

Community Engagement Tour

EXPLORING NEW PLACES . MEETING NEW PEOPLE . ENGAGING NEW COMMUNITIES







A MESSAGE FROM

Dr. Kevin Whitaker

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Welcome to The University of Alabama's first Community Engagement tours. We are pleased that you have chosen to participate in this exciting opportunity, and we hope that this time will serve as a source of inspiration for each of you to connect your research passions to addressing community needs through new partnerships.

The Division of Community Affairs, in partnership with the Office of Academic Affairs, the Graduate School, the Center for Community-Based Partnerships and the Council on Community-Based Partnerships, has envisioned the Exploring New Places, Meeting New People and Engaging New Communities tours in an effort to assist new faculty in learning about West Alabama and the Alabama Black Belt region, as well as existing partnerships in these areas that are helping the University fulfill its mission.

UA's mission is to advance the intellectual and social condition of the people of the state, the nation and the world through the creation, translation and dissemination of knowledge, with an emphasis on quality programs in the areas of teaching, research and service. Directly aligned with that mission are our endeavors in the area of community-engaged scholarship — where these three

elements occur simultaneously. Through these efforts, we have a unique opportunity to combine teaching, research and service in ways that aid the communities we are privileged to serve.

Modeled after tours implemented by other Engagement Scholarship Consortium (ESC) member institutions, these three, daylong tours will provide unique insights into the possibilities that exist through the utilization of community-engaged scholarship. It is our hope that the knowledge gained by participation in these tours will assist both faculty and community partners in identifying community needs that overlap with research interests and coursework, as well as facilitate innovative partnerships that connect community learning opportunities with University partners who can both contribute to, and grow from, the experience of authentic and innovative community engagement.

Thank you,

Kevin Whitaker

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Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs



A MESSAGE FROM

Dr. Samory T. Pruitt

Vice President for Community Affairs

The Division of Community Affairs is pleased that you have chosen to participate in The University of Alabama's inaugural Community Engagement tour.

The Division was created in 2004 and is recognized nationally and internationally for its leadership in community engagement. I am honored to be the current president of the executive committee of the Engagement Scholarship Consortium, which coordinates activities and programs worldwide in this field.

Community Affairs' mission is to establish engagement-scholarship partnerships across the tri-partite teaching, research, and service mission of the University. In so doing, we bring together University faculty, staff, students and community partners for the mutual benefit of the campus and the communities we serve.

The new faculty engagement tour — Exploring
New Places, Meeting New People and Engaging
New Communities — provides an exciting opportunity
to explore firsthand some of the results of our efforts
to accomplish this mission. In addition to finding new
inspiration, tour participants may also be encouraged
by the work already taking place. This tour is especially
appropriate for new faculty, staff, students and community
members to see how engagement scholarship functions.

We are confident that this time will prove to be a source of inspiration for each of you to connect your research passions to addressing community needs through new partnerships.

Thank you,

Dr. Samory T. Pruitt

Vice President for Community Affairs



Greene County Hospital

The Greene County Hospital is the hub for the Greene County Health System that includes the Hospital, the Greene County Residential Care Center, the Greene County Physician's Clinic, the Greene County Eye Clinic, and the Greene County Health System Home Health Agency. Their mission is to provide optimal medical care to the residents of Greene and surrounding counties.

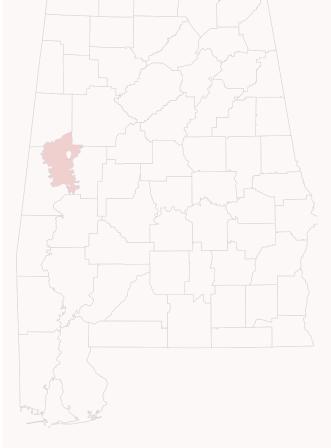
Children's Policy Council

The mission of the Greene County Children's Policy Council is to mobilize stakeholders in working collaboratively to develop and implement a community plan that address the needs of the children of Greene County. The Council operates an after-school tutorial program for students that has engaged in a project to collect the stories of residents who participated in the Civil Rights Movement in Greene County. This program began paying tribute to selected Greene County Trailblazers in 2011. Initiated by District Judge Lillie Jones-Osborne, the program was originally supported by a grant from the Black Belt Community Foundation. Jones-Osborne indicates that through the program, students have acquired valuable information on their community and their own families.









