Mobile, Alabama, is one of the Gulf Coast’s top cultural centers, boasting a wide variety of active arts organizations and unique cultural events throughout the year.

With a deep history rooted in Carnival culture, Mobile has developed into a bustling port city with a downtown that is home to a variety of galleries and centers featuring murals, sculptures, paintings, and more.

From our professional opera and ballet companies to a symphony orchestra, community theaters, and free music festivals, Mobile always has something onstage for lovers of the performing arts.

Since its inception in 1955, the Mobile Arts Council (MAC) has served as a strong informational center for local arts and culture, helping to facilitate numerous events and opportunities for artists of all backgrounds and mediums along the Gulf Coast.

Our mission is to enrich the quality of life in the Mobile area by increasing accessibility to the arts and promoting a vibrant cultural community.

Through this new Arts Guide, we hope to share Mobile’s wealth of artistic talent to locals and visitors alike.

For more listings of arts events in the area, sign up for our ArtStart newsletter and visit us at www.mobilearts.org to view our calendar.
THE ARTYS
mobilearts.org
Now in its 15th year, this program annually presents awards to individuals, businesses, and organizations who are dedicated to improving the arts and cultural scene in the Mobile area. The 2019 Artys will be presented on Feb. 6, 2020, from 6 until 9 p.m. at The Steeple.

ALABAMA CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER
alabamacontemporary.org
Founded in 1999, Alabama Contemporary Art Center is a nonprofit located at 301 Conti Street. Their exhibitions and programs investigate themes and topics relevant to the Gulf Coast while creating a national model for community-building through the arts.

ALABAMA HUES
alabamahues.org
Alabama Hues brings creatives and concepts together for the community. In their artistic workspace at 2601 Emogene Street #100-B, professional artists host classes and develop public art projects for the greater Mobile area.

ASHLAND GALLERY
facebook.com/ashlandgallery
Ashland Gallery, located at 2321 Old Shell Road, is a full-service custom framing shop and art gallery, also featuring fun gifts and fine crafts.

AZALEA CITY CENTER FOR THE ARTS
azaleacityarts.com
The Azalea City Center for the Arts provides opportunities for children to explore the world of artistic expression, engage in intensive training in the arts, and perform before live audiences. The Center, located at 63 Midtown Park E, offers classes that enhance self-confidence, encourage personal growth, and strengthen academic and artistic skills.

AZALEA CITY QUILTERS GUILD
azaleacityquiltersguild.org
The Azalea City Quilters Guild promotes the appreciation of quilting by educating the public on this beautiful art form. The guild comes together to learn new skills by hosting workshops, beginner classes, and exhibitions of their quilts throughout each year.

The 2017 Arty award

Mobile Arts Council 2
AZALEA FILM FESTIVAL
azaleafilmfestival.com
The Azalea Film Festival acknowledges and awards talented independent filmmakers, writers, and performers who may not get the recognition they deserve through commercial film festivals. They celebrate film enthusiasts who are committed to creating spaces for independent cinema and are devoted to spreading knowledge of this art form.

BAY CITY CONVENTION & TOURS, INC.
baycityconventions.com
As Mobile’s only full-service destination management company, Bay City Convention & Tours offers convention and meeting planning, reunion planning, historical group and individual sightseeing and transportation services.

CENTRAL ARTS COLLECTIVE
cpmidtown.com/home-2
Located within the walls of Central Presbyterian Church, 1260 Dauphin Street, Central Arts Collective is a working studio home to visual and performing artists who strive to craft community through service and arts cultivation. They host arts events throughout the year, including art markets, Jazz Jambalayas, photography exhibitions, and artist open houses.

