



UNIVERSITY *of*  
MONTEVALLO



**DEAN, COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS**

# ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTEVALLO

Founded in 1896, the **University of Montevallo** is **Alabama's only public liberal arts university**, located near the geographical center of the state in Montevallo, AL.

Its mission, unique in Alabama higher education, is to provide to students from throughout the state an affordable, geographically accessible "small college" public higher educational experience of high quality with a strong emphasis on undergraduate liberal studies. UM offers professional programs supported by a broad base of arts and sciences, designed for their intellectual and personal growth, in pursuit of meaningful employment and responsible, informed citizenship.

UM's vision is to offer undergraduate and graduate students a learner-centered 21st century education informed by its liberal arts identity.

Home to 2,700 total students (2,215 undergraduate), **UM offers more than 40 degree programs featuring approximately 75 majors** and concentrations across four distinct colleges (Arts & Sciences, Business, Education and Human Development and Fine Arts). More than 90 percent of faculty hold a doctorate or terminal degree, and the student-to-faculty ratio is 14-to-1.



UM is well known for its outstanding career development initiatives for undergraduate students, commitment to supporting military-related students and employees, and providing its students with a well-rounded, practical education that prepares them for successful careers and lives.

It has received numerous awards and honors, including being ranked #10 among Top Public Regional Universities in the South and #6 among Best Value Schools in the South for 2022-2023 by *US News & World Report*, and being named to the 2023-2024 Colleges of Distinction list for the 12th consecutive year.

**Dr. John W. Stewart III was inaugurated as the 15th president** of the University of Montevallo on October 14, 2010. An accomplished career academic actively engaged in both the public and private sectors and widely recognized for his service to the State of Alabama, Dr. Stewart has successfully raised UM's national profile.

Under his leadership, the University has increased first-year student applications by 44%; secured the first \$1 million gift in its history; and invested \$26 million into campus capital projects and deferred maintenance. Dr. Stewart has also emphasized strengthening UM's core mission by focusing on the development of new academic programs and promoting increased opportunities



for interdisciplinary studies. This focus has included faculty support, resulting in more than \$1 million in faculty raises over the last two years as well as the establishment of the President's Faculty Travel Fund.

UM offers a vibrant and varied campus life, with more than 90 campus organizations, 15 Greek organizations and various intramurals and clubs to choose from. A distinct appreciation for arts & culture is evident through the various plays, concerts and art exhibits that are offered. As well the President's Outdoor Scholars Program was created for students interested in outdoor activities such as hunting and fishing with a focus on conservation and game management.

Athletically, UM's 23 varsity teams, the Falcons, compete in NCAA Division II as members of the Gulf South Conference. The Falcons have won a variety of championships and titles throughout their history, including most recently men's soccer being named Gulf South Conference Regular Season Champions in 2021.

The University of Montevallo values rich tradition, and boasts the oldest college homecoming tradition of its kind in the U.S.



Founded in 1919, College Night is a pair of competitive, original, student-produced musical shows augmented by concurrent athletic events. Widely enjoyed by students and alumni, it has been described as the "crest of the wave of school spirit" and labeled a Local Legacy by the Library of Congress in 2000.

Named one of the most beautiful public college campuses in America by Thrillist.com, UM features 96 campus buildings, nine residence halls and a 90,000-sqft state-of-the-art Student Activity Center. The central portion of its campus is a National Historic District with more than 25 buildings on the National Register of Historic Places including three antebellum structures. Its picturesque grounds were designed by the Olmsted Brothers, the same landscape architecture firm famous for designing New York's Central Park, among others.



# ABOUT THE POSITION

The **University of Montevallo** invites applications and nominations for the position of **Dean, College of Fine Arts** beginning **January 2025**.

The purpose of this position is to carry the responsibility for all matters pertaining to curriculum development and assessment; faculty and staff recruitment, support and evaluation; and management of budgets and facilities in the College.

The Dean will:

- promote academic excellence and faculty achievement
- pursue external support for the College
- work collaboratively with department chairs and faculty members
- advise the Provost on issues related to the College

**This position is eligible for the rank of full professor.**



## ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lead the College of Fine Arts
- Develop a COFA Strategic Plan
- Develop, implement and evaluate COFA goals, objectives, policies and services that are consistent with college and university strategic plans
- Represent COFA as a media contact at the local, state and national levels
- Provide strategic leadership in maintaining compliance with all regulatory and accrediting bodies
- Follow University processes and procedures
- Support COFA departments in attracting high-quality faculty and support staff
- Collaborate with Marketing & Communications to develop marketing plans for the COFA and assist with coordinating developmental marketing
- Coordinate fundraising and resource development by seeking and securing external funding to support scholarly activities
- Ensure judicious oversight of financial resources to meet program and departmental goals
- Support programmatic initiatives across all departments
- Support departments in achieving recruitment goals
- Provide leadership and advocacy for all programs and departments



- Coordinate curriculum development and assessment; support academic programs and teaching modalities
- Participate in program and departmental academic activities such as attending exhibitions, plays, presentations, recitals, etc.
- Employ decision making informed by knowledge of higher education trends and supported by data
- Cultivate a collegial, collaborative, diverse environment with faculty, students, staff, administrators and the community
- Facilitate resolution of conflicts of all types, including assisting in the resolution of students' concerns and grievances; adjudicate academic suspensions and other student performance issues

- Manage projects from concept to completion
- Participate in community outreach; build and sustain lasting professional partnerships with relevant constituents (community representatives and professional stakeholders)
- Facilitate cooperative working relationships with local stakeholders and establish innovative partnerships
- Other duties as assigned

The individual holding this position will serve as a representative of the University of Montevallo and, as such, shall promote a positive impression by demonstrating a collegial and professional customer-service approach at all times.



# KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Documented experience and excellence in teaching
- Peer-reviewed scholarship or creative practice
- Membership and meaningful involvement in professional organizations
- Effective oral and written communication skills, including empathy, respect and responsiveness
- Strong critical thinking, decision-making, creative and information-processing skills
- Skills and experience with emerging technologies
- Knowledge of accreditation processes
- Skills in leadership and management
- Skills in problem-solving and crisis management
- Skills in collaboration
- Skills in maintaining records and time management
- Skills in public relations and representation of the College
- Knowledge of college operations, services and policies
- Skills in customer service (interpersonal, tact, diplomacy, fairness)
- Knowledge of ethical and legal issues in higher education and ability to perform accordingly
- Ability to use discernment and good judgement in decision-making
- Ability to multi-task
- Flexible and adaptable to change
- Teaching, mentoring, advising and supervisory skills
- Skills in budget and facility management
- Knowledge regarding data collection, analysis and interpretation
- Ability to plan academic schedules
- Skills and demonstrated success in development and external fund raising



## EDUCATION AND EXPERTISE

- Terminal degree in a field represented in the University of Montevallo College of Fine Arts
- Minimum of three years of experience in higher education administration
- Credentials commensurate with appointment at the rank of tenured Associate Professor or Professor



# ABOUT THE COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

The mission of the University of Montevallo's College of Fine Arts is to prepare students as visual artists, performers, musicians, arts educators and communication scholars and practitioners. The College provides instruction and cultural experiences fundamental to the liberal education of Montevallo students, as well as aesthetic enrichment for the citizens of central Alabama.

With 650 students, 41 full-time faculty members, BA/BS and BFA degrees, and a tradition of nationally-accredited programs,

the College of Fine Arts' vision is to be a 21st century destination college where teaching, making, production and research work together as key components of creative practice; where the world and the school meet in the synergies of liberal arts and conservatory-style arts programs; and where faculty think in new ways as models of the creative thinkers and problem solvers its students will become.

Values include creativity as a core 21st century competency, innovation, social engagement, professionalism and excellence. The College

features innovative new spaces with emerging technologies designed to bring people together, and hosts intimate performance experiences that make the creative process visible, ignite the imagination, inspire learning and promote civic dialogue.

For more information: [montevallo.edu/academics/colleges/college-of-fine-arts/departments/](https://montevallo.edu/academics/colleges/college-of-fine-arts/departments/)



# ABOUT MONTEVALLO, ALABAMA

Nestled in the heart of central Alabama, **Montevallo is a picturesque town brimming with rich history, quaint charm, abundant culture and vibrant community spirit.**

Home to 7,637 residents (226,902 in greater Shelby County), Montevallo offers the best of small-town life within only a 45-minute drive of Alabama's largest metropolitan area, Birmingham. It boasts low cost of living, a thriving economy and wide range of cultural, educational and recreational activities.

The state's only public liberal arts university, the University of Montevallo, is a flagship

attraction. Renowned for its arts programs, UM hosts a variety of exhibitions and performances that are open to the public, including concerts, lectures, plays, art exhibits and collegiate-level athletic events.

Montevallo is **home to the 188-acre living history educational complex American Village**; 40-acre Orr Park, dubbed the town's "crowning jewel"; and historic Montevallo Main Street. The latter features many 100+ year-old buildings on the National Register of Historic Places and is a thriving hub for local businesses, restaurants and events. As well the Montevallo Arts Council Gallery is located

here and provides local artists a place to display their works.

Montevallo is **situated in the southwestern section of Shelby County**, the fastest-growing county in the state. Encompassing approximately 800 square miles, Shelby County offers a wide array of additional attractions and activities, **including the 10,000-acre Oak Mountain State Park** (an ideal venue for biking, canoeing, hiking or fishing) as well as numerous community festivals, regional sporting events and concert headliners.







With its growing population, Montevallo is quickly becoming the center for shopping in the southwestern corner of Shelby County. It also has an Industrial Park, offering a direct route to Interstate 65 and heavy railroad transportation services.

Montevallo is served by Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport (BHM) and located in close proximity to numerous big cities including Birmingham, AL (40 miles), Montgomery, AL (65 miles), Huntsville, AL (135 miles) and Columbus, GA (148 miles).



For more information:  
[www.cityofmontevallo.com](http://www.cityofmontevallo.com)  
and  
[www.discovershelby.com](http://www.discovershelby.com)



**To apply for this position, visit**

[www.highereducationleadershipsearch.com/candidate-portal-form](http://www.highereducationleadershipsearch.com/candidate-portal-form)

**To nominate someone for this position, e-mail:**

[nominations@highereducationleadershipsearch.com](mailto:nominations@highereducationleadershipsearch.com)

**Bill Meehan, Ed.D. and John P. McElveen, Ed.D.**

will be assisting the University of Montevallo with this search.

If you have questions or would like to have a confidential conversation about the position, call **256-239-2305** or e-mail:

[billmeehan@highereducationleadershipsearch.com](mailto:billmeehan@highereducationleadershipsearch.com)

[jmcelveen@highereducationleadershipsearch.com](mailto:jmcelveen@highereducationleadershipsearch.com)

**University of Montevallo** is an Equal Opportunity

Employer and specifically invites applications from women, minorities, veterans and people with disabilities.

**Candidates for this position will**

**be considered through October 1, 2024.**



## HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH

[www.highereducationleadershipsearch.com](http://www.highereducationleadershipsearch.com)