Site CoordinatorJudge Lillie Jones-Osborne

Panel Location

Greene County High School Gym

Panel Members

Elmore Patterson III
Director, Greene County Hospital

Tennyson Smith Chairman, Greene County Commission

The Hon. Julia Spree
Probate Judge, Greene County

Mildred Morgan Facilitator, CPC Strengthening Family Grant

Phyllis Belcher

Greene County Industrial Development Authority

Carol Zippert

Board Member, Greene County School System Co-Publisher, Greene County Democrat



Horseshoe Farm

Project Horseshoe Farm is a multifaceted community, service, and leadership development organization that is pursuing novel approaches to support independence and quality of life among seniors and adults living with mental illness, improve educational opportunity for at risk children, and prepare some of our state's brightest future service leaders in community health and education.

Opera House

Built in 1903, the Greensboro Opera House replaced the original, which burned in 1902. The effects of The Great Depression led to its closure on the eve of World War II, and for more than a half-century, the building sat empty. In 2003, a group of citizens formed Greensboro Opera House, Inc., a 501(c)3, for the purpose of purchasing the opera house and returning it to use as a multi-purpose cultural center. Through fundraising, they were able to purchase the building and have received two matching grants from The Alabama State Council on the Arts.

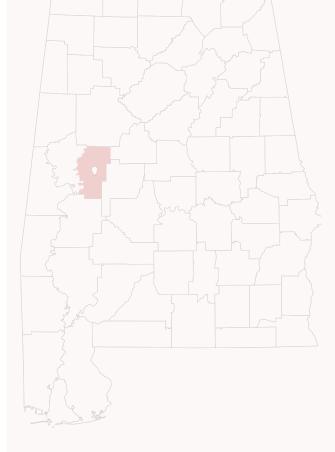
The Safe House Museum

The Museum draws its name from the fact that the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. sought safety from the Ku Klux Klan in 1968 in a modest, shotgun-style house in Greensboro just two weeks prior to his assassination. An active participant of the Civil Rights Movement and personal friend of the King family converted the small house into The Safe House Black History Museum to document the local area's participation in the struggle.









Site Coordinator Meg Rankin-Byrd

Panel Location St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Panel Members

Evelyn Chambers Greensboro City Council

Winnie Cobbs Opera House

Osie Pickens Superintendent, Hale County Schools

John Dorsey Horseshoe Farm

The Rev. Laramie Long Boys and Girls Club

Shay Fondren Administrator, Hale County Hospital



Holt Community Partnerships

Health Lab The Health Lab is an experiment in engaged scholarship for community-based health promotion. The Health Lab began in 2015 with a CCBP seed grant and was an indirect result of the April 27, 2011 tornado. Guided by a community-based participatory research framework, the Health Lab provides opportunities for students, faculty, and community members to work together in health-promotion research, teaching, and service.

Parenting Education A parent and family education component is part of Tuscaloosa's One Place initiative in Holt. Through programs such as The Parent Project, Parent 2 Parent, Parent Leadership Network, Baby TALK, Changing Habits and Making Parents Stronger (CHAMPS), and Families First, this initiative addresses the needs of Holt parents and families.

Alabama TOPS

Alabama TOPS is a university-community-school partnership between Holt Elementary School, Tuscaloosa's One Place, and UA's College of Education and School of Social Work. It is funded by a two-year RGC Level Two grant, currently in its first year. The purpose of the effort is to develop and then research a comprehensive strategy for supporting children's optimal learning and development during out of school time (OST). A CCBP seed grant will expand the family and community engagement program to parents with children in Davis-Emerson Middle School in the 2017–2018 academic year.









Panel Location

Holt High School Auditorium

Panel Members

Aundrea Thomas President, Holt Community Partnership

Ben Horton Chair, Holt In Action

J. McNealy Principal, Holt High School

Debbie Crawford Principal, Holt Elementary School

Jen Nickelson Holt Community Partnerships Health Lab

Rebecca Allen SOAR

Tania Alameda Lawson Alabama TOPS

Jeffery Parker On All Fours



UA Pickens County Partnership

Pickens County is a Medically Underserved Area and a Primary Care, Mental Health, and Dental Health Professional Shortage Area. The county ranks 45th in health outcomes among Alabama's 67 counties. In 2015 approximately \$600,000 was obtained from the Alabama Legislature to initiate the partnership. To date, the funding has been used to fund eight projects that address a health issue or priority in Pickens County. Each project includes UA faculty and students and Pickens County community organizations or similar entities. The grant also provides four, year-long fellowships for recent UA graduates. The fellowships provide an opportunity for students to serve in health-related capacities while expanding their experience and education. There is also a coordinator to facilitate the development of the program and to provide oversight of partnership activities. The coordinator, Wilamena Dailey, is based in Pickens County.

