

Meeting the Challenges of a Changing World through Innovation and Creative Collaboration



Alabama Arts Alliance
Alabama Arts Summit
'23



UAB's Alys Stephens Center
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

APRIL 27-28

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE



Thursday, April 27, 2023

- 7:30 a.m.** Registration and Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m.** “*Get Rhythm*” with John Scalici (MK Sirote Theatre)
- 8:45 a.m.** Welcome and Opening Plenary Session (MK Sirote Theatre)
- 9:15 a.m.** The Alabama State Department of Education
- 9:30 a.m.** Keynote with Olivia West Plsek: “*Collaboration is a Roller Coaster*”
- 11:00 a.m.** “*Collaborating for a Better World Building on 2030 Skills*”
- 11:30 a.m.** “*Building it From the Ground Up*”
- 11:45 a.m.** LUNCH (Lower Lobby)
- 1:00 p.m.** Roundtable discussion: “*Wicked Problems*” (Lower Lobby)
- 2:15 p.m.** Grant Opportunities (MK Sirote Theatre)
- 2:45 p.m.** BREAKOUT SESSIONS:
- AAEL grantees Group A - *Adjourn to the Odess Theatre*
 - AAEL grantees Group B - *Adjourn to the Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall*
- 2:45 p.m.** “*artlook®Alabama*” (MK Sirote Theatre)
- “*Connecting People and Building Relationships in Your Community*”
- 4:00 p.m.** Celebration of AAEL Grantees (MK Sirote Theatre)
- 4:45 - 6:30 p.m.** Reception at the Abrams-Engle Institute for Visual Arts

Friday, April 28, 2023

- 7:30 a.m.** Registration and Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m.** “*University of Alabama New College & New College Life Track*” (MK Sirote)
- 8:45 a.m.** Welcome and Plenary Session (MK Sirote Theatre)
- 9:00 a.m.** Featured presentation with Dr. Michael Zabala: “*Engineering in the Arts*”
- 10:30 a.m.** “*Peter Pan Jr.*” by Hamilton Middle School
- 11:00 a.m.** “*Alabama MTSS & the Power of Us: Collective Responsibility for the Success of Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day*”
- 11:40 a.m.** Advocacy Tips
- 12:00 p.m.** LUNCH (Lower Lobby)
- 1:00 p.m.** Roundtable discussion: “*Creative Clusters*” (Lower Lobby)
- 2:15 p.m.** BREAKOUT SESSIONS:
- AAEL grantees Group B - *Adjourn to the Odess Theatre*
 - AAEL grantees Group A - *Adjourn to the Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall*
- 2:15 p.m.** “*Amp Up Arts*” and “*UAB Arts*” (MK Sirote Theatre)
- 3:30 p.m.** Closing and Adjourn (MK Sirote Theatre)

Thank you for joining us!

AGENDA

Thursday, April 27, 2023

- 7:30 a.m. **Registration opens** (*Box office entrance - upper level*)
- 7:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (*Lower Lobby*)
- *Student Performance: Alabama School of Fine Arts Musical Ensemble*
- 7:30 a.m. **Visit vendors** (*Upper Lobby*)
- 8:30 a.m. **“Get Rhythm” with John Scalici** (*MK Sirote Theatre*)
- 8:45 a.m. **Welcome and Opening Plenary Session** (*MK Sirote Theatre*)
- 9:15 a.m. **The Alabama State Department of Education** (*MK Sirote Theatre*)
- *Dr. Eric Mackey, State Superintendent of Education*
- *Andy Meadows, Arts Education Specialist*
- 9:30 a.m. **Keynote with Olivia West Plsek: “Collaboration is a Roller Coaster”** (*MK Sirote*)
10:30 a.m.: *BREAK - Visit Vendors*
- 11:00 a.m. **Owen Foster: “Collaborating for a Better World Building on 2030 Skills”** (*MK Sirote*)
- 11:30 a.m. **Melissa Hughey & Dwayne Craft: “Building it From the Ground Up”** (*MK Sirote*)
- 11:45 - 12:45 p.m. **LUNCH** (*Lower Lobby*)
- *Student performance: McAdory High School Theatre Program*
- 12:45 p.m. *BREAK - Visit Vendors*
- 1:00 p.m. **Roundtable discussion: “Wicked Problems” with facilitators** (*Lower Lobby*)
- 2:15 p.m. **Grant Opportunitie with Arts Council Program Managers** (*MK Sirote Theatre*)
- 2:45 p.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS:**
- *AAEI grantees Group A - Adjourn to the Odess Theatre*
- *AAEI grantees Group B - Adjourn to the Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall*
- 2:45 p.m. **Morris K. Sirote Theatre**
- *Donna Russell: artlook®Alabama*
- *Shellie Whitfield: “Connecting People and Building Relationships in Your Community”*
- 4 p.m. **Celebration of AAEI Grantees** (*MK Sirote Theatre*)
- 4:45 - 6:30 p.m. **RECEPTION** *at the Abrams-Engle Institute for Visual Arts*

