2019 Summer Institutes: Grades 3-6

Learning About Alabama Through the Arts

Tuscaloosa Public Library, Tuscaloosa

June 24-27, 2019

Sarah Stroud, Northport Elementary School
Nikki Bechtel, Northport Elementary School
Dr. Steve Davis, Alabama Department of Mental Health

As curriculums continually emphasize a student’s understanding of math and science, subjects such as history and the arts are dismissed. The primary goal of Learning About Alabama Through the Arts is to reestablish the significance of social studies and an all-encompassing study of the arts into an elementary curriculum effectively and efficiently. Discover the stories of Alabamians from the state’s rich history told through the perspective of the arts. Lessons include a study into the lives of Creek Indians, recounting personal narratives from prominent figures in the Civil Rights Movement, and uncovering memoirs from Bryce Hospital in Tuscaloosa. Participants will also learn how to incorporate primary sources and an array of resources from both a historical and artistic context into cross-curriculum lessons. This institute will equip teachers with the knowledge and effective strategies on how to engage the arts with the stories of Alabama’s residents to offer their students a developed understanding of Alabama’s local and statewide history.