



State artists and organizations awarded \$288K at December arts council meeting



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Magic City Smooth Jazz, which raised money for tornado relief at its "Jazz in the Park" concert at Railroad Park in May 2011, will receive ASCA funding for the 2013 event.

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BIRMINGHAM, Alabama -- Jefferson County arts organizations and individuals were awarded \$47,630 in the December 2012 round of grants from the [Alabama State Council on the Arts](#). The council's third and final round of grants, which were allocated Dec. 7 in Montgomery, will support arts in education, folk art, community, literature, performing, and visual arts programs from Jan. 1 through Sept. 30, 2013. Also included were folklife apprenticeship grants.

Statewide, 119 grants totaling \$288,260 were awarded in response to applications received through Sept. 1, 2012. That compares with 114 grants totaling \$323,560 in the December 2011 round.

"This round of grant allocations was especially competitive due to budget limitations and the high volume of worthy requests for support of important arts projects," said James Harrison III of Tuscaloosa, chair of the 15-member council. "The level of support from the legislature for arts grants statewide in FY13 is significant in generating

private matching funds that allows programs to continue."

Non-profit organizations, schools, universities, cities and community groups are among the organizations receiving funding. ASCA funds are matched by businesses, individuals, local government sources and earned income. The council receives its support through an annual appropriation from the Alabama legislature and from the National Endowment for the Arts. Its received state and federal funding of \$4,450,000 for fiscal year 2011-12.

For the current round, grants ranging from \$875 to \$8,900 were given throughout the state. H.O.P.E. Center in Montgomery received the highest amount -- two awards totaling \$12,100.

Top recipients in Jefferson County were Magic City Smooth Jazz (two awards, \$6,550), Birmingham Chamber Music Society (two awards, \$4,730), and Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame and Birmingham Children's Theatre (\$4,400 each). In Shelby County, the University of Montevallo received \$1,800.

Other Jefferson County recipients included Alabama Dance Council, Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame, Better Basics, Birmingham Art Music Alliance, Birmingham International Center, Birmingham Music Club, Birmingham Public Library, Gospel quartet singers Bob Friedman and Barry Taylor, quilter Kathy McConnell, Operation New Birmingham, Sanpointe Dance Company, Trussville Area Chamber of Commerce, UAB/Alys Stephens Center and Vulcan Park and Museum.

The next deadline for grant applications is March 1, 2013, for fellowships and art and cultural facilities, covering activities taking place between Oct. 1, 2013 and Sept. 30, 2014.

For applications, a [complete list of December grant recipients](#), and more information, see the council's web site at [arts.state.al.us](#).

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