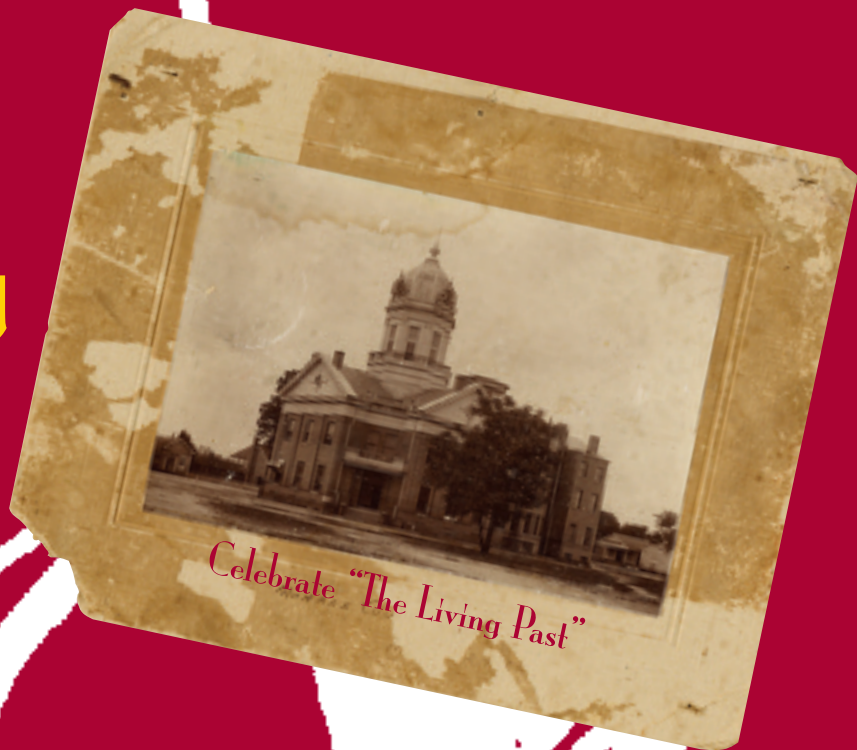


10th

anniversary

ALABAMA
WRITERS
SYMPOSIUM

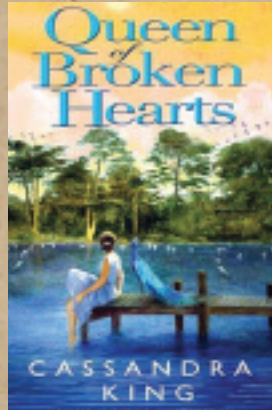
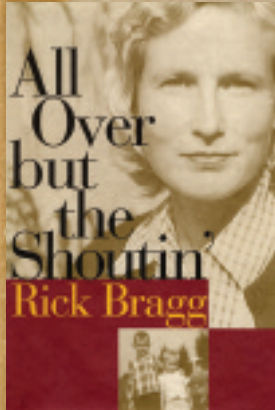
May 3-5, 2007



monroeville
alabama



Celebrate "The Living Past" at the tenth annual
Alabama Writers Symposium
May 3-5, 2007, in Monroeville, Alabama



Alabama singer/songwriter
Will Kimbrough in concert



An astounding, in-demand guitarist (Americana Music Association Instrumentalist of the Year), a producer and creator of timeless songs in both pop motifs and dusty Americana, Mobile native Will Kimbrough will perform for the Alabama Writers Symposium on Friday, May 4.

A prodigy who was singing in a soul band at 13 and leading his own trio at 15, Kimbrough was also the leader of groups such as *Will and the Bushmen* and the critically acclaimed band *the bisquits*. Kimbrough toured with Todd Snider for four years, and he is currently the opening act and lead guitarist for country star Rodney Crowell.

Call all your friends and buy your tickets now, because this is one show you don't want to miss!

Sekeres Collection opens May 4, 2007
at the Regional Arts Gallery

need few sentences about this exhibit from Susan Brown

Help us celebrate *The Living Past* at the 10th anniversary Alabama Writers Symposium, in Monroeville, *The Literary Capital of Alabama*.

