

ARCHIVES & HISTORY

Potential Funding Sources

October 2019

The following list includes many funding resources in Alabama but is not comprehensive. New funding resources appear each year. Most of these organizations fund public programming. Some organizations have websites, while others may have phone or mailing address contact information.

Candid (https://candid.org/)

Candid (formerly the Foundation Center) maintains a national database of grant funding opportunities. The database requires a free registration to access.

Foundations

Foundations fund a variety of public arts and humanities programming across Alabama. Some foundations only fund specific geographic regions. Others fund statewide projects. Most require projects to demonstrate how funds will be used to serve the public. Many encourage organizations to work closely with underserved communities in the state or collaborate with public K-12 institutions. Most foundations have a website with additional funding information. Some require organizations to be invited before applying for funding. Acquiring funding from foundations often requires extensive communication and project development. Most foundations want your organization to demonstrate prior work and funding as evidence of your organization's track record.

Community Foundations

The Community Foundations listed below, support programs and projects in education, human services, health, cultural arts, and other civic concerns.

- Black Belt Community Foundation (http://blackbeltfound.org/)
- Central Alabama Community Foundation (https://cacfinfo.org/)
- Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham (http://www.cfbham.org)
- Community Foundation of Greater Huntsville (https://communityfoundationhsv.org/)
- Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama (https://www.yourcommunityfirst.org/)
- Community Foundation of South Alabama (https://communityfoundationsa.org/)
- Community Foundation of West Alabama (http://www.thecfwa.org/)
- Daniel Foundation (http://danielfoundationofalabama.com/) Recognizes that a thriving arts and cultural community contribute immeasurably to the quality of life in Birmingham and Alabama. One of their priorities is community heritage, culture and historic preservation. (Must include a letter of intent.)
- Walker Area Community Foundation (http://www.wacf.org/)
- Wiregrass Foundation (http://www.wiregrassfoundation.org/)

Company / Corporate Foundations

• Alabama Power (https://powerofgood.com/)

Some questions asked include does the project address a need in at least education, community life, or arts and culture; could the project lead to permanent, enduring improvements in a community; will a diverse group collaborate on a project to achieve common goals; can the program or idea be duplicated in other communities; does the submitting organization clearly demonstrate sound fiscal management accountability; could the organization attract multiple sources of support for the project; and does the project address underserved segments of the population?

Company / Corporate Foundations [continued]

- Altec/Styslinger Foundation (Birmingham, Alabama)
- BBVA Compass Foundation (https://www.bbvausa.com/our-story/corporate-responsibility/foundations.html)
- Ben May Charitable Trust (http://benmaycharitable.org/)
- Caring Foundation (https://www.bcbsal.org/web/the-caring-foundation.html)
- Energen Foundation (Birmingham, Alabama)
- Joy and Bill Harbert Foundation (Birmingham, Alabama)
- McWane Foundation (http://www.mcwane.com/corporate-responsibility/community/charitable-giving-guidelines/)
- Protective Life Foundation (https://www.protective.com/about-us/giving-back/)
- Raymond J. and Kathryn D. Harbert Foundation (205-987-5605)
- Thompson Foundation, Inc. (Birmingham, Alabama)
- Vulcan Materials Company Foundation (https://www.vulcanmaterials.com/social-responsibility/vulcan-foundation)

Family Foundations

- Comer Foundation (205-802-2700)
- J. L. Bedsole Foundation (http://www.jlbedsolefoundation.org)

Independent Foundations

- Curtis Finlay Foundation (251-867-7706)
- Hearin-Chandler Foundation (251-694-1957)
- Hillcrest Foundation (205- 870-0400)
- Hugh Kaul Foundation (205-326-5382)
- J. K. Lowder Family Foundation (http://www.jklowderfamilyfoundation.com/)
- Joseph S. Bruno Charitable Foundation (https://jsbcf.org/)
- Mike and Gillian Goodrich Foundation (https://mggoodrichfoundation.org/)
- Pleiad Foundation (http://pleiadfoundation.org/)
- Robert R. Meyer Foundation (205- 326-5382)
- Stephens Foundation (Birmingham, Alabama)

State Agencies

Alabama Humanities Foundation (http://www.alabamahumanities.org/grants/)

The Humanities Foundation supports public humanities projects. Some project types funded have included exhibition design and production; lecture/discussion programs; community forums or town meetings to encourage public debate and discussion; teacher's seminars, institutes, workshops and more.

Alabama State Council on the Arts (http://arts.alabama.gov/grants/grant_organization.aspx)

The Council on the Arts Project grants provide support for a wide range of activities including festivals, conferences, workshops, exhibitions and/or the creation and production of art as well as the development of touring activities.

Alabama Tourism (https://tourism.alabama.gov/forms/matching-grants/)

Tourism through this grant promotes travel and vacation business to Alabama. Use of funds includes brochures (see qualifications); websites or free smartphone apps; and advertising.

Alabama Historical Commission (https://ahc.alabama.gov/grants.aspx)

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) will administer a \$300,000 state-funded grant Program in fiscal year 2018 (October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018), for capital improvements at historic sites throughout Alabama. Grant amounts will not exceed \$50,000 for any one entity.

Federal Agencies

National Archives – National Historical Publications & Records Commission (https://www.archives.gov/nhprc)

The National Historical Publications & Records Commission (NHPRC) promotes the preservation and use of America's documentary heritage essential to understanding our democracy, history, and culture. Some upcoming grant deadlines include Access to Historical Records; Major Initiatives; Archives Leadership Institute; Public Engagement with Historical Records; and Publishing Historical Records in Documentary Editions.

National Endowment for the Humanities (https://www.neh.gov/grants)

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is an independent promotes excellence in the humanities and conveying the lessons of history to all Americans. NEH grants typically go to cultural institutions, such as museums, archives, libraries, colleges, universities, public television, and radio stations, and to individuals scholars to strengthen teaching and learning in schools and colleges; facilitate research and original scholarship; provide opportunities for lifelong learning; preserve and provide access to cultural and educational resources; and strengthen the institutional base of the humanities.

NEH Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions

(https://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/preservation-assistance-grants-smaller-institutions)

The National Endowment for the Humanities' Division of Preservation and Access has offered Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions for more than a decade. These grants help small and mid-sized cultural heritage institutions such as libraries, museums, historical societies, archival repositories, town and county records offices, and colleges and universities improve their ability to preserve and care for their humanities collections. Awards of up to \$6,000 support preservation related collection assessments, consultations, purchase of preservation supplies and equipment, training and workshops, and institutional and collaborative disaster and emergency planning. You will also find sample project descriptions, sample narratives, and a list of frequently asked questions. The deadline for applications is May 1, 2018.

Institute of Museum and Library Sciences (https://www.imls.gov/grants)

The Institute of Museum and Library Sciences (IMLS) seeks to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civil engagement. They provide leadership through research, policy development, and grant making. IMLS supports the full range of libraries, including public, academic, research, special and tribal, and the full range of museums including art, history, science and technology, children's museums, historical societies, tribal museums, planetariums, botanic gardens and zoos.