

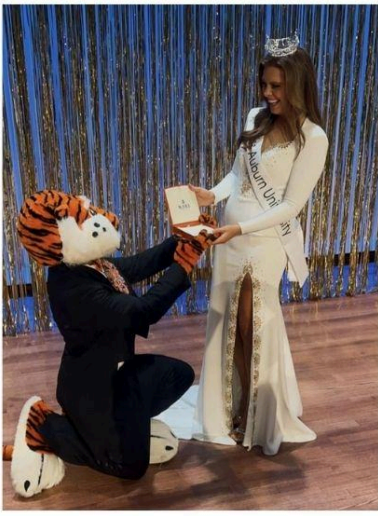


Legislators, we are excited to be in Montgomery today to celebrate the 4th Alabama Home Educators Day! Our community grows steadily in Alabama thanks to the freedoms we enjoy here. We are even seeing people choosing to move to our beautiful state based on these freedoms. We do not take them for granted. Statistics bear out the successes of homeschooled children, and the growth our community has seen encourages partnerships with local science centers, art facilities, sporting facilities, and more. These facilities are opening their doors to our children during the day and those partnerships are proving quite successful for everyone

Alabama Homeschoolers are accomplishing big things across the state in every facet.

With the flexibility in schedule we have, our children have time to follow passions, become entrepreneurs, and perfect their crafts! Here we are going to share with you just some of those recent accomplishments!

Be sure to follow us on Facebook at Alabama Home Education Day to see us SPOTLIGHT more Alabama Homeschoolers and what they are accomplishing in your part of the state!



We want to give our **BIGGEST CONGRATULATIONS** to Mary-Coker Green, former Homeschooler from South Alabama, who was announced as your new Miss Auburn University this year!



Maci Sedlacek is a 6th grade homeschooler from the Huntsville area who qualified and competed in the 2023 AAU Junior Olympic Games in Des Moines, Iowa. She came in 6th place in Javelin earning her the title All American and holds the 12th longest distance recorded in her age group nationally in 2023. Maci also competed in the Alabama Games where she and her teammates earned a gold medal in the 4x100 relay, and is currently featured on one of the promo flyers! Maci currently runs with Parker Track Club, hopes to return to the AAU Junior Olympic Games this summer, and plans to take advantage of the AHSAA policy and run for her local public school in the 24-25 school year



Mason Owens is the youngest of 3 homeschooled children in his family. He is a beekeeper in Baldwin County. He currently has over 20 hives that he works which produced over 300lbs of honey last year. Mo Honey is his business and he is continuing to learn more about bees and business. He won 1st place in the Alabama Beekeepers Honey competition in September for the Best Tasting honey in Alabama.



Case is nine years old and in the fourth grade from Holly Pond. Being a homeschooler has allowed him to be up in Huntsville three nights a week training for this opportunity!

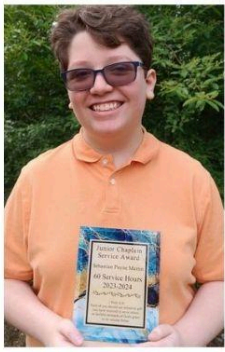
In March he took home the title of Alabama State Champ!!

Case took 1st over all in level 3 mens gymnastics, and his team came in 1st place!!



Abigail Phillips (25), a former homeschooler in Henry Co Alabama, opened her own theatre studio, Act Up Studios in Headland, AL.

Abigail found her passion in 4th grade and from that point on she knew wanted to work with students that like her wanted a moment to shine bright on the stage! When Abigail was in the 9th grade, she met with the local elementary school principal to propose a plan that she and a few other theatre homeschool students (and a volunteering adult) would come in to the school and teach basic theatre and acting techniques that could help with reading comprehension, vocabulary, both verbal and non-verbal communication, self-esteem, and confidence at no charge to the school. She just wanted other students in her hometown to have the benefits she was experiencing through theatre and other arts. Thanks to the flexible schedule of homeschooling and the willingness of the principal the program took off and is still growing 10 years later.



Payne Martin, 12, is a 7th grade homeschooler from the Dothan, AL area! Payne is on the Junior Chaplain Committee in the Wiregrass Christian Beta Club. He's been doing street ministry with a local organization, serving meals to the unsheltered and less fortunate, spreading the Gospel. The Nationwide Charity (House of Gordon USA) he volunteers with, his family, and his friends got a plaque to show him it's not going unnoticed and they're so very proud of him!