The South enjoys a unique past that cannot be ignored; sometimes proud, sometimes shameful, but always seductive. Southerners know that the past is never dead, and Alabama writers are masters at channeling the past to create living stories for today. We conclude our first decade of celebrating Alabama literature with memories and interpretations of the past through the lenses of literature, embracing the Alabama legacy to create an even brighter future.

Through media as varied as ghost stories, memoirs, historical fiction, and poetry, Alabama writers, poets, and scholars will explore their own pasts and our collective past with readings, panel discussions, and interviews. Don't miss the return of many writers and scholars that made the first nine symposiums memorable and help welcome those making their first trip to Monroeville. Please join us May 3-5, 2007 for a taste of the past and a look to the future!

writers & scholars

T.J. BEITELMAN's stories, poems, and essays have appeared widely in literary magazines, including *New Orleans Review*, *Colorado Review*, *Indiana Review*, *Quarterly West* and others. He holds an MFA in creative writing from the University of Alabama, where he edited the nationally acclaimed *Black Warrior Review*. A 2002 recipient of a fellowship in literature from the Alabama State Council on the Arts, he currently teaches writing at the Alabama School of Fine Arts in Birmingham. He is the founding editor of, *Red Mountain Review*, ASFA's journal of contemporary literature, and he blogs on arts, culture, and Americana at www.beitelblog.blogspot.com.



A Pulitzer-Prize winning journalist, **RICK BRAGG** is the author of *All Over But the Shoutin'*, a *New York Times* bestseller and notable book of the year. As a reporter for various newspapers, including *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and *The Birmingham News*, he has twice won the American Society of

Newspaper Editors Distinguished Writing Award, was awarded a Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University, and has won more than 50 other writing awards. He is Professor of Writing at the University of Alabama in the College of Communications and Information Sciences.

ALAN BROWN is a professor of English at the University of West Alabama. He has published numerous articles and two literary tour guides. Brown's interest in Southern folklore has manifested itself in several collections of Southern ghost stories, including *The Face in the Window and Other Alabama Ghostlore*, *Shadows and Cypress*, *Haunted Places in the American South*, and *Stories from the Haunted South*. Dr. Brown's latest book, *Ghost Hunters of the South*, was published in 2006 by the University Press of Mississippi.



MARK CHILDRESS is the author of six novels: *A World Made of Fire*, *V for Victor*, *Tender*, *Crazy in Alabama*, *Gone for Good*, and *One Mississippi*. A proud native of Monroeville, he has also written several books for children and screenplays, including the Columbia Pictures adaptation of *Crazy in Alabama*.

He currently lives in New York City where he is at work on a new book.

WILLIAM COBB is a distinguished teacher and, for thirteen years, was Writer in Residence at the University of Montevallo. Cobb's writing includes six successful novels, all set in the deep South, ranging from "traditional realism to Magical realism." Published in 1992, his novel *Walk*



Through Fire was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, and the short story "The Stone Soldier" was selected by *Story* as best story of the year. His short stories have appeared in a variety of magazines. Many are collected in *Somewhere in all This Green*. Cobb has also had three plays published and produced off Broadway in New York. *The Vineyards of Eden*, his current effort, is "a historical novel about the Creek Indian War."



ROBERT ELY is an associate professor of English and Humanities at Alabama State University and an attorney in private practice in Montgomery. He has also taught at Purdue University, Auburn University, Troy University, and Auburn University Montgomery as well as lectured at Selcuk University

in Konya, Turkey. A former journalist, he is an essayist, textbook author, and the author of two volumes of poetry, *Mose T's Slapout Family Album* and *Encanchata*. He is the recipient of fellowships from the Mobil Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation, and the Fulbright Foundation. His current novel is titled *Hallelujah, Alabama!*

W. RALPH EUBANKS

is the author of *Ever Is a Long Time: A Journey Into Mississippi's Dark Past* (Basic Books), which Washington Post book critic Jonathan Yardley named one of the best nonfiction books of 2003. He has contributed articles to the *Washington Post*, the *Chicago Tribune*, *Preservation*, and National Public Radio. His next book, *The House at the End of the Road: A Story of Race, Reconciliation, and Identity*, will be published in 2009 by the Smithsonian Books imprint at HarperCollins. A graduate of the University of Mississippi (B.A.) and the University of Michigan (M.A.), he lives in Washington, DC.



