

Opportunity Fund Awards

Year	Projects	Amount Awarded	Average Amount
2022	7	\$46,030.00	\$6,575.71
2023	9	\$49,861.49	\$5,540.17
Grand Total	16	\$95,891.49	\$5,993.22

Year	Awardee(s)	Amount	Constituency	Project Title	Description
2022	Parish, Allen	\$5,500.00	Faculty	Community Brass Band Seminar	The Community Brass Band Seminar is designed to educate and train area high school and college students to create successful New Orleans Brass Bands. Our area is growing, culturally, in regards to visual art culture; see, for example, the Art Crawl and the countless new murals that are being painted. However, our regional culture has much potential for growth regarding musical culture. There is a disconnect in band programs between teaching students how to play an instrument and training students how to use that skill for public performance opportunities. Our area is hungry for live performance; our area high school and college students are hungry to perform. ULM, through this project, will positively impact our society through our service to the community. The project aligns perfectly with our Vision Statement as this project

					will be free for all students and will create opportunity for our community as a whole and the individuals who attend.
2022	Bell, Jeremy	\$8,500.00	Faculty	SciMAT Technology Innovations	The SciMAT Lab project will provide interactive materials focusing on assistive technology in a shared lab setting and will provide professional development to local school districts on the use of assistive technology. SciMAT stands for Science, Math, Assistive Technology. The lab will be a state-of-the-art laboratory for education, occupational therapy, and speech students to have access to assistive technology materials along with the incorporation of STEM materials in science methods courses. The lab will have multiple purposes and will also provide professional development to local school districts through current partnerships. The Opportunity Fund grant will be used to purchase audio/visual equipment to be used in the classroom such as projecting of class materials, virtual instructional videos, live classroom feeds, and professional development in local schools through Zoom. This project will provide students in multiple programs access to assistive technology materials through the use of the A/V equipment that have not been available in the past, and the program will provide professional development to current

					partner school districts with the intent to expand to additional districts.
2022	Kilpatrick, Carlton and Veronee, Kenna	\$2,200.00	Faculty	TMEA Conference Attendance	Through attendance at the Texas Music Educators' Association (TMEA) annual conference, the largest conference of its kind in the United States, in San Antonio, Texas, ULM music education students will participate in professional development sessions, observe honor ensemble rehearsals with master conductor-teachers, interact with other pre-service and in-service music educators, and engage with recruiters from school districts throughout Texas and the southern United States. This aligns with ULM's mission to "prepare students to compete, succeed, and contribute" in their chosen field of study. The students attending come from a variety of financial backgrounds and the receipt of the necessary funds will provide them with opportunities to which they would otherwise not have equal access. The TMEA conference's breadth and scope of educational opportunities is unmatched and it is an experience rich in innovation and demonstrations of the best practices in the ever-changing field of music education. The ULM students who will receive this funding are active leaders in the School of Visual and Performing Arts, as well as participating in community schools and churches in a variety of educational and performative capacities. These

					students will be actively engaged with area K-12 students in their final year of study and will continue to impact thousands of students with the knowledge and connections gained by attending this conference.
2022	Hoh, Jennifer	\$16,000.00	Faculty	LEARN- Life saving rescue skills	LEARN (Louisiana Educational Awareness for Rescue Needs) with ULM COP is an educational initiative intended to introduce lifesaving rescue skills to secondary education students across Louisiana. The program will provide a learning opportunity for students, empower them with emergency preparedness skills, and teach them how to act in a medical emergency. While most children understand the importance of calling 911, engaging them in preparedness training can increase recognition of a serious event and prevent it from becoming life-threatening. ULM COP looks forward to connecting communities across the state through the service of our faculty and Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) students in providing transformative, lifesaving education to secondary education students.
2022	McCown, William	\$2,985.00	Faculty	Behavioral Research Lab	The Behavioral Research Lab for Online and Off-Campus Students will provide unique research and data analysis opportunities for our increasingly large number of online, dual-enrollment, and off-

					<p>campus students who presently do not have sufficient research options. Housed in the Strauss Hall Computer Lab, this project will allow supervised students to access questionnaire administration software, online behavioral science experiments, real-time text analytics programs, and data modeling. This will allow and encourage off-campus students to design their own faculty-sponsored research projects as well as to collaborate with faculty in ongoing efforts. These students can participate in virtual research teams and statistically analyze and interpret their results for the larger scientific community under close faculty supervision. The project hopes to impact up to 800 students by the fourth year.</p>
2022	Funder-Jenkins, Darrion	\$4,165.00	Faculty	Sky Breakers Drone Workshop	<p>“Sky Breakers Drone Workshop” will help students explore aspects of the Unmanned Aircraft System Management and Agricultural Business degrees through the teaching of hands-on experience and practical applications focusing on the STEAM fundamentals. The workshop, offered to middle and high school students in various locations including Monroe, West Monroe, Ruston, Rayville, Mangham, and Winnsboro, is tailored towards piquing students' interest in the fundamentals of flight operations using drones, as well as exploring the applications of drone technology and sensors that can be used in fields including geosciences,</p>

