

A photograph of two astronauts in white space suits working on the exterior of a spacecraft. They are positioned against a black background filled with stars. One astronaut is leaning over a large white cylindrical component, possibly a water container, while the other stands nearby. Various cables and equipment are visible on the spacecraft's surface.

hello HUNTSVILLE

*Official Field Trip Guide of
Educational Escapes*

Huntsville/Madison County Alabama
Convention & Visitors Bureau
Educational
escapes

SPACE TO EXPLORE

Educational Escapes is a free, curriculum-based service that promotes fun and exciting educational opportunities in unique environments outside the confines of the classroom. Created through a partnership with community educators and the educational directors at area attractions, Educational Escapes offers students the opportunity to immerse themselves in “hands-on” learning experiences. More than just a break from the classroom, this will be a unique field trip experience that your students will remember for a lifetime.

We are a proud member of the American Bus Association, Alabama Motorcoach Association, National Tour Association, Select Traveler, Student & Youth Travel Association, Travel South USA, and U.S. Travel Association.

Students can experience fun-filled, educational activities that complement six fields of study:

 SCIENCE
  SOCIAL STUDIES
  TECHNOLOGY
  MATHEMATICS
  LANGUAGE ARTS
  FINE ARTS

Call Pam
@ the
CVB!



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 500 Church Street NW, Suite One, Huntsville, AL 35801

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 Official Field Trip Guide of the
 Huntsville/Madison County Alabama
 Convention & Visitors Bureau
we've got space


 Huntsville Alabama

Coordinated by the Huntsville/Madison County CVB along with partnering attractions/organizations.



*See reverse side of this brochure for more information.

SPACE TO PLAY

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

VOLUNTOURISM

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

SPACE TO PLAY



Crew Trainers at Space Camp®

Learn and laugh your way through Huntsville with unique attractions, amazing adventures and hands-on fun.

U.S. SPACE & ROCKET CENTER®

1 Tranquility Base, Huntsville, AL 35805 | 256.837.3400 | 800.637.7223 | rocketcenter.com

The U.S. Space & Rocket Center® in Huntsville, Alabama, is home to Space Camp®, Aviation Challenge® and Space Camp Robotics programs and houses the restored, mighty Saturn V moon rocket, a National Historic Landmark. The world's largest space attraction offers incredible displays of artifacts from our nation's space program, hands-on interactive exhibits, IMAX® Theater, National Geographic Theater and space travel simulators.

The immersive educational camp programs place students in real-world context allowing them to view mathematics and science as something more than just an academic exercise. These subjects become tools to develop future careers as scientists, engineers, teachers and astronauts.

ULTIMATE FIELD TRIP

SR-01 

Your classroom curriculum comes alive when students enjoy the Ultimate Field Trip at the U. S. Space & Rocket Center! The Rocket Center houses more than 1,500 artifacts from America's space program, including an authentic Saturn V moon rocket and Pathfinder, the world's only full-scale shuttle stack. Bring your students for a unique and inspiring day full of interactive simulators and exhibits and a hands-on, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics) curriculum-based science lab!

Length of Course: Approximately 6 hours (including movie and boxed lunch)

SURVEYOR

SR-02 

Surveyor is an introduction into the makings of the space program. It is a great way for larger groups to experience the excitement of space flight's history. Surveyor is a one-night, structured, educational adventure which includes a guided tour of the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, hands-on science activities, a STEAM lab, astronaut simulators and other space-based activities. Students tour Rocket Park, watch a Spacedome IMAX® or National Geographic movie and experience some of the forces of space flight with our museum simulators.

Check-in days are Monday, Wednesday, Friday or Saturday. **Grades:** 3-8 **Length of course:** 1 night



QUESTIONS? ASK US! educationalescapes.org | 866.ESC2HSV | pam@huntsville.org

PATHFINDER

SR-03   

Pathfinder is a condensed version of the week long Space Camp® program. It focuses on math, science and space mission training. Pathfinder is a two-night, structured, educational adventure which includes a full history of the space program, astronaut simulators, a simulated shuttle mission, model rocket construction and launch and a Spacedome IMAX® movie. The program concludes with a graduation ceremony for the trainees. **Groups have the option of attending Monday to Wednesday, Wednesday to Friday, or Friday to Sunday. Grades: 4-8 (Aviation track also available) Length of course: 2 nights**

SPACE CAMP®, AVIATION CHALLENGE®, SPACE CAMP® ROBOTICS, & COMING SOON! US CYBER CAMP

SR-04   

Trainees attending Space Camp®, Aviation Challenge® and Space Camp Robotics engage in simulated training scenarios to learn leadership skills, teamwork, problem-solving and decision-making. Space Camp® trainees put their skills to the test as they train to live and work in space and take command of their own simulated space missions. Aviation Challenge® trainees spend an exciting and educational week in the great outdoors training like military fighter pilots as they plan missions and fly high-performance jet simulators. Space Camp Robotics trainees engineer the future as they design, build and operate robotics for land, sea or air applications. **COMING SOON!** US Cyber Camp includes activities such as building computers, learning programming languages, and defending systems against cyber threats. **These programs run Sunday through Friday. The high school program is college accredited. Grades: 4-12 Length of Course: 5 days**

Please visit spacecamp.com or call 800.637.7223 for more information on day camp programs, specialty camps, and educator programs. Bus tours of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center are also available.

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES:

Performance groups are welcome in various locations by request.

HUDSONALPHA INSTITUTE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY

601 Genome Way, Huntsville, AL 35806 | 256.327.0400 | hudsonalpha.org

The HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology is a nonprofit genome research institute in Huntsville, Alabama. Located in Cummings Research Park, the 152-acre campus is home to some of the world's leading scientists, entrepreneurs and educators that are passionately exploring the knowledge and possibilities of genomics to improve human, plant and animal life. The fields of biotechnology and genetics are continuously growing, and Educational Outreach at HudsonAlpha seeks to prepare the future science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) workforce through hands-on, lab-based field trips that engage students in scientific thinking and put high-tech biotechnology tools in their hands.

