

# HUNTSVILLE- MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRESERVING THE PAST TO ENRICH THE FUTURE

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NEWS RELEASE  
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## **History Outreach Program for Educators - HOPE**

History teachers in Huntsville and Madison County now have computer access to an enormous cache of local history resources, just in time for the Alabama 200 Bicentennial from 2017 to 2019. It is called **History Outreach Program for Educators**, or **HOPE**.

Initiated by the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society, the program has been spearheaded by the Society's Dr. Deane Dayton. The program was developed, using educational resource pages on Dayton's already-existing [HuntsvilleHistoryCollection.org](http://HuntsvilleHistoryCollection.org) website.

"HOPE also uses information gathered from a variety of other educational and historical resources," Dayton said. "It includes local history lesson plans, historic music, full-text books and journal articles, historic markers, videos on Huntsville history, and spoken audio recordings from local historians. Educators can browse a full list of the website's resources, or choose to explore resources relating to the themes of Early Statehood, the Civil War, Historic Places, African-American History, Native American History, and Women's History."

Kelly Hamlin, the Historical Society's school liaison, has been interfacing with Dr. Catherine Vasile, Director of Elementary Instruction for Huntsville City Schools, and school personnel to better understand their instructional needs, gather information about local history resources (speakers, events, museums, publications, etc.), and to make that information available to the schools. "HOPE

is available now for Huntsville city schools, and will soon be available to all area schools, including home-schooled students” Hamlin said.

John Allen, president of the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society, said it is logical that we have a support role in the teaching of history in area schools. “With Alabama’s Bicentennial coming up, we designed the HOPE program to support that celebration,” Allen said.

History Outreach Program for Educators – HOPE – is available at the following URL:

[http://huntsvillehistorycollection.org/hh/index.php?title=History\\_Outreach\\_Program\\_for\\_Educators\\_\(HOPE\)](http://huntsvillehistorycollection.org/hh/index.php?title=History_Outreach_Program_for_Educators_(HOPE))

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