Dr. Ronald Scott McDowell



ARTIST | SCULPTOR | ART EDUCATOR
Tuskegee, Alabama | **Portfolio: ronaldmcdowellstudio.com**
Project Coordinator: Nancy Smith-Powell
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Professional Summary

Accomplished painter and sculptor with extensive experience in commissioned portraiture, murals, and public monuments. Artistic practice spans realism and abstraction, with works honoring cultural heritage, music, and civil rights history in public spaces, institutions, and private collections.

Areas of Expertise

Fine Art Painting | Commissioned Portraiture | Public Sculpture and Monuments
Murals and Community Art | Art Education and Instruction

Recent Works

Statue honoring Nathaniel S. Colley
Commission honoring the Sacramento civil rights attorney and fair housing advocate. Sacramento, California. Sculpture completed May 2026.

Long Walk to Justice, 2026 - Bronze sculpture installation commemorating the 1965 Selma to Montgomery voting rights march at the Equal Justice Initiative's Montgomery Square, Montgomery, Alabama. Dedicated March 2026.

Selected Public Art

Marina Community Center artwork - Pittsburg, California; commemorates the center's rededication. Completed April 2024.

Nina Miglionico monument - Linn Park, Birmingham, Alabama; dedicated in 2015.

A Symphony in Art — Pittsburgh Creative Arts Building, Pittsburg, California
Completed in 2012. The mural features more than 100 entertainers.

Rosa Parks sculpture - Alabama State University entrance; unveiled in April 2006.

A New Day in Old Birmingham - Mural, Birmingham Public Library, Birmingham, AL (2003).

Eddie Kendricks and the Temptations memorial - Birmingham, Alabama; musical tribute in sculpture. Dedicated October 1999.

The Foot Soldier - Civil rights sculpture, Kelly Ingram Park, Birmingham, AL (1995).

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ARTIST RESUME | COLLECTIONS AND TEACHING

Selected Collections and Portrait Commissions

Barack Obama Presidential Library - The Key (2015), giclée print with overpainted details; Barack Obama Artifact Collection, National Archives.

Alabama Music Hall of Fame - Musician portraits displayed in the institution.

Created portraits of Motown entertainers including Michael Jackson, Diana Ross, Marvin Gaye, Martha Reeves, and the Commodores. Artwork held in the private collection of Motown founder Berry Gordy.

Selected Exhibitions

Black from the Heart of Dixie: Famous African American Alabamians
— Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, Birmingham, Alabama (2012–2013).

Essence Festival — New Orleans, Louisiana (2009).

The Moods of Martin — Martin Luther King Center, Atlanta, Georgia (1993).

Teaching Experience

Tuskegee University
Art Professor, 2015–2020.

Private Art Instruction
Provided art instruction to Michael Jackson.

Pittsburg Community Center, Pittsburg, California
Provided art instruction to older adults, with individualized guidance in artistic techniques and creative expression.

Honors

University of West Alabama - Honorary doctorate, 2006.

Selected Projects and Media

The Foot Soldier | Clio

The Key | Barack Obama Presidential Library

Teaching and Community Arts | KTVU FOX 2