

PHILIP A. MORRIS FUND FOR THE DESIGN ARTS ANNOUNCES 2025 GRANTS

In its third annual grant cycle, the Philip A. Morris Fund for the Design Arts of the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham awarded \$214,000 in grants to seven area nonprofits.

- **\$25,000 for Alabama Environmental Council** for a master plan for relocating the Environmental Center to the Continental Gin. The building will serve as a “nature lab” for environmental health sciences.
- **\$20,000 for Design Alabama** for the 2026 Philip A. Morris Mayors Design Summit. Funding will underwrite a printed retrospective covering the first 20 years of the Summit as well as a video.
- **\$115,000 for McWane Science Center** to fund the redesign of the front plaza and lobby. This is for a master plan, including fees for planners, architects, and landscape architects.
- **\$15,500 for the Nature Conservancy of Alabama** to fund landscape architecture design and signage (viewing box) design for their stormwater mitigation and greenspace project in Irondale across the street from Irondale Community School.
- **\$15,500 for Railroad Park Foundation** to support events and activities around the 15th anniversary of Railroad Park. Funding will underwrite an expert panel at the documentary film premiere, the film study guide development, as well as the development of an interactive design activity for the community picnic.
- **\$12,000 for the Town of Wadley** to fund a charrette process for a master plan for the town of Wadley. The charrette will be led by DesignVision Collaboration and involve students from Auburn’s Urban Studio and Samford’s School of Architecture Graduate Program.
- **\$11,000 for Your Town Alabama** to fund a keynote speaker and five scholarships.

The Morris Fund Advisory Committee reviews grant proposals to ensure that they meet Mr. Morris’s specific definition of design arts and his intention for broad community building and inclusion.