WICKED PROBLEMS are large-scale problems that are resistant to singular solutions – they are problems that are multi-causal (may have multiple causes) and multidimensional. They are challenging to solve precisely because they are systemic and intertwined with other problems. Wicked problems push the boundaries of disciplinary understanding and call for cross-disciplinary collaborations: the integration of diverse perspectives and multifaceted solutions. The arts and humanities are fluent in dealing with such complexities with methods and practices that center deep observation, listening, empathy and imaginative possibilities – modes that are essential to ethical decision-making and knowledge equity.

AGENDA

Friday, April 28, 2023

- 7:30 a.m. **Registration opens** (*Box office entrance - upper level*)
- 7:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (*Lower Lobby*)
- *Student Performance: Alabama School of Fine Arts Musical Ensemble*
- 7:30 a.m. **Visit vendors** (*Upper Lobby*)
- 8:30 a.m. **Jennifer A. Caputo: “University of Alabama New College & New College Life Track”** (*MK Sirote Theatre*)
- 8:45 a.m. **Welcome and Plenary Session** (*MK Sirote Theatre*)
- 9:00 a.m. **Featured presentation with Dr. Michael Zabala, “Engineering in the Arts”** (*MK Sirote*)
- 10:00 a.m.: **BREAK - Visit Vendors**
- 10:30 a.m. **“Peter Pan Jr.”** by Hamilton Middle School (*MK Sirote Theatre*)
- 11:00 a.m. **“Alabama MTSS & the Power of Us: Collective Responsibility for the Success of Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day”** (*MK Sirote Theatre*)
- **Sean J. Stevens**, *Instructional Services Program Coordinator*
- **Cristin M. Dillard**, *Education Administrator*
- **Kristie P. Shankles**, *Education Specialist for Alabama Multi-Tier System of Supports (AL-MTSS)*
- 11:40 a.m. **Advocacy Tips**
- 12:00 - 12:45 p.m. **LUNCH** (*Lower Lobby*)
- *Student Performance: Huffman High School Theatre Department*
- 12:45 p.m. **BREAK - Visit Vendors**
- 1:00 p.m. **Roundtable discussion: “Creative Clusters”** (*Lower Lobby*)
- *with facilitators*
- 2:15 p.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS:**
- *AAEI grantees Group B - Adjourn to the Odess Theatre*
- *AAEI grantees Group A - Adjourn to the Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall*
- 2:15 p.m. **Morris K. Sirote Theatre**
- *Ashely Lucier, AmpUpArts*
- *Lili Anderson, UAB Arts*
- 3:30 p.m. **Closing and Adjourn** (*MK Sirote Theatre*)

CREATIVE CLUSTERS are a network for people working in the development of creative programs or projects. The network is interested in regeneration and/or development of projects that deliver outcomes in both cultural and educational terms. Within this group you find people with which to collaborate, that will provide support for your program, to support you. Keep this within sight.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Olivia West Plsek, Writer & Narrative Designer, St Louis, MO



Olivia is a professional writer for themed entertainment design and video game design with a specialty in world-building and immersive experiences. She has always loved telling stories that bring people together.