COURSES

EXPLORING ENZYMES

HA-01   

In this investigative activity, students will learn about enzyme specificity, discuss the role of enzymatic reactions during digestion of a fast food meal, evaluate several enzymes used in the production of apple juice and even create their own cheeses using enzymes produced by biotechnology. **Grades: 6-8 Length of course: 1.5 hours**

KITCHEN DNA WITH A TWIST OF INQUIRY

HA-02   

Students will extract DNA from strawberries, learning how cell structure impacts the extraction process, and will create their own solutions using common household items to extract DNA from one of a variety of food items. **Grades: 6-8 Length of course: 1.5 hours**



WHAT IS BIOTECHNOLOGY?

HA-03   

Students will use a web-based timeline to investigate key events in the history of biotechnology. In addition, they will examine and use biotechnology tools and learn about modern biotechnology applications. **Grades: 6-8 Length of course: 1.5 hours**

CYTOGENETICIST FOR THE DAY

HA-04   

Taking on the role of a cytogeneticist, students will examine patient samples for chromosomal anomalies and learn how karyotypes are produced. Using HudsonAlpha's Disorder Detectives® kit, students will also work through one of 15 patient case studies to create a karyotype.

Grades: 9-12 Length of course: 1.5 hours

EXTREME EXTRACTION

HA-05   

Extracting DNA is a favorite activity for many students and teachers and this experience takes it to the next level. Students will create their own solutions with common household items to extract DNA from one of a variety of food items, while learning how cell structure impacts the process and the reasons why scientists extract DNA. **Grades: 9-12 Length of course: 1.5 hours**

ALL IN THE FAMILY- OR IS IT?

HA-06   

Using the HNPCC® kit, students will examine the role of inherited mutations and environmental factors. They will use a family medical history to create a pedigree and select likely candidates for genetic testing and identify family members carrying the cancer-linked mutation with gel electrophoresis. **Grades: 9-12 Length of course: 2.5 hours**



HUDSONALPHA INSTITUTE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY

INVESTIGATING THE GENETICS OF CANCER

HA-07   

Students will examine the genetic roots of cancer, compare hereditary and non-hereditary cancers and use the HNPCC® kit to trace a cancer-related mutation through a family. Using gel electrophoresis, students will identify family members carrying the cancer-linked mutation and discuss ethical challenges related to genetic testing. **Grades: 9-12 Length of course: 5 hours** (box lunch available by the HudsonAlpha Bistro)

GENES & CONSEQUENCES

HA-08   

This computer-based activity will allow students to dive into the Central Dogma and gain experience with DNA sequencing, while looking at how changes in regions of DNA can cause disease. Using one of 15 case studies, students will practice DNA base pairing, transcription and translation, and also create protein folding models to discuss how changes in amino acid sequence may impact protein function.

Grades: 9-12 Length of course: 5 hours (Box lunch from HudsonAlpha Bistro is available)

GENOME CACHE

HA-09   

Using the double helix sidewalks of McMillian Park, students will go on a scavenger hunt to investigate nearly 200 genetic points of interest along a Genome Walk®. Students will use the Genome Cache app to answer trivia questions that will provide them with the next clue.

Grades: 6-12 Length of course: 1 hour

HudsonAlpa Teaching Lab has workspace for 32 students. There is no minimum. Costs are determined by activity not per student.

ALABAMA CONSTITUTION VILLAGE

109 Gates Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.564.8100 | earlyworks.com

Alabama Constitution Village, a living history museum, marks the site where in 1819 Alabama became the 22nd state admitted to the Union in 1819. In the spring, interpreters may be quilting and weaving baskets, crafting furniture, churning butter and making lye soap. In the summer, the men and women also weed and hoe the garden and pick vegetables to “put up” preserves. During the colder months, they dip candles and prepare the garden for spring.

VILLAGE LIVING HISTORY

EW-03  

Interpreters make history come alive as they invite students to card cotton, turn the great wheel lathe in the cabinet shop and watch the blacksmith’s handiwork. **Length of course: 2 hours**

FOLK LIFE DAYS

EW-05  

You’ll love the festival atmosphere at Constitution Village. There will be outdoor concessions, dancing the reel and craft tables for some hands-on fun. Who knows what famous American you might encounter as your class is directed from one craftsman to the next? Perhaps the blacksmith, candle dipper, printer or tinsmith will observe talent in one of your students and request that he/she stay behind as an apprentice!

Length of course: 2 hours

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES:

Santa’s Village at Alabama Constitution Village, December: Young and old alike will delight in visiting Santa & Mrs. Claus’ home, the reindeer in their stable and elves in their toy shop in the Village Santa calls home during the holidays. Seeking performance groups ranging from school choirs, churches, local musicians, dance studios, etc. that perform every night on the Tinsel Tunes Stage. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator.





ALABAMA CONSTITUTION VILLAGE

BURRITT ON THE MOUNTAIN

3101 Burritt Drive SE, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.536.2882 | burritonthemountain.com

Burritt’s historic park interprets farm life from the 19th century, contrasting Alabama Constitution Village’s 19th century urban life. Step back into the lives of southern farmers as you visit historic log structures including the Eddins House ca. 1808, the oldest known man-made dwelling in Alabama. Living history interpreters recreate the diversity of farm life through lively conversation, demonstration and hands-on activities. In the Burritt Barnyard, students can get “up close and personal” with animals that would have been used for work, wool and even food for the families.