The Image in the Courthouse Window

The image in the Pickens County Courthouse window was made famous by Kathryn Tucker Windham's book 13 Alabama Ghosts and Jeffrey. The story claims Henry Wells, a former slave, was accused of burning down the Pickens County Courthouse. After the courthouse burned in 1876 under very suspicious circumstances, Wells was arrrested and held in the attic of the courthouse. Legend says that as Wells peered out of the window at a mob gathering below, lightning struck nearby, indelibly etching his image on the pane.









Site Coordinator Susan Page

Panel Location

Pickens County Medical Center

Panel Members

Michele Montgomery School of Nursing

Paige Johnson School of Nursing

Jim Marshall CEO, Pickens County Medical Center

Craig Patterson
Mayor of Gordo

Frances Lewis
Aliceville Public Library

Jamie Chapman
Superintendent, Pickens County Schools



Hill Hospital

Hill Hospital of York, Alabama provides both preventative and health care to the citizens of Sumter County through both the hospital and its many clinics. Over the years, Hill Hospital has engaged in a number of partnerships with UA.

Board of Education

The Sumter County School System consists of four K–8 feeder schools and one 9–12 high school. The school system has long struggled from a low tax base that results in tight budgets for the schools. The University of Alabama has been part of the UA/UWA In-Service Center and AMSTI for many years, and Sumter County Schools has also participated in the Rockets and Race Cars Program provided by the UA College of Engineering. Livingston Junior High School is a GearUp partner. For the 2017–2018 school year, at least two of the junior high schools plan to participate in UA's Parent Teacher Leadership Academy.

Coleman Center for the Arts and Culture

The Coleman Center for the Arts was founded in 1985 through the grass roots efforts of the citizens of Sumter County to promote positive social change, address civic needs, build local pride, and use creativity for community problem solving. It achieves these goals through programs such as an artist-in-residence, an annual exhibition of local art, and an education program. The Center is supported through local, state, and national donations.









Site CoordinatorsChris Spencer & Loretta Wilson

Panel Location

Hill Hospital

Panel Members

Loretta Wilson Administrator, Hill Hospital

Tommie Campbell
Chairperson, Sumter School Board

Marcus Campbell

County Commissioner District 2, Sumter County

Tommie Armistead

County Commissioner District 4, Sumter County

Jackie Clay

Director, Coleman Center for the Arts and Culture



Judson College

Judson College, often referred to as "The Judson," began teaching classes on January 7, 1839 with nine female students in a home rented by Julia Barron. Barron contributed a nearby property to Judson that the College has called home since 1840. The Alabama legislature granted Judson an official charter of incorporation a year later. From its earliest days, Judson alumnae were known as women who worked to improve society, with many going on to distinguished careers. Judson College continues today as an undergraduate college for females and is affiliated with the Alabama Baptist Convention. It has also maintained its mission of community involvement.

57 Miles Program

Formed in 2013, The 57 Miles Initiative: Perry County Partnership is working to close the gap between the challenges of today and the promise of tomorrow in Alabama's Black Belt region. Named for the distance between The University of Alabama and the community of Marion, Alabama, 57 Miles connects students and faculty at The University of Alabama with opportunities to address real challenges and draw from the successes of the region. From one-time service trips to semester-long mentoring programs, 57 Miles works with community partners in efforts toward making Marion the best community its citizens envision. Current initiatives focus on education, community engagement, economic development, and healthcare.









Site CoordinatorDavis Jackson

Panel Location

Marion Military Institute Chapel

Panel Members

Davis Jackson Coordinator, 57 Miles Program

Chris Joiner

Exectuive Director, Renaissance Marion

Col. Ed Passmore

Acting Commandant and Director, Center for Service Leadership, Marion Military Institute

Cooper Holmes

Executive Director, Alabama Black Belt Foundation

Amy Butler

Coordinator of Faith-Based Service Learning, Judson College



Golden Dragon Plant

The Golden Dragon Cooper's facility opened in 2014 and currently employs approximately 300 people. The Chinese-owned plant, often referred to as the Golden Dragon Plant, manufactures pipes used in air conditioner machinery. The Golden Dragon Precise Copper Tube Group initially invested about \$100 million in the plant and it continues to grow. It has been an economic and social boon to that region of Alabama.

Gee's Bend

Gee's Bend is best known for its quilters and the Black Belt Treasures Cultural Arts Center. Gee's Bend quiltmakers have produced countless patchwork masterpieces beginning as far back as the mid-nineteenth century, with the oldest existing examples dating from the 1920s. Enlivened by a visual imagination that extends the expressive boundaries of the quilt genre, these astounding creations constitute a crucial chapter in the history of African American art. The quilts have been exhibited at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, the Indianapolis Museum of Art, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.









