

PERSPECTIVES



Alabama Art Education Association

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

President's Message



Hello, you beautiful art teachers of the state of Alabama! This is my last message to you as President. I am so thankful to be ending these two years on a high note. Our new board will roll on in January, and old and new will get together to pass the proverbial torches! While I often refer to myself as the "COVID president," I should correctly say "President during Covid" because Covid did not define us as an organization or as teachers. In the last few newsletters, you may have read the tone of anecdotal encouragement in my "Letter from the President." I wanted to encourage you since sometimes, just showing up was all you could do for your students. But you did, and you kept going. Be proud of that.

I hope you were able to attend the Fall Conference in person! There was so much incredible energy throughout the two-day "art teacherin" reunion! I couldn't have been happier that the arts-rich city of Mobile was host to our art teachers. Teachers who invest so much into others so they can continue to build arts-rich communities and grow thriving artists. We were indeed "Ignited" and "Illuminated"! Thanks to Amanda Youngblood, Julie Kogon, and your "Krewe" for hosting and organizing. This conference was exactly what we needed. I know I wasn't the only one that was inspired by Ardith, cried with Nancy, and laughed hysterically with Cassie!

I hope that everyone that attended the conference felt the value of being a member of AAEA and will join if they aren't currently a member. One of our new AAEA members recently asked me, "What are the benefits of attending conferences other than networking?" One is solid professional development through vetted projects and presentations. Another is the opportunity to learn from our veterans. Many of our members have been active for over 20 years! There were some in attendance not currently in the classroom but working in the field. Many of these are the people advocating for funds and offering support for you and your students. Many of us have found lifelong friends through AAEA. I am proud of the many people here who get me as an art teacher- that I can call and ask advice about AP portfolios or check on their new grandbaby! (Or heck...what are all these public school acronyms, and what do they mean???)

When national arts educator association numbers were trending down over the last two years, the AAEA grew. We currently have over 200 members! We've added an Independent School chair, Advocacy chair, and an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion chair to our board. The NAEA is diving deep into ED&I, and we want Alabama to be able to support our teachers and grow in every way. We want everyone in the room to be heard and seen. I've had some pretty remarkable conversations with some pretty impressive people on this journey. You, too, can have these conversations. You, too, can learn and grow from the best. If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, reach out at aaepres@gmail.com. Mary Jane Coker is your incoming President- and she is a ROCKSTAR...and organizational phenom, to be specific. Congratulations to Julie Harrison for continuing to shine a light on our young artists through the Youth Art Month program. Alabama earned a Merit Award for our program because of her hard work submitting evidence of your hard work! We await word on an NAEA award for our Newsletter, curated by the most excellent Shelbye Reese. I believe that our organizational growth had something to do with the online

presence that Shelby worked so hard to maintain. Art is Key- but so is Communication! Thank you, board- you've all done a phenomenal job, and it's been a pleasure working with you serving our state arts educators.

See y'all at the awards ceremony next fall!

Gratefully,

Tricia Oliver



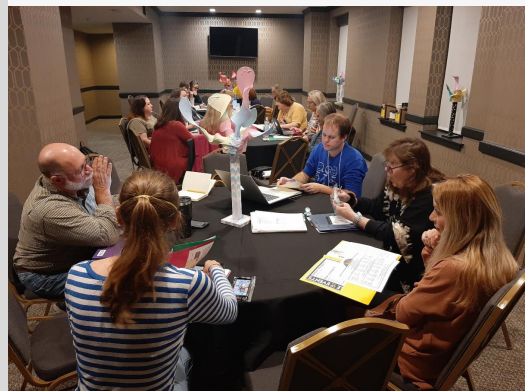
FALL CONFERENCE RECAP

Take a look at the great things that happened in Mobile in November!

What an incredible weekend experience thanks to the outstanding planning of our Conference Co-Chairs Amanda Youngblood & Julie Kogon. From early check-in to the awards ceremony (and the fantastic food), every detail was curated perfectly to provide our deserving Alabama Art Educators a conference to make their colleagues jealous. All 175 participants showed up and showed out for such a great event and engulfed themselves in art magic in two days. We hope you all feel re-ignited in your "art-teacherin" passion and inspired to bring your newfound knowledge, skills, and creative passion back to your classrooms and your own artistic endeavors.

Conference chair Amanda Youngblood said of the experience, "It was pretty incredible and even though as chair I didn't get to sit in on any one workshop at length, I had the opportunity to visit each one, snap pics, and learn a few snippets." This conference was special because it literally took two and a half years to plan because of COVID but it was worth it when it finally came to fruition.