SPECIFIC FIELD TRIPS AT BURRITT

Select one of the following “pre-packaged” field trips or contact us to arrange your custom-designed Burritt experience. More offerings are available on our website.

BURRITT AND HIS “GREEN” HOME

B-01 🧪 📖 🖥️ 🎨

Dr. Burritt’s home has many features that were unique in his day. The straw bale insulation he used is only one of the many “green” features of this building. The shape of his home and the materials he used are just a few of the unique features students learn about as they enjoy a scavenger hunt. Include a tour of the Historic Park to see how settlers designed structures to take advantage of solar heat, wind power and natural resources.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

B-02 📖 🎨 🧶

The Underground Railroad had no tracks or train cars, but it moved thousands of slaves from the South to freedom. Learn who traveled on the Underground Railroad and where they went. Follow the clues from one “safe” house to the next, and enjoy the music from this time as you create a souvenir craft.



QUESTIONS? ASK US! educationalescapes.org | 866.ESC2HSV | pam@huntsville.org

WILD WONDERFUL WORLD OF ANIMALS

B-03   

Burritt offers animal studies including domestic, wildlife, and urban wildlife. Explore the differences and similarities between these types of animals. You will have the opportunity to visit the habitat of a variety of animals as you hike the trails and travel through the barnyard. Learn and have fun as you play the food chain game. **Grades: 2-6 Length of Course: 1.5 hours**

HOW IN THE WORLD?

B-04    

How did the people of the past get to North America? Where did they come from? Learn about orienteering, cardinal directions and mapping as you trek across Burritt on the Mountain. You will participate in a treasure hunt as you use the compass to navigate through the park.

Length of Course: 1.5 hours

BICENTENNIAL AND BEYOND

B-05   

Celebrate Alabama's Bicentennial with a visit to Burritt's Historic Park. Visit a home built before we even became a state. Experience what life was like 200 years ago in Alabama by playing with traditional toys, observing how they made clothes, and learning about food and lifestyle in the 1800s. You can design your own field trip by selecting 3 of the following activities; Historic Park tour, Making Butter, Old Fashioned Toys & Games, Sheep to Shawl, Traditional Chores, or a Barnyard Tour.

Grades: K-12 Length of Course: 1.5 hours

BURRITT'S BARNYARD BUDDIES

B-06   

Come explore the Barnyard and greet the animals that would have lived on 1800s farms in North Alabama. Discover why farmers had animals like these and meet some of Burritt's resident "Barnyard Buddies." Complete an animal themed craft as a souvenir of your visit.

Grades: PreK-2 Length of Course: 1.5 hours

LETTERBOXING

B-07   

Letterboxing is an amazing game that was played in 19th century England and is now enjoyed all over the world. Come and learn the history of letterboxing and then go on an adventure in our Historic Park as you hunt for clues that lead you to your prize. You will use logic to figure out these clues, so come prepared to "reason" your way through the park. Students will make a logbook to use while letterboxing. They will also be introduced to geocaching, a modern "treasure hunt" that closely resembles letterboxing but uses modern technology.

Grades: 3-12 Length of Course: 1.5 hours

NATIVE AMERICANS OF NORTH ALABAMA

B-08   

Learn about the Native Americans who lived in North Alabama during the early 1800s – what tribes lived in our area, what their lifestyle was like, and when they were removed from their lands and why. Experience the Trail of Tears simulation to learn about the journey Native Americans were forced to endure as they relocated to the west. Celebrate their culture as you learn to write using Sequoyah's Cherokee syllabary and make a Native American craft. **Grades: 3-12 Length of Course: 1.5 hours**

4TH GRADE SCHOOL DAY EXPERIENCE

B-9   

This new exciting program, developed in conjunction with a team of local educators, allows students to experience a day in the life of a 1918 Alabama school. Fourth graders will be transformed into 1918 students as they are outfitted in era-appropriate clothes, repack their lunches in baskets and pails, say the Pledge of Allegiance and study reading, writing, and 'rithmetic. Students also get to experience writing with a nib pen and ink, doing their lessons on slates, learning an era-appropriate vocational training lesson, and playing games of the time period during recess. Teachers select either basket weaving (additional \$2.00 supply charge per student) or gardening and plants as the vocational training topic for their class. **Grades: 4 Length of Course: 9:30am - 1:30pm**





BURRITT ON THE MOUNTAIN

TECHNOLOGY: INVENTIONS AND INNOVATIONS OF THE PAST AND PRESENT

B-10

Explore the technology and inventions of the past. Students will see demonstrations and have hands-on experience using early technology. See how these technologies made life easier for our ancestors. Students will also work in teams on a design and engineering challenge.

Grades: 3-12 **Length of Course:** 2 hours

TECHNOLOGY OF THE PAST *(choose two of the following traditional activities)*

Spinning Wool, Blacksmithing, Churning Butter, Using Farm Tools and Equipment

ENGINEERING AND DESIGN *(choose one of the following traditional activities)*

Egg-o-nauts: use the materials provided to build a containment system to protect your egg as it is dropped from a height.

Marshmallow Bridges: think like a real civil engineer. Use your imagination to build a bridge with ease. Test your design and see who has the strongest bridge built.

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES:

Contact the Educational Director about performing during the Heritage Festival in October, Spring Farm Days in April, Kris Kringle's Candlelight Christmas and other events.



EARLYWORKS CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

404 Madison Street, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.564.8100 | earlyworks.com

The South's largest hands-on history museum provides opportunities to discover, create, envision and explore and are just a splash, snap, push and smile away. Listen as the 16-foot talking tree tells folktales. Push the buttons on the EarlyWorks bandstand and enjoy toe-tapping tunes made popular by Alabama musicians. Discover Alabama's river life and waterways on the life-size floating keelboat. Try on costumes similar to those worn in the 19th century, sack goods at the General Store and explore the log cabins, Federal and Victorian style houses.

