



MOSAIC

Fall 2013

THE WAY WE WORKED

Museum on Main Street Gets Rolling in Red Bay

AHF brings the Smithsonian to small towns across Alabama

The Way We Worked, an exhibition created by the National Archives, is a Museum on Main Street project organized by the Smithsonian Institution.

Brought to you by the Alabama Humanities Foundation.

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Exhibition designed, edited, and produced by the Office of Exhibit Central, Smithsonian Institution.



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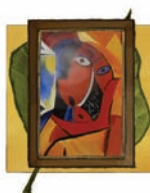
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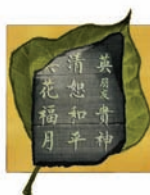
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The Alabama Humanities Foundation (AHF), founded in 1974,
 is the state nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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The mission of the Alabama Humanities Foundation is to create and foster opportunities to explore human values and meanings through the humanities.

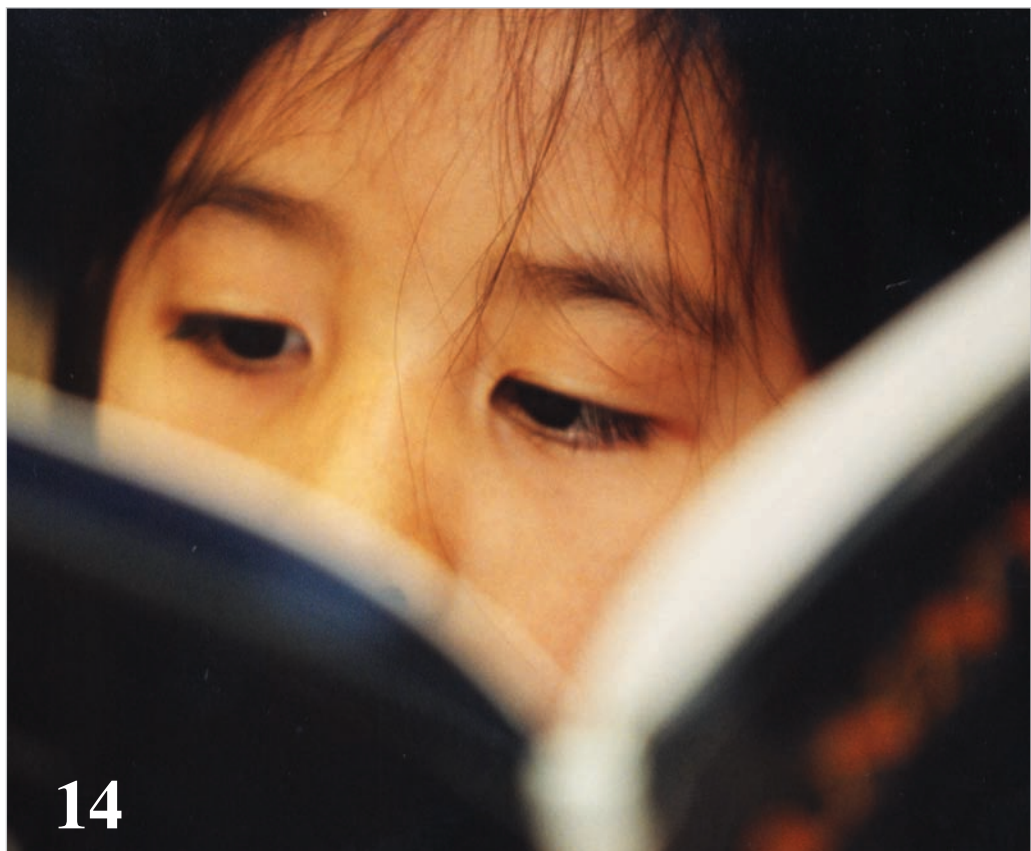
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About the Cover: Nearly 200 people watched as officials cut the ribbon on the opening of the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street in Red Bay. The traveling exhibit, *The Way We Worked*, will tour the state over the next 12 months, stopping in six cities chosen as host sites. Concept and photo by Graham Hadley.

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

New members elected to humanities board

Three new members joined the Alabama Humanities Foundation's board of directors Oct. 1, bringing a blend of experience and new ideas to the organization. Michon D. Trent of Mobile and Faye Dial of Lineville were elected to their first term on the board. Gov. Robert Bentley appointed Reggie Hamner of Montgomery, who had previously served on the board.

Trent is president of Contessa Group, LLC in Mobile, a special events consulting firm, and Dial is a recruiter and advisor for Southern Union State Community College at its three campuses. Hamner, a retired Montgomery attorney, is former executive director of the Alabama Bar Association.

Trent has been an active community volunteer with the Junior League for more than 18 years as well as volunteering in the community with nonprofit organizations. She developed a bilingual volunteer program (French and English) to serve victims of domestic violence while living in Canada. She was the chairperson for Survivors of Suicide weekend in Wichita, Kansas, part of a national campaign to reduce suicide in the United States.

She served as chairperson of Special Events for three years with the Boys and Girls Clubs of South Alabama, including the grand opening of the Hank Aaron Museum Home, and served on the United Way Capital Campaign in 2011.

She is on the Board of Historic Mobile Preservation Society as second vice president of membership and development, executive committee of The Providence Foundation Board of Directors and Boys and Girls Club of South Alabama and secretary/trustee for the Maschmeyer Trust.

She graduated from Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, California, with a Bachelor's of Arts in social work and went on to obtain her Master's degree in social welfare from the University of California at Los Angeles. She worked in the mental health field treating chronically mentally ill adults and adolescents.

"It is an honor for me to be a part of strengthening the humanities across our state, knowing how much it will help adults and children alike," she said. "I especially feel privileged to help our children whose humanities programs have been cut in their schools and being able to provide them opportunities to get involved in the humanities through AHF."

Dial comes to AHF with a strong background in education. She works as an advisor and recruiter for Southern Union State Community College in Opelika, Wadley and Valley.

She worked in secondary education as a guidance counselor for many years assisting students in planning careers as well as assisting with financial aid and scholarships.

She was guidance counselor at Lineville High School and served as a teacher in Sylacauga City and Choctaw County school systems.

Dial is married to State Sen. Gerald Dial. They have two children, Jason Dial and Melanie Dial Lamb. Dial earned her bachelor's degree from the University of West Alabama and her master's from Jacksonville State University.

She is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Professional Society, board of directors for Cleburne, Clay, Randolph Counties Mental Health Workforce Committee, was inducted into the UWA Golden Key Society and is vice president of Clay County Retired Teachers Association.

She serves as chairperson of the Quality Assurance Committee with Clay County Department of Human Resources, which monitors foster children, State Women's Leadership Committee of Alabama Farmers Federation and Clay County Women's Leadership with Farmers Federation.

"I am honored and excited to have the opportunity to serve on the Alabama Humanities Foundation Board," Dial said. "I look forward to being a part of an organization that focuses on enriching the lives of citizens in Alabama."

Hamner, a native of Northport, attended The University of Alabama and the The University of Alabama School of Law. He became president of the University of Alabama National Alumni Association, served as executive director of the Alabama Bar Association, past president of the National Association of Bar Executives and NABE delegate to the Alabama Bar Association House of Delegates.

"My prior service on the AHF board was one of the most personally rewarding opportunities I have had in public service," Hamner said. "Working with other members whose only goal was enhancing the quality of life of fellow Alabamians through the humanities was simply fun. I was excited when Governor Bentley gave me the opportunity to work with another group of committed Alabamians and our fine foundation staff to open new vistas through AHF outreach and programming."

"We are extremely pleased to have members of such high caliber join our board," said AHF Executive Director Armand DeKeyser. "Their backgrounds and expertise will help greatly in furthering our mission of promoting the humanities in Alabama." ■



Michon Trent

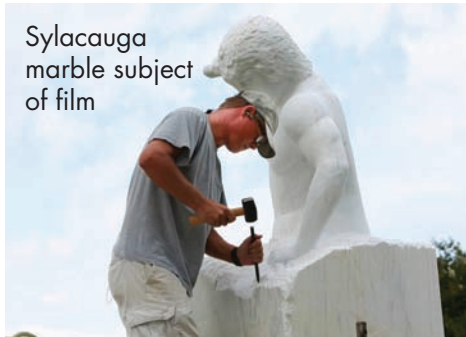


Faye Dial



Reggie Hamner

Sylacauga
marble subject
of film



AHF grants make impact throughout Alabama

Across Alabama, small towns and big cities are discovering the impact of the humanities. Museum on Main Street, a Smithsonian Institution exhibit called *The Way We Worked*, is making stops in six rural towns whose citizens may never have had the opportunity otherwise to see it firsthand.

