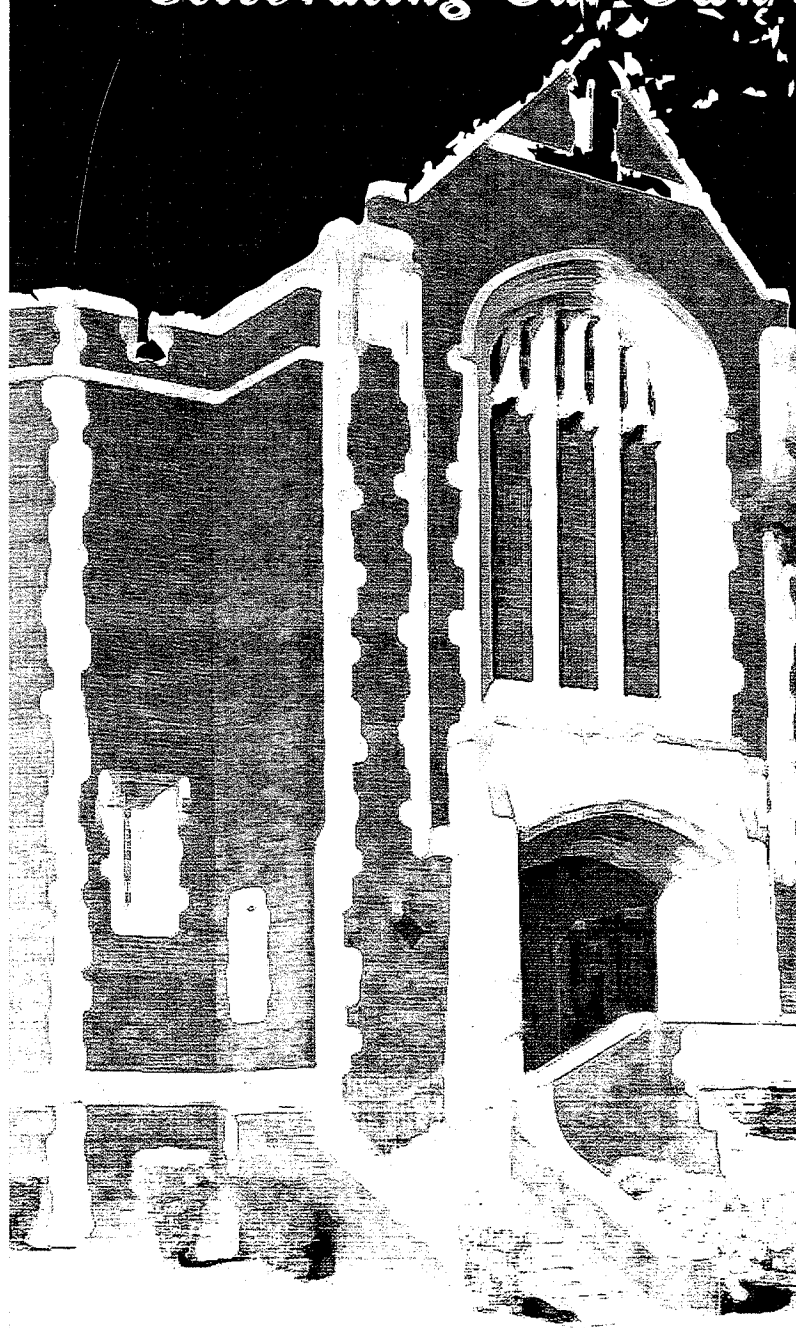


*The McCoy Center for Community Service, Inc.,  
Alabama Power Company and the Alys Stephens Center present*

# *Go Tell It!*

*Celebrating Our Own in Gospel Music*



The Alabama Gospel Music  
Cultural Arts Center,  
a project of the McCoy Center,  
aims to preserve, promote and  
present Alabama's rich  
gospel music heritage.

*Alabama Gospel Music  
Cultural Arts Center*

**Saturday  
May 12, 2007  
7:00 P.M.**

*Alys Stephens Center  
1200 10th Avenue South  
Birmingham, Alabama*

# *Go Tell It!*

*Celebrating Our Own in Gospel Music*



Welcome to the launch of the Alabama Gospel Music Cultural Arts Center. The launch is an evening to share the vision, to hear great gospel music and to showcase Birmingham's young gospel artists. It is with much anticipation that we bring Birmingham's rich gospel music heritage to the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center.