Olivia attended the University of Alabama for her undergraduate degree, majoring in Digital Media and minoring in Creative Writing. Following that, she attended the Savannah College of Art and Design to obtain her master's degree in Themed Entertainment Design.

After graduating from SCAD, Olivia worked at Walt Disney Imagineering in Glendale, California. Then she worked for 5 years at Universal Creative in Orlando, Florida, as a show writer, beginning as the primary writer for the Universal theme park in Beijing, China.

After Universal Studios Beijing, she worked on many more Universal projects, including the newest roller coaster in Islands of Adventures, "The Velocicoaster," for which she was the main writer.

Olivia then worked at Avalanche, the video game design arm of Warner Brothers Games, and thus transitioned to being a game writer. With Avalanche, Olivia was a Senior Narrative Designer on the highly anticipated AAA video game, *Hogwarts Legacy*.

Currently, Olivia works as a freelance writer, along with running a cooking blog, and she just finished writing her first novel.

Michael Zabala, PhD, Associate Professor of Engineering, Auburn University



Dr. Michael Zabala is the Auburn Alumni Engineering Council Endowed Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering. He is also the Director of the Auburn University Biomechanical Engineering (AUBE) Lab where his research focuses on human performance and injury prevention.

Dr. Zabala graduated from Auburn University in 2007 with a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and from Stanford University with a Master's degree and PhD in Mechanical Engineering in 2010 and 2013, respectively. His research in the AUBE Lab includes work on active lower-limb exoskeleton technology, ACL injury risk determination, lower-limb prosthetic devices, and biomechanical analysis of various artforms.

In 2019, Dr. Zabala created the Engineering in the Arts study abroad course. This is a three-hour course offered to Auburn University engineering students and is held in Florence, Italy, over the course of four weeks in the summer. The course centers on engineering principles associated with multiple forms of art such as the playing of musical instruments, painting, Renaissance architecture, and dance. Students also learn about key historical figures of the Renaissance that held major influence on the origins of biomechanics and engineering, as well as modern-day Western art and architecture.

PRESENTERS



Annemarie Anderson, MFA
*Director of the Alabama Center for
Traditional Culture,*
Alabama State Council on the Arts



Ashley Lucier, MEdL
State Director
Amp Up Arts



Lili Anderson
*Executive Director of Visual and
Performing Arts*
University of Alabama at Birmingham



Dr. Eric Mackey, PhD
State Superintendent
Alabama State Department of Education



Jennifer Caputo, MA
Senior Instructor
New College LifeTrack at the University
of Alabama



Andy Meadows, MFA
Arts Education Specialist
Alabama State Department of Education



Euri Carr, MEd
Performing Arts Program Manager
Alabama State Council on the Arts



Kaci Norman, MEd
Arts in Education Program Manager
Alabama State Council on the Arts



Barton "Dwayne" Craft, MS
Fine Arts Supervisor
Huntsville City Schools



Donna Russell
Executive Director
Alabama Arts Alliance



Cristin Dillard, MLIS
*Education Administrator for College
and Career Success*
Alabama State Department of Education



John Scalici
Founder
Get Rhythm! Programs



Owen Foster, MID
Founder
Aether Global Learning &
Shift Design Camp



Kristie Shankles
*Education Specialist for Alabama
Multi-Tier System of Support*
Alabama State Department of Education



Melissa Hughey
Master Arts Educator
Madison, AL



Sean Stevens, MEd
*Program Coordinator of Instructional
Services*
Alabama State Department of Education



Amy Jenkins, MA
Visual Arts Program Manager
Alabama State Council on the Arts



Jacqueline Viskup, PhD
*Community Arts Program Manager &
Arts Facilities*
Alabama State Council on the Arts



Anne Kimzey
*Literary Arts Program Manager &
Folk Arts Apprenticeships*
Alabama State Council on the Arts



Shellie Whitfield
Executive Director
Wetumpka Chamber of Commerce

Performances

String and Vocal Ensembles from



**ALABAMA
SCHOOL OF
FINE ARTS**

Director: Alex Fokkens, Chair of the Music Department

Hamilton Middle School Theatre Students Performing “Peter Pan Jr.”