TIME TRAVELERS SLEEPOVER

EW-01  

Historic Huntsville Depot, EarlyWorks, Alabama Constitution Village: Explore the 1800s at these three unique museums. You'll get a taste of early 19th century life, a feel for the danger of the Underground Railroad and a glimpse at life of the Civil War soldier. Spend the night at a local hotel with dinner and evening activities at the Depot and daytime activities at EarlyWorks and Constitution Village. **Length of course:** 1.5 days

CAMP-IN!

EW-02  

Spend the night in an exciting hands-on gallery and join with your team as you solve an ever-changing mystery of historic proportions! The challenge: teams must solve a mystery in a search that will take you on an adventure down the river on a keelboat and through a mine explosion, to stories in a log cabin and an old general store. The fun and games begin at Camp EarlyWorks after dark!

Length of course: Overnight



EARLYWORKS, HANDS-ON HISTORY MUSEUM

HUNTSVILLE BOTANICAL GARDEN

4747 Bob Wallace Avenue SW, Huntsville, AL 35805 | 256.830.4447 | hsvbg.org

The Huntsville Botanical Garden is a beautiful 112-acre site with stunning oral collections, inviting woodland paths, broad grassy meadows, aquatic areas, demonstration vegetable and herb gardens and the Nature Center, the nation's largest open-air butterfly house! The two-acre Children's Garden is adjacent to the Nature Center. The Garden plays an important part in stimulating the study and understanding of the sciences as students learn about the role plants – and butterflies – play in their lives.

SCARECROW TRAIL: Each fall, zany faces and figures made of hay are displayed throughout the Garden. Find your way through the amazing Sorghum Maze. Giant pumpkins will be added in October. Come see the brilliant color of fall and enjoy autumn fun.

BUTTERFLIES AND BUGS

BG-01  

From caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly, your students will thrill at investigating the life cycle of the butterfly in the nation's largest open-air seasonal butterfly house! The students will be immersed in a total body experience as they come face to face with thousands of native butterflies, tadpoles, frogs, tree frogs, turtles, button quail and other critters living in the waterfall, ponds, streams and lush vegetation of the Nature Center. Located right outside the Nature Center is the two-acre Children's Garden which is actually eight gardens in one! **Grades: K-4 Length of course: 2 hours**

GARDEN HUNT

BG-02  

Using scientific inquiry, your students will learn why gardens are important to animals and why animals are important to gardens. Students will also go on a hunt looking for signs of the often nocturnal creatures that call the outdoors home. **Grades: K-1 Length of tour: 75 minutes**

FANTASTIC FOLIAGE

BG-03  

Discover the beauty of fall as a guide takes you through an autumn adventure. Your students will investigate why leaves don't absorb water, discover why leaves change color, find out how boring their food would be without herbs and make a colorful leaf collage to take back to the classroom. **Grades: K-2 Length of course: 2 hours**

SEEDS EVERYWHERE

BG-04  

Exploding seedpods, rolling gumballs and whirly-twirly helicopters! Bet your students didn't realize that engineering started with Mother Nature. Sign your class up to discover the physics behind seeds and nuts; they'll have a blast! **Grades: K-3 Length of course: 1.5 hours**

BRANCHING OUT

BG-05 

Trees are what it's all about in this program that gets your students investigating these important resources. Students will learn how to classify trees, explain the different parts of a tree and how they all work together, the interdependence of trees and animals, and look for the different ways that trees can be damaged. **Grades: 2-4 Length of course: 2 hours**

Please inform us when you make your reservation if you wish to stay longer and tour the Garden on your own.

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES:

The Huntsville Botanical Garden offers indoor and outdoor venues for performing groups of all sizes. The outdoor Boeing-Toyota Amphitheatre can easily accommodate over 300 guests and has a large stage with space for up to 15 performers. Smaller groups can find more intimate locations throughout the Garden and in the Guest Welcome Center for their performances. The Garden has numerous gazebos and small garden areas ideal for small groups of musicians, dancers or artists. **Contact Special Events Coordinator, events@hsvbg.org**



HISTORIC HUNTSVILLE DEPOT

320 Church Street, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.564.8100 | earlyworks.com

History unfolds as you step on the grounds of the Huntsville Depot, one of the nation's oldest railroad structures. Built in 1860, the Depot provides an experience-rich environment for classroom lessons to come to life. Climb aboard locomotives and experience the Civil War. Encounter interactive exhibits, discover fascinating facts and identify important links in history at this amazing site. One of those ever important links in history is Huntsville's Depot Patriot Mosaic. Your students will hear the stories of the pictured veterans who represent a cross section of military service and who have served their country so valiantly. They will pass through Patriot's Gate from the Depot grounds to the walkway leading to the Veterans Memorial. Along the walkway, they will have an opportunity to view and participate in educational kiosks. As they reach and explore the Huntsville Veterans Memorial, students will gain respect for the courage of the individual soldier. They will gain knowledge of the timeline of all U.S. military history.

GREAT HISTORY SLEEPOVER

EW-02  

Built in 1860, the Huntsville Depot provides the perfect spot for a great history sleepover! The sleepover begins at 6 p.m. and ends at 11 a.m. the next day. Students will hear ghost stories as they roast marshmallows; join the Depot Brigade and march to the beat of a drum, discover actual graffiti left by Civil War soldiers and experience the life they lived – cooking, supplies, even medical attention! **Length of course:** Overnight on site

CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT

EW-04  

The students will discuss and analyze the culture and lives of people living during the 1860s in the South: weather, hardships, daily life, dangers, responsibilities, etc. They will develop map skills by locating features associated with the Civil War, use cardinal and intermediate directions to describe routes used in the war, and locate and identify states in the Confederacy and Union. Lasting cultural influences of the Civil War will be explored. **Length of course:** 2 hours

Themed dinners such as Civil War Tour and BBQ and Hobo Dinner are also available at the Depot in conjunction with or separate from the above activities.



