



AC SATELLITE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

THE TEAM

PROJECT LEAD

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PHASE II

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 2025 Alabama Contemporary completed Phase One of the renovation of AC SATELLITE, establishing a new ancillary arts education and culture hub in downtown Mobile. We finished the year with a full interior, including updated bathrooms, electrical and plumbing, and the addition of a mezzanine office floor. Now it's time to get into the fun part..

Phase Two of the construction project will cover the entire exterior of the AC SATELLITE, including an education pavilion, community-use soda kiln, and sculpture garden. This will be a high-impact project that focuses on building facilities and resources that will support outreach programming, internship and residency opportunities, and access to arts education.

PHASE II

EDUCATION PAVILION

We are building a twenty foot by forty foot open air pavilion that will house a 25 cubic foot kiln for ceramics education and host the messiest art activities and educational programming we can muster. The angled roof will run along the South wall of the structure facing the sculpture garden and provided a shaded area to facilitate plein-air painting and ceramics classes and workshops, small scale theater productions, movie nights and performances.



SCULPTURE GARDEN

The rest of the property will be converted from parking lot back into a green space that beautifies downtown and provides a respite amid hectic city life. We are working with artists Brian Jobe, Vitus Shell, and our partner Dashboard to create site-specific sculptures and murals that tell local stories, and add to the livability of our little corner - a free resource for the community to gather and finding meaning.



COMMUNITY USE KILN

The Gulf Coast has a rich history of pottery production. Clay veins in coastal bluffs were used to make jugs and bricks that were exported worldwide, establishing the brick industry as well as culturally specific vessels and forms. We are tapping into this history to educate and train the new generation of ceramists by establishing a critical resource that can be used region-wide.

Soda Kilns require a community to fire them. In a process that is at least 48 hours from load to unload, community members take shifts and potluck through the process, minding and managing spray cycles every 30 minutes or hour during the height of firing. The firing of a kiln of this type is a community building ritual that strengthens local bonds, educates and grounds new artists in a support system in which they can grow.



Our mission to “seed growth in the creative economy” of Alabama is articulated through:

- Creating structured opportunities that help our state *recruit and retain the innovators and culture builders*,
- Providing broad access to the arts, representing the diverse artistic voices that would otherwise go unheard,
- Making direct cash investments in regional entrepreneurship, and the thought leadership of artists
- Facilitating partnerships across disciplines, and leveraging the arts for the highest social good.

Access to the arts is a major catalyst for positive growth in so many areas. Projects like this one have proven to reduce crime rates and recidivism, spur economic growth in the surrounding area, and drive tourism. Arts education doesn't just create more entrepreneurs and creative thinkers, it helps individuals with histories of trauma or veterans with PTSD heal. Art bridges language and ability gaps. According to Americans for the Arts, it accelerates economic recovery, drives revenue for local businesses, strengthens mental health and wellbeing, improves students' academic performance, and leads to greater civic engagement, more social cohesion, higher child welfare, and lower poverty rates. Art can, without hyperbole, transform individuals as well as communities for the better. The heart of our work is about quality of life.

We have proven our ability in Phase One, and have a strong track record for programming that makes a real community impact. Our work at the Historic Ave Cultural Center proves we know how to convert neglected and blighted property into valued assets in our local landscape. For this next phase though, we need your help and your vision of Mobile. Our construction team has created a plan that we are really proud of, and we have a kiln builder on standby. But this plan can only commence with local vision and investment – from folks who believe that who we are is worth celebrating, and in what we can be. Empowering communities to tell their own story, and shape their own identity is critical to healthy and equitable growth for our city. Supporting Art is how we do just that.