CAROLYN HAINES is the author of over 50 books. Her 2006 book with St. Martin's Minotaur, *Penumbra*, was named one of the top five mysteries of 2006 by *Library Journal*, which had previously selected *Hallowed Bones* (part of the Mississippi Delta Mystery Series) for that honor in 2004. She is a recipient of an Alabama Council on the Arts Fellowship and currently teaches fiction writing at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. Her latest books are *Fever Moon* and *Bones to Pick*.

CASSANDRA KING is the author of novels, short stories, and essays. Her novel *The Sunday Wife* was a Booksense Choice, a Literary Guild and Book-of-the-Month Club selection, a *People* Page-Turner of the Week, and Books-A-Million President's Pick for 2002. Her novel *The Same Sweet Girls*, released in January 2005, was a national number one Booksense Selection for February, a Book-of-the-Month Club and Literary Guild selection, and spent several weeks on the *New York Times* extended list as well as SEBA's bestsellers list. Her fourth novel, *Queen of Broken Hearts*, is scheduled for release in March 2007.

JOHN SIMS JETER, a resident of Huntsville, is a member of Lifelong Writers at the University of South Florida. His short story "The Man Who Took Notes" was published in the 2004-2005 issue of *The Louisville Review* and nominated for the 2005 Pushcart Prize XXIX, and his story "My Life as a Lid" appears in the 2006-2007 issue of *Palm Prints*. He is a retired professional engineer. His novel *And the Angels Sang* was published in 2006.

MAURICE MANNING

is from Danville, Kentucky, and received his MFA degree in creative writing at The University of Alabama in 1999. His first book of poetry, *Lawrence Booth's Book of Visions*, was selected for the Yale Series of Younger Poets and published in 2001. His second book, *A Companion for Owls*, narrative poems in the voice of Daniel Boone, was published in 2004. His most recent book, *Bucolics*, will be published in the spring of 2007. He has held writing fellowships at The Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts, and the Hawthornden International Writers Retreat in Scotland. His poems have appeared in numerous magazines including *Shenandoah*, *The Southern Review*, *The Virginia Quarterly Review*, and *The New Yorker*. He teaches creative writing at Indiana University and in the MFA Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College.



SENA JETER NASLUND is Writer in Residence at the University of Louisville, program director of the Spalding University brief-residency MFA in Writing, and current Kentucky Poet Laureate. Recipient of the Harper Lee Award and the Southeastern Library Association Fiction Award, she is editor of *The Louisville Review* and the *Fleur-de-Lis Press*. She is the author of *Ahab's Wife*, *Four Spirits*, and *Sherlock in Love*, and a collection of stories, *The Disobedience of Water*.



JULIA OLIVER's latest novel, *Devotion*, is based on the life of Winnie Davis, the iconic daughter of Confederate president Jefferson Davis. She is also the author of the novels *Music of Falling Water* and *Goodbye to the Buttermilk Sky*, and a collection of short stories, *Seventeen Times as High as the Moon*. Her awards include a first place for short fiction in a competition judged by Ernest Gaines, and two first place production awards for her stage plays *Strings* and *Many Winters, Many Moons*. A founder of the Alabama Writers' Forum, Oliver is currently the fiction review editor for the Forum's magazine *First Draft*.





CLAYTON SHERROD, of Chef Clayton's Food Systems and Chef Clayton's Seasonings, is an American Culinary Federation Certified Executive Chef and a member of the elite American Academy of Chefs. He serves on the Board of the Culinard, the culinary institute of Virginia College. Chef Clayton has co-authored four cookbooks, *Top 'O' The Morning*, *A Taste of the South*, *Simply Southern*, and most recently *Truly Southern*. He was appointed Ambassador for the State of Alabama "Year of Food 2005," has won the prestigious L.J. Minor National Chef Professionalism Award, and has received an honorary doctorate from Johnson and Wales University in Norfolk, Virginia.

MICHAEL SWINDLE is an author, freelance writer, poet, actor, art curator, and aficionado of the chile picante. His feature articles and reviews have appeared in numerous national magazines and newspapers, including *Details*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Los Angeles Times*. In addition, Swindle is the author of *Mulletheads* and editor of *Sequin Artists of Haiti*. His latest work is *Slouching towards Birmingham*.