HISTORIC HUNTSVILLE DEPOT

HUNTSVILLE MUSEUM OF ART

300 Church Street, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.535.4350 | hsvmuseum.org

North Alabama's leading visual arts center fills its 16 galleries with a variety of traveling exhibitions and the work of nationally and regionally acclaimed artists. The nationally accredited museum also presents shows from its own permanent collection of more than 3,000 pieces. Named as one of the state's "Top 10" destinations by the Alabama Tourism Department, the Huntsville Museum of Art has gained a reputation throughout the South for bringing high caliber touring exhibitions to the region. An expansion project added two new children's galleries showcasing the history of art throughout the world and color palettes.

INTERACTIVE DOCENT-LED TOUR

MA-01   

Taking a tour with a trained docent enhances the museum experience. A docent encourages students to ask and answer questions about the art on view. Docents provide a great deal of background about the artist, the works and the artistic movement to which the art belongs. By helping the student to observe, compare and interpret, the docent provides students the tools to evaluate art on their own. Groups of ten or more may schedule a docent-led tour with two weeks notice. **Length of course: 1 hour**

LECTURES, GALLERY WALKS

MA-02   

Many programs are offered by the Huntsville Museum of Art throughout the year. These programs include gallery walks in which students join an artist for a tour of his/her works currently on view in one of the galleries. Often there are talks presented in the Museum's Great Hall by artists, museum curators, educators, art collectors and art historians to enhance the enjoyment of exhibitions currently on view.

Length of course: 1 hour

MUSEUM ACADEMY CLASSES

MA-03 

The Museum offers a wide selection of classes and workshops in two spacious classrooms overlooking Big Spring International Park. Students may select from classes in oil painting, watercolor, mixed media, sculpture and ceramics. There are preschool classes, after school classes, Saturday classes, art for home schooled students, as well as classes for high school students. **Length of course: Varies**

READ AND LEARN EVEN MORE

MA-04  

Art is accompanied by a label that tells the viewer the artist's name, the title of the work and the materials used to create the piece. Its purpose is to provide historical background, define art terms and provide detailed information about the artist. This written information provides the additional opportunity for individual exploration of the galleries at no additional cost. **Length of course: Varies**

Refer to hsvmuseum.org for exhibition information and a current list of academy classes.



HUNTSVILLE MUSEUM OF ART

LOWE MILL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

2211 Seminole Drive, Huntsville, AL 35805 | 256.533.0399 | lowemill.net

Low Mill ARTS & Entertainment is located in the historic Lowe Mill, a former textile mill and combat boot manufacturer for the Vietnam War. Built in 1900, Lowe Mill is the largest privately-owned arts facility in the nation, home to a community of artisans and businesses dedicated to the free expression of the arts. The vision for Lowe Mill is of a true arts destination, where artisans can practice their trade while educating the public about art and its value. Lowe Mill is home to weekend events such as the Good Day Children's Festival and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) Fest and offers indoor and outdoor performance opportunities.

GREEN PEA PRESS AT LOWE MILL

256.533.0399 | greenpeapress.com

Located on the first floor of historic Lowe Mill, this low-toxicity studio provides access to equipment used to create a variety of fine art print media, including wood, etching, letterpress, screenprint and bookmaking. Green Pea offers many field trip and class opportunities throughout the year such as t-shirt printing and book and paper toy making.

U.S. VETERANS MEMORIAL MUSEUM

2060-A Airport Road SW, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.883.3737 | memorialmuseum.org

This unique venue displays more than 30 historical military vehicles from World War I to the present, as well as artifacts and other memorabilia dating back to the Revolutionary War. Included in the collection are many rare and important artifacts such as the oldest surviving jeep: the Ford Pygmy. Veteran volunteers present fascinating first-hand accounts of some of America's most significant historic moments.



LOWE MILL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

OUR NATION'S MILITARY HERITAGE

V-01

The students will learn about the Citizen Soldier Tradition, respect for the flag and armed conflicts at home and abroad from the military staff who "lived the history." **Length of course: 1 hour**

LIBRARY CONTAINING MEMOIRS AND DOCUMENTS

V-02

The students will learn about World War II from written and oral experiences of World War II veterans. They will view one-of-a-kind maps, photos and military orders. **Length of course: 1 hour**

IN-DEPTH STUDIES OF PERIODS OF MILITARY HISTORY

V-03

Students will participate in presentations of specialized facets of military history, often by veterans who were there. **Length of course: 1 hour**

IN-DEPTH DEVELOPMENT HISTORY OF MILITARY VEHICLES, WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT

V-04

The students will learn about history based on the museum's collection of unique vehicles, as well as representative weapons, radios, uniforms and personal gear. **Length of course: 1 hour**

FIRST PERSON EXPERIENCES

V-05

This is an ongoing program presented by veterans of World War II and later wars who will share with the students stories about morals, personal objectives and accomplishments of young people of another time. **Length of course: 1 hour**

NASA'S MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

866.ESC.2HSV | msfc.nasa.gov | *Tours are available on a very limited basis*

Bus tours from the U.S. Space & Rocket Center to Marshall Space Flight Center depart daily (except on holidays). MSFC develops key space transportation and propulsion technologies, manages science aboard the International Space Station and pursues scientific breakthroughs in space that will improve human life on Earth for many generations to come. These programs are available on a limited schedule and are subject to cancellation based on national security alerts.

INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION PAYLOAD OPERATIONS INTEGRATION CENTER

N-01

The Payload Operations Integration Center is responsible for NASA's on-board science operations for the International Space Station (ISS), and is in operation 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the Marshall Space Flight Center. The Payload Operations Center communicates with the astronauts on board the ISS on a daily basis and can remotely operate on-board science and technology experiments. There is a viewing area at Marshall where visitors can observe the control room operations. The Center also develops plans each day to help crewmembers make the best use of their time and resources on board, so they can accomplish their important research related to life science, fluid physics and materials science. Human life science experiments conducted on board the ISS are particularly critical to NASA's preparations for future human space travel. **Length of tour: 30 minutes**

HERITAGE GALLERY

N-02

The Heritage Gallery, located at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, is a museum for visitors to learn about the history of the MSFC since its opening in 1960. The gallery displays models, artwork and multi-media productions to illustrate contributions the center has made to the U.S. Space Program. The gallery includes a full-size replica of the Lunar Rover Vehicle that Marshall developed for astronauts who flew to the moon on Apollo 15, 16 and 17. The gallery also focuses on the role the center will have in the nation's future space program. **Length of tour: 15 minutes**



WEEDEN HOUSE MUSEUM

300 Gates Avenue SE, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.536.7718 | weedenhousemuseum.com

The Weeden House showcases the works of Maria Howard Weeden, artist and poet, acclaimed for her water color paintings of former slaves and the poems that capture their stories. Original works hang on the walls of this antebellum home, and her poems are read during tours. Built in 1819 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the house served as Ms. Weeden's life-long residence. Private guided tours and event rentals are available.

CIVIL WAR HISTORY

W-01 

Students learn how the home's residents lived prior to modern conveniences and are guided through what was happening in Huntsville during their lives: the city's growth, how people made their livings, where they shopped, how they got their food, when Union Army officers moved in, and how life varied after the Civil War. "A History Hunt" through the parlors, dining room and bedrooms gives students the opportunity to take in the details of the furnishings and discuss why they are so different than what is in our homes today. **Length of course: 1 hour**



WEEDEN HOUSE MUSEUM

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES



U.S. Space & Rocket Center – Saturn V Hall

Many sites are available for performance organizations. Clinics and adjudication by outstanding music educators are available.

ALABAMA A&M UNIVERSITY

4900 Meridian Street N, Normal, AL 35762 | 256.372.4001 | aamusports.com

The Alabama A&M University Music Program is widely recognized as an outstanding university-based music program with a long tradition of excellence. Each professor will provide students with an educational environment that is both demanding and supportive. Master clinics are available for band groups.

BRIDGE STREET TOWN CENTRE

6782 Old Madison Pike NW, Huntsville, AL 35806 | 256.327.8400 | bridgestreethuntsville.com

Bridge Street Town Centre is the premier mixed-used lifestyle center in Huntsville. With a European design, Bridge Street features over 70 mid to upscale shops, fabulous restaurants from casual to fine dining, the unique 14-screen Monaco Pictures, and the Westin Huntsville and Element Huntsville. The property features many fountains and a 5-acre lake. Bridge Street is proud to have a street entertainment program. Choirs, bands, baton twirlers, etc. are encouraged to call ahead and schedule performance dates.

MADISON STREET FESTIVAL

first Saturday in October | 888.228.5845 | madisonstreetfestival.org

Enjoy live music throughout the day or take in a dance performance or martial arts demonstration. Visit Artist Alley where original, often award-winning art is available or stop by the more than 250 vendor booths. Organizers seek performance groups from school choirs, churches, local musicians, dance studios, etc.



QUESTIONS? ASK US! educationalescapes.org | 866.ESC2HSV | pam@huntsville.org

PANOPLY ARTS FESTIVAL

last weekend in April | 256.519.2787 | artshuntsville.org

Panoply Arts Festival includes an ethnocultural exhibition, children's make-n-take activities and multiple stages featuring jazz, gospel, bluegrass, musical theater, ballroom dancing, songwriter's showcase and student/youth-friendly performances. Organizers seek performance groups from school choirs, churches, local musicians, dance studios, etc.

there's
more!

**Additional performance opportunities
in the **SPACE TO PLAY** section of this guide.**



VOLUNTOURISM



Monte Sano State Park

A variety of organizations welcome volunteers for year-round work and special projects.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF MADISON COUNTY

400 Pratt Avenue NW, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.533.2282 | hfhmc.org

Habitat for Humanity International is an ecumenical, grassroots, Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing from the world and make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Opportunities are available through construction building, non-construction, construction support, year-round support and ReStore.

LAND TRUST OF NORTH ALABAMA

Office located at 2707 Artie Street SW, Suite 6, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.534.5263 | landtrustNAL.org

Trail Management Work Days offer individuals and groups an opportunity to participate in trail rerouting, raking and chopping and removal of dead foliage and invasive plants. The Land Trust will provide the tools, gloves and water...all they need is you!

MONTE SANO STATE PARK

5105 Nolen Avenue SE, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.534.3757 | alapark.com/montesano

Monte Sano offers over 20 miles of hiking trails and over 14 miles of challenging bike trails. The park features campsites and cabins for lodging. Volunteer opportunities are available, such as painting picnic tables and signage, raking leaves and clearing brush from hiking trails.



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ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES



Can you find all 14 ducks? Embark on the Lucky Duck Scavenger Hunt today!

From the Lucky Duck Scavenger Hunt to ghost walks in the city center, the fun never ends in Huntsville. #iHeartHsv

AGRICULTURE/ECO

BELLE CHEVRE CREAMERY AND CHEESE SHOP

18849 Upper Fort Hampton Road, Elkmont, AL 35620 | 256.732.3577 | bellechevre.com

Belle Chevre has opened the doors of their beautiful new artisan goat cheese creamery. It's a gorgeous, contemporary rustic creamery built in an old town cotton warehouse. They offer both guided and self-guided tours, which include a peek into cheese making, Belle Chevre history, time to enjoy the outdoors (goats!) and samples.

