

# MOSAIC

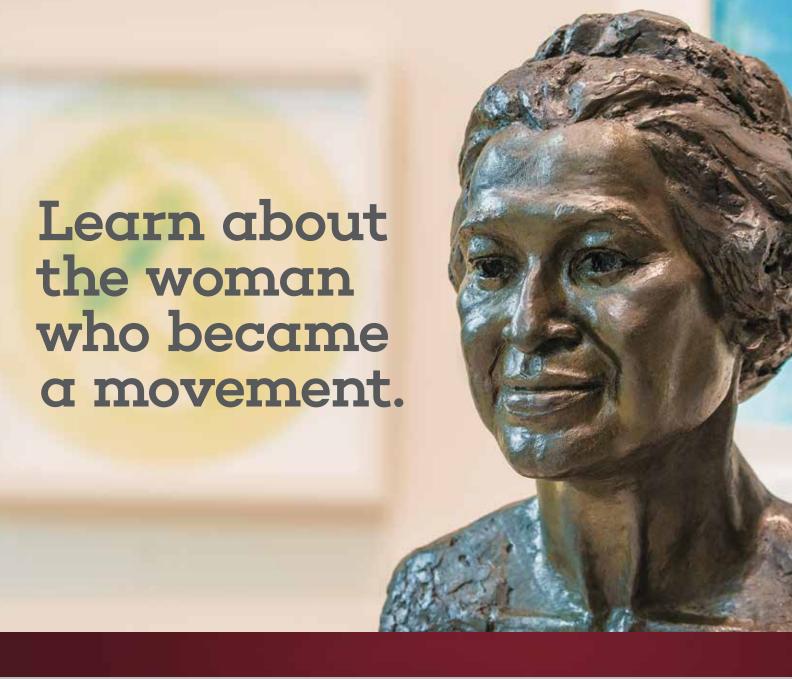
MAGAZINE SPRING 2020

PEGGY WALLACE KENNEDY

The Broken Road

GEORGE WALLACE AND A DUIGHTER'S
JOURNEY TO RECONCULATION

Alabama Humanities
Fellow takes peace,
reconciliation message
to national stage



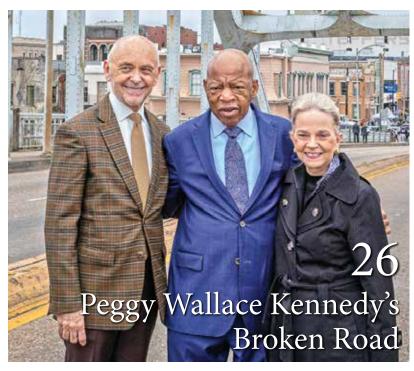
More than sixty years ago, Rosa Parks' simple act of bravery became an important symbol of the Civil Rights Movement. You can step back in time and experience the sights and sounds that forever changed our country. Troy University's Rosa Parks Museum is an interactive facility that honors one of America's most beloved women. Plan your visit and learn all about the life and legacy of Rosa Parks.



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









About the Cover: Peggy Wallace Kennedy and Congressman John Lewis embrace at the 2019 anniversary of Bloody Sunday on the Edmund Pettus Bridge. The photo is courtesy of Faith & Politics Institute. The DC-based Faith & Politics Institute has led over 300 US Senators and Representatives on Congressional pilgrimage to retrace the footsteps of the Civil Rights Movement in the American South since 1998. The Institute cultivates mutual respect, moral reflection, increased understanding and honest conversation among political leaders to advance productive discourse and constructive collaboration.

FPI/Photographer: Chantale Wong; Cover design concept: Toni Franklin

#### Inside this issue of Mosaic

From the Executive Director	. 5	Jenice Riley	19
New Officers	. 6	Humanities Connection	21
Grants	. 8	Democracy and the Informed Citizen	24
Super Teacher	12	Peggy Wallace Kennedy	26
New Director	16	Annual Report	31
Alabama History Day,		For more information about Alabama Humanities	Foundati
Alabama Book Festival Update	18	go to our website www.alabamahumanities.org	

oout Alabama Humanities Foundation, alabamahumanities.org

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

#### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

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



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@AHF



AlabamaHumanities



Alabama Humanities

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

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

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

# Precious moments at AHF will stay with me

By Armand DeKeyser

It seemed like a simple enough phrase when Bob Hope uttered it countless times at the conclusion of a performance, but here I am about to close the chapter on my time here at Alabama Humanities Foundation, and all I can think of is how his now iconic goodbye fits perfectly: Thanks for the memory.

As you read this, I already have packed up my desk, removed mementos, artwork and awards from the walls of the office. I packed up pieces of eight years that bring back so many memories of how far we had come and a peek forward to how far we can go as a humanities organization. I retired March 31, leaving that more in-depth forward look to others.

Of course, I'm not heading home to sit around and while away the hours. It's not in my DNA. I'll be involved, engaged and just like my time at AHF, I'll be learning. When we cease to learn, we cease to exist.

When I arrived at AHF in 2012, there was much to be learned – a new staff, all the programs, the grants, the constituencies around this great state and our unwavering mission to foster learning, understanding and appreciation of our people, communities and cultures.

I have met so many people – inside and outside of the organization – who love the humanities and believe in their power to change people's lives for the better. And I have been honored to stand with them and be a part of humanities advocacy, strengthening existing programs and adding new ones with tremendous potential to make a difference in our state.

When you look back, you tend to see memories in snapshots. I remember our opening of Museum on Main Street in Red Bay, where double the population turned out in this tiny town to see *The Way We Worked*, the Smithsonian traveling exhibit presented in partnership with AHF. But that's not all they saw. They brought their own town's history to life with exhibits of their own, streetscapes, lectures and special programming.

What happened in Red Bay perfectly defines the power and reach of the humanities. This small, rural town brought citizens together – old and young alike – to broaden their world. If not for Museum on Main Street, many may have never seen an actual Smithsonian exhibit. But here they were, seeing it, building upon it and engaging the masses.

Recollections come flooding back of our debut of *Making Alabama*. A *Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit* in Robertsdale,



poetry created at Donaldson Prison, our first Alabama History Day and our Literature and Health Care program in Mobile for AIDS patients.

The remembrance of our hosting the National Federation of State Humanities Councils Conference in Birmingham during a Civil Rights Movement anniversary is crystal clear to me. Humanities executives from around the country gathered at the 16th Street Baptist Church, where four little girls lost their lives. They heard from the very people who were foot soldiers of the movement. Those people in that place – powerful, engaging, enlightening.

The past eight years have had many 'firsts.' Among them are programs AHF initiated – Literature for Health Care, Literature for Veterans, Prime Time Family Reading, Making Alabama, Alabama History Day, *Democracy and the Informed Citizen*, Alabama Book Festival and Prison Education.

During that same time, we presented three National Endowment for the Humanities Institutes, *Stony the Road We Trod*, which brought scores of teachers from across the country each of those three years to Alabama to retrace the historic footsteps of the Civil Rights Movement. The ripple effect of that program alone is more like a tidal wave, felt in hundreds of classrooms reaching thousands of students around the nation, giving greater understanding to the struggle for this ideal we call equal rights.

There are so many more memories, so many more impactful acts, large and small, where humanities took center stage, and they have been among my proudest moments over the past eight years.

So, I'll not say goodbye as I head to my next adventure but rather offer a simple expression of gratitude: Thanks for the memory. It will last a lifetime.

