



ALABAMA STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS
2017 SUMMER RETREAT FOR ARTS PROFESSIONALS

CAMP MCDOWELL

AUGUST 16-18, 2017

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

4:00 – 4:45 PM ARRIVAL AND CHECK-IN – (Check-in at Camp Store)

Please see information on back panel if you arrive later than 4:45

4:45 – 5:45 PM RECEPTION/SOCIAL HOUR – (Meeting at Phifer Hall)

6:00 – 7:00 PM DINNER – (Doug Carpenter Dining Hall)

7:30 – 9:00 PM PERSPECTIVES ABOUT SOUTHERNERS, SOUTHERN CULTURE & CURRENT AFFAIRS
(Meeting at Phifer Hall)

RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON – Syndicated Columnist

RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON was born in Colquitt, Ga., and grew up in Montgomery, Ala. She knew at an early age that she wanted to become a journalist and began working on her school newspaper in eighth grade. Johnson majored in journalism at Auburn University, graduating in 1975. During her senior year, she was editor of the university newspaper. After her marriage to cartoonist Jimmy Johnson, the couple started a weekly paper on St. Simon Island, Ga. The paper closed after six months, and Johnson worked for several years for newspapers in Alabama and Mississippi and for United Press International. In 1980, Johnson became a reporter for *The Memphis Commercial Appeal*. She soon began writing columns for the *Commercial Appeal* as well.

In 1983, the Scripps-Howard News Service began distributing Johnson's columns nationwide. Johnson was on the road much of the time, traveling around the South to gather material for her columns. In 1987, a collection of her columns for the *Commercial Appeal* was published as *America's Faces*. Two years later, Johnson published a biography of *Peanuts* cartoonist

Charles M. Schultz. In 1994, Johnson began working as a staff columnist for *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and moved to Carrollton, Ga. She left the *Journal-Constitution* in 2001 and moved to Iuka, Miss. Johnson and her second husband divide their time between Iuka and Henderson, La. She continues to write syndicated columns on a weekly basis.

Johnson is also the author of *America's Faces* (1987), *Good Grief: The Story of Charles M. Schulz* (1989), *Georgia* (2000), *Poor Man's Provence: Finding Myself In Cajun Louisiana* (2008), *Enchanted Evening Barbie and the Second Coming* (2010), and *Hank Hung the Moon and Warmed Our Cold, Cold Hearts* (2012).

Johnson's latest book *Hank Hung the Moon and Warmed Our, Cold, Cold Hearts* is being provided to participants with autograph opportunities at the end of her session.

S C H E D U L E A T A G L A N C E

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

- 8:00 – 8:45 AM BREAKFAST – Starts promptly at 8:00 AM – (Doug Carpenter Dining Hall)
- 9:00 – 9:30 AM WELCOME & ORIENTATION – **AL HEAD** – (Meeting at Phifer Hall)
- 9:30 – 11:30 PM PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS: GETTING BEYOND POLITICAL ACRIMONY
KELLY BARSDATE – Chief Program Planning Officer, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
- 12:00 – 1:00 PM LUNCH – (Doug Carpenter Dining Hall)
- 1:30 – 2:30 PM BICENTENNIAL UPDATE & FUNDING – **AL HEAD/ASCA STAFF/JAY LAMAR** – (Phifer Hall)
 (Jay Lamar is the Executive Director of the *Alabama Bicentennial Commission*)
- 2:30 – 3:30 PM CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, QUALITY OF LIFE & THE ARTS – (Phifer Hall)
DR. CATHY RANDALL – Chairman, Randall Holdings, LLC
- 3:30 – 6:00 PM Free time to enjoy Camp McDowell
- 6:00 – 7:00 PM DINNER – (Phifer Hall)
- 7:30 pm **MOVIE NIGHT AT CAMP MCDOWELL:** “First Lady of the Revolution” – (Phifer Hall)

KELLY BARSDATE is the Chief Program and Planning Officer at the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA). Kelly has worked with state arts agencies for more than 25 years, charting the highs and lows of public funding for the arts during multiple recessions and swings of the political pendulum. She oversees NASAA's research, communications and leadership training and helps arts organizations make a compelling case for public dollars. Kelly is the original author of *Why Should Government Support the Arts?* and numerous policy tools geared toward cultural advocates and elected officials. She also has led NASAA's collaborative initiatives with the National Governors Association and the National Conference of State Legislatures. Kelly holds a Change Leader certification from the state of Utah and is a contributing editor of the *Journal of Arts Management, Law, and Society*. Born and raised in Alaska, she is an avid bird watcher with an arts background including studies at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music as well as training in dance and ceramics.