KEITH THOMSON

wrote and directed the short film *Cupidity*, which played in the Sundance Film Festival and won the Laura Napor Award. He has also written feature films for Tri-Star, Paramount, and Disney. His first novel, *Pirates of Pensacola*, was released by St. Martin's Press in 2005. His second novel, *Gus Openshaw's Whale-Killing Journal*, was released in March 2006 by MacAdam/Cage.



KATHRYN TUCKER WINDHAM is a storyteller from Selma who received her English degree from Huntingdon College. She has worked as a journalist for *The Alabama Journal*, *The Selma Times-Journal* and *The Birmingham News*.

Her work has been exhibited in France and Monaco, and her numerous awards include the Circle of Excellence Award from the National Storytelling Association and the University of Montevallo's Carmichael Library Award for distinguished contributions to arts and letters in Alabama. Her publications include *Treasured Alabama Recipes* (1964), *Alabama: One Big Front Porch* (1975), and the beloved *13 Alabama Ghosts and Jeffrey* (1969).

featured artist

CHARLIE LUCAS' found-object sculptures will be on display at the Monroeville Community House. Created using discarded items, a welding machine and a cutting torch, Lucas' art comes to him in dreams and reflects his belief in God and the power within.

scholars and moderators



CONNIE BAGGETT is a writer for the *Press-Register* with 18 years experience covering news in Southwest Alabama and beyond. She also writes a column chronicling out-of-the-way villages and little-known historical sites in the region. Her stories have been published in newspapers across the country and

in *The Oxford American*, and she has been interviewed many times for various national news broadcasts and by the BBC. She counts interviews with Southern writers among her favorite assignments. Rumors that she is a Harper Lee stalker are highly overblown. She is an avid reader and lover of a good cup of coffee. She is married to Gregory K. Baggett and is the mother of three aspiring writers.

PHILIP BEIDLER is Professor of English at the University of Alabama, where he has taught American literature since receiving his PhD from the University of Virginia in 1974. His *Late Thoughts on an Old War: The Legacy of Vietnam*, was published in May 2004. A new book, *American Wars, American Peace: Notes from a Son of the Empire*, is forthcoming from the University of Georgia Press in October 2007.

WAYNE FLYNT is an Alabamian who has actively devoted his life to bringing the issues of history and poverty and their social impact to the forefront of the public's consciousness. He has been a dedicated educator, mentor, and advocate for the poor, for which he has been bestowed with countless awards and honors. He is the author of eleven books, the most recent of which is *Alabama in the Twentieth Century*.

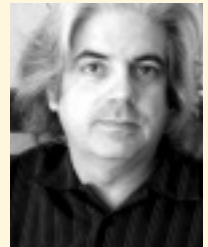
JOHN HAFNER is a professor of English at Spring Hill College in Mobile. He has taught at Indiana University and the U. S. Military Academy at West Point. Publications include short stories, poems, travel articles, and reviews of contemporary fiction, as well as scholarly articles on William Faulkner, Christopher Fry, Julia Coley Duncan, and Wallace Stevens. He is co-editor, with Sue Walker and Mary Riser, of *Literary Mobile*.

The J. Carlyle Sitterson Professor and Associate Chair of English and Comparative Literature at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, **TRUDIER HARRIS** earned the first annual Award of Distinction for the College of Humanities in 1994. Among her more than 20 authored and edited volumes are *Fiction and Folklore: The Novels of Toni Morrison* and a memoir, *Summer Snow: Reflections from a Black Daughter of the South*. She received the



Eugene Current-Garcia Award as Alabama's Distinguished Literary Scholar in 2002, and in 2005 won the UNC System Board of Governors' Award for Excellence in Teaching and the John Hurt Fisher Award "For Career Achievement in Letters" from SAMLA.

MICHAEL MARTONE's newest book is *Doublewide*. His collected stories, *Michael Martone, Unconventions and Rules of Thumb*, were published last year. His book of essays, *The Flatness and Other Landscapes*, won the AWP Award for Nonfiction. With Lex Williford, he edited *The Scribner Anthology of Contemporary Short Fiction*. He is a professor at the University of Alabama, where he has directed the creative writing program. He has taught also at Iowa State, Harvard, and Syracuse Universities. Martone lives in Tuscaloosa with the poet Theresa Pappas and their two sons Sam and Nick.