Site Coordinator Mayor Sheldon Day

Panel Location

Thomasville Civic Center

Panel Members

Martha Gramelspacher
Thomasville Public Library

Alberta Dixon District 5 City Council Member

Amy Prescot
Executive Director,
Thomasville Chamber of Commerce

Danny D'Andrea

Thomasville Business Office Manager, Alabama Power

Vic Adkison

Superintendent, Thomasville City Schools

Charles Shephard

Director, Workforce Development

Director, Coastal Alabama Community College,

Thomasville Campus



Bryan Whitfield Memorial Hospital

The Bryan Whitfield Memorial Hospital in Demopolis provides the region with a broad range of health services. This includes physical and mental care with an emphasis on preventive services.

Marengo County History and Archive Museum

The Marengo County History and Archives Museum Foundation, Inc. was established to tell the story of Marengo County through its history, culture, and people. They are doing this at the Marengo County History and Archives Museum. Their history includes the original Native Americans who lived in the region as well as the French, African American, Jewish, and European groups that comprised the foundation of the area. The Museum is located in the Rosenbush Building in historic downtown Demopolis. The Museum also provides programs and support for the local school systems, the 4-H Club, and other youth organizations. It provides local citizens and others with a place to learn about the county history and culture.









Site Coordinator Thomas Moore, Sr.

Panel Location

Marengo County History and Archive Museum

Panel Members

Candace Dorriety
Executive Director, Demopolis Area
Chamber of Commerce

Timothy Thurman
Superintendent, Linden City Schools

Arthur Evans Administrator, Bryant W. Whitfield Memorial Hospital

Luther Hallmark Superintendent, Marengo County Schools

Kyle Kallhoff Superintendent, Demopolis City Schools



Black Belt Community Foundation

The Black Belt Community Foundation (BBCF) mission is the focal point for gifts and grants to have an impact on those living and working in the region. It was founded in 2004 and has put critical resources into the region to make a lasting impact. Through "Giving," "Receiving," and "Growing," the BBCF focuses on consolidating many region-wide improvement endeavors into a common endeavor with a simple mission: "taking what we have to make what we need." These three areas also move the region forward in attaining a vision of a transformed Black Belt where all residents contribute to healthy communities and reap the benefits of shared gifts and a productive regional economy.

Edmund Pettus Bridge

Unfortunately, the Edmund Pettus Bridge is most famous for one of the most terrible events of Alabama's history — the Bloody Sunday event where African Americans seeking the right to vote were attacked while marching across the bridge on their way to Montgomery. In the African American community, the bridge has come to symbolize their nonviolent struggle and bravery in the face of overwhelming odds. It is ironic that the bridge is named after a Confederate brigadier general and Ku Klux Klan leader. The reporting of the events of Bloody Sunday and other similar happenings influenced the passing of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 later that year.









Site Coordinator Chris Spencer

Panel Location

Selma Interpreter Center

Panel Members

Felecia Lucky

President, Black Belt Community Foundation

The Rev. Leodis Strong
Pastor Brown Chapel AME Church

Glenda Deese

President, Glenda Davis Deese Foundation

The Rev. Lawrence Wofford Pastor, Clinton Chapel AME

Martha B. Lockett

BBCF Board Member, Executive Director

Sheryl Z. Smedley

Selma Chamber of Commerce

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Peter Hlebowitsh Jennifer Greer Susan Carvalho Samory T. Pruitt Jim McLean Carol Agomo

SITE & PANEL COORDINATORS

Tania Alameda-Lawson
Mayor Sheldon Day
Karl Hamner
Davis Jackson
Judge Lillie Jones-Osborne
Thomas Moore, Sr.
Susan Page
Meg Rankin-Byrd
Chris Spencer
Loretta Wilson

Special thanks to

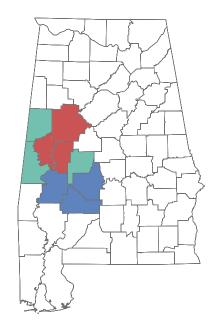
Whitney Sewell Karyn Bowen Diane Kennedy-Jackson





Council on Community-Based Partnerships







GREENE COUNTY HALE COUNTY TUSCALOOSA COUNTY



PICKENS COUNTY SUMTER COUNTY PERRY COUNTY



DAY 3

WILCOX COUNTY MARENGO COUNTY DALLAS COUNTY