HUMBLE HEART FARMS

25235 Mooreville Road, Elkmont, AL 35620 | 256.777.9268 | humbleheartfarms.com

Humble Heart Farms is a family farm, and its goat cheese is a product of the Tennessee River Valley. The sun, rain, wind, grasses and feed all come together to flavor their cheese. The "girls" come from a long line which produces excellent milk. No hormones, chemicals or herbicides are used on the farm. Farm tours are available by appointment.

J SPARKS HYDROPONIC FARM

312 Esslinger Drive, Gurley, AL 35748 | 256.776.9881 | jsparksfarms.com

Tour the most earth-friendly farm in Alabama at J. Sparks Hydroponic Farm. By growing plants vertically in specially designed containers, the Sparks family can plant on approximately two acres what would traditionally take 12-15 acres.

TATE FARMS (COTTON PICKIN PUMPKIN FARMS)

8414 Moores Mill Road, Meridianville, AL 35759 | 256.828.8288 | tatefarmspumpkins.com

The Tate Farms experience provides exposure to a unique working farm, where memories are planted as well as crops. Tours and activities available seasonally.



QUESTIONS? ASK US! educationalescapes.org | 866.ESC2HSV | pam@huntsville.org

GREAT OUTDOORS

BROWN BEAR CANOE & KAYAK

256.885.6546 | [facebook.com/brownbearllc](https://www.facebook.com/brownbearllc)

Located on the Flint River, offers multiple starting locations.

GREEN MOUNTAIN NATURE TRAIL

5000 Nature Trail Road, Huntsville, AL 35803 | 256.883.9501

Green Mountain Nature Trail, a.k.a. Madison County Nature Trail, is the perfect place to encounter the elusive beauty of nature with a 16-acre lake, wooded paths, picnic pavilion, chapel, covered bridge and Braille Trail. The Nature Trail is open to the public, at no charge, every day (including holidays) from sunrise to sunset, and offers tables for picnickers, picturesque scenery for camera buffs, outdoor classrooms for students, and an abundance of plants and wildlife for all nature lovers.

HARMONY PARK SAFARI

431 Clouds Cove Road, Huntsville, AL 35803 | 877.726.4625

Harmony Park is a federally licensed nature preserve of free-ranging exotic and endangered animals. Remain in your car on a two-mile route to see zebras, zebus, antelope, buffalo, a camel, ostriches, pythons and crocodiles.

HAYS NATURE PRESERVE & GOLDSMITH SCHIFFMAN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

7153 Hwy 431 South, Huntsville, AL 35763 | 256.427.5116 | [huntsvilleal.gov](https://www.huntsvilleal.gov)

The Hays Nature Preserve and the Goldsmith Schiffman Wildlife Sanctuary together form Huntsville's largest and most undeveloped park lands. There are over ten miles of trails that wind through bottomlands, swamps, and sloughs. Come explore hardwood forests, walk the fields, and discover the wetlands. Wildlife abounds with deer, rabbits, raccoons, and resident and migratory birds.

HUNTSVILLE/MADISON COUNTY ROWING & WATERSPORTS

256.289.3359 | [rowhuntsville.com](https://www.rowhuntsville.com)

Canoe/kayak rentals on the Tennessee River departing from and returning to Ditto Landing.

MENTAL HEALTH CENTER (MHC) CHALLENGE COURSE

4040 Memorial Parkway SW #C, Huntsville, AL 35802 | Lonnie Jones, Instructor | 256.882.9799 | lonjones@bellsouth.net

Challenging experiences. Experiencing challenges. MHC Challenge Course is a ropes course designed to teach leadership, followship and fellowship.

MONTE SANO STATE PARK & LODGE

5101 Nolan Road, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.534.3757 | [alapark.com](https://www.alapark.com)

Monte Sano offers over 20 miles of hiking trails and over 14 miles of challenging bike trails. The park features campsites and cabins for lodging. Volunteer opportunities are available, such as painting picnic tables and signage, raking leaves and clearing brush from hiking trails.

NORTH ALABAMA CANOE & KAYAK

2664 Highway 72 E, Huntsville, AL 35811 | 256.529.0357 | [nacktrips.com](https://www.nacktrips.com)

NACK offers a large variety of canoe and kayak rentals, a variety of river tours for groups of any size, shuttle service to all local waterways, guide service to all local waterways and daily information on water conditions.

HORSEBACK RIDING

STAR HB FARMS

4483 Juniper Dr NW, Huntsville, AL 35810 | 256.527.5399 | [starhbfarms.com](https://www.starhbfarms.com)



QUESTIONS? ASK US! [educationalescapes.org](https://www.educationalescapes.org) | 866.ESC2HSV | pam@huntsville.org



HUNTSVILLE MUSEUM OF ART

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

300 Church Street, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.535.4350 | artshuntsville.org

Free concert every Monday night from June through Labor Day in Big Spring International Park.

FANTASY PLAYHOUSE CHILDREN'S THEATER & ACADEMY

3312 Long Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35805 | 256.539.6829 | letthemagicbegin.org

Since 1961, Fantasy Playhouse Children's Theater & Academy brings the magic of theater and arts education to families and youth groups through a production season of live children's theater at the Von Braun Center Playhouse and year-round arts training.

MADISON GAZEBO CONCERTS

Downtown Madison | 256.551.2230 | madisonal.gov

Free concert every Thursday night from early June to late August in downtown Madison.