In Dothan, the Wiregrass community is learning about Muslims and the Islamic faith to gain a better understanding of their culture and history. In Huntsville, high school students are immersing themselves in the language they are studying with an entire weekend devoted to the use of French, German or Spanish.

At the Birmingham Museum of Art, *50 Years Forward* — the commemoration of key moments of the Civil Rights Movement — is captured in art with 58 works depicting life in the 1950s and 1960s.

All those and more are made possible through grants, large and small, from the Alabama Humanities Foundation. To date in fiscal year 2013, AHF has awarded \$107,517.95 in grants, making it possible for the humanities to thrive throughout Alabama.

Following are programs AHF grants made possible for Alabamians:

Creek Paths and Federal Roads: Russell County and the Making of the American South

Historic Chattahoochee Commission – Eufaula
Award: \$1,454.60

Panel symposium and public discussion to foster among the public a better understanding of the significant role that the lower Chattahoochee River Valley, specifically Russell County, played in shaping Southeastern history through its role as a physical and cultural frontier.

Eddie: The Play
Shoals Interfaith Council – Florence
Award: \$1,100

Public discussion, exhibit, and performance of a one-man play about the friendship between President Harry Truman and Eddie Jacobson and the role of their friendship in

shaping American policy on the State of Israel minutes after its declaration of independence. Accompanied by an exhibit of materials from the Truman Presidential Library in Independence, Missouri.

Injustice Remembered
Dothan Houston County Library System – Dothan
Award: \$1,290

Using the Pulitzer-prize winning novel, *Slavery By Another Name*, and the movie of the same title as a starting point, panelists and audience members are encouraged to explore the long term effects of convict leasing, disenfranchisement, and the mindset that led our community and others like ours to create a climate where the welfare of others was not considered.

Muslim Journeys Lecture Series
Troy University Dothan – Dothan
Award: \$1,613.60

Lecture series in conjunction with the Muslim Journeys initiative developed by the National Endowment for the Humanities, which the library received in March. Led by an expert on Islamic Studies from Auburn University, the program explains major characteristics of Islamic culture, specifically the historical and theological outlines of the Islamic faith and the treatment of women and children.

W.I.L.D.
Alabama Association of Foreign Language Teachers – Huntsville
Award: \$1,600

The 10th annual weekend of language immersion: a 2 ½-day residential program held at the YMCA Hargis Retreat. The purpose is to put high school students in a setting where they will use the target language (French, German or Spanish) in a relaxed atmosphere with high school teachers and university scholars.

Project C: Lessons from the Civil Rights Movement
Alabama Public Television – Birmingham
Award: \$15,000

A three-year APT initiative to deliver a series of Web-based electronic field trips (EFT) featuring significant Civil Rights sites in Alabama to teach civic engagement and citizenship to middle and high school students.

Literature Changes Lives – Auburn University – Alabama Prison Arts + Education Initiative
Auburn University – Auburn
Award: \$7,000

A series of literature classes offered by the Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project introduces students at four correctional facilities in Alabama to three specific literature classes: *The Improbable Made Possible: Reading Science Fiction, What is (Good) Literature? A Look at Modern American Creative Non-Fiction*, and *Reading Alabama: Exploring 20th Century Alabama through*

Literature, Memory, and History. The primary objective is to teach students to understand rich historical and cultural legacies through the academic study of literature and history.

Art Speaks: 50 Years Forward: Etched in Collective History
Birmingham Museum of Art – Birmingham
Award: \$5,500

The flagship exhibition in the BMA's 2013 series of events commemorating the Civil Rights Movement. *Etched in Collective History* presents artists who examine, depict, and memorialize the Civil Rights Movement. The exhibit allows BMA to provide a unique insight into the city's history and the Civil Rights Movement.

Documenting Runaway Slaves, 1800-1861
U.A. Frances S. Summersell Center for the Study of the South – Tuscaloosa
Award: \$4,000

Development of a large and collaborative multimedia project that will gather and make available to scholars, K-12 educators, genealogists and the general public every runaway slave advertisement from Alabama from the turn of the 19th century to the outbreak of the Civil War. It is the first comprehensive, statewide electronic archive of these materials for Alabama.

Happy Birthday John Cage
Mobile Museum of Art – Mobile
Award: \$3,000

A three-day, city-wide, multi-site event commemorating the 101st year since John Cage's birth and recognizing the impact Cage orchestrated on the world. Programming centers on the ties that exist among literature, music, philosophy and visual arts and how they coalesced to influence Cage's life and work.

The Teachers' Oral History Project: The Way We Worked in Northwest Alabama
Red Bay Weatherford Library – Red Bay
Award: \$5,000

The Museum on Main Street exhibit, *The Way We Worked*, is explored through the participation of history, English, and library science educators in workshops to mentor students in the gathering of oral histories about the history of work in northwest Alabama. The finished products will be added to the collections of the Alabama Dept. of Archives and local archives and libraries.

Who Speaks for Birmingham Now? A Companion Film
Samford University – Birmingham
Award: \$16,000

Drawing on letters, newspaper accounts, archival photos, and footage of the documentary, along with newly conducted interviews, this film will tell the story of the 1961 CBS Reports documentary, *Who Speaks for Birmingham?* The film explores the internal dynamics at CBS during the production of the

report, including a consideration of the first amendment implications of efforts to restrain its editorial content. The film also considers how race relations in Birmingham have changed since 1961.

**Discovering Alabama: Marble City
The University of Alabama –
Tuscaloosa**

Award: \$17,500

The film highlights the history, geology, economic and cultural importance of the Sylacauga marble through the related aspects of Sylacauga's local history, economy, and culture, including the impressive marble artistry recently placed at the Sylacauga City Hall and other works created in conjunction with the annual Sylacauga Magic of Marble Festival.

**The Way We Worked: Stories from the Box
University of Alabama Center for
Public Television – Tuscaloosa**

Award: \$8,000

Built to be reminiscent of the old fashioned take-your-own photo booth, "The Box" is equipped with an HDV video camera and recording technology. "The Box" traveled to the six host sites of *The Way We Worked* exhibition to videotape Alabamians from diverse backgrounds. The Box returns to each of the sites during the local exhibition to collect oral histories facilitated by the site docents. The material will then be compiled and made available to the participants themselves, local and state archives.

**Travel Writing: A Literary Perspective
Birmingham-Southern College**

Award: \$542

Dr. Jeffrey Melton presents an interdisciplinary humanities discussion of a genre that is often not examined in a scholarly manner. The work of Mark Twain and the historical context of tourism in the 19th century will be juxtaposed with current philosophical analyses of the genre.

**More than Memorials: Troy University
Rosa Parks Museum and Red Location
Museum of Struggle**

**Troy University Rosa Parks
Museum**

Award: \$1,300

Annette du Plessis of the Red Location Museum of Struggle at Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, South Africa, and professional artist will give a talk on the history and importance of the Red Location Museum and anti-apartheid/protest art and a comparative discussion of the United States segregation narrative and the struggles for the Civil Rights.

**Museum on Main Street: The Way We
Worked, 2013-2014 Alabama Exhibition
City of Red Bay**

Award: \$2,000

In support of *The Way We Worked*, a Museum on Main Street project. MoMS is a partnership project of the Smithsonian Institution and Alabama Humanities Foundation. The 2013-2014 tour of *The Way We Worked* is made possible in part by the Alabama Power Foundation and AAA Cooper Transportation.

**The Desegregation of Macon County
Tuskegee Human and Civil Rights
Multicultural Center – Tuskegee**

Award: \$2,000

A free, public symposium bringing together the remaining living students who desegregated Tuskegee schools, white students of the period who recall the events, scholars, writers and others who can speak to the topic from their particular area of interest.

**Museum on Main Street: The Way We
Worked, 2013-2014 Alabama Exhibition
City of Andalusia**

Award: \$2,000

In support of *The Way We Worked*, a Museum on Main Street project. MoMS is a partnership project of the Smithsonian Institution and Alabama Humanities Foundation. The 2013-2014 tour of *The Way We Worked* is made possible in part by the Alabama Power Foundation and AAA Cooper Transportation.

