

MISSISSIPPI ARTS COMMISSION TESTIMONIALS



"The support MAC provides has been a springboard to greater opportunity and helped me solidify my national reputation in the field."

*- MAC Grant Recipient,
West Point, MS*

"MAC uses state, federal and private funds to support the arts and individual artists in every corner of our state. These artists are what have given Mississippi its culture, character and soul for two centuries. Artists and the arts are what have always separated Mississippi from the rest of the pack. MAC is the primary sponsor of integrating arts into our public schools and so much more!"

- Former MAC Commissioner , Hattiesburg, MS

"For every child who might take up guitar and someday change the world with six strings, there are scores of Mississippi children who won't even have a chance to see a professional in the arts without MAC. The Mississippi Arts Commission lifts up and sometimes even saves lives because it give a child the chance to be a part of something. The Mississippi Arts Commission honors the inspiration found in a poem, the truth found in a chapter, the emotion found in a color, the peace found in a chord, the grace found in ballet and the power found in the hearts of those that know how to change lives through art. The Mississippi Arts Commission is about Mississippi's future."

- Arts Supporter, Flowood, MS

"Ten years ago, I moved home to Mississippi. I came to join a group of people who were working to make my hometown the kind of place I wanted to live, a place where the arts were shining brighter than anyone would expect for such a small community...At the top of the list of good things in Mississippi is our artists - past, present and future. The Mississippi Arts Commission is the state agency responsible for supporting, nurturing and honoring our arts, artists and arts educators and for promoting the vibrant creative economy. Without MAC's efforts, our future Eudora's and Elvis's and Faulkner's and BB's may never have a chance to explore their gifts and share them with the world."

- MAC Grant Recipient, Tupelo, MS



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"As a former Mississippi Arts Commission Literary Arts Fellow and having later served as an adjudicator for other Arts Fellowship selection processes, I can personally attest to the impact of this organization. MAC provides much more than small stipends to its fellows. MAC advocates for art and artists, hosts events, lends their marketing power to promoting the arts and cultivates the next generation of Mississippi artists. One of the shining stories of the state is how incredible and disproportionate its contribution to the American arts has been. Mississippi is positively defined by its rich literary legacy, its musical mastery, its amazing and uniquely American art."

- MAC Grant Recipient, Ridgeland, MS

"Though I could not have seen it at the time it was awarded, receiving a Fellowship from MAC was able to compensate for the financial hardship that I faced during the months of my father's illness and death. Were it not for the fellowship, I would still be digging out of a financial hole, still be stealing hours at every chance to try to claw out one more page, still be living under a cloud of anxiety and concern. As it stands now, I am typing up the manuscript from my longhand notebooks, and am already in the revision process."

- MAC Grant Recipient, Hattiesburg, MS

"The Artist Fellowship impact was positive. My confidence raised, I've gained a greater understanding to the value of my music as art. I've been exposed to new avenues, led to different atmospheres for my music to grow and be appreciated. The Mississippi Arts Commission has always listened to my stories of my family, our music, and history where others have not. The funds from MAC enabled touring with my music, which is always good for profits, experience and living the dream."

- MAC Grant Recipient, Holly Springs, MS

"Receiving an Artist Fellowship has renewed my faith in my music. Simply said, It feels good to be recognized as a great American Folk Artist and rewarded for my music. It ain't easy playing Blues, but I do what I do anyways. It's exciting to have an opportunity to record and produce my own music for product, and hopefully profit. After decades of disappointment with recording, touring and playing music, the grant award I received from MAC ignited my spirit, and boosted my self confidence." - MAC Grant Recipient, Como, MS