



The pARTners Project

Bringing people together to build more creative, more resilient communities through increased access to arts education

WEST ALABAMA ARTS EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE
an artistic literacy consortium initiative

GREATER BIRMINGHAM ARTS EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE
an artistic literacy consortium initiative

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS
arts.gov

Alabama State Council on the Arts

THE ARTS COUNCIL

Arts & Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa to Receive \$100,000 Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for Regional Arts Education Project

The Arts & Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa has been approved for a \$100,000 Grants for Art Projects award to support the **The pARTners Project**, a multi-phase collective impact initiative spearheaded by the **Greater Birmingham and West Alabama Arts Education Collaboratives**. The grant was awarded for the two regional arts collaboratives to create a plan to increase access to arts education for students in the West-Central Alabama region, which includes the Greater Birmingham area and rural areas in western Alabama, especially those still facing the lasting effects of segregation and white flight.

The pARTners Project is among 1,073 projects across America totaling nearly \$25 million that were selected during this first round of fiscal year 2021 funding in the Grants for Arts Projects funding category. The Arts & Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa was awarded the highest funding amount possible from the NEA to support the pARTners Project.

“The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support this project from the Arts & Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa,” said Arts Endowment Acting Chairman Ann Eilers. “The Arts & Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa is among the arts organizations across the country that have demonstrated creativity, excellence, and resilience during this very challenging year.”

“As the child of two educators, I know it’s critical to empower the next generation by providing equitable access to quality education. I am thrilled the Arts & Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa and the Greater Birmingham Arts Education Collaborative has secured this critical federal funding as part of the National Endowment for the Arts initiative to expand access to arts education in rural and underserved areas. For generations, the arts have served to inspire and ignite young people’s imaginations, and I look forward to the creative solutions this investment will bring to broaden equal access to educational opportunities for the children of Alabama’s 7th Congressional District.” --Congresswoman Terri Sewell, U.S. Representative, District 7

The pARTners Project will identify and leverage key community collaborators to work on strategic planning, research, and curriculum development to ensure that access to arts education throughout the region is widespread and equitable. The initiative will be deeply rooted in the communities it serves, and will empower its members to sustain and build on the goals well after the grant period concludes.

For more information on projects included in the Arts Endowment grant announcement, visit arts.gov/news.

**To receive updates about The pARTners Project and find out how to get involved,
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