**Museum on Main Street: The Way We
Worked, 2013-2014 Alabama Exhibition
City of Ashland**

Award: \$2,000

In support of *The Way We Worked*, a Museum on Main Street project. MoMS is a partnership project of the Smithsonian Institution and Alabama Humanities Foundation. The 2013-2014 tour of *The Way We Worked* is made possible in part by the Alabama Power Foundation and AAA Cooper Transportation.

**2013 Fairhope Film Festival
Fairhope Film Festival - Fairhope**

Award: \$1,360

The first annual *Fairhope Film Festival* is a four-day event and includes 40 feature films, documentaries and shorts that have been finalists at noted national and international film events during the past year. Directors, actors and screenwriters from these films participate in the screenings both in person and via live electronic transmission. The festival includes panel discussions featuring noted filmmakers which are free to the public.

**Letter from Birmingham Jail Tour
Red Mountain Theatre Company -
Birmingham**

Awards: \$4,000

A free-to-the-public statewide tour of Martin Luther King Jr.'s influential Letter from Birmingham Jail. The dramatic interpretation of the Letter allows local communities, who might not otherwise have the opportunity, to engage with this historic document in a meaningful way. In remembrance of the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement, leaders in each community will be called on to portray the roles of the eight clergy to whom MLK's letter was addressed. Following each performance, our MLK character will lead audiences in a dialogue about the Letter and the state of human rights today.

**Alabama and the Voting Rights Campaign
Alabama State University -
Montgomery**

Award: \$1,718.75

Symposium explores the deep trajectory in the Black voting rights struggle in the first century after emancipation, 1865 to 1965. The daylong

session is on the campus of Alabama State University. ASU faculty, in cooperation with noted scholars, will examine the organizations, events and campaigns involved in African Americans' demand for the right to vote during this period.

**Black Belt Living History Project
University of West Alabama -
Livingston**

Award: \$742

This project aims to bring history alive by using a historian to portray historical characters and relate their life experiences to students and visitors. It involves costumed historians portraying historical characters and using "historical voices" to bring history to life with an immediate and compelling appeal that captures attention better than textbooks or standard lectures. The project will take BBM living historians to historic sites, parks, and schools in Livingston, Millbrook, and Mobile in order engage students and the general public in the unique history of the Black Belt and Alabama.

**Muslim Journey's Lecture Series
Troy University Libraries - Troy**

Award: \$1,797

A lectures series in support of the NEH sponsored Muslim Journeys initiative. The library is a recipient of both the Muslim Journeys Bookshelf grant as well as the Let's Talk About It: Muslim Journeys grant, and these two lectures are part of a variety of yearlong programming centering on Islamic topics. To assure strong attendance, the library is partnering with the local Jewish and Muslim communities, as well as Evergreen Presbyterian Church.

How to Apply

The AHF awards grants solely to support public humanities projects. Active public participation, involvement of humanities scholars and strong humanities content are the three ingredients of AHF-funded projects.

The grants program accommodates the broadest possible range of topics and formats for imaginative proposals. Applicants are encouraged to develop projects for a wide variety of audiences, including: library and museum patrons, teachers and scholars, youth, elderly, hospital patients, nursing home residents, the economically disadvantaged, and the hearing impaired and sight impaired.

Application submission deadlines:

Major Grants (\$1,500 and up) – February 15,
June 15, September 15

Minor Grants (\$1,500 or less) – February 15,
June 15, September 15

For AHF Grant Guidelines and for more information, visit us at www.alabamahumanities.org or contact Thomas Bryant, Grants Director, at tbryant@alabamahumanities.org / 205-558-3997

GRANTS: *Public Television*

APT's electronic field trips take students on effective journeys of learning



By Carol Pappas

It seems impossible to pack 1.6 million children on only five field trips, but when the vehicle is electronic instead of a big yellow school bus, the destination — no matter where — is all within the reach of a click.

Alabama Public Television, with help in part from Alabama Humanities Foundation grants, is turning those clicks into engaging, interactive field trips that are taking Alabama students on journeys of learning and understanding through multimedia.

They travel to places all across Alabama to learn more about the state but more important, to relate it to their own everyday lives.

Through *Journey Proud*, teachers have a valuable visual tool to introduce students to drag racing in Alabama, to Mardi Gras in Mobile or Redhorse snare fishing on the Cahaba River.

"It is content that the teacher can use with students in the classroom or click through to prepare to teach a given topic the very next day," said Dr. Cindy Kirk, vice president for education. "These teacher resources were developed to accompany *Journey Proud* episodes so that *Journey Proud* can be used in any classroom to teach Alabama history and culture."

"What has been really exciting to discover as we've been out shooting episodes for this first season is the level of pride everyone across Alabama takes in where they come from and their local traditions," said Christopher Holmes, *Journey Proud's* executive producer. "But what's also been encouraging is the amount of enthusiasm these folks express in learning about the other people, places, and traditions around the state. We're all so pleased to see the degree to which we as a state are beginning to awaken to what's special about Alabama."

Meanwhile, *Project C: Lessons from the American Civil Rights Movement* includes three web casts that combine pre-produced segments and interaction with guest experts. Students can participate in polls, tweet their questions via Twitter, send them through email or post them online ahead of time for possible inclusion in the live segments.

The experts include historians and individuals who were directly involved in the Civil Rights Movement. "The events in Birmingham provide the background that enables kids to explore difficult issues, such as inequality and fairness," Kirk said. "*Project C* gets them talking about how they can get involved, how they can make a difference. It's all about civic engagement."

Students can submit videos illustrating inequalities they identify in their schools, neighborhoods or community and how they can be addressed, helping them put the events of 50 years ago into present day context. "Our goal is to help connect history to their lives today," she said.

And the conversation doesn't stop when the episode is over. "We are trying to continue to generate conversation with the kids," Kirk said. Community leaders in schools are identified to upload content and update the *Project C* website and keep the conversation going at their schools. There is an ongoing Twitter feed and blog. "By far, this project offers more opportunities for interaction than any previous electronic field trip project," Kirk said.

"What's so important about what we at APT do with *Journey Proud* and other programs is instill curiosity and a love for learning, which is why we go out of our way to make as much as possible available for use in the classroom," Holmes said. "Textbooks offer a lot of important information and lessons, but I've never seen a textbook that can show me the wonder of what's in my own back yard."

"It's very easy these days to know more about places we'll never see than the place where we are."

Holmes credited Alabama Humanities Foundation as a significant help in furthering APT's mission. "Without the continued support of AHF, we would be severely constrained in our ability to tell Alabama's stories and inspire our students to wonder about what's right here at home."

"Documenting our culture is critical to knowing our own story, but telling that story and inspiring others to understand the connections we all share can't be overlooked. There's nothing sadder than the story that's never told." ■

Repeat performance

Second Whetstone-Seaman Award presented at UA

By Paul Lawson

When more than 30 faculty, students, administrators and supporters gathered to honor the 2013 Whetstone-Seaman Faculty Development Award winner Dr. Rheka Nath, it was symbolic of what the award means.

The Whetstone-Seaman Award provides non-tenured humanities scholars an opportunity for academic growth, to share their knowledge and engage others in scholarly discussion. Ordinarily, that kind of advantage is given to tenured faculty, but this award is specifically aimed at giving non-tenured faculty greater opportunities for development. Funded through a gift from Dr. Bob Whetstone, his wife, Janelle, and his sister, Janet Seaman, the award provides \$4,500 in scholar development grants.

“The Whetstone-Seaman family has been instrumental in helping develop talent and provide growth opportunities in the early formative stages for humanities-based scholars,” said Armand DeKeyser, executive director of Alabama Humanities Foundation in opening remarks at the June 26 awards ceremony.

The event was held on the campus of The University of Alabama. AHF partnered with David Mathews Center for Civic Life to include a symposium at the Ferguson Center designed to bring better understanding of public issues and how best to solve them.

The Whetstone-Seaman Faculty Development Award is a biennial essay competition open to all non-tenured humanities scholars who hold positions at Alabama colleges and universities. A jury of humanities scholars selects the top essays. The author of the most outstanding paper receives a \$3,000 scholar development grant, and the runner-up receives a \$1,500 scholar development grant.

