2018 AEP Annual Convening

Dr. Jeff Schultz, Tuscaloosa City Schools
Sandy Wolfe, Arts Council Tuscaloosa
Wednesday, September 12, 2018

@TCSArts, @TCSBoardofEd, @tuscarts
Who We Are

- Tuscaloosa City Schools, Jeff Schultz
  - The vision of the Tuscaloosa City Schools is to be a premier, innovative school system where each and every student graduates and is fully prepared for life and career success.

- Tuscaloosa Arts Council, Sandy Wolfe
  - The mission of the Arts Council is to promote and encourage the arts and humanities in Tuscaloosa County.
Who Are You?
Guiding Question

What is the one phrase you would most like to hear from your boss?
Navigating Into The Perfect Storm

What makes a perfect storm?
– Rare combination of circumstances
– Significantly alters the environment
– Impacts lives in profound ways
Our Perfect Storm

- Grassroots Advocacy
- Local and Regional Leadership
- Local and State Arts Innovations
Tuscaloosa – Roll Tide!
Tuscaloosa Arts Council: History and Purpose

Established in 1970 by a group of citizens dedicated to the arts, the mission of The Arts Council is to promote and encourage the arts and humanities in Tuscaloosa County. The Arts Council serves as the umbrella organization for 50 Member Organizations, offers educational programs, and manages the historic Bama Theatre and the Dinah Washington Cultural Arts Center.

Staff
Sandra Wolfe, Executive Director
Sharron Rudowski, Education Director
Jason Armit, Bama Theatre Manager
Kevin Ledgewood, Publicist
Meghan Truhett, CAC Manager

Board Members
Kristin Blakeney
Bill Buchanan
Angelo Corrao
D. Jay Cervino
Melanie Edwards
Katherine Gould
Wilson Green
Jason Guynes
Elizabeth Hamner
Luvada Harrison
Nini Jobson
Mort Jordan
Valery Minges
David Nelson
John Owens
Brenda Randall
Darryl Thornton
Debbie Watson
Margaret Wilson

Board of Directors
Amy Ahmed, President
Anne Guthrie, Vice-President
Ann Bourne, Secretary
Christian Williams, Treasurer
Sandra Ray, Past President
TuscArts Member Organizations

Actor’s Charitable Theatre  Tuscaloosa Community Dancers
Alabama Blues Project  Tuscaloosa County High School Drama Program
Alabama Choir School  Tuscaloosa County Preservation Society
Alabama Heritage Magazine  Tuscaloosa Public Library
Alabama Public Radio/WUAL  Tuscaloosa Sister Cities International
Arts ‘n Autism  Tuscaloosa Tourism & Sports Commission
Brookwood High School Musical Theatre  Tuscaloosa Symphony Guild
Department  Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra
The Capitol School  Tuscaloosa & University Painters
Children’s Hands-On Museum  The University of Alabama Community Music School
City of Tuscaloosa Arts & Entertainment  The University of Alabama College of Arts and Sciences
Crimson Pride Chorus  The University of Alabama Creative Campus
Drishti  The University of Alabama Department of Art and Art History
Five Horizons Health Services  The University of Alabama Department of Theatre & Dance
Kentuck Museum Association  The University of Alabama English Department
Kip Tyner Productions  The University of Alabama Honors College
Nano Fiction  The University of Alabama Opera Guild
The Pointe Society of West Alabama  The University of Alabama Museums
Prentice Concert Chorale  Paul W. Bryant Museum
Shelton Community College –  Alabama Museum of Natural History
Scholarship and Fine Arts  Moundville Archaeological Park
Stillman College Fine Arts Department  The University of Alabama Paul R. Jones Gallery
String Quartet Society of Tuscaloosa  The University of Alabama Press
The Dance Initiative  The University of Alabama School of Music
The Mystic Krewe of the Druids  West Alabama Quilters Guild
Theatre Tuscaloosa
Tuscaloosa Academy Fine Arts
Tuscaloosa Africana Film Festival
Tuscaloosa Children’s Theatre
Tuscaloosa City Schools Fine Arts
Tuscaloosa City Schools

- 22 Schools
- 10,151 Students
- 758 Teachers and Other Certified Personnel
- 65% Free and Reduced Lunch
TCS Arts Programming

- K-5 Art and Music
- 6-12 Band, Choir, Strings, Visual Art
- 6-12 Theatre and Dance via Specialty Programs
Leading in Turbulent Waters

- 2008 – Financial Crisis
  - Large-scale human resources cuts
  - Zero funding
More Turbulent Waters

2011 – 2018

– 1 Arts Supervisor/Teacher then Coordinator
– 3 Superintendents
– 3 Deputy/Assistant/Curriculum
– 6 Directors
Grassroots Advocacy

2011 - System Level Arts Collaboration
- Focus on Team; Learning Community
- Define who we are, what we do
- Identify priorities and set 1 to 5 year goals

“A dream you dream alone is only a dream. A dream you dream together is reality.”
Yoko Ono
Art Shows and Galleries
Annual Public Events
Advocacy to Growth

- Student Successes led to Program Growth
  - Nearly 50 teachers serving 21 schools

- Professional Growth
  - Teacher professional growth
  - System professional growth
    - Arts Schools Network
    - Kennedy Center CETA
Growth to Innovation

Comprehensive Arts Offerings
– The Alberta School of Performing Arts (6-8)
– Tuscaloosa Fine Arts Academy (9-12)
  • Diploma Endorsement in Arts

Tuscaloosa Can!
– Community Service and Engagement
TCS Arts Moving Forward

- Arts Integration in System’s Alabama CIP (ACIP)
- Arts Strategic Planning
  - Focus on Student Success
  - Social Media Presence
  - Arts Promotion
  - Raise Community and State Awareness
- What would you do?
Alabama’s Plan for Arts Education

- Currently, less than 40% of school systems offer arts education programming.
- Rural communities are impacted the most.
- Zero FTE support for arts educators in state teacher funding.
- Zero accountability for arts education programming at the state department.
CHEERS SUNSHINE! HERE'S TO YOU AND TO...

...OUR PERFECT STORM!
Alabama’s Plan for Arts Education

A Leadership team of arts, education, business and community leaders from across the state worked for three years to create the Alabama Plan for Arts Education.

The plan was accepted by the State Board of Education (SDE) in March 2016.
The Plan

Regional Arts Collaboratives: The Plan is centered around strategically placed Regional Resource Centers
– Tuscaloosa/West Alabama Region
– Birmingham/Jefferson County
– Huntsville/North Alabama Region
Regional Arts Education Centers

Goals

1) Regional Arts Education Inventories (SPECTRA)
2) Arts integration PD for teachers, artists, and arts organizations
Tuscaloosa ArtsEd Resource Center

- Leadership Team
- Director
- Teaching Artist
  - Arts Education
  - Arts Integration
- Professional Development
  - Artists
  - Teachers
THE PERFECT STORM
EXCELLENT
Our Message

Stay the course. When thwarted try again; harder; smarter. Persevere relentlessly.

John Wooden
Your Take Away?

SAY WHAT?
THE PERFECT STORM.

LIVE WITH IT. RIDE THROUGH IT.
Earth without art is just "EH"