



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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State Superintendent of Education

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Alabama
State Board
of Education

The Publication – *The Future Emerges from the Past: Celebrating 200 Years of Alabama African-American History and Culture* – continues as the **Beyond the Book series online!**

Governor Kay Ivey
President

MONTGOMERY, AL – In February of 2020, the Alabama State Department of Education announced a partnership with the Alabama Bicentennial Committee, AT&T, and Regions Bank that produced an amazing tabletop publication, *The Future Emerges from the Past: Celebrating 200 Years of Alabama African-American History and Culture*.

Jackie Zeigler
District I
Vice President

The Alabama Bicentennial Commission African American Heritage Committee published the book which highlights the history, people, events, institutions, and movements that contributed to the Great State of Alabama, the nation, and the world during the state’s first 200 years. Now, the **Beyond the Book** series continues the journey online and goes beyond what could be included in the book’s 244 pages.

Tracie West
District II

The website, www.alafricanamerican.com, not only highlights past Alabama African American history makers and events, but it also contains present-day icons, unsung heroes/heroines, and current events. Short articles along with links to videos, photos, reference material, and additional information are uploaded monthly for all to enjoy. Every month, a different person, place, or event is showcased including: Sen. John Lewis; Artist, Art Bacon; the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument; HBCUs and many more.

Stephanie Bell
District III

Also, each month an Alabama student will be highlighted for excellence displayed in education, character, and community service. Program organizers Gaynelle Jackson, Founder Advanced Planning Services, LLC, Nettie Carson-Mullins, Education Specialist Alabama State Department of Education and Glyn Agnew, Regional Director AT&T Alabama said it is important to find innovative ways to deliver education to keep and maintain student’s interests.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
District IV
President Pro Tem

“We had to take the culture, beauty, and knowledge present in the book, and bring it to an online platform,” Jackson said. “The website is mobile friendly and adds yet another dimension to the ways we can use our past to enlighten our future.”

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.
District V

“AT&T is committed to celebrating the contributions of remarkable people who make our state and nation great,” said Wayne Hutchens, President of AT&T Alabama. “But, it is simply not enough to celebrate the past. We must also contribute to our present and future by drawing strength from our diversity, and Beyond the Book online series will help our Alabama students embrace the importance of diversity in a new and creative way.”

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D.
District VI

Zoom Interviews with Ms. Gaynelle Jackson (and others) available upon request. For more information, visit the *Alabama African American History* website at alafricanamerican.com.

Belinda McRae
District VII

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.
District VIII

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
Secretary and
Executive Officer

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