After accepting the award, Dr. Rheka Nath, a University of Alabama Philosophy professor, presented the key points of her winning essay on *Overcoming Polarization toward Building a Common Future*. The engaging piece thoroughly analyzed the forces that drive polarization. As part of her award, the article will be featured in the 2013 *Alabama Humanities Review*, AHF’s online journal.

Following Dr. Nath’s presentation, DMC Executive Director Chris McCauley, reviewed the focus of his organization to bolster public deliberation across Alabama. The purpose of the discussions is to allow citizens an opportunity to look at public issues from multiple approaches, actively listen to differing perspectives, work through tensions, weigh costs and consequences and uncover common ground for action.

Attendees then moved to a conference room setting to participate in a deliberative forum. Guided and moderated by Auburn University’s Dr. Mark Wilson, participants engaged in a public forum on higher education. During the forum, participants examined three approaches to addressing the role of higher education in American society: “Focus on Staying Competitive in the Global Economy,” “Work Together and Repair an Ailing Society,” and “Ensure that Everyone Gets a Fair Chance.”

Participants discussed possible solutions, addressed consequences to consider, weighed tensions and tradeoffs, and disagreed productively. Common ground emerged when participants talked through ways to integrate the Arts and Sciences and offer collaborative, community-based learning opportunities that provide connections for students between theory and practice.

To bring the discussion full circle, Professor Rheka Nath and Chris McCauley led a time of reflection on the group’s deliberative experience and the role public deliberation can play in overcoming polarization. ■



From left, Armand DeKeyser, Rheka Nath, Dr. Bob Whetstone, Janelle Whetstone and Janet Seaman



About Whetstone-Seaman Faculty Development Award

Open to all, full-time non-tenured humanities faculty at Alabama colleges and universities.

Winner receives \$3,000; runner-up receives \$1,500.

Submissions due in October of original, unpublished essays no more than 5,000 words long.

Winner is invited to present his/her essay at a public symposium.

Top papers are published in AHF’s online journal, *Alabama Humanities Review*.

Winner invited to participate in the AHF Road Scholars Speakers Bureau.

Dr. Bob Whetstone, his wife Janelle Whetstone and his sister Janet Seaman fund the biennial award given through AHF to engage emerging scholars in the state and involve them in more of AHF’s work in Alabama.

The 2014 Whetstone/Seaman application deadline is October 2014

Visit www.alabamahumanities.org to apply

MUSEUM on MAIN STREET

Opening day in Red Bay



By Carol Pappas

Brenda Hall stood near the exhibit whose arrival her hometown had been planning for a year. She was studying what she would say as a docent for Museum on Main Street, just minutes before officials cut the ribbon on the six-week Smithsonian Institution exhibit, *The Way We Worked*.

Standing in the shadow of a segment of this impressive exhibit of switchboards, transistor radios, cotton plows and other almost forgotten relics of the nation's working past, Hall talked of history. It came naturally to her. After all, she is a retired history teacher.

"I love the Smithsonian. This is like bringing a little bit of it to our community," she said.

And that's precisely what Museum on Main Street is all about. When Red Bay officials cut the ribbon Sept. 14, it wasn't just the beginning of the exhibit coming to their town. It ushered in a yearlong tour of the exhibit in six small towns across Alabama, bringing a piece of the Smithsonian — and history — to their communities.

This traveling exhibit is made possible through a partnership of Alabama Humanities Foundation and the Smithsonian and will make stops in Ashland, Andalusia, Fairhope, Northport and Wetumpka between now and July 2014.

Only six small towns are chosen for the honor, giving them a rare opportunity for their citizens to see an actual Smithsonian exhibit, an opportunity they may not have had otherwise.

Red Bay's 'red carpet'

Nearly 200 attended the ribbon cutting ceremony in Red Bay, and thousands of adults and children are expected to make their way through the exhibit over the next few weeks. From one end of Red Bay to the other, there is no mistaking this is an extraordinary event. Banners hang from street posts welcoming one and all to their city.

The entire downtown area is themed for *The Way We Worked* with special streetscapes, banners, murals and related exhibits located along a tour route marked by painted train tracks on downtown sidewalks.

In four weeks, more than 4,000 people from 33 states and Canada toured the exhibit in this town of 3,500. Weekend hours were extended due to the turnout.

Rep. Johnny Mack Morrow, whose nearby farm hosts the "Farm Works" venue, said, "This is a tremendous way to educate the public about how people worked and helped make this country into what it is today."

At the opening, Chairwoman Rosalyn Fabianke said organizers and planners have "put their heart and soul into it. It has been fun to see people work together."

She told the opening day crowd she was "honored to have it showcased on our main street." She credited AHF as a "true guiding force" and singled out AHF Grants Director Thomas Bryant's exemplary work over the past year in helping bring the project to fruition for Red Bay. "He walked each step of the way with us," she said. "He is an honorary citizen."

Bryant returned the compliment. "This town really set the bar



Sen. Roger Bedford, Red Bay Mayor David Tiffin (cutting ribbon), Rep. Johnny Mack Morrow

high going forward.”

Old storefront scenes painted on wooden walls could be spotted downtown along with various streetscapes depicting life as it once was in Red Bay and in towns across America. A wooden church replica stood on a sidewalk with the recording of old time Gospels playing as if a choir from yesteryear was just inside its doors.

“We developed our own Red Bay story to remind us of our own rich history,” Fabianke said.

Color-coded railroad tracks on downtown sidewalks encouraged people to ‘hop aboard’ and see the ten additional locally-themed exhibits. Each followed the theme of *The Way We Worked* and were marked with old-fashioned railroad crossing signs, crisscrossing with names like Art Works, Music Works and Theater Works.

Fabianke explained to the crowd who gathered that it was Red Bay’s way of “embracing The Way We Worked with pride in our past and faith in our future.”

And as the ribbon was cut, three words spoken by Red Bay Mayor David Tiffin seemed to capture the day perfectly: “Enter. Learn. Enjoy!”

A true impact

“We have so enjoyed opening our doors in true spirit that is reflective of the founders of our town,” Fabianke said. “Memories of treasured people and the way they worked over time and place have given us hope with a lasting commitment to keep their spirit alive. We have experienced weeks of relishing, reliving, and reflecting,” she said.

“Red Bay’s work history has created a contagious enthusiasm embraced by highly energized, motivated, and dedicated citizens with a true love for this place we call home – a total team effort.”

The significance of this historic event was not lost on citizens as they paused at each segment of the exhibit, not just reading narratives or gazing at old photos. They absorbed it and savored the moment on which they had been waiting for a year. ■

The Way We Worked

Museum on Main Street, a partnership project of the Smithsonian Institution and the Alabama Humanities Foundation



Exhibition Tour Dates

Red Bay:

Saturday, September 14 – Friday, October 25, 2013

Ashland:

Saturday, November 2 – Wednesday, December 25, 2013

Andalusia:

Saturday, January 4 – Saturday, February 8, 2014

Fairhope:

Saturday, February 22 – Saturday, March 29, 2014

Northport:

Saturday, April 5 – Saturday, May 17, 2014

Wetumpka:

Friday, May 23 – Sunday, July 6, 2014

Key to more effective teaching



AHF Executive Director Armand DeKeyser welcomes teachers to the institute.

A day in the life of a SUPER teacher is far from commonplace. Imagine an entire day in which you can only speak French. This may seem a formidable challenge for most, but for a French teacher, it is the key to better understanding.

Participants in the 2013 SUPER program, "The History, Culture, and Literature of Normandy," immersed themselves in Normandy's traditions. And they spoke French throughout the entire program.

They collaborated with other educators about effective teaching methods in this phenomenal opportunity for continuing education.

"I appreciated being able to hear from an expert and focus on studying a specific region of France from various different perspectives: geography, cuisine, literature, history and important sites," said Ruth Ann Graham, who teaches four levels of French at Baylor High School. "The program helped me deepen my knowledge of my subject matter, provided me with concrete resources I could take straight back to the classroom and allowed me to network with other motivated, self-reflective teachers."

Normandy's history makes it a unique region of France, noted Catherine Danielou, Ph.D., who served as lead scholar for the institute. Danielou is Senior Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, College of Arts and Sciences at University of Alabama at Birmingham.

From the Norman conquest of England to its exploration of the New World, its industrial presence and significant role in agricultural production of dairy, wheat and linen made Normandy one of the most iconic French territories. Its cultural distinctiveness is strongly linked to the arts. Norman landscapes were immortalized by painters, and it was home to writers such as Maupassant, Flaubert and de Tocqueville.

