

2025

# Miree Center Report



# An Overview

## Experiential Education at Altamont

We encourage students to view themselves as integral contributors to society who actively seek to effect social, cultural, and global change in an ethical manner. Through experiential learning and action, we emphasize the development of collaborative and responsible leadership skills in a complex and diverse world.

## Competencies

### Global Citizenship

- Students value human dignity, display openness towards others, and respect the varied customs and beliefs of individuals in a world community.
- Students seek to improve society for people and the planet through civic engagement and ongoing partnerships.

### Personal Responsibility

- Students have the courage to take risks and embrace mistakes with humility, grace, and a willingness to learn.
- Students are mindful of their own identity and understand how their worldview, motives, and emotions influence their interactions with others.

### Universal Collaboration

- Students communicate effectively using strategies such as constructive dialogue, active listening, flexibility, and compromise to foster mutual understanding.
- Students collaborate across diverse perspectives and apply an understanding of global issues and intercultural differences in complex environments.



## Experiential Education through the Miree Center

- Middle School LEAD program
- Internships
- Grade Level Community Partnerships
- Speaker Series
- Miree Center Initiatives
- International Trip
- Leadership Conferences and Workshops



# Internships



## Student Reflection Points



- "Exposure to many different people"
- "Birmingham citizens have more access than I thought (City Counsel Meetings, emphasis on City Hall being PUBLIC to all)"
- "There is so much more to running a city than a thought, everything has layers"
- "Working together is IMPORTANT – Branches of Government"
- "Was able to connect to my city"



## 2025 Internships

- Legion FC Soccer
- Birmingham Mayor's Office (Community Safety Initiatives)
- CRC Group (Property Broker – Insurance)
- Birmingham Hand and Plastic Surgery
- Pediatric Hematology – Oncology at UAB/Children's
- Red Mountain Theatre
- Alabama Wildlife
- Whelan Company (Forensic Engineering)
- Friedman Law Firm
- Potential Internships (still waiting approval)
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)\*
- Southern Research Institute
- Vox Media Company/Performing Arts





# Miree Center Initiatives

## Numbers

- 53 individual initiatives
- 11 Miree Center Seniors (2025)
- Over 150 individual initiatives - Decade's Work
- 14 Alumni/Community Member Judges (2025)

## Mission

To ask students to examine the individual as a contributing member of society who actively seeks to make global, cultural, or social changes ethically and to develop and practice their skills as a leader through experiential learning and action.



## Logistics

- Experiential Leadership Class
- Community Engagement Hours
- Expanding Worldview
- Monthly Meetings
- Conference/Workshops
- Mentorship





# Spotlights

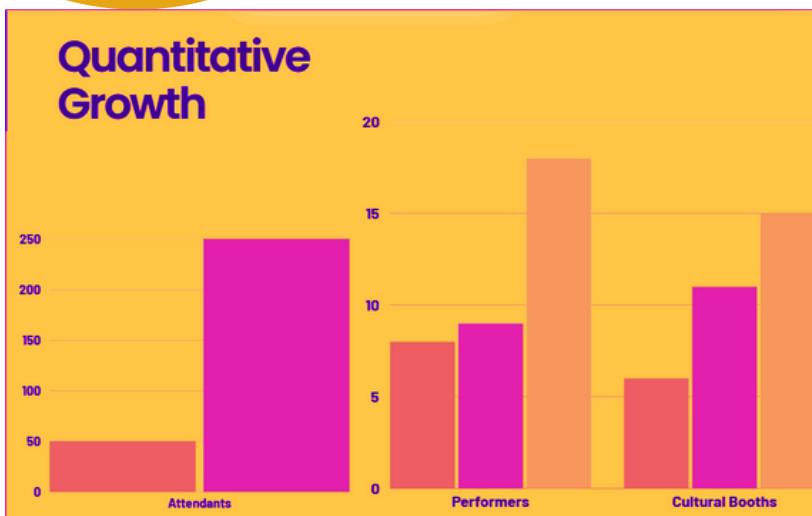


## Digital Harmonies

- Six “Digital Literacy” workshops in Birmingham Community Centers
- Stipends donated to “Digital Harmonies”
- Raised over \$2.2K to foster Internet access for low-income individuals and established a computer lab in “Church of the Reconciler”, a community center for low-income and unhoused individuals
- Developed a website to spread awareness about the Digital Divide



## Multi-Cultural Dance Festival



“I’m very grateful to have been given the opportunity to participate in all of these activities and events. I know each of these has allowed me to evolve my character and my understanding of what a leader is...I know each one will aid me in my goal of helping foster a community that values diversity, empathy, and innovation.” - Nivedha Goli

Grade Level

# Community Partners



## Partners

- Founder's Place
- Community on the Rise
- Black Warrior River Keepers
- Kulture City
- University of Alabama - Birmingham
- Jones Valley
- Lakeshore Foundation





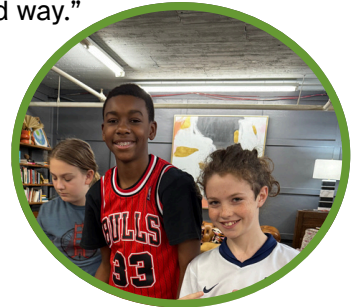
# Impact

## Student Quote

"It is important to work to protect the bodies of water and forests that surround us in Alabama because we are so biodiverse and need to take pride in it. Black Warrior Riverkeeper inspires many generations to take an active part in our watershed by raising awareness and making the community feel proud of their city." -8th Grade Student

## Data Points

- 81% of students said that they were very comfortable being with people with dementia after their visit (more than doubled from pre-trip survey)
- 58% of the 6th graders said that they now have more knowledge about homelessness than they did before they went to Community on the Rise.
- 40% of 8th graders said they did not know what civic engagement meant.
- After the trip, some of those same students defined civic engagement as:
  - "when people in a community help other people. This can benefit the lives of everyone."
  - "doing things to help a community in a good way."
  - "something you do to help the community."
  - "engaging in your community"



## How did your understanding of community engagement change after time with Kulture City?

- "It made me feel like I might actually be able to do things for my community."
- "I realized that community engagement is bigger than schools. This trip made me want to help people more."
- "I learned how easily you can get involved in your community."
- "My views and understanding of community got bigger."
- "I think it showed me how important it is to learn specifically about Birmingham."