

Who is DesignAlabama?

DesignAlabama is a nonprofit, citizen-led organization providing educational resources and assistance related to urban planning, architecture, landscape architecture, industrial design, graphic design, and engineering.

What does DesignAlabama do?

The primary mission of DesignAlabama is to advocate for the collaboration of the design arts and their importance in creating and enhancing place in Alabama.

Why is this important?

Our philosophy is that the public demand for design excellence and aesthetic integrity within communities is essential for economic development and an enhanced quality of life. We further believe that the design disciplines affect our environment in a variety of ways and therefore must be practiced in the most responsible way.

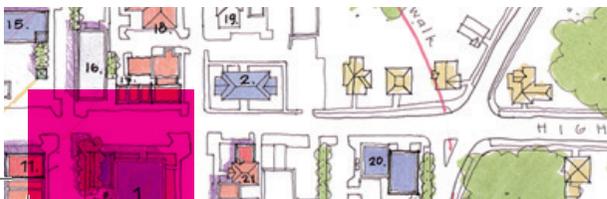


DesignAlabama

Multi-disciplinary designers dedicated to improving community livability and design awareness

interior design / graphic design / industrial design / architecture / engineering / landscape architecture / urban design

DesignAlabama designalabama.org





How we shape places

Shaping how we live, work and play in our communities is one of the most important functions of good design. For that reason, DesignAlabama holds an annual **Mayors Design Summit**. Each participating mayor submits a specific design issue their community is facing, seeking advice from a panel of design professionals. During a roundtable discussion, each community's design issue is explored and discussed with all design professionals and mayors. Designers' professional recommendations to solve the problem are then compiled and submitted to each mayor. With cities and towns often strapped for development funds, the Summit provides civic leaders access to an entire team of design professionals who bring their experience and ideas to the table. Communities who have been represented at the DesignAlabama Mayors Design Summit can apply to participate in **DesignPlace**. Professionals associated with DesignAlabama visit communities selected to participate in the DesignPlace Program, allowing each community a more comprehensive solution for design, planning and community identity assistance. During intensive visits of one to four days, DesignPlace professionals survey the community, review issues to be addressed, meet with community groups and leaders, develop recommendations, and outline strategies for implementation.

DesignAlabama also publishes a monthly digital newsletter bringing awareness to design projects across Alabama, along with a variety of other programming.

Design arts such as these actually affect people's lives in large and small ways every day, but remain almost invisible to the public.

DesignAlabama works to heighten awareness of the design arts across the state. Founded in 1987 under the wing of the Alabama State Council on the Arts, DesignAlabama has spent over 30 years developing initiatives to spotlight how the design professions help shape our environment. The organization's purpose is not to serve designers but good design. Organizations such as the American Institute of Architects and the American Planning Association provide support for these professions, but the public knows next to nothing about the importance of the design arts disciplines in driving our economy and shaping the places we live.

What type of design is promoted?

The umbrella term "design arts" includes numerous fields—architecture, engineering, graphic design, industrial design, interior design, landscape architecture, and urban design. Of course, some of these have direct applications that we hear about all the time: school boards utilize architects for the building of schools; park boards are likely to call on landscape architects; planning commissions use professional planners and urban designers; and graphic design drives publishing and advertising.

Why you should support DesignAlabama, and how to do it.

Through a donation to DesignAlabama, you help to fund the organization's annual operational expenses and our annual programs such as the Mayors Design Summit and DesignPlace.

For donor levels and to give, please visit designalabama.org.