As funding continually diminishes for professional development for educators, it's a rare treat to participate in institutes like SUPER. All institutes provide a rich range of sessions that model effective cross-curriculum teaching.

After the institute is complete, participants return to the classroom with a wealth of new knowledge to present their students. ■

Additional 2013 SUPER Institutes

SUPER Institutes have covered a variety of subjects with in-depth, innovative presentations. Other institutes held this year were:

Mockingbird Moments

June 23-26, 2013, Monroe County Museum and Alabama Southern Community College

Led by: Nancy Grisham Anderson, Associate Professor of English at Auburn University Montgomery

Teachers spent three days in historic Monroeville, Alabama, to study *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the novel and the movie. In addition to enjoying the atmosphere and sites of the town on which Maycomb, Alabama, is based, participants attended sessions led by literature, history and film scholars to discuss the origins and legacy of this masterpiece. Participants enjoyed watching *To Kill a Mockingbird* in the courtroom of the Monroe County Courthouse.



The African American Experience in the South

July 21-25, Spring Hill College in Mobile, AL

Lead Scholars: Larry McLemore, Ph.D., Auburn University and David Carter, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History at Auburn University

The institute engaged teachers in primary sources and literary works from figures such as Frederick Douglass, Carter Woodson, W.E.B. Du Bois, Richard Wright, Zora Neale Hurston, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Alice Walker. Participants explored the rich variety of musical, visual and printed sources as well as films that enliven understandings of southern black life. The lead scholars introduced participants to an array of ideas for teaching about the South and the African-American experience that will strengthen their courses in American history and literature.

Teachers explored the experiences of African Americans in the South with an emphasis on themes of race, culture, politics and identity that will offer ways to enrich the teaching of history and literature. From the slavery period to Reconstruction and life in the Jim Crow South and after, this institute focused on roles blacks have played in the creation of their own history in a region and nation whose culture and history is interwoven with their own. It provided teachers new opportunities to engage students in thinking critically about the developments and issues that have shaped the region, state and communities in which they live.



So, what is SUPER?

For more than two decades, AHF has taken a leading role in the advancement of Alabama education with the **SUPER** (School and University Partners for Educational Renewal) Teacher Program.

This program provides graduate-level, content-rich, professional development of the highest quality to outstanding 4th-12th grade public and private school teachers, school librarians and administrators who wish to expand and deepen their knowledge of a particular subject or theme within the humanities.

SUPER is provided to Alabama educators entirely free of charge. In its 22-year history, SUPER has served more than 4,000 teachers of the humanities, social sciences and arts, and it has reached more than 500,000 students.

The aim of SUPER is to increase participants' subject knowledge and, in turn, their confidence, enthusiasm and effectiveness as educators.

Looking Ahead: 2014 Institutes

Mockingbird Moments, June 14-17, 2014

Four-day residential institute

Monroeville, AL

Institution Partners: Monroe County Heritage Museum, AL
Southern Community College

Led by Nancy Grisham Anderson, this institute will expound on the themes, place and issues surrounding Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

French Immersion

Two-day Workshop

University of Alabama at Birmingham

Institutional Partners: College of Arts and Sciences (UAB)

Led by Catherine Danielou, Ph.D., this workshop will feature instruction, literature, history and culture of a francophone country. It will integrate digital resources and media, language-immersion instruction, and resources that can be used in the classroom.

Digital Humanities

Two to three-day residential institute

University of Alabama at Birmingham

Institutional Partners: College of Arts and Sciences (UAB);
UAB Digital Media and Learning

Proposed by Rosie O'Beirne, Director of Digital Media and Learning at UAB, this institute will engage teachers across the humanities by providing teachers with a number of resources and techniques that will allow them to integrate multimedia and digital technologies with student learning and instruction. Teachers will collaborate in a state of the art media classroom, equipped with Apple products that are loaded with the latest media applications and collaborative learning stations.

American Slave Narratives: Their Impact on Fiction and Film

Five-day residential institute

Institutional Partners (Prospective): University of Alabama,
Alabama Department of Archives and History

Proposed by Alan Brown, Ph.D., this five-day institute will study the autobiographical form of the American ex-slave narrative, and trace its evolution in American history to narrative forms in American cinema. The institute proposes five ex-slave fictional and non-fictional narratives, and a number of films that produce a varied perspective on the American ex-slave narrative.

Battle of Mobile Bay

One-day Workshop

Mobile, AL

Institutional Partners (Prospective): History Museum of Mobile

This one-day workshop will engage teachers in the history and commemoration of the Battle of Mobile Bay. Teachers will receive resources, and implementation strategies to integrate this vital piece of Alabama history into their social science curriculum.

The History, Literature and Music of World War I, Fall 2014

One-day workshops in four sites across the state

Institutional Partners: Alabama Department
of Archives and History

These proposed workshops will introduce the history, literature and music of World War I. They will provide teachers with historical and cultural resources, curriculum integration strategies and techniques, digital media resources, and valuable literature to share with their students across the disciplines. Each workshop will reflect the same instruction, format, resources, and scholars.



PRIME TIME

All about family reading time

When library staff Pamela Jessie and Chris Ferguson receive cases of children's book this fall, they know that these books will never make it to their libraries' shelves. Instead, these books will frequent the homes of enthusiastic families.

Award-winning book titles such as *Where the Wild Things Are* and *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* are only two of more than a dozen books that parents will share with their children as a part of Alabama Humanities Foundation's new program, Prime Time Family Reading Time.

Prime Time is a humanities-focused and outcomes-based family literacy program. Created by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities (LEH) in 1991, the mission of Prime Time is to create the precondition for future learning among families. But what does that mean for AHF and the Alabama communities it serves? According to Executive Director Armand DeKeyser, it means everything. "Prime Time — a humanities-centered literacy initiative — is AHF's unique attempt to ensure that our culture, histories and personal narratives live on in the words of our children and future generations." As a part of the Foundation's mission to encourage and promote the humanities in every corner of Alabama, he adds that Prime Time "will fit very well into AHF's public programming and will engage the entire family, delivering a positive lifelong impact."

Sounding the Alarm

AHF has always seen literacy as a vehicle for the humanities. Countless foundation and grant-funded programs have their

beginnings as narrative — in the leaflets of bound text or from the mouths of elders recounting personal histories. These narratives, both fictive and true, expound on the human experience and provide the framework of and for humanities programming.

AHF's most expansive programs, the Road Scholars Speakers Bureau and Museum on Main Street, rely on primary and secondary texts to educate Alabama communities and engage people of all ages in the humanities.

But, while this vehicle of the humanities works for some, this is where many have to get off. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, 16 percent of adults in the state of Alabama are functionally illiterate.

In Central Alabama, alone, this means there are more than 92,000 adults who don't have the necessary skills to complete a job application, fill a prescription or read a newspaper. How does this affect Alabama's new(est) generation of readers? Well, these same adults cannot read to their children. The Literacy Council of Central Alabama, along with several literacy providers and organizations directly link the literacy levels of the children to their parents, especially the mother.

"Adults with lower literacy skills are less likely to read to their children. Children who have not already developed basic literacy practices when they enter school are three to four times more likely to drop out of school," according to the Literacy Council. This reality sounded an alarm for AHF to support and champion family literacy efforts in the lives of Alabama families.

Children's Literature and the Humanities

Prime Time methodology uses humanities-focused content, quality children's literature, open-ended questioning techniques and collective learning. It combines these elements to help families better comprehend what they read, enjoy the reading experience and read more as a result, setting the stage for lifelong learning. This methodology – marrying humanities-based themes in children's literature to promote literacy – is what makes this program effective. Michael Sartisky, Ph.D., president and executive director of the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, mentions that “the humanities content of Prime Time that we find in the children's literature selected are as profound as those in Homer, Sophocles, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Melville, Faulkner, Virginia Woolf, Alice Walker or Ernest Gaines.”

Themes of love, greed, fairness, honor, courage and community are interwoven into stories that families know and love, and are discussed with the highest level of critical inquiry and thought by the scholar and storyteller of the program. However, Sartisky adds, “One thing that is encouraging is that adults, no matter how modest their educational level, are capable of engaging with incredibly complex ideas. I've seen this very thing take place at our Prime Time sessions.”