*Director: Cindy Howie; Asst. Director: Mary Beth Hall
Choreographer: Alysse Beasley*

Assistant Principal and Arts Coordinator Benja Jackson; Principal Norman Ballard

Cast and Crew: Sixty-seven students in grades 5-8



The arts program of Hamilton Middle School was launched 4 years ago with the assistance of an AAEI grant and has expanded ever since thanks to the dedication of not only the teachers and administrators, but also the students, parents and community.

Click on QR code for more information about their art program.



Performances

Huffman High School Theater Department

Director: *LaTosha Anderson,*
Principal: *Dr. John C Lyons Jr.*



The Huffman High School Drama Club was created in 2019 by Mrs. LaTosha Anderson. This organization aims to strengthen and cultivate student's engagement, communication skills, teamwork, collaboration, social, and emotional learning. During the past four years, students have performed and produced productions that enhanced their experiences in and outside the theater. The creativity and direction students take to bring life towards performances that are written and recreated are phenomenally received by a variety of audience members.

Moving forward, the Huffman High School Drama Club looks forward to collaboration, grant opportunities, scholarships, and performing in other venues statewide.

McAdory High School Theatre Program

Director: *Jordan Dewitt, McAdory High School Theatre Program*
Principal: *Gary Bowen*



McAdory High School Theatre is very grateful for the opportunity to present selections from their recently closed production of "Mean Girls: High School Version!"

Follow them on Instagram @mcadoryhstheatre for info on future productions and behind-the-scenes photos!



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Arts Education Specialist
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Montgomery, AL

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Kaci Norman, M.Ed.

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Alabama Arts Alliance

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Celebrating 40 years of Leadership and Service



Alabama Arts ALLIANCE

The mission of the Alabama Arts Alliance is to increase public awareness of and engagement in the arts through education and advocacy.

The Alabama Alliance for Arts Education, aka *the Alabama Arts Alliance*, was established in 1983 in partnership with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the Alabama State Council on the Arts. It was incorporated in 1987, and the non-profit status was approved in 1988.

The Arts Alliance started off as a volunteer organization, but soon hired a part-time executive director. Donna Russell is the 3rd executive director of the organization and the position is now full-time, with an executive assistant and a part-time special projects coordinator.

The Arts Alliance developed the Imaginative Learning Workshops in the 1990's which were modeled after the Kennedy Center's professional development program. Those workshops have since then evolved into SAIL (Sustaining Artful Instruction and Learning), an annual arts integrated summer professional development workshop. The organization also established the annual Arts Education Summit, which is now known as the Arts Summit.

Since its inception, the Arts Alliance has forged partnerships with the ALSDE, AIEA and statewide arts education organizations, as well as joining the Americans for the Arts State Arts Action Network, the Creative States Coalition, the Southern Advocacy Group, and becoming the Advocacy Captain for Alabama.

The Arts Alliance is working in partnership with the Alabama State Council on the Arts, the Alabama State Department of Education, and the Alabama Institute for the Education in the Arts on Amp Up Arts, formerly known as the Artistic Literacy Consortium.

The latest endeavor of the Alliance is facilitating artlook®Alabama for the State Department of Education.



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN:

In-Person Summer Professional Development

Date: June 21-23, 2023

Location: Troy University Montgomery Campus

For more information and to register, visit

<https://www.alartsalliance.org/sail-2023>



Alabama Arts Alliance
Alabama Arts
Summit
'24

SAVE THE DATE
March 14 - 15, 2024
Red Mountain Theatre
Birmingham, AL

artlook®Alabama is a virtual platform that connects Alabama students with the arts!

You too can get on the artlook map!

In partnership with the Alabama Arts Alliance, the Alabama State Department of Education continues to add schools to the artlook®Alabama dashboard which allows school districts to search for arts opportunities and to collect, map, and analyze data regarding the availability and distribution of arts staffing, funding, and services on a school-by-school basis.

