladega Ritz Theatre

Huntsville Ballet Company
Huntsville Symphony Orchestra
James Clemens High School Theatre
The Kiln Studio & Gallery
Mobile Museum of Art
Mobile Symphony
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts
Montgomery Music Project
Nathifa Dance Company & Outreach
Natyana: Dance of India
Opera Birmingham
Perry County School System
Phil Campbell Elementary School
Pike Road Schools
Princess Theatre Center for the Performing Arts
Red Mountain Chamber Orchestra
Saint John AME Church
Selma Art Guild
Shelby County Arts Council
SHIFT
Sidewalk Film Festival
Sloss Furnaces National Historic Landmark
Southeast Alabama Dance Company
Storytee Company
Straughn Elementary School
Sunnyside Theatre
Talent Education & Art Christian Academy, Inc.
Theatre Tuscaloosa
Town of Pike Road
Trinity Presbyterian School
Troy-Pike Cultural Arts Center
Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra
University of Alabama College of Arts and Sciences
University of Alabama Dance Program
Vance Elementary School
Virginia Samford Theatre
Vulcan Park Foundation
Walker County Arts Alliance
Wallace State Community College,
 Fine and Performing Arts, Hanceville
Wiregrass Museum of Art
W.O. Parmer Elementary School
Young Jewelers

Individual Members

Lori Allen
Lakesha Green
Anna Mary Harrison
Ibrahim Lee
Linda Mason
Regan McClung
Noemi Oeding
Brooke B. Olvey
Jessica Peppers
Jo Taylor
Amy Vest

For a complete list of current members please go to:
www.arts.alabama.gov/ALC/about_alc.aspx



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