The Alabama Gospel Music Cultural Arts Center is the outgrowth of efforts to renovate and utilize the former McCoy United Methodist Church facility. It has been my vision, as the founder, for this to become a state-of-the-art performance venue, dedicated to preserving, promoting and presenting Alabama gospel music.

The Center will preserve the rich gospel music heritage of Birmingham, Alabama, and the South. This will serve as a place where today's gospel music lovers can hear, appreciate and enjoy performances by local and national artists. In addition to hosting performances, the Gospel Music Center will serve as a training and educational facility. A special focus is placed on the use of art and cultural forms of education for young people and children.

We are forging new ground here and look forward to the Alabama Gospel Music Cultural Arts Center becoming a "hub" for the gospel music enthusiast, performer and researcher.

You are in for a memorable evening, so enjoy and **Go Tell It!**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Constance H. Moore". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Constance Hudson Moore  
Founder  
Alabama Gospel Music Cultural Arts Center

# Presenter Biographies

**Carver High School Choir** consistently receives superior ratings in choral competitions throughout the country. The group competed in the National Music Competition, which is by invitation only, in Washington, D.C. in April, 2006. In 2004, at the All-Star Music Festival in Orlando, Florida and the All-American Music Festival in San Antonio, Texas, the Concert, Women's and Chamber Choirs placed first. Bobby Stringer, the choir director, received his Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Alabama in Birmingham, under the direction of Dr. Fred Stroup. While under the leadership of Mr. Stringer, the choral program has been successful in many areas such as gospel, choral and madrigals.

**Melvin "Royce" Files** is a senior at Homewood High School and a member of the award-winning Homewood High School Honor Band. Royce is the woodwind section leader and 1st chair principal player in the saxophone section. He has performed in numerous honor bands and will attend the Berklee College of Music's five-week summer performance program on scholarship. Most recently, he has received the 2007 National Society of Black Engineers--Central Alabama Chapter Engineering Scholarship Award, the 2007 American Association of Blacks in Energy--Birmingham Chapter Scholarship Award and the J.L. Lowe Memorial Scholarship with a performance at City Stages this June. Royce has received numerous academic and music scholarships from such colleges and universities as the University of Alabama, Oberlin College, DePaw University, Birmingham-Southern College, University of Rochester and the University of Dayton. In the Fall, Royce is planning a dual degree in computer science and music performance at the University of Dayton. Royce wishes to thank his parents and all of his teachers.

**Ashley Guin** is a native of Hoover, Alabama and is currently completing a music degree at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa. She last performed with Summerfest (now Red Mountain Theatre Company) in the original production of *Back to the Dream* and *Once on This Island* as well as with Birmingham Children's Theatre in *Time Takers*. During her collegiate career, she has performed at the University of Alabama as "Sarah's friend" in *Ragtime*, followed by *Smokey Joe's Café*, the first musical of the theatre department at Stillman. As she continues to further her career in musical theatre and beyond, she would like to thank God, her parents, family, and close friends for their continued encouragement and support.

**The Horace R. Carney, Jr. Chorale**, formerly the Birmingham Community Chorale, was founded by Horace Carney in 1976. This ensemble of singers, who once performed in high school and college choirs, desired to perform the choral literature they so enjoyed. Carney thought that a city like Birmingham must have many such singers and that a formal organization would be beneficial to the artistic life of the city. The Chorale focuses on the performance of spiritual and non-spiritual compositions by African-American composers. Dr. Carney is the Chairman of the Music and Music Education Department at Alabama A&M University, Huntsville, Alabama.



# Presenter Biographies

**The Men of Distinction Male Chorus of the Sixth Avenue Baptist Church** was organized in 1978 at the request of the late Dr. John Thomas Porter to honor the church's first observance of Brotherhood Sunday. Often referred to as "One Hundred Men in Black", the men represent a diverse group of committed Christian men of varied occupations and hobbies. Mrs. Evelyn S. Hardy, one of the Original Gospel Harmonettes, serves as the pianist and arranger of the group. Mr. William Harris has directed the chorus for ten years. Under the pastorate of Reverend Dr. Al B. Sutton, Jr., the Male Chorus will continue its impact on the musical and Christian community. The Chorus is accompanied by Patrick Whitehead on the keyboard.