Bringing it Home

Florence-Lauderdale Public Library and the Woodlawn Branch of Birmingham Public Library are the first pilot sites for AHF's Prime Time Program. Each team consists of a program coordinator, humanities scholar and storyteller, all of whom received intensive two-day training at the founding institution (LEH) in New Orleans, LA. Upon leaving training, both sites knew that this program would be special to their communities.

As a cherished and vital asset to their city, Florence-Lauderdale Public Library is no stranger to answering the call of their families.

In 2002, the beautiful, two-story library opened in its new location in downtown Florence “in response to the community's desire for a facility that served the literary, cultural and recreational needs of the community.”

In Florence, Prime Time has quickly become an endeavor that the community has embraced. Chris Ferguson, program coordinator and library staff member, reports receiving numerous offers of community support for the fall program. Churches, local business and franchises have offered to volunteer their resources and time to support the literacy effort in their community.

“Creating young readers is priority at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library. We are excited about this program as it provides a partnership with families and schools. Working with the Florence City Schools to help parents and children fits exactly with the mission of the public library. It's a natural fit for all involved,” Chris says. “This program will show participating families that the community has a vested interest in their lives and that the library system is here to help them be life-long learners.”

Woodlawn Library officials hope this is only the beginning of Prime Time's expansion in Birmingham. The Birmingham Public Library is the largest public library in Alabama. Pamela Jessie, program coordinator and librarian of the Woodlawn Branch, emphasizes, “Birmingham Public Library has a very clear mission statement: to provide the highest quality library service to our citizens for lifelong learning, cultural enrichment and enjoyment. We feel that the Prime Time program fits with the mission statement of the Birmingham Public Library on all of these levels.”

With 20 separate locations in the city, Pamela knows that this program will make a remarkable difference to families in their communities. “This program allows both adults and children to continue on the path of learning by having the opportunity to witness and engage in new forms or storytelling and critical discussion, using books based in various cultural traditions.” As Pamela reflects on the constant strains and stresses placed on families today, she notes the impact she hopes Prime Time will have in their lives. “In our busy world, there is often less time for families to come together in a relaxing atmosphere. Our hope is that Prime Time will help give families a platform with which to relax, bond and begin the tradition of reading and conversation within their households.”

AHF's expansion of Prime Time is scheduled to make its home in Mobile in the spring of 2014.

If you believe your community would be interested in participating in a future Prime Time program, please contact Programs Director Dionne Clark at dclark@alabamahumanities.org or 205-558-3999. For more information, visit us at www.alabamahumanities.org. ■

FIVE FACTS ABOUT PRIME TIME

• Prime Time

Prime Time Family Reading Time is a humanities-focused and outcomes-based family literacy program. The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities (LEH) created it in 1991. Each Prime Time series runs for six to eight weeks at local libraries, community-based agencies or organizations, or schools.

• Methodology

The core elements of the Prime Time methodology are humanities-focused content, quality children's literature, open-ended questioning techniques, and collective learning. A series takes place once weekly for six to eight weeks. During each 90-minute session, a scholar and storyteller model the techniques of storytelling, reading aloud and asking open-ended questions.

• Additional Program Components

Each week, participating families check out a packet of books on themes discussed, receive nutritional meals and additional reading materials (such as local newspapers) to promote reading.

• Our Families

It is designed specifically for families with children in the early elementary grades – ages 6 to 10 who are educationally or economically vulnerable.

• Pilot Programs

Florence-Lauderdale Public Library
(Florence, AL)
Every Monday, September 9 –
October 14, 5:30 p.m.

Birmingham Public Library – Woodlawn
Branch (Birmingham, AL)
Every Tuesday, September 17 –
October 22, 5:30 p.m.

Rarely do we get to be a part of history. But, that is precisely what is happening this year as we mark the 50th anniversary of the pivotal moments in the Civil Rights Movement that changed our nation.

Across the state, Alabama Humanities Foundation sponsors speakers, special academic courses and a myriad of educational opportunities to offer a better understanding of the problems of those times and the continuing efforts toward solutions today. Highlighting the commemoration events, AHF will host the 2013 National Humanities Conference in November — “Reflection, Reconciliation and Renewal.” Approximately 400 delegates from around the nation will travel to Birmingham to attend.

AHF is honored to host this significant event, and Birmingham is the perfect site on this 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement because of its role in that history.

of two years that changed the trajectory of this nation: 1863, the year in which the Emancipation Proclamation became law, and 1963, a year in which a number of pivotal events in the American Civil Rights Movement took place.

In 1963, Birmingham sat at the epicenter of civil rights struggles and sacrifices that led to the monumental march on Washington that August. The events in Birmingham not only contributed to America's passage of landmark Civil Rights legislation in 1964 and 1965, but also forever changed America.

For decades, state humanities councils have made it their mission to bring people together, foster conversation and the exchange of ideas to broaden our perspectives.

The conference is Thursday, November 7, through Sunday, November 10, 2013 at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Birmingham. Only registered applicants may attend. To apply, visit www.alabamahumanities.org.

Civil Rights Experience Tour
Thursday, November 7, 2013

Alabama Humanities Foundation has organized a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit key civil rights museums, memorials and centers in Alabama. This tour includes a visit to the National Voting Rights Museum in Historic Selma and Montgomery's Rosa Parks Museum, Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church and the Civil Rights Memorial by Maya Lin.

This tour is available at an additional cost.

Opening Plenary Speaker Panel
16th Street Baptist Church
Friday, November 8, 2013

What better venue to open the session than the Birmingham's historic 16th Street Baptist Church? An impressive panel has been assembled, including U. W. Clemon, a former federal judge; Doug Jones, former U.S. Attorney; Diane McWhorter, Pulitzer Prize winning author and Judge Helen Shores Lee, author and attorney. The panel will be moderated by Odessa Woolfolk, nationally recognized educator, civil rights activist and pioneer.

The 16th Street Baptist Church was the first black church in Birmingham. The church was the headquarters for civil rights mass meetings and rallies in the early 1960s, where numerous notable black Americans, such as W.E.B. DuBois, Mary McLeod Bethune, Paul Robeson and Ralph Bunche spoke in the church lecture hall. On Sept. 15, 1963, the church became “known around the world” when a bomb exploded, killing four little girls and injuring 20 members. This event produced an outpouring of support and forced white leaders to address Birmingham’s acts of racism.



About Our Panel

Odessa Woolfolk, Moderator

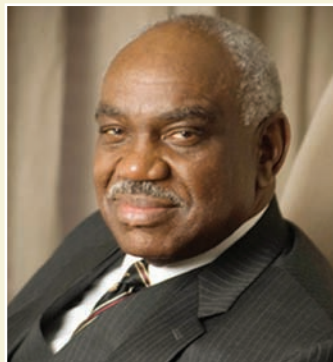
Woolfolk is recognized nationally for her work as an educator, civic activist and civil rights pioneer. Her leadership role in creating and sustaining the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute is merely the best known of many contributions to her city and state. She is one of the founders of Leadership Birmingham and has served on the boards of dozens of civic, community, corporate and public policy organizations.



Odessa Woolfolk,
Moderator

U. W. Clemon, Speaker

Clemon is Alabama's first African American federal judge; he also served as chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. Long before his notable career on the federal bench, Clemon distinguished himself as a student, civil rights activist, lawyer, state senator, and church leader. He marched with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during Civil Rights demonstrations. As a lawyer, Clemon handled school desegregation cases throughout North Alabama. He sued Paul "Bear" Bryant in 1969 to desegregate the University of Alabama's football team. Clemon now practices law in Birmingham at White Arnold & Dowd.



U.W. Clemon,
Speaker

Doug Jones, Speaker

Jones is a Birmingham native and partner at Jones & Hawley. As a former U.S. Attorney, he personally led the team of prosecutors and investigators in the reopened case of the 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham. Jones served as lead trial attorney in the successful prosecutions of two former Ku Klux Klansmen for the murder of four little girls killed in the bombings. In recognition of his work in the area of civil rights, the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute recently awarded Jones the 15th Anniversary Civil Rights Distinguished Service Award. He regularly provides legal commentary on local and national media programs such as *60 Minutes*, *Good Morning America*, *CNN Headline News* and other television and radio programs.