AHF Executive Director

# AHF names new leadership for 2020

Alabama Humanities Foundation Board of Directors re-elected U.S. District Court Chief Deputy Clerk Trey Granger of Pike Road for a second term as its chair for 2020 and elected officers and executive committee members to help lead the organization.

Darren Hicks of Birmingham is vice chair; Dr. Joseph Aistrup, Auburn, treasurer; Sally Greenhaw, Birmingham, secretary; Ann Florie, Birmingham, executive committee member; and Brett Shaffer, Birmingham, executive committee member.

The board also elected Bob Barnett of Pell City as its newest board member.



#### **Trey Granger**

A native of Alexander City and graduate of the University of Alabama School of Law and a cum laude graduate of Birmingham Southern College, Granger serves as chief deputy clerk of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama. He previously served as general counsel for the Alabama Secretary of State's Office.

Granger created the acclaimed Art for *Democracy Project*. Along with his work with the Alabama Humanities Foundation, he serves on the Alabama Historical Commission, as well as the board of the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. He also serves on the administrative board of the First Methodist Church of Montgomery.

During Granger's tenure on the Alabama

Humanities Foundation, he and other board members have streamlined the Foundation's annual signature event, now known as The Colloquium, into a statewide day to honor the impact of the humanities in the state, region and nation.

Headliners have included CNN's Kamau, Bell, U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson, MSNBC analyst Joyce Vance, architect and designer Bobby McAlpine, Nall, the Artist, and Samford University President Andrew Westmoreland.

Granger previously served on the board of Leadership Montgomery, as a community advisor to the Junior League of Montgomery, the board of Landmarks Foundation and as an advisor to the PEW Charitable Trust.

#### Darren L. Hicks

Hicks serves as vice president of Human Resources for the Corporate Office, the Southern and Gulf Coast Division and Mexico operations for Vulcan Materials Company.



He has more than 20 years of human resources management experience with the company, the leading aggregate producer in the U.S.

Hicks earned his bachelor's degree in Human Resources and an MBA from The University of Alabama. He is active in his community and serves as a member of the board of directors for The Literacy Council. He is also a member of the Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) and Leadership Birmingham 2013.

Hicks joined Vulcan Materials Company in 1994, and he has held a variety of positions in human resources. Prior to returning to Birmingham in 2011, he served as director of human resources for the Southwest Division based in San Antonio, Texas. Earlier roles at Vulcan included manager of human resources/safety and health in the SGC Division and human resources specialist at the corporate headquarters in Birmingham.



#### Dr. Joseph A. Aistrup

Aistrup joined Auburn University as dean of College of Liberal Arts in 2013. He previously served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Kansas State University.

Aistrup earned his bachelor's degree from Fort Hays State University, master's from Virginia Polytechnical Institute and State University and PhD from Indiana University.

#### Sally Greenshaw

Greenhaw is a retired Circuit Judge and served on the bench in Montgomery County for over 20 years. She is a graduate of the University of Alabama and Cumberland School of Law.

Over the years, Judge Greenhaw has been an active community volunteer and was in Leadership Alabama Class IV and Leadership Montgomery Class V.

She has also been involved with the Alabama Council on Substance Abuse, Family Guidance Center and the Department of Human Resources Board.

#### **Ann Florie**

Florie retired as executive director of Leadership Birmingham, a post she held for 10 years. Florie also serves on the board of trustees for Brookwood Medical Center, on the Executive Committee of the Birmingham Business Alliance, and sits on the board

of directors for the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama.

She was the founding executive director of Region 2020, is a founding board member of the Children First Foundation, First Look, Inc., Leading Edge Institute and the Women's Fund.

She served as interim executive director of Alabama School of Fine Arts during its national search for a new director.



#### **Brett Shaffer**

Shaffer is head of Community Relations and senior vice president for Regions Bank. His



team serves as the liaison between Regions Market Executives and the bank's nonprofits community partners. This team manages corporate contributions and sponsorships and offers guidance on aligning local community investments with Regions' strategic priorities.

Shaffer started his career at Regions in 2005 working every position in the branches before moving into management in 2010. Through his career, he has been recognized for sales performance, associate engagement and community involvement. Before moving to Community Affairs, he was a consumer banking manager, responsible for overseeing 14 branches in the Birmingham metropolitan area.

Shaffer also serves the Community of Lights campaign for the Junior League of Birmingham. He previously served on the board of Birmingham AIDS Outreach, Positive Maturity, Inc., and the Sidewalk Film Festival. He continues to serve in an advisory role to those organizations.





#### **Bob Barnett**

Barnett founded the structural engineering firm which is now Barnett Jones Wilson, LLC. He is an adjunct professor in the University of Alabama School of Civil Engineering.

He is a fellow and member of several committees of American Society of Civil Engineers, American Concrete Institute and American Council of Engineering Companies. He is a member of Council of American Structural Engineers and past president of American Council of Engineers and Structural Engineers Association of Alabama.

He has authored numerous publications and technical articles.

In the community and civic arena, he has served in

leadership capacities with First United Methodist Church, Boy Scouts of America, Pell City Athletic Boosters, Capstone Engineering Society, University of Alabama Civil Engineering Advisory Board, Logan Martin Lake Protection Association, Eastern Health Systems, Alabama Hospital Association and Colonial Bank.

In addition, he serves as chairman of the Pell City Industrial Development Board, is past chairman of St. Vincent's Health System Board of Directors and is a member of Pell City Center for Education and Performing Arts board of directors.

At his alma mater, University of Alabama, he has been honored as Keith-Woodman Fellow, Distinguished Fellow, School of Civil Engineering, Distinguished Fellow of College of Engineering and College of Engineering Outstanding Alumni. He is a graduate of Leadership Alabama.

#### AHF grant giving tops \$98,000 mark in latest rounds

Documentaries, podcasts, lectures, exhibits, oral history projects, writing workshops and a reading series are among the grants awarded across the state by Alabama Humanities Foundation, totaling more than \$98,000 in the latest rounds of grant giving. AHF awards grants four times per year – March, June, September and December (some events may be postponed or held virtually due to the pandemic).

The projects, grantee, community and county they serve with a brief synopsis of their grant proposals are:

The Ron Casey Visiting Writers' Series at ASFA

#### **Alabama School of Fine Arts Foundation** Birmingham (Jefferson)

The ASFA Foundation will bring writer and multimedia artist Mira Jacob to give a public reading and talk as part of the Ron Casey Visiting Writers' Series. Ms. Jacob's latest book, *Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversations*, explores parenting, marriage and love in a graphic memoir about race in America. She will also conduct a master class for ASFA creative writing students, addressing authorship and the balance between producing a new work and promoting a finished work.

#### A Midsummer Night's Dream Tour Alabama Shakespeare Festival

Montgomery (Montgomery)

The Alabama Shakespeare Festival will tour its production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to middle and high schools throughout Alabama, including several Title 1 schools. After the production, teaching artists will lead the students in a series of interactive workshops designed to help students grasp the play's language and themes.

ASO Young People's Concert Shades of Harmony: A Symphonic Celebration of Black History

#### Alabama Symphony Orchestra

Birmingham (Jefferson)

The Alabama Symphony Orchestra and Samford University will collaborate on a special concert series in honor of Black History Month with supplemental music education activities both inside and outside of the classroom. Titled *Shades of Harmony: A Symphonic Celebration of Black History*, this concert series will take place free of charge to City of Birmingham 4th graders. Concert

materials include teacher and listening guides as well as STEM lessons and information on African American composers.