Special thanks to our special guest speakers Cassie Stephens for gracing us with your Art Teacherin¹ presence; Ardith Goodwin for sharing your deeply personal art journey; and Nancy Raia for your

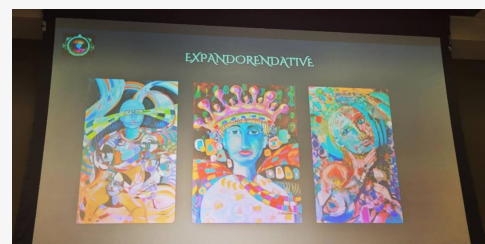


thoughtful presentation.

STATE AWARD WINNERS



Felicia Olds, Alabama Art Educator of the Year
Kelly Campbell Berwager, The Mac Arthur Goodwin Distinguished Service Award
Phyllis Parker Horne, Emeritus/ Retired Art Educator of the Year Award
Amanda Danger Youngblood, Elementary Art Educator of the Year
Linda Hill, Middle Level Art Educator of the Year
Casey Gillespie, Secondary Art Educator of the Year
Rikki Rhodes Gilbert, New Professional of the Year Award
Mallory Jones, Rising Star Award
Christy Barlow, Museum Art Educator of the Year
Amy Hess, Outstanding Service Outside the Profession Award
Allen Hargett, Supervision and Administration Award
Kaci Norman, Spark Award
Cassie Stephens, Most Amazing Art Teacher in Award
Amanda Youngblood and Julie Kogon, Presidents Award



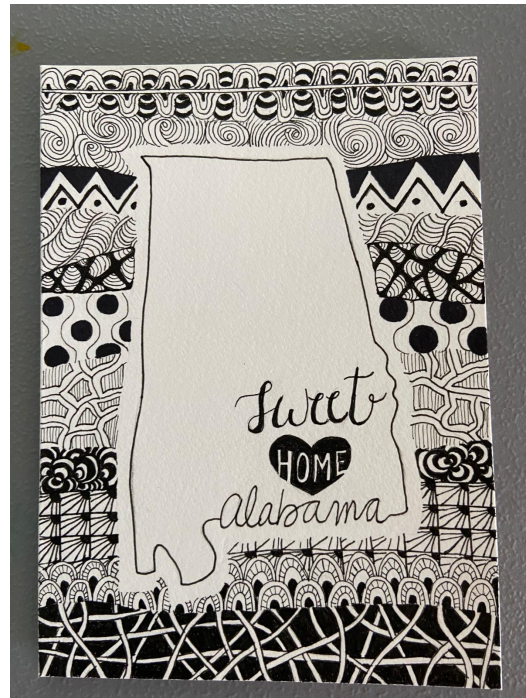
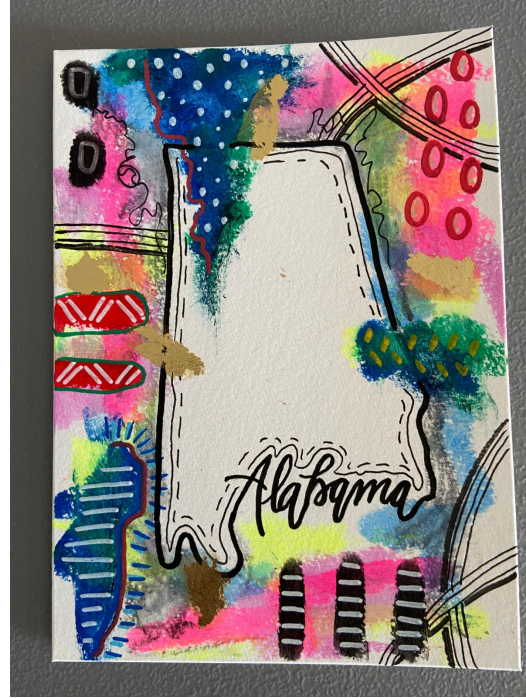
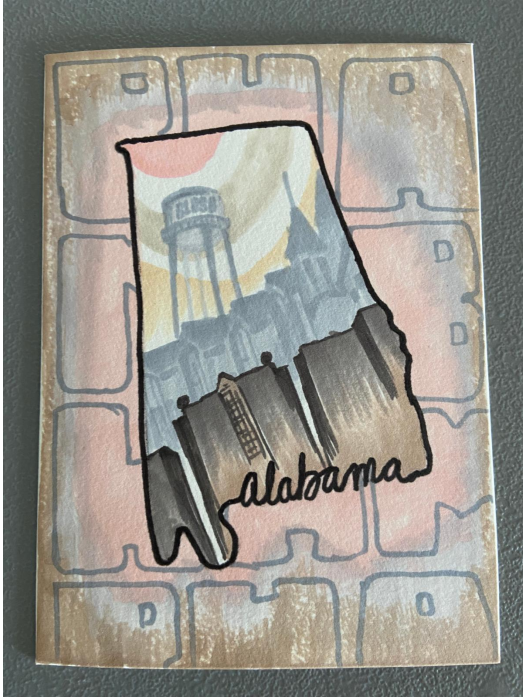
GRANT OPPORTUNITIES & NEW ARTED INITIATIVES