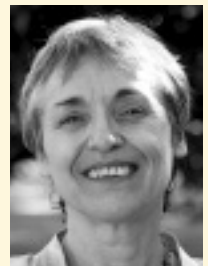


DON NOBLE is Professor of English, Emeritus, at the University of Alabama, recipient of the 2000 Eugene Current-Garcia Award for Alabama's Distinguished Literary Scholar, book reviewer for Alabama Public Radio, host of Alabama Public Television's interview program *Bookmark*, and on the board of the Alabama Humanities Foundation. He won an Emmy for Outstanding Collaborative Achievement in Writing from the Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of Television Arts and Sciences, with Brent Davis, for a documentary film on Alabama writer William Bradford Huie. He has served on the board of the Alabama Writers' Forum.

CYNTHIA TUCKER is the editorial page editor of *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and a syndicated columnist whose commentary appears in more than 70 newspapers around the country. She is also a frequent television commentator. She won the 2000 American Society of Newspaper Editors' Distinguished Writing Award, and in 2005, she was awarded the prestigious Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award by Colby College. In 2006, the National Association of Black Journalists selected her as its Journalist of the Year. She was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2004 and again in 2006.

METKA ZUPANČIČ

is an Associate Professor of French/Modern Languages at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Originally from Slovenia, she holds a Doctorat de 3e cycle from Strasbourg, France (1977), a PhD in Romance Philology from the University of Zagreb, Croatia (1988), and also the Habilitation to direct graduate research, at the University of Poitiers, France (2005). Her numerous publications mostly deal with myths and symbols in contemporary French, Francophone and comparative literature.



schedule of events

Events will be held on the campus of Alabama Southern Community College, at the Monroeville Community House, and at the Monroe County Heritage Museum in downtown Monroeville. Registration will take place Thursday afternoon and Friday morning at Alabama Southern. In addition to the events listed below, the schedule will include art exhibits, music, and booksellers.

thursday, may 3, 2007

1-5 p.m. Registration & Exhibit of Alabama Artists
6:30-7:30 p.m. Reception for Dinner Guests & Musical Performance by *Southern Exposé*
7:30-9:30 p.m. Opening Banquet, "An Evening with Rick Bragg" introduced by Don Noble

friday, may 4, 2007

8 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration & Literary Coffee House
8:15-8:45 a.m. Opening Convocation: "The Living Past" – Kathryn Tucker Windham, introduced by John Hafner
8:45-9:15 a.m. John Sims Jeter and Sena Jeter Naslund with moderator Alan Brown
9:15-9:35 a.m. T. J. Beitelman (short story, poetry) with moderator Michael Martone
9:35-9:55 a.m. Maurice Manning with moderator Michael Martone
9:55-10:20 a.m. Break

10:20-10:50 a.m. Cassandra King (fiction) with moderator Trudier Harris
10:50-11:10 a.m. Keith Thomson (fiction) with moderator Philip Beidler
11:10-11:30 a.m. Robert Ely (poetry, fiction) with moderator Cynthia Tucker
11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Book Signing
12:15-2:00 p.m. Awards Luncheon: Presentation of the Harper Lee Award for Alabama's Distinguished Writer 2007 and of the Eugene Current-Garcia Award for Alabama's Distinguished Literary Scholar 2007
2:15-3 p.m. Panel: "Writing the Past, Writing the Present" with Michael Swindle, W. Ralph Eubanks, Bill Cobb, Carolyn Haines, Julia Oliver, Dr. Alan Brown, with moderator Wayne Flynt
3-3:20 p.m. W. Ralph Eubanks (nonfiction) with moderator Metka Zupančič
3:20 p.m. Opening for the Sekeres Art Exhibit in the Alabama Southern library