The Future of Southern Studies: Reflections of a Narrative Historian

#### **AUM Department of English and Philosophy**Montgomery (Montgomery)

At the 2020 Auburn University at Montgomery Southern Studies Conference, Dan Carter (Professor Emeritus, University of South Carolina) will deliver his lecture, *The Future of Southern Studies: Reflections of a Narrative Historian*. Carter will argue that he believes the future Southern Studies will be different than the one he was part of creating. The talk will be of interest to anyone interested in the history and culture of the American South. A sign language interpreter will be present.

The Spirit of Our Ancestors Festival

#### Clotilda Descendants Association

Mobile (Mobile)

CLOTILDA

DESCENDANTS ASSOCIATION

The Spirit of Our Ancestors Festival will celebrate and recognize the history, customs

and culture of the last black slave cargo brought to America. This celebration, in its second year, will feature African drum and dance mini clinics and performances, African-style fashion and storytelling. The highlight of the event, however, will be the presentation by Dr. Deborah Plant, editor of *Barracoon*, the 1927 Zora Neale Hurston interviews of Cudjo Lewis, the last known survivor of the *Clotilda*.

Voting Rights in America

#### Florence-Lauderdale Public Library

Florence (Lauderdale)

Florence-Lauderdale Public Library will host a programming series and two small exhibits about voting rights for Black History Month and Women's History Month. 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and the 150th anniversary of the 15th Amendment. Programs will include scholar discussions, a living history presentation and a live podcast recording, all exploring the topic of voting rights both from a historical perspective and as a current issue.

A Gathering of Continents: Revisiting a Birmingham Treasure

#### Friends Foundation of the Birmingham Public Library

Birmingham (Jefferson)

The Birmingham Public Library will host a free lecture by Dr. Kenneth Knoespel of the Georgia Institute of Technology. His program, *A Gathering of Continents: Revisiting a Birmingham Treasure*, will focus on the history and cultural significance of the Atlas Major. Printed in 1662, the Atlas Major by Joan Blaeu is regarded as the most beautiful atlas ever created, and the Birmingham Public Library is one of the few libraries in the United States to own a copy.

Food for Thought 2020

#### Friends of the Archives

Montgomery (Montgomery)

Food for Thought 2020 will consist of a monthly Alabama history lecture series held at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Food for Thought presentations feature humanities scholars discussing a wide variety of topics relating to the state of Alabama. A focus on Alabama women's history is especially important in 2020 in commemoration of the centennial of the 19th Amendment.

Patchwork: Textile and Textile Design as Art Program

#### Hale Empowerment and Revitalization Organization

Greensboro (Hale)

The Hale Empowerment and Revitalization Organization (HERO) will use its property and resources to expand a new textile design program. Under this program, HERO will host



a series of community action workshops to introduce *Patchwork: Textile and Textile Design as Art.* HERO will team with instructors and graduate students from UA's School of Textiles and Design to present the historical and cultural background for re-purposing clothing into art pieces. The project will expand artistic ideas and humanities in the Alabama Black Belt.

Red Mountain Reading Series

#### Jefferson State Community College

Birmingham (Jefferson)

The Red Mountain Reading Series will invite three to four vibrant working writers to give public presentations at Jefferson State Community College. Through audience engagement, Jefferson State Community College seeks to explore human values, evoke thought and address significant concerns in our culture. The college hopes to remove some of the mystery surrounding the creative process by providing members of the communities it serves with opportunities to engage with first-class scholars working in a variety of literary arts.



The Judson College Authors Symposium **Judson College** 

Marion (Perry)

As the only woman's college in the state of Alabama, Judson College will present a symposium celebrating the literary works of five notable Judson College alumnae. The five highlighted authors will include Mary Ward Brown, presented by Wayne Flynt; Gwen Bristow, presented by Mary Amelia Taylor; Zitella Cocke, presented by Jennifer Beck; Caroline Dormon, presented by Carolyn Woosley; and Viola Goode Liddell, presented by Tennant McWilliams.

An Engine for Social Change: Opera as a Champion of Women's Rights

Mobile Opera

Mobile (Mobile)



Mobile Opera, in its 2019-2020 Season, will present two operas based upon the same story, Verdi's *La Traviata* and Puccini's *La Rondine*. Both are masterpieces in operatic repertoire and allow the audience to examine how two composers treat the same literature, through music and the libretto, and how the story, rooted in history, gives a basis for examining the change in social status of women from the late 19th century into to early 20th century.

Mobile Symphony's Take Note! Lecture Series

#### **Mobile Symphony**

Mobile (Mobile)

Through ten lectures, free and open to the public, the Mobile Symphony will explore the historical, biographical and cultural milieu in which the season's orchestral works were created. Highlights include history, including Beethoven's support of the French Revolution and his rage at Napoleon's crowning himself emperor; movie narratives, including JFK and Schindler's List; and dance and other art forms.

Hear in Alabama

#### Samford University Department of Musicology

Birmingham (Jefferson)

Samford University will produce *Hear in Alabama*, a podcast and website exploring the rich and varied ways in which music and

#### **GRANTS**

culture interrelate in Alabama, especially those musical cultures that foster community and healing. Focusing first on the musical cultures of Alabama's Black Belt, Samford University aims to gather and preserve interviews and musical recordings for historical and scholarly use and to disseminate those interviews and recordings for public education and public good.

Military Service: A History in Postcards

#### Troy University Libraries

Troy (Pike)

Troy University Libraries will create a traveling screen banner exhibit



of military service postcards from 1903-1966 featuring sixteen banners showcasing selected military postcards and messages of service members and families. The exhibit will educate audiences on how, where and why members served. Written messages will uncover the thoughts and concerns of men and women serving and high point the reasons for service. An online site will host the entire military service collection.

#### Community Writes - Local Schools After School Writing Program UAB Red Mountain Writing Project Birmingham (Jefferson)

Community Writes is an after-school writing program that seeks to provide students with the opportunity to develop their passion for writing and to develop their skills as writers, not only for pleasure but also across the curriculum through writing communities or groups. The program helps students to express themselves better, not only in a written form, but also orally as they share their writing on various platforms.

Stokes Center Visiting Writer Edwidge Danticat

#### **University of South Alabama Stokes Center for Writing**

Mobile (Mobile)

The Stokes Center for Writing will bring the renowned Haitian-American author, Edwidge Danticat, to Mobile to fellowship with the local community of refugees, highlighting her own experiences as an immigrant to the United States by reading from her work. The project also includes a cooperative creative component, in which graduate students at the University of South Alabama will partner with refugees to co-author memoirs of displacement and resettlement.

The Alabama Folklife Association: A 40th Anniversary Convening

**Alabama Folklife Association** 

Birmingham (Jefferson)

The Alabama Folklife Association will present a two-day conference, in honor of its 40th anniversary, offering an overview of its history, presentations on current folklore research and a discussion of the future of Alabama folk studies. The meeting will include presentations on Alabama music, craft and foodways, open discussions and performances.

GirlSpring Writing Program

#### **GirlSpring**

Birmingham (Jefferson)

Girlspring will organize a series of writing workshops with the goals of improved writing and critical thinking skills. The organization's website serves as an outlet for creative expression for teen girls where they can publish blog-style articles, artwork, poetry and more to find their own unique voice. After attending the workshops, girls will submit their work for review and edits before having it published on the website.