Sam Williams, age 8, was invited to perform the National Anthem at the Birmingham Squadron "Literacy Day" game on March 12.



A homeschool team out of Colbert County named Creekside Technology with the Creekside Academy Homeschool Co-op won a National Championship for robotics. They have a national championship out of 122 teams.

They will be traveling to Montgomery to be recognize as champs at the capital on April 16th



Gabriel Howze won 1st Place and money in the First Annual Home School Science Fair sponsored by Beta Chi Science Honor Society at the University of Mobile, Teach Mobile, South Alabama Homeschooling Alliance, Compass Point Christian School, and Saraland First. Gabriel has developed a love for electricity, like his late Grandpa, Collins. He imagined and created a prototype of an alarm that will assist those who are deaf and/or blind.



South Alabama area homeschoolers Delaney Zimlich and Lydia Lanford on their appointments in the Mobile Belles Leadership Program this year! The Mobile Belles are a group of young women who represent the Historic Mobile Preservation Society and the community as ambassadors of southern history, culture, and hospitality. The program, which began in 2008, instructs high school students in historic preservation and providing them with the skills needed to confidently serve as docents at the Historic Oakleigh House Museum and the Richards-Dar House Museum



Sadie from Huntsville, AL won first place in her Classical Conversations program Science Fair! She investigated what type of flour produced the fluffiest cookie and had samples to share!



In the Jackson Family oldest Jacob, a senior, made the Alabama all state band and received a full tuition scholarship to Auburn University based on his ACT score of 35

Second son, Joseph, won the DAR history essay contest for our district something his brother Jacob also did several years ago



Cambrie Tyson, is a sophomore at Crossroads Christian School where she also attends co-op, ballroom dancing, and Key Club activities. She is a competitive equestrian within the Hunter/Jumper discipline and has also trained in Western riding. She volunteers as a student barn assistant and is interning as a student trainer at a local barn. She is currently enrolled in business degree classes. She loves being at the barn, riding horses, being with friends and family, going new places, Dr. Pepper and Crocs.



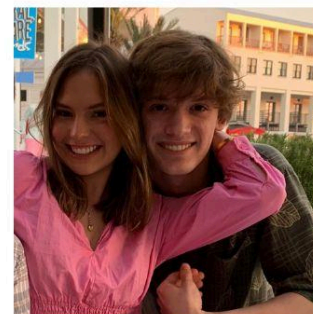
Marie Rhodes is an Alabama Homeschooler in 11th grade, making truly beautiful art and doing fabulous things with it!

- ~Started her own pottery business, Mud Toad Pottery by Marie Rhodes
- ~Vendor at Vintage Magnolias in Hanceville, Alabama
- ~Sold her pottery at six festivals
- ~Won Best in Show at Rythems of Color Mr. Painterman's 17th Annual Student Art Competition in Birmingham 20230
- ~Currently on display at Shelby County Art Museum, two pottery pieces that have both been chosen for the Statewide High School Juried Art Exhibit 10th-12th grade (Reception is April 28th)
- ~Main contributor for starting Cullman Empty Bowls again since most potters in the area have sadly passed or have health issues
- ~Guest speaker at the Cullman Lions Club Meeting February 2024
- ~Featured on front page of Cullman Times, and Cullman Tribune newspapers along with several other articles
- ~Featured in Cullman Spring Edition 2024 Magazine
- ~Currently preparing for Gardendale Magnolia Juried Festival for April 2024
- ~Member of The Tennessee Potter's Society
- ~Excelling in all of her classes

Marie plans to attend Wallace State Community College this summer to obtain her Phlebotomy Certification too!



Ella Tyson, is a freshman at Southern Union Community College with a Presidential Performing Arts Scholarship. She is on the Dance team, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, a member of Mu Alpha Theta, and one of the graduate student tour guides today. She enjoys dancing, teaching dance, spending time with family and friends, arts and crafts, learning, Children's ministry, and shoes. Her future plans are to obtain an Applied Mathematics and Statistics degree.



Ethan and Emily Edwards are 19 year old twins from Dothan, Alabama. They are graduates of Ridgecrest Christian School. Though twins, they couldn't be more different.

Ethan is a third year architecture student at Auburn University, currently studying abroad in Scandinavia. He's held a 4.0 (or higher) through high school and college. He'll be interning at an architecture firm in Dothan this summer. College is definitely for Ethan.