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

Selected Public Art

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.

The Foot Soldier - Civil rights memorial sculpture, Kelly Ingram Park, Birmingham, Alabama.

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

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

A New Day in Old Birmingham - Mural, Birmingham Public Library, Birmingham, Alabama.

Pittsburg High School mural - Pittsburg, California; features more than 100 entertainers at the entrance to the Creative Arts Building.

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

Marina Community Center artwork - Pittsburg, California; commemorates the center’s rededication.

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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

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

Martin Luther King Center - Atlanta, Georgia.

Essence Festival - New Orleans, Louisiana.

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