Drawing on History: A Colorful Introduction to the Humanities

#### **Historic Huntsville Foundation**

Huntsville (Madison)

Drawing on History: A Colorful Introduction to the Humanities uses a child's love of coloring to teach them about Huntsville and Alabama history based on the Color Me, Huntsville coloring books. Through classroom presentations, the Historic Huntsville Foundation will introduce third grade students to the material culture of Huntsville's built environment, discussing history, architecture, art and preservation. Each child receives their own coloring book, with teachers and libraries receiving a set of three books.

Gee's Bend to North Alabama Agriplex for Black History Month

#### North Álabama Agriplex

Cullman (Cullman)

The North Alabama Agriplex will share the history and art of the Gee's Bend Quilters, a unique Alabama



heritage story to a northern Alabama audience, many of whom are not familiar with the state treasure in south Alabama. The Agriplex will highlight the Gee's Bend Quilters for Black History Month by hosting them for the three programs to varied audiences including homeschool children and adults.

#### **GRANTS**

Art on the Inside

#### Space One Eleven

Birmingham (Jefferson)

Space One Eleven will display an exhibition of artworks and poetry created by participants in the Alabama Prison Arts +



Education Project. The organization will host a panel discussion and poetry reading in conjunction with the exhibition to educate the public about the benefits of arts and humanities education for incarcerated individuals.

Troy University Dothan Campus College of Arts and Sciences' Speakers Series, Spring 2020

#### **Troy University Dothan Campus College of Arts and Sciences**

Dothan (Houston)

Troy University Dothan Campus will host the following four: Dr. Aisha Johnson-Jones will present The African American Struggle for Library Equality: The Untold Story of the Julius Rosenwald Fund Library Program. Dale Cox will present Milly Frances: The Life and Times of the Creek Pocahontas, and Emily Blejwas will present on the John Woodham Memorial Lecture and again on *The History* of Alabama Through Fourteen Foods. All lectures are based on the speakers' books.

Birmingham Black Radio Podcast

#### **University of Alabama Center for Public Television and Radio**

Tuscaloosa (Tuscaloosa)

The Center for Public Television and Radio at the University of Alabama will produce a four to six- episode narrative podcast series on the importance of black radio stations in Birmingham leading up to and during the civil rights movement.

*Eyes of the Storm* 

#### **University of Alabama Department** of Journalism and Creative Media

Tuscaloosa (Tuscaloosa)

The University of Alabama Department of Journalism and Creative Media will produce the documentary *Eyes of the Storm*, a unique behind the scenes look at the most destructive weather events in recent history. This documentary series will be told through the eyes of "first informers," also known as local broadcast journalists and meteorologists. The focus will start with Alabama's deadly 2011 tornadoes, features two other major tornadoes, five major hurricanes and last year's deadly Lee County tornado. This series comes at a time when trust in news organizations is so crucial to saving lives.

The Life and Legacy of Dr. Frances Cabaniss Roberts University of Alabama in Huntsville Special Collections and Libraries Huntsville (Madison)

The UAH Special Collections and Libraries will highlight the life, career and accomplishments of Dr. Frances C. Roberts. In 2020, the University of Alabama Press will publish her 1956 dissertation, Background and Formative Period in the Great Bend and Madison County. To commemorate this milestone, the University of Alabama in Huntsville will host events celebrating Dr. Roberts with a lecture, reception and an exhibit. The exhibit will travel to other institutions through September 2020.

The Jewish Mobile Oral History Project

#### University of South Alabama McCall Library Mobile (Mobile)

The McCall Library will begin a community archives project to collect a body of narrative interviews from members of Mobile's Jewish community about the history, development and present-day experience of a religious minority in Alabama. The McCall Library will preserve the interviews as research objects and build a web portal where they will be accessible. To launch the collection, the library will host a public event promoting intercultural exchange and expanding the ability to understand the experience of another.

Celebrating the Legacy of Jay Scott Wiregrass Blues Society Dothan (Houston)



The Wiregrass Blues Society will create a short documentary film to highlight the significance of their regional music heritage. The film will serve as further exploration into the musical connections and relationships forged in the Wiregrass, particularly by the late musician and Dothan native Jay Scott. Scott was a successful studio musician and saxophonist with lasting influence and musical contributions. The film will offer viewers an opportunity to learn more about Scott's legacy.

Voices of Woodlawn (VOW) - An Oral History Podcast Series **Woodlawn Foundation** 

Birmingham (Jefferson)

Voices of Woodlawn, a pre-journalism summer program, will uplift unheard voices to document the human history of Woodlawn in Birmingham. Over a period of four weeks, local high school students will interview a diverse sample of current and past Woodlawn residents with a wealth of experience spanning decades and generations. These students will amplify the voices of those who have known Woodlawn longest in all its diversity while building their own ability to be the next generation of storytellers.

Teaching teachers how to spy: Compelling espionage workshop earns rave reviews

Story and photos by Carol Pappas

It had all the characteristics of a captivating mystery novel – intrigue, spies, danger, suspense and secret codes to solve. Only this wasn't a scene from a book. It was a gathering of Alabama teachers learning new and exciting ways to reach their students as part of a workshop on espionage.

Throughout history, spies have lurked among us. In many cases, they were the unlikeliest of suspects, and they employed tactics that ran the gamut of codes, messaging and spying. That was precisely the lesson to be learned. But first, they had to find it.

Lead scholar Dr. Lee A. Farrow had conducted one of Alabama Humanities Foundation's SUPER Teacher workshops earlier in the year, studying *History of Russian-American Relations*, a timely subject in the context of present-day findings of cyberattacks and election meddling.

She said she had "good feedback" on that workshop and decided to take it a step further, proposing and getting a grant for *Teaching the History of Espionage: From the American Revolution through World War II to the Cold War.* 

Farrow, a professor of Russian History at Auburn University in Montgomery, along with guest scholar, Chris Bartlett, a college and career technical teacher in Columbus, GA, embarked on developing a workshop that would show teachers how to integrate espionage and spying in their classroom studies of history. One way to get the students excited about learning is to get the teachers excited about teaching.

Farrow noted that AHF SUPER funding is a "fantastic" vehicle for providing professional development opportunities that are otherwise limited. SUPER Teacher workshops delve deeply into a variety of subject matters, finding a niche in impactful experiences. They share ideas and reinvigorate through creative and innovative teaching.

Scytale from Ancient Greece

For about six hours on a mid-winter day in an AUM classroom, 40 or so teachers from all over the state transformed themselves into spies. From the moment they walked in the door and were given a new identity, they were tasked with discovering who was the 'mole' among them.

Throughout the day, they found ways to decode messages and smuggle secrets. In one exercise, groups were given a message in a bottle. But first they had to find it. Two codes – one in the cork and one in the bottle – led them to the secret message. It's an engaging activity they can share with their



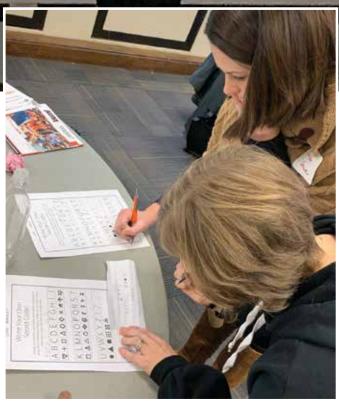
students back home with the only preparation being hiding a message in the cork using an Exacto knife and glue.

