

PERSPECTIVES



Alabama Art Education Association

A Publication of the Alabama Art Education Association - End of Year 2021



SPRING ACCOLADES

Governor Kay Ivey issued a commendation recognizing **Connie Deal's** dedicated service to the state of Alabama and arts

education. Ms. Deal was named the Art Educator of the Year by the **Alabama Art Education Association** and Outstanding Educator for the State of Alabama by the Visual Arts Achievement Program of the **Alabama State Council on the Arts**.



Amanda Youngblood received the Arts Educator "Arty" award at the **Mobile Arts Council** 17th

Annual Awards Banquet. Well done!



President's Message

Dear AAEA members,

Congrats on making it through the year! I think we've learned a lot about strength, courage, and perseverance, don't you? Now, onto summer! I hope you take some time to rest!

Mary Jane Coker and I are preparing to travel to Virginia to the Southeastern Leadership Conference. We are so excited to meet IN PERSON! We are so looking forward to bringing back ideas to our board! The AAEA Board retreat is the next week and will be held in Florala this year. We will be revisiting goals and brainstorming ways to make our organization even better! If you ever have any thoughts or want to share how we could better help you, please don't hesitate to reach out to a board member. We have created AAEA specific emails, and soon, they will be listed on our website. If you need anything before then, you can reach out to me, aaepres@gmail.com.

I want you to know that we try not to overload your inbox with too many emails. If one of us from AAEA sends an email,



is presented to

Helen Poirier

by Alabama State Council on the Arts
in recognition of your outstanding achievement in the Visual Arts
on this 30th day of April 2021.

Elliot A. Knight
Elliot A. Knight
Executive Director

Diana F. Green
Diana F. Green
Arts in Education Program Manager



It has been an eventful year for National Board Certified Teacher Christopher McClendon. **Mr. McClendon received a grant of \$20,000** from The State Department of Education and The Art

Alliance of Alabama as well as an **\$1800 grant from The Alabama Power Foundation**. He was also awarded **Middle Level Educator of the Year by AAEA** at the fall virtual conference.

In addition, two of his students received special honors for their talents this year. Helen Poirier's painting titled *Victorian House* (seen above), placed as a **District 4a VAAP winner** and represented District 4a at the state level of the competition in Painting Group I while Gabrielle Williams' portrait drawing titled *Jackie* (seen below) is currently on a list of **finalist in the grade 4-8 category in the White House Historical Association's National Student Art Competition**. What an amazing list of accomplishments Mr. McClendon - thank you for being a part of art education in Alabama!



please know that the information is pertinent to you, the art educator. Constant Contact is our way to share relevant information. We recently updated our list and hope all of our educators are receiving our emails. Feel free to share information that strengthens and helps our organization grow! Go ahead and mark your calendars for the Fall Retreat- November 12-13, 2021 in Mobile, Alabama! Cannot wait to see all of your faces!!

Gratefully,

Tricia Oliver
President AAEA 2020-2022
aaeapres@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE!

AAEA Fall Conference 2021, featuring guest speaker Cassie Stephens, will take place Nov. 12-13 in Mobile. Call for Presenters is now open on our website aaeaonline.org - deadline to apply is September 1. More information about registration coming soon!

VIRTUAL ART SHOWS!

It has been a trying year for everyone but we have taken it in stride and still found ways to celebrate our student artists. Check out a few from around our great state and get INSPIRED!

- [Jefferson County Schools](#)
- [Ms. Coker's Virtual Art Show](#)
- [Clay-Chalkville High School](#)
- [Bagley Elementary School](#)
- [Heritage Christian Academy](#)

SAVE THE DATE

AAEA FALL CONFERENCE MOBILE, AL

NOVEMBER
12-13
2021

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

CASSIE STEPHENS

insta @cassie_stephenz

Workshops: Spring Hill College

Awards Dinner and Rooms: The Admiral Hotel

QUESTIONS? AYOUNGBLOOD@STPAULSMOBILE.NET

YAM Flag Winners



Selah P.

Congratulations to the 2020/21 YAM Flag contest winners! Thank you to all that participated for encouraging the creativity and storytelling in your students. Special thanks to Julie Harrison for her awesome work promoting, coordinating, and compiling all of the votes. If you missed them on our social media, here they are again!

The winners were:

Elementary Winner: Selah Parsons, 4th Grade, Athens Intermediate School; Teacher: Ashley Sams

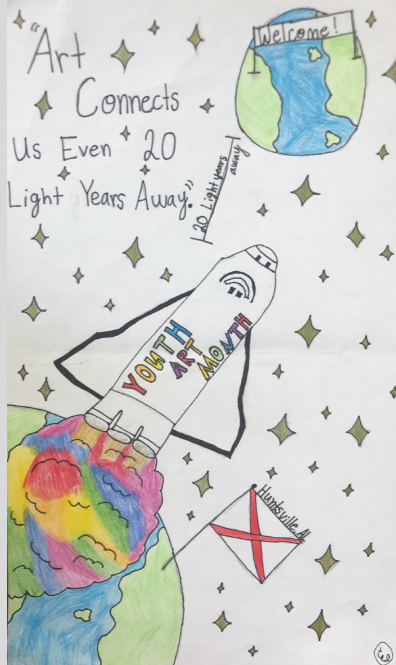
Middle School Winner: Emery Edge, 6th Grade, Hewitt Trussville Middle School; Teacher: Kristin Bloodworth

High School Winner: Madison Smith, 12th Grade, Clay-Chalkville High School; Teacher: Ashley Culwell

Overall Winner: Reese Yarbrough, 12th Grade, Alabama Connections Academy; Teacher: Jennifer Moore



Madison S.



Emery E.



Reese Y.



ESSER FUNDS FOR THE ARTS

from Donna Russell, Alabama Arts Alliance

Alabama students deserve the best! We encourage you to include the arts and arts education in your recovery plans. During school and afterschool programs are the perfect scenarios for including the arts for our Alabama students, and ESSER funds can be used!

The arts play an important role in recouping learning loss, in the social-emotional well-being of our students, and as part of a well-rounded education.

Dr. Mackey stated at the Alabama State School Board meeting in March 2021 “Art is Core! Core to life, core to civilization, core to history, core to the future.”

"The arts play a crucial role in recouping learning loss. James Catterall (2009) demonstrates that children who participate in the arts succeed academically, socially, and cognitively in his formative longitudinal study," (1) [**Doing Good and Doing Well by Doing Arts.**](#)

In fact, the students Catterall studied showed **marked gains**, as compared to their peers, in most behavioral and academic areas when they maintained their involvement in the arts over the years.

The arts are very effective in the Social-Emotional learning and well-being of students. According to the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (2003), the goal of an SEL program is to foster the development of five interrelated sets of cognitive, affective, and behavioral competencies: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relations skills, and responsible decision-making. The Arts are the

perfect avenue for students to attain these skills.”

“Nonprofits across the nation have been testing the hypothesis that integrating creative activities like dance, theater, music, and visual arts with core academics in the context of afterschool and summer learning programs not only reverse these troubling trends but actually helps students invest in and seek out learning, motivated by interesting, yet rigorous, educational experiences”
(2) [*Reversing Learning Loss Through the Arts in Afterschool and Summers*](#)

Again, for the sake of our Alabama students and our future; we encourage you to include the arts in your recovery plans. If you'd like more information on the critical role the arts play in our lives and our student's lives, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Please click here for a presentation by Assistant Superintendent Terry Roller
and **here for a presentation by ALSDE Arts Education Specialist Andy Meadows.**



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