SPACES SCULPTURE TRAIL

256.519.2787 | spacessculpturetrail.org

A community-wide sculpture trail featuring large-scale visiting and permanent sculpture installations. SPACES engages the public through walking tours (guided and self-guided) as well as related educational workshops.

SOUTHERN ADVENTURES

2150 Leeman Ferry Circle, SW, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256-880-6599 | southern-adventures.com

Southern Adventures is a water and amusement park offering year round entertainment for the young or just young at heart.



QUESTIONS? ASK US! educationalescapes.org | 866.ESC2HSV | pam@huntsville.org

SPORTS

HUNTSVILLE HAVOC, Southern Professional Hockey League
256.518.6160 | huntsvillehavoc.com

ROCKET CITY UNITED, National Premier Soccer League
256.895.8325 | rocketcityunited.com

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA, HUNTSVILLE, Collegiate sports
256.824.1000 | uahchargers.com

ALABAMA A&M UNIVERSITY, Collegiate sports
256.372.4001 | aamusports.com

SKATING

BENTON H. WILCOXON MUNICIPAL ICE COMPLEX

3185 Leeman Ferry Road, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.883.3774 | iceskate.org

This year-round rink offers daily public sessions on two National Hockey League regulation rinks.

CAROUSEL SKATE

1201 Winner Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35805 | 256.534.8589 | skatecarousel.com

Music, arcade, snack bar, colorful disco light show, and of course skating!

INSANITY COMPLEX

100 Park Drive, Madison, AL 35758 | 256.319.0000 | insanitycomplex.com

Roller and inline skating, skateboarding and pro shop, miniature golf, batting cages, arcade, climbing wall and concessions.

AQUATICS

HUNTSVILLE AQUATICS CENTER

2213 Drake Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35806 | 256.883.3700 | huntsvilleal.gov

With two Olympic-size competition pools and an instructional pool, the Huntsville Aquatics Center is one of the finest indoor swimming facilities in the nation. Amenities include shower and locker rooms, a sundeck and a motorized roof that can be rolled back on warm days. Public swimming sessions are available year-round.

DUBLIN MEMORIAL PARK

8324 Old Madison Pike, Madison, AL 35758 | 256.772.9300 | madisonal.gov

Dublin Park includes a double court gymnasium equipped for basketball and/or volleyball, walking track, heated indoor pool, meeting rooms, paved walking trail, soccer fields, disc golf course, tennis courts, community-built playground and outdoor pool with diving well.

SCAVENGER HUNTS

LUCKY DUCK

Downtown Huntsville, Alabama | huntsville.org

Your group will enjoy searching for 14 bronze ducks permanently affixed in various downtown Huntsville locations.

TRAINS ON MAIN

Downtown Madison, Alabama | trainsonmain.com

Once you have found all the ducks, search for trains in downtown Madison.



MISCELLANEOUS

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH TRAIL

Self-guided | 500 Church Street, Suite One, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 800.SPACE4U | 256.551.2230

Madison County has 15 churches over 100 years old, on their original sites, and still holding services today. These places of worship define Madison County's rich and diverse cultural and spiritual heritage.

HUNTSVILLE GHOST WALK

Downtown Huntsville | 256.509.3940 | huntsvilleghostwalk.com

Who is the angry ghost in the courthouse? What is the story behind the haunting tune phantom children sing? Learn the answers to these questions and many more on this guided walking tour.

HUNTSVILLE/MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

915 Monroe Street, Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.532.5940 | hmcpl.org

The Huntsville/Madison County Public Library offers tours and themed programs for groups. Their website offers a calendar of programs for all ages and interests.

LEARN HUNTSVILLE'S ROLE IN THE CIVIL WAR

Tours offered seasonally | 256.509.3940 | mischiefandmayhem.biz

Take a walking tour with local historians in period costume to learn what was happening here during the war. Huntsville was occupied, on and off, for three years. SPIES, LIES AND ALIBIS is a well-researched compilation of stories such as the pro-Union man who nailed an American flag to his roof and spied on his neighbors, the fate of six brothers who fought for the Confederacy, the Huntsville native who ordered the first shot fired at Ft. Sumter and many more. Take the CIVIL WAR BONES TOUR through Maple Hill Cemetery and see the grave of Abraham Lincoln's brother-in-law, "General J," a Union officer who fell in love with a local girl and married her, the man whose dramatic escape from a Union prison was detailed in the secret diary he kept and many more.



HUNTSVILLE AQUATICS CENTER

MAPLE HILL CEMETERY

Jacque Reeves, Avalon Tours | 256.509.3940 | jacquereeves@avalontours.net

A treasury of Huntsville's historic past! Burials date to the early 1800s, and this sacred ground serves as the final resting place to many people who shaped Alabama's future. A guide will take you on a walking tour that reveals the many fascinating, and mostly forgotten, stories behind these people. Visit the grave of Mary Todd Lincoln's brother and the man who was arrested for being part of the conspiracy to murder Abraham Lincoln.

PHOENIX

2939 Johnson Road SW, Huntsville, AL 35805 | 256.880.0671 | hsvrehab.org

See where American flags are made on this factory tour and learn how Phoenix works to assist people with disabilities gain training, skills and employment.

PLANTATION TOURS

Jacque Reeves, Avalon Tours | 256.509.3940 | jacquereeves@avalontours.net | mischiefandmayhem.biz

In the comfort of your motor coach, drive by the Horton Plantation, Cottonhill, Cedars, Druid's Grove, Belle Manor, Mooresville and enjoy a traditional high tea served at the historic Donnell House. Enjoy the entertaining historical guides in period costumes as they recount the history of these plantations. This tour may be combined with others offered by Avalon Tours.

there's
more!

For hotels, restaurants, shopping, step-on guides, motor coach information, and annual events, please visit huntsville.org. For more after hours ideas such as movie theaters and bowling, please visit educationalescapes.org.