By day's end, they figured out the identity of the mole and so much more.

From BC times in Ancient Greece, they learned about codes from Alexander the Great's scytale, a cylinder wrapped in parchment with letters lining up to form a message. In 1467, it progressed to the Alberti Cipher Disk in Italy, the first polyalphabetic cipher device. By 1850, the Cardan Grille was used to write secret messages with a grid.

They learned about spies and techniques of disinformation, negative propaganda, code breaking and letter opening.

They learned little known anecdotal stories like



Working on breaking the code

Harriet Tubman's role not only with the Underground Railroad, but her use as a spy. Because she was familiar with the terrain, she was able to spy and report on troop movement during the Civil War.

And they learned how to make invisible ink with lemon juice and water. Apply heat to reveal the message. Or uncover an indented message by shading with a pencil.

The workshop blended famous and lesser known stories of espionage plus hands-on activities to spark the interest of students in the classroom.

It sparked the interest of teachers, evidenced by their enthusiasm as each exercise was unveiled. "It is a great way to get the juices flowing," Farrow said.







Participant finds secret message hidden in cork of bottle



#### New AHF Director

# Clark named executive director of Alabama Humanities

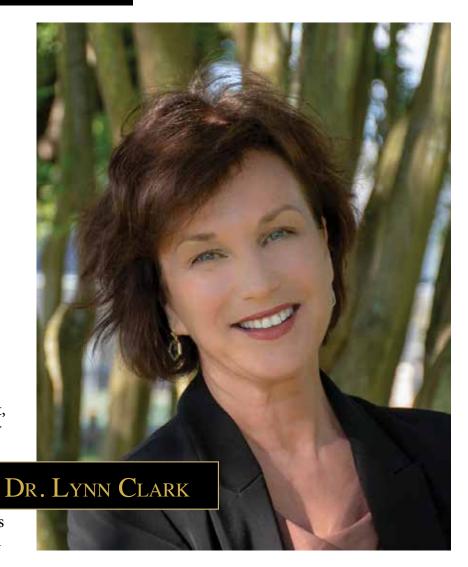
You might say Dr. Lynn Clark comes to the post of executive director of Alabama Humanities Foundation naturally.

The daughter of an Indian immigrant, who was a librarian, Clark said virtually every aspect of her life has involved books and learning, key ingredients of the humanities. She grew up in California, became a Social Studies and English teacher, and earned masters and doctoral degrees in curriculum and instruction.

She has been a college professor and for the past six years, executive director of the Children's Coalition of Northeast Louisiana, a nonprofit focusing on early childhood reform, parenting education, healthy living and youth development.

Throughout her life, "I have recognized and promoted authentic storytelling, highlighting and opening up avenues and resources to give voice to those who might not be at the table," she says. Humanities, for her, means "coming back to that line of scholarship."

Speaking by video conference due to a statewide quarantine in Louisiana, she motions to the computer screen in reference to the COVID-19 crisis and talks about its place in her new role. She sees the challenge of it all as "an exciting turning point to step into the current conversation and see how to make humanities relevant in our current climate."



She talks of new and innovative ways to deliver to constituents during the crisis – "increasing reach and access through different modalities and methods. What makes Alabama unique? Put life in the context of history and the structures and systems that frame our humanity."

At this moment, she says, "We're at an inflection point as an organization and a community," and her plans call for evaluating and re-evaluating community needs to determine where AHF heads from here. "We need to see where we can be most useful."

She wants to "help people talk about and process lived experiences. Humanities is a way to provide that"

Programs like *Stony the Road*, a powerful national teacher institute on Civil Rights that originated with AHF, or the scope of the grants

#### New AHF Director

that AHF awards are critical to the organization's impact. Just like those programs did, it means "finding what the need is and leveraging our resources to step into that need."

The COVID crisis has drastically changed lives, she notes, adding, "We now think differently. We want to bring humanities to the center of what's happening in our state."

Clark took the reins of AHF in a not-so-conventional way on April 1, already demonstrating her ability to adapt and lead during a crisis. She has been conducting virtual meetings and conferences to gain a better understanding of what lies ahead, and she is encouraging staff and constituencies to identify needs so that humanities can fill them.

She replaces Armand DeKeyser, who retired from that post March 31.

Prior to her tenure heading the Children's Coalition, she was an assistant professor, holding several leadership positions in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

She earned her doctoral degree from Indiana University in Curriculum and Instruction and

was a Chancellor's Fellow. She received her Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif., and her Bachelor of Arts in Vocal Performance from UCLA.

She was chosen for the top post at AHF during a national search.

"Lynn is a dynamic and talented leader, and the selection committee unanimously placed her atop the listing of candidates interested in becoming our new executive director," says AHF Board Chair Trey Granger.

"Lynn is extremely bright, highly motivated and has a wonderful passion for our mission and will be most delightful to work with in the years to come," he says. "We all admire her credentials and her

commitment to the humanities and to the arts."

Clark is no stranger to taking her local messaging and mission to loftier stages.

She has presented in state, regional, national and international conferences and workshops and has published nationally in books, journals and research reports.

She has been honored with a number of awards, including:

- Light Up for Literacy, Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities
- Champion for Change, Louisiana Farm to School Program
- Thomas H. Scott Community Award, Monroe Chamber of Commerce
- Chase Endowed Professorship, University of Louisiana at Monroe
- Louisiana Educational Consortium Doctoral Faculty Award, Grambling University
- Chancellor's Fellowship, Curriculum and Instruction, Indiana University



Clark working remotely for AHF from Louisiana, meeting with staff in Birmingham via Zoom Conference

#### AHF Upcoming Events

### Alabama History Day competition goes virtual



Alabama History Day, originally scheduled for April 17 at Auburn University in Montgomery, was postponed to May 1 due to the COVID-19 threat, but AHF added a new twist. Plans called for it to go virtual with rescheduled deadlines.

"Due to the crisis we're all facing with the coronavirus pandemic, we have decided to take extra precautions regarding large crowds as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control," said Alabama History Day Coordinator Jerald Crook of the Alabama Humanities Foundation at the time of the postponement.

AHF usually presents the annual competition for middle and high school students in partnership with AUM at the university's campus. The CDC, however, had recommended prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people.

"We postponed the competition and made it virtual, meaning all student projects were submitted online and judged remotely over the span of one to two days. In order to keep with the Alabama History Day tradition, we then held a virtual award ceremony on Monday, May 4, featuring special guest Dr. Adele Logan Alexander. She is the granddaughter of Adella Hunt Logan, who was an African-American writer, college teacher and administrator and was a suffragist, particularly relevant during this, the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote.

Submission procedures and the portal for submissions were housed on Alabama Humanities' website for teachers and students throughout the state to access. Eighty students participated in this year's competition. Winners in each category go on to compete against students from around the country at National History Day, which usually takes place at College Park, Maryland, but will also be a virtual competition this year due to the ongoing pandemic.

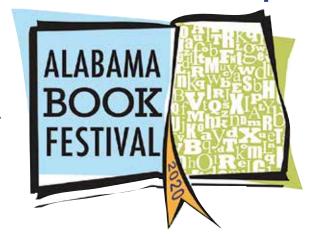
#### **Alabama Book Festival Update**

As in many cases around the state, Alabama Humanities Foundation cancelled the Alabama Book Festival set for April 18 in Old Alabama Town, Montgomery and is examining other options for its return.

