



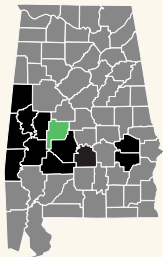
The Black Belt Bulletin

ISSUE 36 | JUNE 3, 2024 | IMPACT ON COMMUNITY



SPOTLIGHT ON — PERRY COUNTY —

Perry County is located in west-central Alabama and is one of the 12 Black Belt counties serviced by the BBCF. The City of Marion serves as both the county seat and the largest city in the county.



PERRY CO. HAS
A TOTAL AREA OF
789
SQUARE MILES



Prior to the arrival of European settlers, the area was home to the native Choctaw and Creek people, who lived on the west and east sides of the Cahaba River respectively. After the signing of the 1814 Treaty of Fort Jackson by the Creek, the land acquired was used to create Perry County in Dec. 1819. It was named for Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry of Rhode Island, a hero of the War of 1812.



PERRY CO. HAS
A POPULATION OF

8.5K

Perry County's demographics include African American (70%), White (28%) and Hispanic (1%). The county is a geographically rich community with features including Perry Lakes Park, the Cahaba River, Barton's Beach on the Cahaba, and the Talladega National Forest.

The cities of Marion, Uniontown, and Heiberger serve as the main population centers. Civil-rights leader Coretta Scott King

was born in Heiberger and attended Lincoln Normal School in Marion, one of the first schools in the area to offer education to African American students. Today, the school is preserved as a museum, showcasing the history of African American education in Alabama. Marion is also home to the nation's oldest military junior college, The Marion Military Institute (MMI), which features a leading U.S. Army commissioning program that produces officers for the U.S. armed services.

The Black Belt Community Foundation is active in Perry County through the disbursement of arts and community grants along with other civic projects. Those living in Perry can access the resources of the BBCF or donate to the organization through one of your local Community Associates.

BBCF PERRY CO. BOARD MEMBERS

John H. England, Jr.
Tuscaloosa/Perry County

Jamaal O. Hunter
Perry County

BBCF PERRY CO. COMMUNITY ASSOCIATES:

Gail Black, Monica Bryant, Emeфа Butler, Carlton Hogue, Jamaal Hunter, Tamara Kennie, Della Maynor, Albert Turner, Jr. (Perry Co. Commissioner, District 1), Edgred Ward

BBCF PERRY CO. 2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS:

(ARTS GRANTS & COMMUNITY GRANTS)

- C.H.O.I.C.E
- West Perry-Marion Arts & Crafts

Sources: algenweb.org; datausa.io; encyclopediaofalabama.org; perrycountyal.gov

Arts & Community Grant Awards Ceremony

On Saturday, June 1, 2024, the BBCF held its inaugural Arts & Community Grant Awards Ceremony at the George P. Evans Reception Hall in Selma, AL. While BBCF has issued community and arts grants and held ceremonies for decades, this is the first-time awardees of both types of grants have gathered to celebrate.

An audience of nearly two-hundred witnessed BBCF's distribution of over half a million dollars to community and arts organizations throughout the 12 Black Belt counties served. A total of \$359,693 in community grants was given to 96 organizations. Thirty-four arts grants were funded for \$154,740 (for a total of \$514,433).



Grantee shows off her grant award during the ceremony on June 1, in Selma, AL.

BBCF's process for grant awarding included in-person workshops in each of the 12 counties to assure applicants equitable access to information and grant-writing assistance. According to BBCF Community Engagement Officer Erica Williams, "Grantmaking decisions must align with the mission and vision of BBCF, while acting on the values of the community and collaborating with partners to seek and select solutions. In the process, the grants must expand community engagement while meeting and impacting genuine community needs". Williams, and BBCF Arts Director, Aaron Head, led the workshops for those desiring either an arts grant or a community grant. BBCF Chief Community Engagement officer Chris Spencer stated, "The entire grantmaking process was performed with integrity and transparency. By utilizing BBCF Local Grant Committees in each county, decisions were made by those closest to the issues voiced by their community". Felecia Lucky, BBCF President/CEO said, "BBCF uses an approach called Trust-Based Philanthropy. This approach centers on equity, humility, and transparency, by redistributing power so those closest to the issues determine the appropriate solutions".

Saturday's audience and award recipients were immersed in the merriment of celebrating community through awards and recognition and the fellowship that affords. In addition, BBCF provided a festive lunch buffet that included: chicken wings, sandwiches, fruits, cheeses, and assorted cake pops catered by Lizzy Carrie Deli & Catering, located on the campus of Wallace Community College.



Top: Delicious assortment of food at the ceremony, provided by Lizzy Carrie Deli & Catering from Selma, AL. Bottom Left: Lowndes County Grantees pose for photo with BBCF Admin and Staff at the June 1st Grants Ceremony. Bottom Right: View of the 190+ person crowd in attendance at the 2024 BBCF Arts & Community Grant Awards Ceremony.

Congratulations Arts and Community Grant Recipients

We congratulate the 2024 Arts & Community Grant recipients and commend them for the incredible work they are engaged in across the Black Belt region.