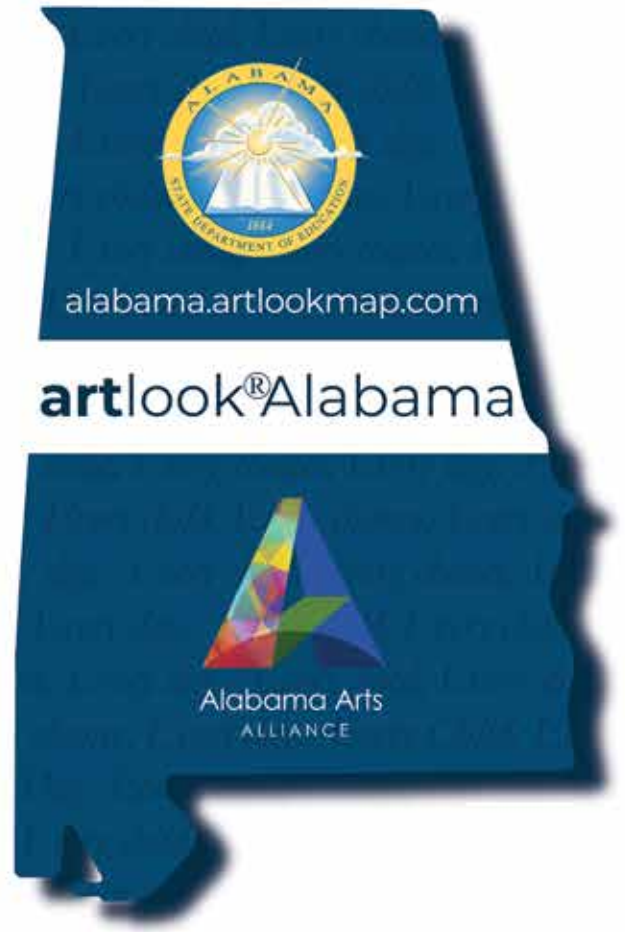
School systems may use this dashboard to make data driven decisions on priorities and needs to support *Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day*.

Working toward equitable participation in quality arts education for all students, data collection will assist in understanding the impact of arts education in Alabama.

The ALSDE and the Alliance work closely with arts educators, administrators, and cultural organizations around the state to identify teaching artists and arts organizations' educational resources and the needs of schools around the state.

Schools may use this dashboard to identify their unique community needs in arts education in addition to searching for providers they may be interested in partnering with.

You can search through all the data collected via the public-facing map and data dashboard at <https://alabama.artlookmap.com/>
(Select "Schools" or "Partners" on the dropdown menu on the top left)



For mor information, please visit
<https://www.alartsalliance.org/artlookalabama>
or email artlookal@alartsalliance.org





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Why
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Students with access
to arts education are:

- 5X less likely to drop out of school
- 4X more likely to be recognized for academic achievement
- 3X more likely to receive a bachelor's degree
- 30% more inclined to pursue a professional career



40 Years of Leadership and Service
**Alabama Arts
ALLIANCE**



Enhancing the quality of life and economic vitality for all Alabamians by providing support for the state's diverse and rich artistic resources.

Fiscal Year 2022 Impact

SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Council grants strengthen communities by supporting anchor institutions, infrastructure growth, and the pride of place that improve livability. 3 out of 4 Alabamians live in a city where a grant was funded.

GROWING AUDIENCES

With 1.7 million participants, 1 out of 4 Alabamians participated in Council-funded projects, along with more than 40,000 tourists visiting events from Huntsville to Dauphin Island, Roanoke to Livingston, and 83 cities across 52 counties.

ARTS ECOSYSTEM

Public funding for arts and creativity is a high-return investment that benefits every Alabamian. By strategically funding public programs and capacity growth of non-profit arts organizations and schools, grants from the Council are an essential part of strengthening our state's creative economy.


EDUCATION


PreK-12 students benefited from Council grants, including 867 teaching artist residencies and performances at Alabama's schools.