DR. CATHY RANDALL is the Chairman of the Board of Pettus Randall Holdings, LLC, and is the former Chairman of the Board of Randall Publishing Company, the former Director of the University Honors Programs at The University of Alabama, and a former news anchor at CBS-affiliate WCFT-TV. She earned two Ph.D. degrees from the University of Alabama and has been named one of the top 31 women graduates of the century. Chairman of the Alabama Academy of Honor (the 100 most outstanding living Alabamians), Dr. Randall has served as National President of Mortar Board, Inc., president of the Board of Directors of the Alabama Women's Hall of Fame, Director of Alabama Girls State, and a member of the boards of directors of Mercedes Benz USI, the American Village, the National Collegiate Honors Council, the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, the Alabama Law Foundation, the Alabama Archives and History Foundation, and the Alabama Center for Civic Life, as well as the Transition Team for Alabama Governor Robert Bentley and the Governor's Tornado Recovery Action Council. She has been honored with Tuscaloosa's 2005 Lifetime Achievement Award for Women of Distinction, the 2002 E. Roger Sayers Award as the outstanding University of Alabama faculty/staff member, UA's Living Legend Award in 2007, and the Tuscaloosa County Civic Hall of Fame in 2012.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

8:00 – 8:45 AM	BREAKFAST Starts promptly at 8:00 AM – (Doug Carpenter Dining Hall)
8:30 – 9:00 AM	ROOM CHECKOUT – ALL PARTICIPANTS (* Important - Please see back panel*)
9:15 – 11:30 AM	STATE OF THE SOUTH: CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE ARTS TED ABERNATHY – Managing Partner of Economic Leadership LLC – (Phifer Hall)
11:30 – 11:45 AM	Closing Comments – AI Head
12:00 Noon	Departure

TED ABERNATHY - Born in Dallas, NC, Ted received his bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; his Master's from Johns Hopkins University, is a graduate of the Economic Development Institute and is an Eisenhower Fellow for global economics.

Ted is the Managing Partner of Economic Leadership LLC, a consultancy that is currently working in more than a dozen states to develop economic strategies. Ted has 35 years of experience in directing economic development and workforce development programs. In the past four years Ted has worked with state Chambers of Commerce in North Carolina, Arkansas, Missouri and Kentucky to develop economic development plans and with another dozen regions, counties and organizations on strategic plans and has previously served as economic development policy advisor to the Southern Governors Association

From 2008-2013, Ted was the Executive Director of the Southern Growth Policies Board, a 42-year old public policy think tank that provided economic development research, strategy and marketing advice, to states and communities across the South. Before coming to Southern Growth, Ted was a practicing economic developer for 28 years. From 2000-2008, he served as Executive Vice President and COO for the Research

Triangle Regional Partnership. During his eight years directing RTRP's operation he worked with hundreds of clients and helped generate 65,000 new jobs and almost \$10 billion in investment.

Ted's current projects include developing a new rural economic strategy for the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce, developing economic development plans for the 8 states that comprise the Mississippi Delta, creating new economic strategies in North Carolina for the Research Triangle Regional Partnership and the Piedmont Triad Partnership, conducting a national citizen input process on building community economic vitality, developing best practices in manufacturing and innovation for the U.S. Economic Development Administration and helping the Missouri Chamber Foundation build a more economically competitive Missouri.

As a nationally known economic futurist, Ted speaks to about 100 groups annually on topics ranging from global trends to state and community economic competitiveness.

LATE REGISTRATION – If you arrive after 4:45 PM please come directly to Phifer Hall. If you arrive during the dinner hour {6:00 – 7:00 PM}, then you are to come to Doug Carpenter Hall.

REMINDERS ABOUT MEALS – Meals begin PROMPTLY at 8:00 AM; Noon and 6:00 PM.

COFFEE AVAILABILITY – All meeting spaces and lodges have coffee and amenities available to guests.

SPEED LIMIT REMINDERS – Please remember that the speed limit is 10 MPH. Parking directions will be posted around different areas of Camp McDowell and we ask that ALL guests adhere to those rules.

CELL PHONE SERVICE – Cell phone service is limited at Camp McDowell. AT&T works the best, all other providers are extremely limited and typically do NOT transmit.

WIFI Service –WiFi service is available at various locations at Camp McDowell.

PET POLICY – Pets are NOT allowed on camp property.

SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR COMFORT – We suggest that you consider bringing items such as sweaters (to be ready for all climates & meeting room temperatures), medicines such as aspirin, Tums, Alka-Seltzer, bug spray or whatever else may be required should you need it.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS – In the event of an emergency, family members or friends may reach you by contacting the Camp McDowell Conference Center at **205-387-1806**.

Camp McDowell
105 DeLong Road
Nauvoo, AL 35578

Cell number contacts:

Jackie Berry 334-300-3985
Al Head 334-201-3201
Barbara Edwards 334-207-3119.

*** REMINDERS AS YOU LEAVE CAMP MCDOWELL *** – ALL rooms must be vacated by 9:00 AM (no exceptions).

Please turn off ALL lights and the air conditioner before you leave your room.

If your room is on the top floor please strip your bed and toss your sheets and towels down the laundry chute before 9:00 AM.

If your room is on the lower floor, please strip your bed and leave sheets and towels on the bathroom floor.

THE BILL BATES LEADERSHIP RETREAT AT CAMP MCDOWELL HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Alabama State Council on the Arts. Administrative assistance has been provided by the Alabama Dance Council.