"As our state and nation face the pandemic of COVID-19, or coronavirus, social responsibility has become the guiding principle in how we deal with this looming crisis," said AHF Executive Director Armand DeKeyser at the time.

"It is incumbent upon each of us, as individuals and as groups and organizations, to take precautions that might seem extreme but are aimed at slowing the rate of people who are infected. It is with that thought in mind that Alabama Humanities Foundation wants to do its part in the effort to keep people safer," he said.

Recommendations issued by the Centers for Disease Control against gatherings of more than 10 people contributed to the move. "Our plan is to reevaluate at a later date and reschedule this important literary event for our state," DeKeyser said.



Across the state and nation, similar postponements and cancellations were done in an effort to curb the escalation of COVID-19.

"Critical steps to ensure the public is better protected are being taken throughout the country. At Alabama Humanities Foundation, we

appreciate the support given to all of our events, grants and programs, but our number one role right now is one of social responsibility," DeKeyser said.

Along with Alabama Humanities Foundation, stakeholders for the 15th annual Alabama Book Festival include: Alabama State Council on the Arts, Alabama Public Library Service, Alabama Public Television, Alabama Writers Forum, Montgomery City-County Public Library, Alabama Center for the Book, Troy University, Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Endowment for the Arts Big Read and Regions.

#### JRMS Scholarships

#### **Alabama teachers:**

### Jenice Riley Memorial Scholarship has wide reach, powerful impact

Imagine special education students with emotional and social needs sitting in a classroom with special 'extras' designed to help them focus. They sit in 'wobble' chairs and handle 'fidget' objects, and fairly soon, they learn to concentrate.

They call the chairs an active seating solution that allows students to "wiggle" without being distracting. It sounds simple enough, but it's one of the ways teachers can deal with the challenges of teaching a child with autism, ADHD, or another disability.

The familiar phrase, "Sit still," is soon replaced with an engaging classroom experience, where both teacher and student interact successfully. It is more effective, innovative teaching thanks to those 'extras' made possible through the Jenice Riley Memorial Scholarship.

It is one of those tools that can have a tremendous impact on education, but school systems across the state struggle financially to provide much beyond the basics.

"These items help tremendously during moments that need a little calm down time," said Misty Turner, a special education teacher at Westwood Elementary School, who was one of the winners of the \$1,000 scholarship in 2019. "We have been working on emotional regulations, social skills and correctly using positional words. I was able to purchase fun and engaging activities for all of these. The students have loved using all of them."

With grant funds, "I was able to purchase many resources that have enabled me to teach standard specific lessons to my preschool students and those with social and emotional needs. The wobble chairs and fidget items have been incredibly useful at helping students focus and concentrate. Some of my students specifically look for the 'wiggle' chairs when they come in for instructional times now."

She, too, has been able to use the coil binder she bought with grant monies to create resources for student instruction. "Just this week," she said, "I was able to create individual workbooks for students to use during small group instruction. I have also been able to laminate and bind sets of stories and activities for students to use. The impact the foundation has made on my classroom will be felt for many years to come."

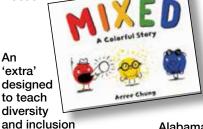
Turner isn't alone. She joins Alabama's top teachers





Misty Turner with former Alabama First Lady Patsy Riley at award ceremony

Wobble chair improves focus





Alabama Day, celebrating bicentenial

annually awarded the scholarship named in memory of Jenice Riley, the daughter of former Alabama Gov. Bob and First Lady Patsy Riley.

Riley was known as a compassionate and exceptional teacher who had a passion for teaching. She died in 2001 of cancer at age 33 when her father was making his first run for governor. Alabama Humanities Board Member Edgar Welden, a close friend of the family, created the scholarship in her memory so that her passion for education could be a legacy to other teachers.

It is awarded each year in the fall by AHF.

Teachers around the state are readying for this year's edition of the scholarships. The deadline is Aug. 28, and traditionally, there are four to five winners annually.

The \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to K-8 educators in support of history and civics-related projects in their schools and classrooms. The award aids teachers in attending a conference, purchasing classroom materials, or creating programs that enhance students' learning.

Teachers may apply at: https://www.alabamahumanities. org/programs/jenice-riley/ ■



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#### **Humanities Connection**

# Making the Humanities Connection during COVID-19

Our doors may be closed, but our minds are still open. The COVID-19 shutdown created a unique set of circumstances at Alabama Humanities Foundation. It was a time of transition, as the staff and incoming executive director, Dr. Lynn Clark, worked remotely to pivot programs online and shift events, like Alabama History Day, to virtual venues.

Not all programs were able to adapt to the new formats. The Alabama Book Festival was postponed, and most Primetime Family Reading programs were called off as the libraries in which they were held closed.

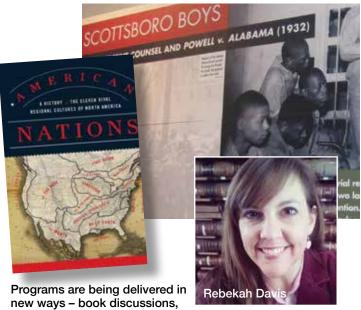
Remarkably, many AHF programs did find new life online, expanding their reach and relevance through new formats and online platforms.

"As we adjust to our new normal, we are moving our programming online," said AHF Program Director Melanie Bouyer. She is working with Road Scholars and speakers from the SUPER Teachers program to create original content online. "We desire to engage and connect with our constituents through a more meaningful and more profound experience than ever before through our online programming."

For example, Road Scholar Rebekah Davis takes "the lid off the bucket" to share the hundreds of messages begging for justice during the re-trial of the Scottsboro Boys, and in a different presentation, recipes from her historic cookbook. SUPER Teacher trainer, Melissa Mann, offers essential technology training to teachers with Technology Tool Box, and Valerie Pope Burns provides professional development on Women's Suffrage as part of a rescheduled Law Day training.

While online training is a viable alternative to in-person training, we often miss the interaction provided by real-time presentations or social media. Several programs at AHF will be using Zoom and social media to keep the discussion going.

A virtual discussion led by Kevin Lee, will examine the new book, *American Nations*:



teacher workshops and other AHF services are being provided online and through video conferencing.

A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America by Colin Woodard through Zoom. Bouyer has even started a social media book club asking followers to post "what you are reading during quarantine" and start a discussion, as well as share COVID-19 photos with a brief description to capture the daily history that is being created by the quarantine.

Within days of the statewide school closure, AHF Program Manager Jerald Crook was working to "Remix" Alabama History Day. On May 1, rather than presentations, performances and papers delivered to judges and peers, the whole process took place online. The contest, a preliminary for National History Day, was virtual, meaning all student projects were submitted online and judged remotely over the span of one to two days. "We even had a virtual awards ceremony on Monday, May 4," said Crook.

In addition to transitioning existing programs and events, the Alabama Humanities Foundation stepped into the COVID-19 crisis in two important ways. The first was as a recipient of the CARES Relief Funding to help support humanities organizations in Alabama through operational grants, and second as a virtual space that centers the humanities as essential to navigating our current crisis.

