

# Past Forward

**A journey through the past to better understand our present**

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As an introduction to our Healing History initiative, the Alabama Humanities Alliance offers **Past Forward**. This a participatory experience that brings people together to explore, and reflect upon, a piece of our shared past.

Specifically, we'll have the chance to examine impacts of nearly 160 years of federal policy. And we'll learn how decisions made in the **past** carry **forward** — directly affecting our lives, livelihoods, relationships, and communities today.

## **Participants will have the chance to:**

- **Share, and listen to**, different perspectives on the past.
- **Learn how the past is still present** in our laws, policies, and relationships today.
- **Step into someone else's shoes**. Discover the unexpected ways we are connected — and affected — by our shared history.

**Past Forward** takes about an hour and participants will sit in small groups to go through the experience. **Past Forward** closes with an opportunity for participants to reflect, share takeaways, and offer feedback.

## **About Healing History:**

**Past Forward** is your entryway to **Healing History**. This collaborative initiative is designed to strengthen our communities, workforces, and state by helping Alabamians examine their shared history and get to know each other better. Across race, religion, politics, and all supposed dividing lines that shouldn't keep us apart.

We aim to build trust, foster empathy, and grow community through mutually respectful discussions about our shared past, present, and future. Our goal is to spark conversations that lead to tangible outcomes like:

- Community history projects
- United, inclusive workforces
- Professional and leadership development
- Dynamic storytelling events
- New community connections
- Learning days for civic and business leaders

**Sign up for the next **Past Forward** experience!**

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