CHICKASAW CIVIC THEATRE
cctshows.com
Chickasaw Civic Theatre is at 801 Iroquois Street, Chickasaw. Season tickets are available, as are tickets for individual performances. The 2019-20 season will include:
- “Baskerville,” Oct. 11-20
- “Mandate for Murder,” Jan. 10-19
- “Black Coffee,” Feb. 28-March 8
- “Big Fish,” May 15-31

CAMERA SOUTH
camerasouth.org
Local professionals and beginners of photography exchange ideas, develop new skills, organize exhibitions, and expand their knowledge about the art of photography in the Camera South Photography Club.
DIHAC, located at 918 Bienville Boulevard, works to create and maintain a network of visual, literary, and performing artists and patrons, providing venues for educational arts programs, exhibits, and performances. They showcase opportunities for educational programs related to the heritage and history of the Gulf Coast.

COMMEDIA DEL ARTE MOBILE
commediadelarte.org
Founded in 1990, Commedia del Arte is a troupe of thespians specializing in period pieces, written and directed by Shari Prestwood. They perform at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer at Hitt and Cody roads. The next performance will be:
- “Dracula and Me,” Nov. 9

GLORIA DEI CHORALE
gloriadeichoralemobile.org
Gloria Dei Chorale is a diverse ecumenical community chorus open to all men and women who wish to commit their time, talents, and skills to produce fine musical experiences for both performers and audience, while also helping their fellow man. They perform two concerts per season.

GULF COAST ETHNIC AND HERITAGE JAZZ FESTIVAL
gcehjazzfest.org
The Festival’s mission is to further the preservation and growth of jazz by encouraging young musicians to play jazz. The Festival is known for the Marcus Johnson Summer Jazz Camp, An Evening of Poetry and Jazz, and a main stage jazz concert.

CLASSICAL BALLET OF MOBILE
classicalballetmobile.org
Classical Ballet of Mobile fosters a lifelong love and appreciation for ballet. Located at 4621 Spring Hill Avenue, Suite C, upcoming performances will include:
- “Holiday Wonders,” Dec. 7
- End of Year Academy Showcase, May 17

EASTERN SHORE ART CENTER
esartcenter.org
The Art Center at 401 Oak Avenue, Fairhope, is free to the public and offers guided tours through five galleries. Artists from all over the country display at the Art Center in the annual Outdoor Art Show and changing exhibits. Activities include quarterly classes for adults and children, and monthly Art Walks.
MARKET IN THE PARK
ncsmobile.org
A free market coordinated by the city of Mobile. This fall, the markets will take place downtown in Cathedral Square, every Saturday between Oct. 12 through Nov. 23, from 7:30 a.m. until noon. There will also be a seasonal Holiday Market in Cathedral Square on Dec. 7.

MOBILE ART ASSOCIATION
mobileartassociation.org
The Mobile Art Association is made up of more than 100 artists and provides its members with many opportunities to network and learn from fellow artists. Monthly meetings are held the third Sunday of each month at Springhill Presbyterian Church.

MOBILE ARTS COUNCIL
mobilearts.org
The MAC exhibition series, displayed in Room 1927 at 6 Joachim Street, is free to the public and showcases different local artists monthly. MAC now includes among its activities monthly exhibits, quarterly member workshops, monthly ArtWalks, their annual Throwdown competition, educational programming, art markets and more.

HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE
historymuseumofmobile.com
The History Museum of Mobile, housed inside the Southern Market/Old City Hall National Historic Landmark at 111 S Royal Street, boasts a collection of more than 90,000 artifacts related to Mobile history, as well as special exhibitions throughout the year. They also oversee the Historic Site at Fort Conde and the Phoenix Fire Museum, all located in close proximity. They host free Learning Lunches, a discussion series about the history of South Alabama, on the second Wednesday of each month.

