

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALABAMA BETWEEN 1800-1830 EXPLORED IN PUBLIC SYMPOSIUM

“Cultural Crossroads: A New Country,” a public symposium on Alabama between 1800 and 1830, will be held on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008, at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts.

Beginning at 9 a.m. and running until 4 p.m., the symposium will focus on Alabama in the early part of the 19th century. At this time, “Alabama fever” swept the country. Alabama was still home to the Creek Nation, but hundreds of settlers and fortune seekers were pouring into the state, lured by promise of prosperity and transforming the frontier culturally, economically and physically.

Speakers include historian and author Dr. Leah Rawls Atkins on early settlement patterns, AU professor of history Dr. Kathryn Holland Braund on the shift from Native American to white European sovereignty, chair of the Jacksonville State University history department Dr. Harvey H. Jackson III on the rough and tumble life of the frontier and director of the Alabama Department of Archives and History Dr. Ed Bridges on the visit of French general LaFayette to Alabama.

Also on the program are director of the Black Belt Museum at Livingston University Dr. John C. Hall, who will speak on the environmental changes of the period, Texas A&M historian Angela Hudson on settlers and slaves and independent scholar Mark Dauber on Thomas Woodward’s Alabama.

Registration for the symposium is \$40 for the general public and \$22 for faculty and students and includes a light breakfast, lunch and refreshments. To register and for more information, call 334-240-5400 or 1-888-240-1850.

The symposium is one in an ongoing series of annual programs focusing on Alabama history, and this year is sponsored by Landmarks of Montgomery, the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities in the Auburn University College of Liberal Arts and the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. It is funded in part by a generous grant from the Alabama Humanities Foundation, the state agency of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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