3:35-4:35 p.m. Readers Theater – *Verbatim: Alabama Stories Dramatized*, University of Alabama readers
4:35-5:20 p.m. Book Signing
5:35-6:50 p.m. Picnic on the Monroeville Courthouse Lawn
7-9 p.m. Live performance of *To Kill a Mockingbird*
9 p.m. Alabama Singer/Songwriter Will Kimbrough and Reunion Cafe

saturday, may 5, 2007

8-10:30 a.m. Light refreshments at the Old Courthouse
8:45-9:45 a.m. Mark Childress (fiction) with moderator Phil Beidler
9:45-10:30 a.m. Harper Lee Award winner reading with moderator Jeanie Thompson
10:45-12:30 p.m. Brunch, with panel: "Southern Food for Thought" with Mark Childress, Rick Bragg, Kathryn Tucker Windham, Chef Clayton Sherrod, Carolyn Haines (moderator: Connie Baggett)

2007 alabama writers symposium registration form

Registration Deadline Friday, April 20, 2007 • Mail completed registration form to:
Alabama Writers Symposium • Alabama Southern Community College • P. O. Box 2000 • Monroeville, AL 36461

Name _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

Admission to discussion sessions is free to all registered participants; however, there is a charge for other events. You will receive registration confirmation in the mail. The schedule of events is subject to change without notice. Registration fees are non-refundable.

PAYMENT METHOD

Check enclosed payable to Alabama Writers Symposium OR Please bill my Visa or Mastercard
Card # _____ exp. date _____ Signature of card holder _____

For more information call Donna Reed, (251) 575-3156, ext. 223/ email: dreed@ascc.edu.

Visit our website at www.ascc.edu for symposium updates and registration information.

2007 REGISTRATION FEES

- Comprehensive Ticket • May 3-5\$150
Includes all meals and events except *To Kill A Mockingbird* play on May 4
- Thursday Ticket • May 3\$50
Includes reception and "An Evening with Rick Bragg"
- Friday Ticket • May 4\$60
Includes awards luncheon, picnic and special performance by Will Kimbrough
- Saturday Ticket • May 5\$50
Includes Southern Food for Thought brunch
- To Kill A Mockingbird* ticket\$25
Friday, May 4 only
- Discussion sessions onlyFREE

PLEASE NOTE: *To Kill A Mockingbird* tickets are limited. First priority will be given to those who purchase comprehensive tickets. Please register early!

Total Registration\$ _____

alabama writers symposium sponsors

The Alabama Writers Symposium is a project of the Alabama Center for Literary Arts.

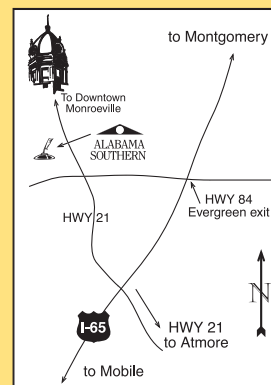
The Symposium is sponsored by

- Alabama Southern Community College
- George Landegger, Alabama River Pulp Company, Inc.
- Alabama Humanities Foundation
- Alabama State Council on the Arts
- BankTrust
- Alabama Power Foundation
- Vanity Fair, Inc.
- United Bank
- Radley's Fountain Grille

The Symposium is produced in cooperation with

- The Alabama Writers' Forum
- The Association of College English Teachers of Alabama
- The Auburn University Center for the Arts and Humanities
- Alabama Center for the Book
- Monroe County Heritage Museums
- Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce

accommodations in monroeville



Monroeville is easily accessible from Interstate 65 and Highway 84. The hotels listed below are conveniently located on Highway 21.

Each hotel will hold a block of rooms for symposium participants until April 20. Please call the numbers listed below for reservations.

Best Value Inn • (251) 743-3333
\$60.95 plus tax for single and double rooms

Best Western • (251) 575-9999
\$55 plus tax for double, queen, and king rooms

Days Inn • (251) 743-3297
\$55 plus tax for single and double rooms

Holiday Inn Express • (251) 743-3333
\$90.95 plus tax for double or king rooms

Monroeville Inn • (251) 575-3312
\$35 for king rooms; \$40 for double rooms; plus tax



ALABAMA WRITERS SYMPOSIUM

A project of the Alabama Center for Literary Arts

Alabama Southern Community College
P.O. Box 2000 • Monroeville, AL 36461
(251) 575-3156, ext. 223 • www.ascc.edu