AHF CARES: The Humanities Connection brings these two efforts together on the AHF website. The site offers access to concrete support for

#### **Humanities Connection**

humanities organizations through grants, a way for the community to connect to quality humanities resources and each other. Weekly content helps us consider how the humanities provide important context for our lived experiences.

"AHF seeks to inspire hopefulness and provide comfort through our new Humanities Connection site," explained AHF Director of Operations Laura Anderson. "We appreciate that stories can help us feel less alone in times of trauma or anxiety, and we invite everyone to consider with us the stories – from history and literature – that we will share."

On Friday, April 10, AHF received over half a million dollars from the National Endowment for the Humanities to directly support Alabama nonprofits who have a demonstrated commitment to public humanities programming. The National Endowment for the Humanities is providing funding to 56 state humanities councils around the nation as part of the CARES Act.

AHF posted a needs survey at AHF CARES and

received over a hundred replies in the first week. "We know humanities organizations need support for a variety of needs," said AHF Grants Director Graydon Rust. "We're working to develop an efficient, simple application process to get funds out as quickly as possible."

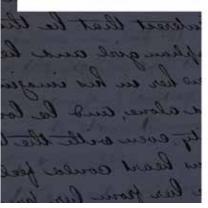
"Now, more than ever, the humanities are essential to our ability to adapt and thrive during difficult times," Clark noted. "Thanks to the outstanding staff at AHF, we have seamlessly transitioned most of our programs to virtual platforms."

Even as doors begin to open around Alabama, the humanities remain a critical part of our recovery. *Visit AHF CARES: The Humanities Connection* (alabamahumanities.org/ahf-cares) to learn how the humanities and AHF can support the healing process.









Associate Professor of English Emily Friedman and her team of undergraduate researche are preserving never before published fiction manuscripts from 1750–1900 through digitization. The resulting online database will keep these stories alive for future generations of scholars and fiction enthusiasts around the world. Our faculty are defining humanities scholarship in the 21st century.



For more information on research initiat in the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn University, visit our website at cla.auburn or contact us at (334) 844-4026.



with Alabama

# Solutions Journalism focus of Democracy and Informed Citizen series

Navigating the media landscape these days is not as black and white as the type in newspapers that once reigned as the trusted, number one source for news.

Today's world of journalism looks vastly different – internet sources, websites, digital news, podcasts, blogs, cable television, radio, satellite radio, social media, magazines – and the already burgeoning list continues to grow.

So, who do you trust? That's the question citizens striving to be informed must ask, and it's the question at the heart of a new grant-funded *Democracy and the Informed Citizen* project of Alabama Humanities Foundation.

It marks the second time AHF has earned this grant, a national initiative/partnership between the Mellon Foundation and the Federation of State Humanities Councils.

AHF and its partners around the state are examining Humanities and the Future of Journalism in rural Alabama, hoping to inspire youths to pursue Solutions Journalism, which is an approach that makes *how people are responding to problems* in their communities the news — instead of making news of problems. It seeks to provide insight that others can use. The storytelling focus is on effectiveness, not good intentions.

AHF will provide humanities-based training for youth and adult community members interested in exploring the practice of Solutions Journalism in rural Alabama places. While providing Solutions

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Journalism training, it will address the humanities' traditional role in the training of journalists and in the development over time of the field of journalism.

The project will take place over the course of 18 months in 2020-2021, but will need to take a different course than originally planned due to issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The program will have public outcomes. Planned were participant-led forums held in the participants' communities in Fall 2020/Winter 2021, as well as reporting on the project via statewide newspapers and blogs. Pulitzer Prize winners were to serve as faculty in the training and as presenters in public forums.

The forums will be re-evaluated in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and new plans will be shared via AHF's website and social media as the new path forward becomes clear.

Lead scholar is Nan Fairley, associate professor in the School of Communication & Journalism at Auburn University, where she has taught a wide variety of courses, including feature writing and community journalism, since 1992.



# OU TRUST?

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"Community journalism in rural areas of Alabama and across the nation is more important now than ever before," Fairley said. "I believe the workshop and subsequent forums will be an opportunity for young people and community representatives to learn how to hear, create and share vital stories of importance to us all."

Fairley has earned honors for her work in community journalism with youths. She has engaged many of her classes in outreach projects focused on rural communities and believes students learn best when they go "beyond the interstate" to develop as both citizens and future journalists.

The recipient of the 2011 AU Award for Excellence in Faculty Outreach, Fairley is a faculty mentor for the David Mathews Center for Civic Life and is on the board of directors for PACERS, Program for the Academic & Cultural Enrichment of Rural Schools.

Fairley is representing the AU School of Communication and Journalism as a Faculty Fellow in the Alabama Community Capacity Network for higher education community engagement.

She continues work with Dr. Mark Wilson on the AU College of Liberal Arts Living Democracy initiative (https://cla.auburn.edu/livingdemocracy/) since 2010. She is co-author of *Living Democracy: Communities as Classrooms*, *Students as Citizens*, a Kettering Foundation publication.

Democracy and the Informed Citizen seeks to strengthen media literacy through community conversations and other public programs with journalists, scholars and local and national organizations.

In announcing the grant for AHF and others, Esther Mackintosh, president of the Federation of State Humanities Councils said, "The councils are uniquely equipped to bring journalists into meaningful conversation with the communities they serve, to help citizens distinguish trustworthy from unreliable news and to explore the historic role that journalism and the humanities have played in informing Americans."

Partners in the Alabama project are: The College of Liberal Arts at Auburn University — the School of Communication and Journalism, the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities, and the Living Democracy Project; The University of Alabama College of Communication and Information Sciences; the David Mathews Center for Civic Life; and the PACERS Newspaper Network, part of a multidecade Alabama cooperative of small rural public schools and their communities and partners.



The Giving Garden in Elba, AL is an example of Solutions Journalism.

The news highlights the answer, not the problem.

#### JOURNEY TO RECONCILIATION

## AHF Fellow Peggy Wallace Kennedy offers new insight into Wallace era

Story by Carol Pappas

Pilgrimage photos by Faith & Politics Institute - Book tour photo by Mark Kennedy

Some may say that Peggy Wallace Kennedy's journey along her memoir's broken road began with a question her son posed to her when he was 9. Ask Kennedy, and she will likely say it started a long time before in a place called Clio.

In the foreword for Kennedy's new book, The Broken Road, Dr. Wayne Flynt quotes writer Oscar Wilde to help him describe Kennedy's fateful journey. "Children begin by loving their parents; as they grow older, they judge them; sometimes they forgive them."

Kennedy, Flynt continued in his own words, "completed that entire life cycle – from childhood innocence to adult revulsion, to forgiveness, reconciliation, and finally to personal wholeness."

The end result is an intimate portrait of growing up the daughter of a shrewd politician from Clio named George Corley Wallace and a strong-willed woman, who died just as she was coming into her own and finding her voice as Alabama's first female governor.