Scan this code to read our annual report, review grant guidelines, and more:





\$10.93
of economic impact
from every grant dollar




 **92%** of Alabamians
live where the Council
on the Arts funded a grant

1.7 million people
participated in Council on
the Arts funded activities



 **1,736+** jobs
supported by Council
on the Arts grants

Alabamians gave back:
7,000 volunteers
and **\$2.4 million**
in-kind donations





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- * Sensory Friendly Performances
- * Fine Arts Preschool

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MAKE MUSIC
JUNE 21

JOIN THE WORLDWIDE CELEBRATION OF MUSIC!

Make Music is a live, free musical celebration on June 21, the longest day of the year, with concerts on streets, sidewalks, and parks across the World.

Make Music is open to anyone who wants to take part. All of it is free and open to the public.

Launched in 1982 in France as the Fête de la Musique, Make Music celebrates on the same day in more than 1,000 cities in 120 countries around the world.

Six cities in Alabama are participating in 2023:
Decatur, Florence, Gadsden, Gulf Shores, Huntsville, and Montgomery

MAKEMUSICDAY.ORG | #MAKEMUSICDAY

NAMM Foundation





Be sure to visit
the Arts Summit vendors:

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For more information visit una.edu/schoolofthearts

This is why we support the Arts:

Economic Impact of the Arts

Alabama

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that arts and cultural production accounts for \$5,435,698,000 and 2.1% of the Alabama economy, contributing 43,981 jobs. (2021)

United States

Over \$1 trillion in value added to the U.S. economy
4.4% of U.S. gross domestic product
4.9 million jobs

The 2021 data offers additional information about the ongoing recovery of the arts sector following the pandemic. After declining precipitously in 2020, arts and cultural production were at a higher rate than the overall economy in 2021.

Using inflation-adjusted numbers, the U.S. arts economy grew over 14% while the economy as a whole grew around 10%.

This growth in arts and cultural production is good news for state economies overall. Research confirms that the arts can improve - not merely reflect - the health of the broader economy and that the arts offer economic diversification and can help state economies rapidly recover from economic downturns.

Arts Education - an investment in Alabama's future

Arts subjects are disappearing from the curriculum at a frightening rate, and we should all be alarmed. The damage goes far beyond the economic; it requires a long-term coherent plan and investment in creative arts education.

Creative expression has a fundamental impact on children's communication skills, wellbeing and confidence, as well as raising aspirations. Squeezing arts out of the core curriculum at a time when many families are struggling to afford utility bills, let alone enriching extracurricular activities, will damage the future prospects of today's children.

Arts opportunities provided through schools can be life-changing. Teachers often say that participation in the arts impacts a child's entire education, with improvements in literacy, school attendance, behavior and motivation. But the real power of the arts resonates over a child's lifetime. These children will become better problem solvers, critical thinkers and leaders – things we need now more than ever.

Our society is built on the creativity of many disciplines, usually after an understanding of the discipline concerned. Such is the nature of the human race. How else did airplanes, cars, televisions, computers, mobile phones and medicines, etc. come into being for the benefit of all?



Let Us Be a Part of Your Creative Journey

ArtPlay offers **FREE** K-12 programming



Meet the Artists Performances // A Day In The Arts Field Trips
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Thank you!

We sincerely thank the Alabama Arts Alliance Board Members and Advisors for their time and dedication to the Arts in Alabama.

In particular, we appreciate Melissa Hughey for chairing the Board and coordinating the Alabama Arts Summit.

In addition, we want to extend our gratitude to Dr. Elliot Knight and the program staff of the Alabama State Council on the Arts, Andy Meadows, Fine Arts Specialist, Alabama State Department of Education and the State Board of Education.

Arts Summit and Alliance logos by Russ Hailey.

Please share your photos!

#ALARTSSUMMIT23

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ALLIANCE

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www.ALArtsAlliance.org



The Alabama Arts Summit is a project of the Alabama Arts Alliance in partnership with the Alabama State Department of Education through the Arts Education Initiative Grant program. Projects and programs are supported by grants from the Alabama State Council on the Arts; the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency; and the Support the Arts License Tag Fund.