ARTIFYING DOWNTOWN

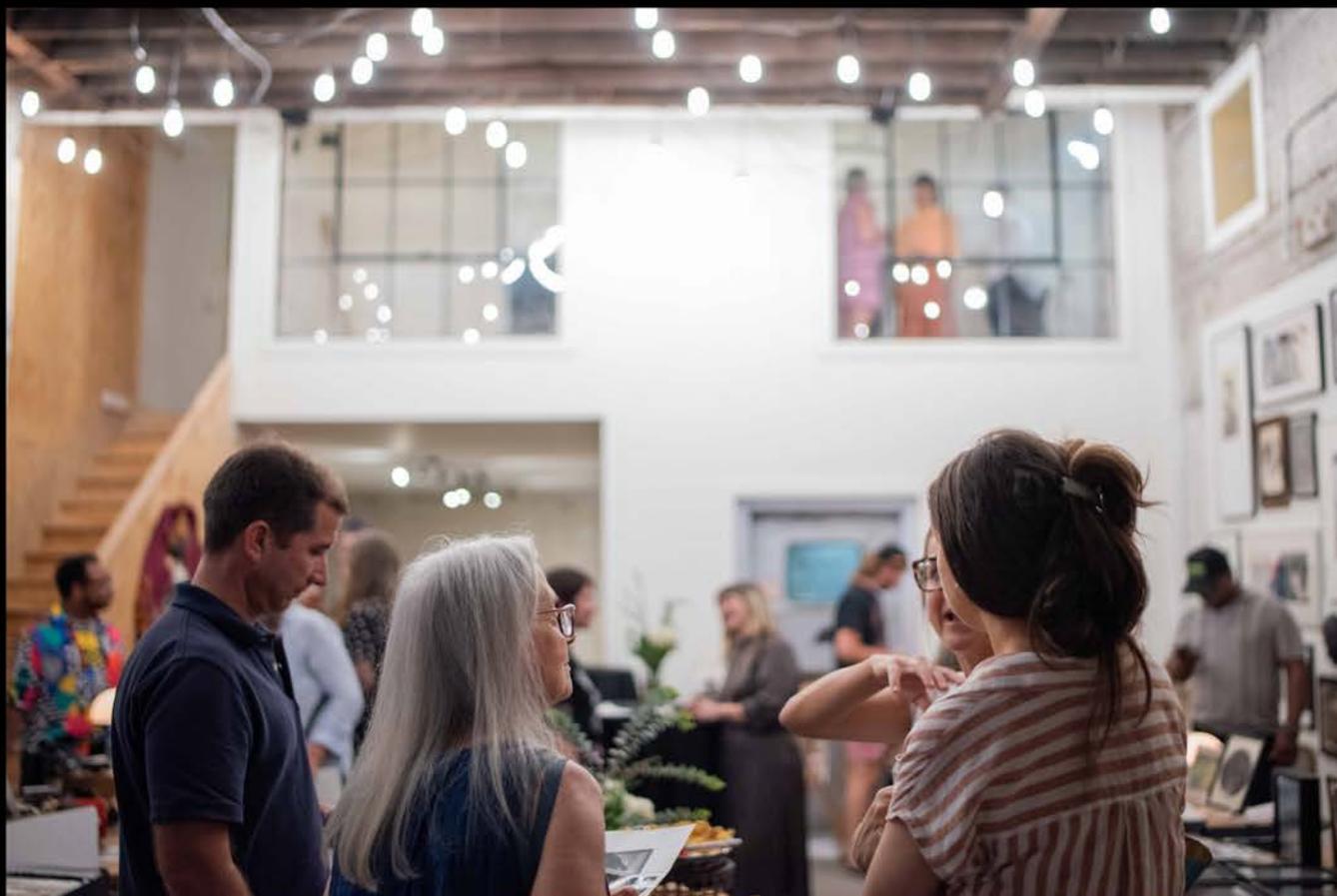
Our goal is to create a permanent asset for Mobile's creative community. Gifts over \$10,000 will go to core features of the build-out to facilitate arts education programming, pop-up exhibitions, and Artist in Residence Program, and the community-use kiln and studio space.

CREATE A LEGACY

NAMING OPPORTUNITIES	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COMPLETION TIMELINE
EDUCATION PAVILION (\$40K)	In 2026 we will build an outdoor ceramics facility complete with a 40 foot angled roof with skylights, shelving, lighting and all equipment needed	FUNDED
SODA KILN (\$35K)	A soda kiln is a type of kiln used in atmospheric firing, where sodium carbonate (soda ash) is introduced during firing to create unique, unpredictable glaze effects on ceramic surfaces.	July 2026
MURAL (\$20K)	We plan to update the mural on our building to align with the Historic Marker on St. Francis St. honoring Dr. T.N. Harris and John LeFlore's Non-Partisan Voters League, once right across the street.	August 2026
AIR STUDIO (\$20K)	Our two-year Artist in Residence program centers on a committed studio space and support system.	September 2026
SCULPTURE GARDEN (\$10K X 3)	We have a number of public art projects that can be sponsored to help grow the sculpture garden. List available upon request.	October 2026

TO LEARN MORE

CALL 251.285.9726 OR EMAIL
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PHASE I

SUPPORT

PROVIDED BY

Alabama State Council on the Arts
Mobile County Commission
Rogers & Willard
The A.S. Mitchell Foundation
The C.D. Helen and Jeff Glaze Foundation
Mrs. Carol S. Hunter

THANK YOU!