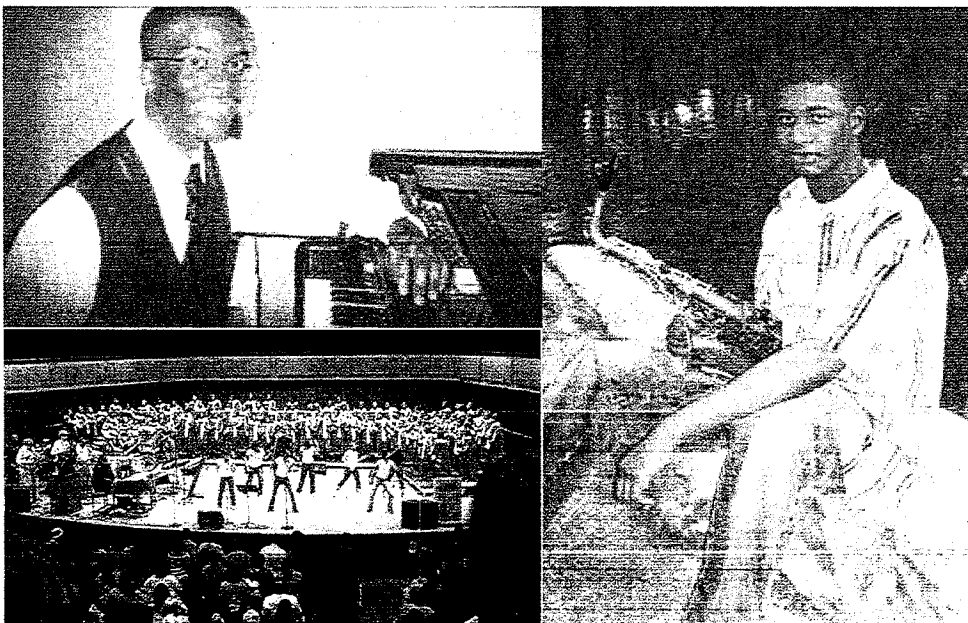
**Stephen Moore** is an eleventh grade National Honor Roll Society student at Ramsay High School. He has been recognized by the Birmingham Urban League as a "Youth Doing the Right Thing." Stephen plays violin, clarinet, trombone and piano. He has studied violin for eight years and was selected as Concertmaster of the Birmingham Public Schools All-City Orchestra. He has studied clarinet for seven years and piano for eleven years at the Birmingham-Southern College Conservatory of Fine and Performing Arts. His piano studies have been with his mother, Mrs. Constance Moore, and with Mrs. Nancy Wingard at the Conservatory. Stephen has been a finalist in the Conservatory's Hugh Thomas Scholarship Recital and a winner of the Keyboard Artist Competition sponsored by the Birmingham Music Teachers Association. He has received "Superior" ratings in the Alabama Federation of Music Clubs festivals and "Outstanding" ratings in the Piano Auditions sponsored by the Alabama Music Teachers Association.

**Overfloe**, a Christian jazz ensemble, consists of the following members, Steven Myers (keyboard), Rush Smith (guitar), Mario Leonard (bass guitar), DeLon Charley (saxophone) and Aaron Fuller (drummer).

**The Pillars**, an a cappella quartet, are a part of Birmingham's rich heritage of quartet singing. Sixty years of unbelievably rich quartet shines through this group. They are vestiges of a major chapter in 20th century American music history. The Pillars are something to be cherished and celebrated, something immeasurably valuable that had its roots in Jefferson County, Alabama.

**The UAB Gospel Choir**, under the direction of Kevin P. Turner, recently returned from a successful six-day Midwest Tour with over 100 students. The choir performs an eclectic mix of American gospel music, from traditional to contemporary, as well as spirituals to inspirational tunes that you can enjoy with the choir by clapping, or even singing along with them. We invite you to the Gospel Choir's Summer Concert on Monday, July 23, at 7:00 p.m. This concert will feature the Classics of American Gospel Music.

**Turiya M. Watkins** was educated in the Birmingham and Midfield School systems. She received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Miles College. At an early age, Turiya knew God had anointed her voice to minister to his people through song. Since birth, she has been a member of Faith Apostolic Church where Bishop Heron Johnson is her pastor. There she serves in many capacities such as FAC Praise Team, Young Adult Choir, and Mass Choir. She also is Minister of Music at the Lion's Cross Church in Brighton, Alabama. Turiya has a true passion for praise and worship and her desire is to exemplify Christ through song. She is accompanied by Joseph Bracy.



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## Alabama Gospel Music Cultural Arts Center Board of Directors

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*The McCoy Center for Community Service, Inc. sincerely thanks  
its community partners for their assistance in  
making tonight's event a reality.*



*Program Book Designed by A. Fisher-Hall*