Kennedy found her own voice years later from a child's innocent question when she and son Burns visited a Civil Rights exhibit in Atlanta. He saw images of his grandfather standing in the schoolhouse door to prevent integration at the University of Alabama. He saw photos of dogs and firehoses attacking people of color who were simply protesting for equal rights. And he saw the

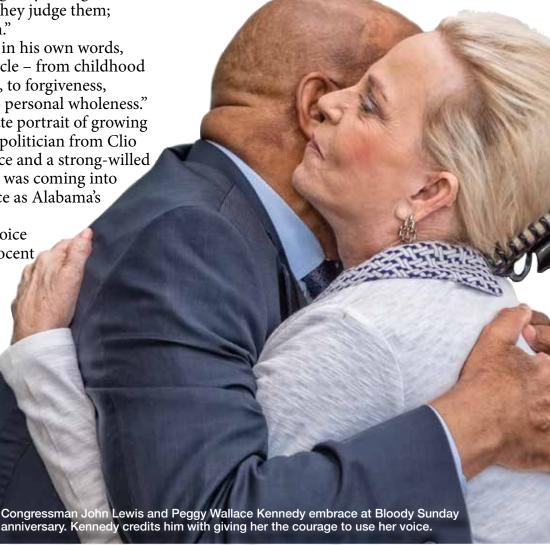
Edmund Pettus Bridge,

the scene of Bloody

Sunday and a symbol that would figure heavily in his mother's life.

But at that moment, seeing those particular images, Burns uttered a probing question: "Why did PawPaw do those things to other people?"

Kennedy didn't know the answer, but she knew the solution. "He was wrong, so why don't you and I make things right?" From that point, she



#### JOURNEY TO RECONCILIATION

evolved into a tireless advocate, eventually traveling the country to promote peace and reconciliation.

"My story is much like that of the broken road, heaved up and cracked for the truth of what power can do," she writes in the book. "It mingles amid history for the sake of truth, gives rise to the inspiration that no matter who we belonged to each of us can overcome, and offers hope that America will take the road less traveled by before it is too late."

Putting the words of the life she lived on paper was no easy task. "Getting started was hard for us," she said. "We knew how we wanted it to go, but getting started was hard. There are things you have to relive and write about. It's a personal story. It is the truth of how I saw it, how I lived it."

Husband Mark Kennedy, retired justice of the Alabama Supreme Court, co-authored the book. After all, "he traveled the broken road 46 years with me. He has helped me a lot."

For three years, they worked on the book, stopping and starting once again en route to the finished product. "We are really happy with it. We have had a successful book tour," a journey that has taken her on book signings and speaking engagements across the country.

But the real journey is what is contained in the pages of the book. "I dedicated it to our sons, but I needed to dedicate it to her, too," she said, referring to her mother, Lurleen Burns Wallace, Alabama's 46th governor. "I wanted the people to learn more about her. She was wonderful. So real."

Others only knew that she was "the governor and a woman who died with dignity." Kennedy wanted people to know the woman, the mother, the wife and the governor who died just as she was finding her voice for the state.

"She was full of life. She loved to fish, swim and ski. She taught me many lessons about life in the 17 years I had her," Kennedy said. "She was a very strong woman with a dry wit about her. She loved practical jokes. She really was a wonderful person."

She emerged from the shadow of her husband, a formidable hurdle, but she did it. "At the end, she did find her own voice," her daughter said. She fought for mental health issues, and she



established Alabama's state park system.

"She had just come into her own. She didn't have time to experience that voice like I was able to do. Had she lived, I think she would have found something she was very passionate about" and pursued it with the same zest and determination that her daughter so admired in her.

It's that same passion that drives Kennedy, whose voice has become influential around the country. "I hope I've made a contribution. Things that surround you influence your life." When she talks, she wants people to understand that they are "capable of becoming not who you are, but who you can become."

It's the kind of understanding and enlightenment that are the cornerstones of the humanities. An Alabama Humanities Fellow in 2018, Kennedy noted, "Humanities influenced my life greatly," helping her shape her thinking, her perspectives and her own understanding.

At the 50th anniversary of Bloody Sunday, she delivered a sentiment her father was never able to muster until the final years of his life. Standing on

#### JOURNEY TO RECONCILIATION

the capitol steps just below the window where her father could only watch the protesters who had marched from Selma, she said: "Fifty years ago, you stood here in front of your state capitol and sought an opportunity as a citizen of Alabama to be recognized and heard by your governor. And he refused. But today, as his daughter and as a person of my own, I want to do for you what my father should have done and recognize you for your humanity and for your dignity as a child of God, as a person of goodwill and character and as a fellow Alabamian and say, 'Welcome home.'

Noting her father's own reconciliation and his asking for forgiveness, Kennedy sees his later years through a different prism. "I think my father would be very proud of what I'm doing. I think my mother would be very proud. I think she would travel with Mark and me."

For her sons, "I wanted to build a legacy for them different from the one I was left. I think he (her father) would really be happy about that."

She credits Congressman John Lewis, nearly beaten to death on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, with giving her "the strength and courage to find my voice and make things right. The book starts with him and ends with him. He's the one who took me across that bridge."

He taught her "unconditional love can change the human heart. His friendship is one of the greatest gifts of my lifetime. His theme is love."

In the end, she concludes, life must transcend politics. She believes in focusing on human rights and whether or not one stands by or stands up when, as she once said, "justice for all is at risk."

Illustrating the point, she singles out her most memorable experience on the book tour. She was speaking at a bookstore in Fairhope when asked what she thought about the state of the American country – what shape it was in. "I

started talking from the heart about what I thought." A man in a bright yellow jacket approached her afterward, saying he was from Wisconsin. He cried as he spoke. "You are the only person that I've heard that has given me hope for America."

He was one of 14 Wisconsin state senators who crossed the state line in 2011 and hid out from the statehouse to keep from having a quorum on an appropriations bill that would have severely weakened collective bargaining for unions, diminishing their rights and their voice. It left the other side one vote shy.

"I followed you," she told him. She drew the parallel of giving voice to the defenseless. The senators found their voice by taking extreme measures to protect workers' rights, she said. She hand-signed his book, "Senator Bill, it was an honor for me to meet you." She paused a moment, then added, "Me giving him hope. I'll always remember that."

As Kennedy found the courage to speak nationally and to write a book, she drew deeply from the lessons learned from Congressman Lewis.

The book's first line is a compelling quote from Lewis himself. "In the South, we knew our adversary would stop at nothing to stop our activism. We knew we could never match his readiness to annihilate our resistance. So, we ceded to him that ground and challenged him instead to defend himself against the work of loving peace."



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

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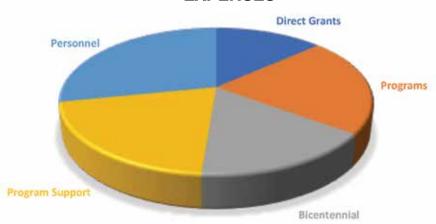
Memorial donation in honor of Elaine Hughes

\*Deceased

#### **Annual Report**







#### Total: \$1,667,747

- Direct Grants -- \$224,402
- Programs -- \$365,380
- Bicentennial -- \$270,240
- Program Support -- \$344,262
- Personnel -- \$473,463



#### Total: \$1,688,962

- Earned Income -- \$365,245 (Events/Miscellaneous)
- Contributions -- \$123,450 (Designated)
- Contributions -- \$48,210 (Undesignated)
- State -- \$285,368
- Federal -- \$866,689

#### **Connecting All of Alabama Through Humanities**

#### **Programs**

Prime Time Family Reading Alabama History Day SUPER Teacher Workshops
Humanities and Healthcare Literature and the Veteran Experience
Jenice Riley Scholarship Road Scholars

#### **Special Projects**

Making Alabama. A Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit Alabama Book Festival Stony the Road, NEH Teacher Institute



#### **Humanities Impact =**

1,799 events, serving 676,335 individuals and families across Alabama



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