Start now with planning, researching, recruiting, and writing your grants for the spring, summer, and fall! Learn more about grant deadlines and opportunities through the [Alabama State Council on the Arts](#).

We are also thrilled to announce the launch of "artlookAlabama" - a virtual roadmap to

STICKERS FOR SALE!

We have these gorgeous, high quality, full color stickers available for purchase to benefit our Louise B. Marsh Memorial Scholarship. These were original illustrations created by members of the AAEA Board. The stickers measure approximately 2"x2.5" and are \$1/ea + S&H. For more information or to place your order, email aaepres@gmail.com.



The Art Education Department at Florida State University is offering a monthly series of FREE Professional Development webinars. To register and see the upcoming



YOUTH ART MONTH.
COUNCIL FOR ART EDUCATION

2022 YAM Flag Designs for Alabama Call for Student Entries

*The deadline is approaching to submit your entries for the YAM State Flag competition! The deadline is **DECEMBER 31, 2021!** Winners will be announced in February.*

The flag template and artwork permission forms were included in the YAM folder at Conference or you may print them online at <https://councilforarteducation.org/> under the Youth Art Month tab.

Select your top 3 artworks and submit the completed templates and permission forms to aaeyouthartmonth@gmail.com (Digital JPEG submissions only).

Ask your principal to email your school enrollment, number of art teachers, and number of entries for a free participation gift.

Entries should be submitted to aaeyouthartmonth@gmail.com



We are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of an amazing Alabama Art Educator and former AAEA Board Member, Mr. Olsen Ross. Mr. Ross served as the Technology Chair for many years and taught at Jefferson County School of Visual Art. He leaves behind his wife, Traci, and two daughters as well as a lasting impression on former students and legacy of kindness and inspiration. You will be missed greatly Mr. Ross.

Click here if you would like to make a contribution to help his family through this tough time.



Photo Credit: Gary Chapman

INTRODUCING YOUR 2022-2024 AAEA BOARD

We look forward to serving you - please reach out if you have questions, concerns, or advice on how we can make AAEA the best resources for Alabama art teachers.

Executive Board

President *Mary Jane Coker*

President-elect *Amanda Youngblood*

Past-President *Tricia Oliver*
Secretary *Jack Vest*
Treasurer *Sharon Christman*

Elected Board Positions

Elementary Division *Rebecca Wall*
Middle Division *Sarah Caroline Padgett*
Secondary Division *Kayla McKinney*
Retired Division *Sally Chambliss*
Higher Education *Kelly Berwager*
Museum Division *Christy Barlow*
PreService/Mentorship *Anna Nichols*
Independent School *Jennifer Briken*

Appointed Board Positions

Membership *Evelyn Shoults*
Parliamentarian *Betsy Logan*
Newsletter/Social Media *Shelbye Reese*
Technology/Website *Tiffany Ala*
Virtual Art Exhibition *Rikki Rhodes*
YAM Chairperson *Julie Harrison*
Equity, Diversity & Inclusion *Ildiko Archer*
NAHS/NJAHS *Felicia Olds*
Scholarship/Competition *Tammie Clark*
Advocacy *Shelbye Reese*
Conference Chair *Brooklyn Scoggins*
AL Art Alliance Rep. *Donna Russell*
ALSDE Representative *Andy Meadows*
North Alabama *Ashley Sams*
Birmingham *Amanda Knight & Melissa Thrasher*
Auburn *Abby Kuhn*
Montgomery *Kaci Norman*
Troy *Jennifer Lindsay*
Tuscaloosa *Molly Brooke Threadgill*
Mobile/ Baldwin Co. *Julie Kogon*