JOE JEFFERSON PLAYERS
joejeffersonplayers.com
Founded in 1947 and named after a prominent 19th century actor, JJP has their own theater at 11 South Carlen Street. Performances this season will include:
- “Matilda the Musical”
- “Macbeth”
- “The Graduate”
- “Sister Act the Musical”
- “Evil Dead the Musical”
MOBILE BALLET
mobileballet.org
Founded in 1987, the Mobile Ballet is located at 4351 Downtowner Loop North. Upcoming performances at the Civic Center include:
- “Giselle,” Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 27, 2:30 p.m.
- “The Nutcracker,” Dec. 14, 2:30 & 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 15, 2:30 p.m.
- “Beauty and the Beast,” March 21, 7:30 p.m.; March 22, 2:30 p.m.
- Mobile Ballet School Showcase, May 17

MOBILE CARNIVAL MUSEUM
mobilecarnivalmuseum.com
The Carnival Museum reveals the history of Mardi Gras and displays the intricate costume designs, float construction, and more in a historical home. Located at 355 Government Street.

MOBILE CHAMBER MUSIC
mobilechambermusic.org
Mobile Chamber Music works to expand appreciation of chamber music. Performances of this 59th season include:
- Aizuri Quartet, Sept. 15, 3 p.m., Laidlaw Performing Arts Center, USA
- Pianist Ilya Yakushev, Oct. 20, 3 p.m., Laidlaw
- Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, Jan. 19, 3 p.m., Laidlaw
- Cellist David Finkel, Pianist Wu Han, March 1, 3 p.m., Laidlaw

MOBILE BIG BAND SOCIETY
mobilebigband.org
The Mobile Big Band Society was formed to continue the performances of the music of the Big Band era. See their Facebook page for the next showtimes and locations.

MOBILE BOTANICAL GARDENS
mobilebotanicalgardens.org
The Gardens features a hundred acres of garden areas and wooded trails, allowing visitors to enjoy picnicking, birdwatching, hiking, drawing, painting, and photography. Located at 5151 Museum Drive.
MOBILE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
mobileinternationalfestival.org
The 36th annual International Festival will take place at The Grounds Nov. 23. The Festival is dedicated to educating students and the general public about the immense diversity that exists in our city, state, and country. The festival gives the opportunity to meet people from over 70 countries, to speak different languages and sample delicious food.

MOBILE MEDICAL MUSEUM
mobilemedicalmuseum.org
See 300 years of health care history at the Mobile Medical Museum. The museum houses more than 5,000 medical artifacts and documents. Located at 1664 Springhill Avenue.

MOBILE MUSEUM OF ART
mobilemuseumofart.com
The MMoA includes a permanent collection of works of fine and decorative arts from around the world, spanning from classical antiquity to the present day. Located at 4850 Museum Drive, MMoA is supported by a unique public/private partnership and regularly facilitates studio art classes, art markets, art talks, and performances.

Mobile Opera, 2017
MOBILE OPERA
mobileopera.org
Mobile Opera is one of the oldest performing arts organizations in the country. This season’s performances will include:

▪ “La Traviata,” Oct. 25-27 at the Temple downtown
▪ Winter Gala Concert, Feb. 8, at Murphy HS
▪ “La Rondine,” March 27-29 at the Temple

MOBILE LIBRARY
mobilepubliclibrary.org
Some resources offered include basic computer classes, homework help, and online tutoring. With 10 branches and a bookmobile, special events and classes are scheduled on most days of the year.
THE PACT (Performing Arts Creative Training) shows and classes, at 3995 Cottage Hill Road, suites B & C, are offered by the semester. New students may register during any season and join for one, two or all semesters. Youngsters do not need to register for class in order to audition for a show.

MOBILE SYMPHONIC POPS
themobilepops.com
The Mobile Symphonic Pops is a nonprofit, adult community symphonic concert band. Concerts are free. Upcoming performances include:
■ Sept. 19, 7 p.m., Medal of Honor Park
■ Sept. 23, 7 p.m., MGM High School
■ Sept. 29, 6 p.m., Dauphin Island Water Tower
■ Nov. 11, 7 p.m., Battleship Park
■ Dec. 12, 7 p.m., Davidson HS
■ Dec. 14, 7 p.m., Murphy High School

MOBILE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
mobilesymphony.org
The Mobile Symphony Orchestra gives performances in the Saenger Theater downtown. Upcoming performances include:
■ Ravel’s “¡Olé!” Sept. 21-22
■ “Eroica,” Nov. 23-24
■ “Bravura,” Jan. 25-26
■ “Vivace,” March 7-8
■ “Amadeus: An All-Mozart Celebration,” April 4-5
■ The Music of John Williams, May 2-3

MOBILE THEATRE GUILD
mobiletheatreguild.org
Founded in 1950, the guild has its own theater at 14 N. Lafayette Street. Season passes and individual tickets can be purchased through the guild’s web site.