Doug Jones,
Speaker

Judge Helen Shores Lee, Speaker

Shores Lee is co-author of *The Gentle Giant of Dynamite Hill: The Untold Story of Arthur Shores and His Family's Fight for Civil Rights*. After working in the field of mental health, Judge Lee earned her Juris Doctorate degree and practiced law in Birmingham for 16 years until becoming a Jefferson County judge in 2003. She serves as a trustee for Leadership Birmingham and is on the advisory board of Cumberland School of Law.



Judge Helen
Shores Lee,
Speaker

Diane McWhorter, Speaker

McWhorter is an American journalist, commentator and author who has written extensively about race and the history of civil rights. She earned the Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction and the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize in 2002 for *Carry Me Home: Birmingham, Alabama, the Climactic Battle of the Civil Rights Revolution*. She is also the author of *A Dream of Freedom*, a young adult history of the civil rights movement. She is a long-time contributor to *The New York Times* and has written for the op-ed page of *USA Today*, *Slate* and many other publications.

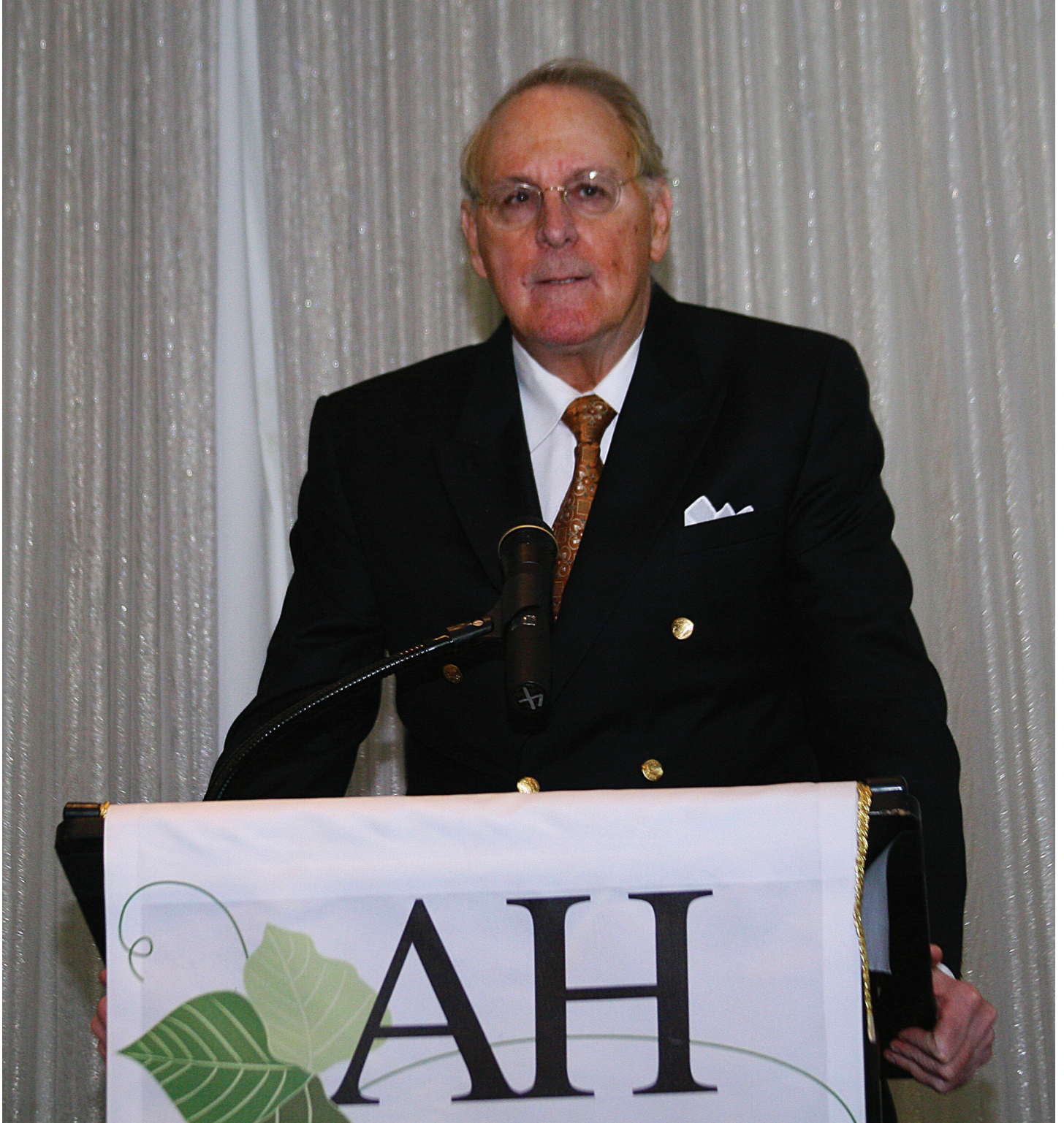


Diane McWhorter,
Speaker

Closing Plenary with Nikki Giovanni Saturday, November 9, 2013

Giovanni is a world-renowned poet, writer, commentator, activist and educator. An award-winning author of more than 30 books for both adults and children, Giovanni was named one of Oprah Winfrey's 25 "Living Legends" and has been called the "Princess of Black Poetry." Her spoken word recordings have achieved widespread recognition and honors, including her "Nikki Giovanni Poetry Collection," which was one of five finalists for a Grammy award. Giovanni was named Woman of the Year by *Mademoiselle*, *The Ladies Home Journal* and *Ebony* magazines. ■

Colorful look at life



Gump author Groom shares stories of his life

Noted author Winston Groom headlined an all-star cast of the 2013 Alabama Humanities Awards Luncheon at The Club Oct. 7, delighting the audience with anecdotal remembrances of his life and his works.

More than 420 attended the annual luncheon, which recognizes outstanding work and contributions to the humanities in Alabama.

Groom, who grew up in Mobile and now lives in Fairhope, is probably best known for his 1986 novel, *Forrest Gump*, a 21-week *New York Times* bestseller that spurred a movie adaptation starring Tom Hanks.

Groom talked about his mother, who graduated from The University of Alabama in 1929 and was an aspiring actress who traveled to New York to fulfill her dreams. She did have some small parts, but the Depression era took its toll, and she became a teacher.

Years later, as she was dying, she told her son, "I guess I've led a hum-drum life." Quite the contrary, he told her, reminding her of the lives she touched through teaching and the parts she played on stage.

He, too, had dreams to fulfill, but the war in Vietnam put plans on hold for a bit. After the war, he became a reporter for the *Washington Star*, but he aspired to write a book. After eight years, he resigned to do just that, noting that it was an all or nothing approach.

Old reporters in the newsroom, he reasoned, inevitably had three things tucked away in their desk drawer — a pack of Lucky Strikes, a brown paper bag with a bottle of VO in it and an unfinished manuscript. "I didn't want that to be me," he said.

He fulfilled his own successful prophecy, penning 18 novels, including *Forrest Gump*. The book got its name from an incident in 1967, when he came home from the Vietnam War, a lieutenant in uniform. The uniform wasn't all that attractive to the ladies in that rebellious time, he said, so he went to a store to buy a new suit of clothes. The name of the store? Gump's.

He also borrowed from another personal experience for the last line in the book, where Forrest is talking. "I can always look back and say, at least I ain't led no hum-drum life." ■

Editor's note: Groom releases his newest work in November, *THE AVIATORS: Eddie Rickenbacker, Jimmy Doolittle, Charles Lindbergh, and the Epic Age of Flight*.

See more photos on our website alabamahumanities.org



Encyclopedia of Alabama staff at luncheon



A capacity audience



Alabama School of Fine Arts jazz combo

2013 AWARDS LUNCHEON

Guest appearance for Horton caps special day



Bobby Horton, left, accepts award from Dr. Bob Whetstone and John Rochester.

By Carol Pappas
Photos by Graham Hadley

In a surprise video and congratulatory message, internationally noted documentary filmmaker Ken Burns underscored all the reasons Birmingham's Bobby Horton earned the 2013 Alabama Humanities Award.

Rather than the traditional introduction of the award winner from the podium at the head table of the annual awards luncheon, two giant screens on either side brought the talent and magic of Horton's work to life.

Burns traded places, moving in front of the camera this time to explain a professional and personal relationship with Horton that has lasted for more than two decades and through more than a dozen films.

While making the documentary, *Civil War*, he was sent a piece of music in 1989. It was a guitar rendition of *Dixie* by Horton. "I had never heard anything so extraordinarily well done," he said. It quickly became the end credit music for the film and launched a 23-year relationship between Horton and Burns.