– 2024 Community Grant Recipients –

Bullock County

- » Alabama Cooperative Extension - Bullock County
- » Bullock County High School Beehive Booster Club
- » Bullock County Historical Society
- » Bullock County Humane Society
- » CAMO Kids of Bullock County Social Justice Foundation
- » Christian Leaders of USA, Inc.
- » Person Chapel AME Church Health Ministry
- » Triple A All Star's Summer Camp
- » Union Springs Library
- » YC Nance Memorial Sport Complex Foundation

Choctaw County

- » Butler Youth Football League
- » Harvest Ministries
- » Lisman Volunteer Fire Department
- » Maximum Uplift
- » SAIASI Foundation
- » WR McGrew Outreach Development & Education Program

Dallas County

- » Angel of Faith Outreach Inc.
- » Blackbelt & Central Alabama Housing
- » Charity Fellowship Outreach
- » Circle Of Love Outreach
- » City Blocks Project Wellness Center
- » Coalition of Concerned Families
- » Five Points Community Development Center
- » Girl Level Up Inc.
- » Imagination Library Selma-Dallas Inc
- » It Takes A Village/Dallas County
- » Kids 1st Disability Resource Center
- » Selma Area Food Bank
- » The Sunshine Alvarado Healing Center
- » V.I.P. Organization, Inc.

Greene County

- » Boss Ties LLC
- » Boy Scout Troop 945
- » Eutaw Elderly Village Inc
- » Eutaw Housing Authority Enrichment Program
- » GCF & APA Imagine Me
- » Girl Scout Troop 408
- » Greene County Human Rights Commission
- » Mount Pleasant Home Protection Society
- » Society of Folk Arts and Culture

Hale County

- » Bread of Life Ministries
- » E & B Fields Community Service Program Inc.
- » Friends of Hale County Animals
- » Greensboro Opera House Inc.
- » Hale County Community Enrichment Society
- » Heavenly Hiney Diaper Bank
- » L & G Hope For All Inc.
- » New Pentecostal Community Development Center, Inc.
- » Newbern Library, Inc.
- » Oakwood Cemetery Association
- » Sawyerville Community Enrichment Organization

Lowndes County

- » Gordonville Community Development Corp., Inc.
- » Hayneville/Lowndes County Public Library
- » Hope on the Hill Ministry
- » Lowndes County Community Life Center
- » Student Tutoring & Enrichment Program (STEP)

Macon County

- » American Health & Fitness Outreach
- » Christian Education Department
- » Elizabeth's Place
- » Foundation for Notasulga Schools, Inc.
- » Macon M.E.A.N.S. for Cancer Support
- » Nature's Garden for Victory and Peace, Inc.
- » Too Good for Drugs Photojournalism
- » Tuskegee Human and Civil Rights Multicultural Center
- » Tuskegee Macon County Community Foundation, Inc.
- » Tuskegee United Women's League

Marengo County

- » Chapel Family Life Center
- » Eastern Star Baptist Church, Inc.
- » Essex - Veterans Center
- » Friends of Theo Ratliff Activity Center
- » Linden Bridges Ministries
- » Marengo BBCF Distribution
- » Marengo Co. Foster Parent Assoc.
- » Moore2Give
- » Toney Nixon Music

Perry County

- » C.H.O.I.C.E
- » Project G.R.A.C.E. Central AL, Inc.

Pickens County

- » H. O. P. E. Outreach Foundation LLC
- » Harvest Outreach Ministries
- » Pickensville Community Center Council
- » Sapps Community Center, Inc.
- » She Shines: Girls Leadership Development Program

Sumter County

- » Divine Girls Coalition
- » Gainesville Health & Wellness Center of Alabama
- » Gainesville Youth Outreach Project
- » Health and Wellness Education Center
- » Panola Outreach
- » West Alabama Coalition Community Development Corp., Inc.
- » Whitfield Improvement Committee
- » Young Men Building for the Future

Wilcox County

- » BAMA Kids, Inc.
- » Bessie W. Munden Recreational Park Inc.
- » Camden Community Youth Development Center
- » Freedom Quilting Bee Legacy
- » Lily Baptist Community Center and Youth Development Inc.
- » Wilcox County Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- » Wilcox Co. Section, National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

IMPACT ON ALABAMA

The BBCF Arts Program proudly funded 34 projects this year, totaling \$154,740.



\$154.7K

DISTRIBUTED TO 34 BLACK BELT ORGANIZATIONS

– 2024 Arts Grant Recipients –

Bullock County

- » Chilly's ICE Cool Band

Choctaw County

- » Maximum Uplift
- » WR McGrew Outreach Development & Education Program

Dallas County

- » ArtsRevive CDC
- » Bridge Crossing Jubilee
- » Circle Of Love Outreach
- » Five Points Community Development Center

Greene County

- » Girl Scout Troop 408
- » Society of Folk Arts and Culture
- » Triple J Farm & Petting Zoo

Hale County

- » New Pentecostal Community Development Center, Inc.
- » Oakwood Cemetery Association

Lowndes County

- » Student Tutoring & Enrichment Program (STEP)

Macon County

- » Elizabeth's Place
- » Foundation for Notasulga Schools, Inc.
- » Too Good for Drugs Photojournalism
- » Tuskegee Macon County Community Development Corporation
- » Tuskegee Repertory Theatre, Inc.
- » Tuskegee United Women's League
- » Word on the Streetz Positive Media

Marengo County

- » Chapel Family Life Center

Perry County

- » C.H.O.I.C.E
- » Lincolnite Club, Inc.

Pickens County

- » Pickensville Community Center Council
- » Sapps Community Center, Inc.

Sumter County

- » Coleman Center for the Arts
- » Daughter of Sarah
- » Divine Girls Coalition
- » Gainesville Health & Wellness Center of Alabama

Wilcox County

- » BAMA Kids, Inc.
- » Black Belt Treasures Cultural Arts Center
- » Build A Better Community
- » Freedom Quilting Bee Legacy
- » Wilcox ArtWorks

IMPACT ON ALABAMA

BBCF is proud to fund 96 projects this year, totaling \$359,693. From community festivals to summer reading programs to health and wellness initiatives, this funding makes a **significant impact** in our communities.



96

BLACK BELT GRANTEE ORGANIZATIONS



\$359K

DISTRIBUTED TO BLACK BELT ORGANIZATIONS