MYSTIC ORDER OF THE JAZZ OBSESSED
mojojazz.org
MOJO is dedicated to the preservation, performance, and vigorous promotion of America’s original music. MOJO hosts a Jazz Jambalaya every fourth Monday, at 1260 Dauphin Street, except during the Mardi Gras season.

THE PACT
thepactmobile.com
The PACT (Performing Arts Creative Training) shows and classes, at 3995 Cottage Hill Road, suites B & C, are offered by the semester. New students may register during any season and join for one, two or all semesters. Youngsters do not need to register for class in order to audition for a show.
PLAYHOUSE IN THE PARK
playhouseinthepark.org
Playhouse in the Park is located in Langan Park, directly across from the Mobile Museum of Art. The theater has been providing young people with performance and training opportunities since 1961 and produces four stage shows per year.

PORT CITY CRAFTSMEN
portcitycraftsmen.com
The Port City Craftsmen will hold their annual Arts and Crafts Show Nov. 22-24 at the Abba Shrine on Hitt Road. Hours will be 9 to 5 on the first two days, 11 to 4 Sunday.

SAENGER THEATRE
saengermobile.com
Opened in January 1927, Mobile’s Saenger was the 61st theater in the chain. Located at 6 South Joachim Street, the Saenger now offers up musical concerts, symphony performances, comedy performances, and a summer movies series. Upcoming performances include:
- "Moon Taxi, Oct. 4"
- "Alison Krauss, Oct. 12"
- "Gary Allan, Nov. 7"
- ""Elf on the Shelf: A Christmas Musical,” Nov. 20"

SOPHIELLA GALLERY
sophiellagallery.com
Sophiella Gallery, at 111 Dauphin Street, in downtown Mobile, brings the region’s contemporary fine art and collectors together. Representing established as well as emerging artists from the area, the gallery dedicates space to solo exhibitions throughout the year.

STEWART HEATH GALLERY
stewartheathgallery.com
Stewart Heath Gallery, located at the Eastern Shore Centre, provides a clean, professionally organized and managed fine arts gallery that focuses on emerging artists from the Gulf Coast.

SUMI-E SOCIETY OF AMERICA
sumiesociety.org
The Sumi-e Society of America exists to encourage appreciation of East Asian brush painting through publications, workshops, lectures, and exhibitions - bridging the East and West. There are many chapters of the society throughout the United States, with Shibui being the Mobile-area chapter.
Theatre 98 – named after Highway 98 – is a community-centered live theater at 350 Morphy Avenue, Fairhope. The next performance will be:

“Godspell 2012,” Oct. 11-27

Mobile Arts Council’s largest fundraiser of the year will take place on Sept. 20, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the USS Battleship Memorial Park’s Medal of Honor Aircraft Pavilion. The eighth annual event will feature five local artists in a 90-minute, no-holds barred, live art competition.

The University of South Alabama’s Department of Music has an extensive Musical Arts Series every year. From now through April, at least 47 performances are scheduled. Most concerts are held in the Laidlaw Performing Arts Center Recital Hall.

Mobile Arts Council’s largest fundraiser of the year will take place on Sept. 20, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the USS Battleship Memorial Park’s Medal of Honor Aircraft Pavilion. The eighth annual event will feature five local artists in a 90-minute, no-holds barred, live art competition.

The Watercolor & Graphic Arts Society is devoted to furthering interest in watercolor and graphic arts media through education and exposure. WGAS promotes and facilitates fine watercolor and graphic arts exhibitions by Alabama artists in local galleries each year.