Horton's musical scores are the backdrop for 16 of Burns' films. "He plays every instrument," Burns said with obvious amazement at the ability and the talent.

"Music is the fastest way into the heart and soul. Bobby is that in spades."

Horton, although best known locally for his third of the bluegrass comedy act, *Three on a String*, Horton's reputation in the music world has reached global status. His scores are on two films for the A&E network, and he has done 16 films for the National Park Service.

His recordings of authentic period music have been acclaimed by historical organizations and publications throughout the country and in Europe.

In his signature, down-home demeanor, Horton said he was "so



Ken Burns addressing the crowd by video

honored and overwhelmed" by the award. And when it came time for thank yous, he credited Burns, his wife, Linda, friend Danny Evans and his parents with "doing anything to make me better and expand my horizons."

Three on a String — Jerry Ryan, Brad Ryan and earlier with Andy McGinnis — made possible "an incredible career," he said. And the Alabama Council on the Arts and the National Park Service helped him live "a fairy tale lifestyle."

He then turned his attention to the place where his roots run deep and his love of history and music not only began, but flourished — his home state of Alabama. He described it as a melting pot of talented musicians, writers, actors, singers and dancers. "I am so blessed to live in Alabama," he said.

To bring home that point, Horton, long known for his quick wit, chose to quote Pee Wee Herman for his closing remark: "Hey kids, am I lucky or what?" ■

Additional Award Recipients



Nancy Sanford,
John Rochester,
Clyde Anderson

Books-A-Million

On April 27, 2011, tornadoes ripped through Alabama, cutting a deadly swath of destruction across the state. Among the victims were school and community libraries, thousands of books destroyed in the wake.

AHF Board Member Nancy Sanford said AHF spearheaded a movement to put books back in schools and libraries and approached Joel Anderson, whose family owns Books-A-Million. She was inquiring about a discount that would help AHF's grant funding go farther. The next day, Anderson responded not only with the discount, he handed her a check that matched the grant AHF had for the project.

That act of compassion and generosity earned Books-A-Million the Charitable Organization in the Humanities Award for 2013, which was accepted by Clyde Anderson, executive chairman for the company.

AHF credited Books-A-Million's leadership in providing books across the state through Project Turn the Page and thanked the company for its commitment to advancing the humanities in Alabama.



Don Noble accepts
the Greenhaw
Service Award.

Don Noble

When literary critic and editor Don Noble accepted the 2013 Wayne Greenhaw Service Award, it was a special moment. After all, he and the late Greenhaw were friends and colleagues.

As AHF Board Chairman John Rochester put it in his introduction of Noble, Greenhaw was "a straight shooter. He always told the truth." Noble, he said, is "made of the same cloth."

The award goes to a former or current board member who has made significant contributions to the humanities, and Noble's resume fits perfectly.

Since 1988, he has hosted Alabama Public Television's literary interview show, *Bookmark*. He also is a book reviewer and editor with hundreds of reviews and a host of books to his credit.

He is a former member of the AHF's Board of Directors, honorary lifetime member of the Alabama Writer's Forum, Board of Directors for the Southern Literary Trail and Fitzgerald Museum in Montgomery and the advisory board for Alabama Center for the Book.

His passion for the humanities is evident and in accepting the award, he encouraged the crowd to show its support of the humanities in some small way: "Take a poet to lunch. Buy a book."

Riley scholarship drives innovation



From Left, Allison Wesley, Janet Leffard, Suhai Kennedy, Diane Henderson; back row: Armand DeKeyser, Edgar Welden, Rob Riley, former Gov. Bob Riley, Krisalyn Riley Crye and John Rochester

By Carol Pappas

When fourth grade teacher Suhai Kennedy talks about patriotism to her classes, it comes from experience. She is a veteran and former military spouse, and it was with that background in mind that she applied for a Jenice Riley Memorial Scholarship and won.

Because of that \$1,000 scholarship, she will be able to buy a video and hundreds of books for students at Martha Gaskins Elementary in Birmingham as well as getting them involved in other activities to help them understand what patriotism is all about.

She joined three other teachers at the podium Oct. 7, who shared the heart of their scholarship applications. And it was at that podium that the audience understood the impact the scholarship can have on these teachers' classrooms and schools back home.

Each year, Alabama Humanities Foundation awards the Jenice Riley Memorial Scholarship for innovative teaching projects in elementary school classrooms across Alabama.

Named for the late daughter of former Gov. Bob and Patsy Riley, it honors the memory of her passion for teaching.

Krisalyn Riley Crye called her sister "an amazing teacher," who taught in an inner-city school in Atlanta. The scholarship, she said, helps continue that legacy.

"To know that projects are going to go on in her memory is very, very special," Gov. Riley said. "I can't think of anything more important to our daughter."

For Kennedy, it is the importance of children really understanding what it means to be a patriot, a veteran and what it takes to be a soldier. Too often, she said, children are desensitized through video games. She wants them to understand, "Sometimes, moms and dads go off to war and sometimes, moms and dads don't come back."

Through her project, children will learn about the sacrifices soldiers and their families make. They will learn about the US flag and how the Pledge of Allegiance they cite each morning is more than just words to memorize.

Birmingham has the oldest Veteran's Day celebration in the nation, and she plans to have students participating in Veteran's Day activities.

They will honor service members with songs and poems, and they will interview a veteran who is a family member or close

friend of the family. It is all designed to help them understand "what America is and what it stands for," she said.

At East Lawrence Middle School in Lawrence County, Diane Henderson will be furthering her fourth grade students' understanding of the role of cotton in Alabama's history, economy and culture. Through project-based learning, they will work on a quilt and create pamphlets and posters on the impact of cotton, once Alabama's king crop.

It will culminate in a special program for parents and peers to illustrate what they have learned. Henderson is a two-time winner of the Riley scholarship and sees it as "a tremendous value. It provides resources we would not have had access to be able to pursue our projects."

For Allison Wesley, who teaches first grade in Riley's hometown of Ashland, the scholarship means an outdoor classroom will come to fruition. A frog pond is being built at Ashland Elementary to help students study the life cycles of a frog and Alabama's wetland plants.

Her first graders will assist sixth graders and community members, donating their services in helping build the pond. She sees it not only as a learning tool once it is complete, she sees the process itself as a means of civic engagement for her students. "It will benefit our children more than we can say," she noted.

Janet Leffard echoed Wesley's sentiments. "We are always looking for ways to enhance curriculum in the classroom." With her scholarship at Dodge Elementary School in Mobile, where she teaches third through fifth grade in the gifted program, she will connect world history with the world around her students.

Leffard will be teaching about the influence of ancient civilization on architecture. She will be buying artifacts from the University of South Alabama's archaeology program for use in boxes she will create for the students and fellow teachers to use. They will contain artifacts that will help them learn about indigenous and colonials and how their influence is seen today. "It will connect the past with the present," she said.

Lesson plans will be made available on the state education website.

The project also includes a field trip to the archaeology museum and downtown Mobile, where students can see the Greek influence in buildings and homes.

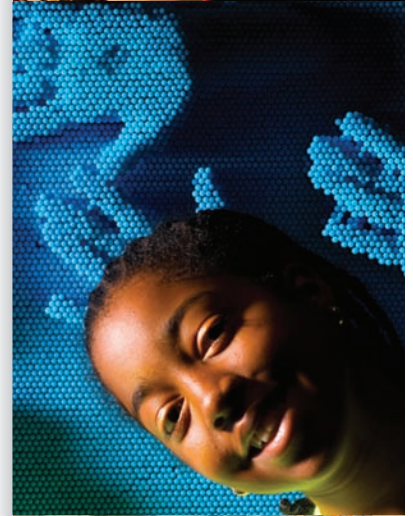
AHF Board Chairman John Rochester was impressed by the classroom innovation the scholarships make possible across Alabama. "It's the best thing we can do for the humanities." ■

GIVING ISN'T ABOUT THE CAUSE. IT'S ABOUT THE RIGHT EFFECT.

The Alabama Power Foundation does a lot of things. We strive to prepare students for the workplace. We support programs that inform people about the state's history. We work to improve the environment. We've given more than \$100 million since our founding, almost two decades ago. But when it comes down to it, the Foundation believes in making Alabama a better place to live.



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