					<p>biology, health studies, film, photography, construction, marketing, atmospheric science, and research into the integration of drones into the National Airspace System. The project will also positively impact ULM's Unmanned Aircraft System Management and Agriculture students who will teach and practice as Pilot in Command (PIC) under direct supervision of a UAS Remote Pilot, gaining the necessary skills needed in management and safe flight operations. The workshops will also function to encourage those within the Northeast Louisiana area to seek ULM Precision Agricultural and Unmanned Aircraft Center for drone operations tailored towards limiting liability amongst farmers, small businesses, and small towns, improving efficiency without overspending.</p>
2022	Hersey, Leigh	\$6,680.00	Faculty	Women Take FLIGHT	<p>Women Take FLIGHT - Fostering Leadership to Increase Growth in Higher-ed Teams facilitates leadership programs that will enhance professional development opportunities for women faculty and staff at the University of Louisiana Monroe. As a multidisciplinary project, the Women Take FLIGHT program incorporates elements of the University mission to create a unique professional development opportunity that addresses the needs of the women staff and faculty on the ULM campus. The program facilitates a University-wide, non-supervisory mentoring program for all faculty and</p>

					staff, the Warhawk Women Read book club, and a variety of professional development workshops and socials; upcoming for spring are a research forum and a women in sports event.
2023	Arnett, Kaitlin	\$6,000.00	Staff	ACT Prep Workshops	Not all students who aspire to attend college are on an equal playing field academically. This is even more true when it comes to standardized testing for students in our region. ACT prep teaches proven strategies that help improve standardized test understanding and performance, and higher performance equates to higher rates of admission and scholarship offers. Partnering with local high schools to ensure that students have the resources they need to succeed aligns directly with the University's mission to change lives.
2023	Dolecheck, Jessica	\$5,000.00	Faculty	COHS Professional Business Luncheon	The College of Health Sciences Professional Business Luncheon includes over 250 students in eight majors and 65 community healthcare professionals seated with students based on discipline. The event offers students an invaluable opportunity to apply training in areas such as etiquette, workplace attitudes, and professionalism while engaging with COHS alumni, healthcare professionals, and potential employers in their respective fields.
2023	Glaze, Donna and	\$1,385.00	Faculty	KDSON Virtual Dementia Tour	and materials for the experience. The Tour is a patented method using sensory tools like glasses,

	Carpenter, Caroline				gloves, shoe inserts, headphones, and strobe lights to temporarily alter the physical and sensory abilities of participants. It is scientifically proven to promote sensitivity and awareness in individuals caring for those with dementia. With the additional resources provided by the Opportunity Fund, KDSO will ensure students can deliver excellent person-centered care for this vulnerable population and their families.
2023	Jones, Brice	\$6,900.00	Staff	ULM OMC Visual Communications	Photos and videos are a language unto themselves, communicating a message to an audience. The ULM Office of Marketing and Communication will use the award to purchase additional equipment to allow the staff to improve visual communications that tell the story that is ULM, reinforcing our mission and vision, and providing an inside look at the ways in which we are changing people's lives every day on the bayou.
2023	Kennedy, Heather	\$7,990.99	Faculty	SOE Interactive Model Classroom	The School of Education will use Opportunity Funds to assist in the creation of an interactive model classroom used by teacher candidates preparing for field experiences and residency. This classroom will allow faculty to model best practices for teaching and give teacher candidates authentic opportunities to put those skills to work in a classroom setting reflective of the actual work environment. The space will also be used for the PK-16 Council for strategic professional

					development to collaborate on new curricula and implementation strategies.
2023	Patel, Krishna	\$4,000.00	Student	Feminine Hygiene Accessibility Initiative	This accessibility initiative will assist ULM students in meeting their basic needs by providing feminine hygiene products in select restrooms on campus. Students can focus more on success in their courses and less on financial hardships they may incur by buying basic necessities. Taking this burden off of female students encompasses what it means to have true inclusivity and equality.
2023	Showers, JoEllen and Sasser, Emilee	\$10,735.50	Faculty	Enhancing OT Services for Feeding Difficulties	This project will enhance services provided by the ULM Pediatric Occupational Therapy Clinic to children and adolescents with feeding difficulties as well as educate their caregivers/families. With the faculty training, supplies, and caregiver resources funded by this award, the Clinic will be able to fill a gap in services not readily available in our region to children and families in need while educating the next generation of practitioners to serve those families moving forward.
2023	Siereveld, Eric	\$3,750.00	Faculty	ULM Jazz Clinic and Festival	The ULM Jazz Clinic and Festival draws in students and jazz ensembles from surrounding regions and states to provide educational and culturally significant jazz experiences as well as an opportunity to perform in front of internationally acclaimed jazz musicians. The only of its kind in a roughly 200-mile radius, the ULM Jazz Clinic and Festival is committed to the excellence of jazz in the Northeast Louisiana region, to provide an event that supports diversity and

					inclusion, and to remain student and ensemble-focused as the festival grows and matures.
2023	Tolson, Kim and Wiedemeier, Allison	\$4,100.00	Faculty	ULM Museum of Natural History K-8 STEM Discovery Boxes	The ULM Museum of Natural History is supporting area K-8 teachers in the region to teach hands-on STEM lessons to their students; these funds will be used to create "Discovery Boxes" containing materials needed to instruct in-class STEM activities aligned with Louisiana Student Standards for Science, and the subject matter will come from the five science domains recognized by the Louisiana Department of Education. Available to be "checked out" by teachers for a week, each Box will contain the lesson plan and items necessary for teachers to conduct a grade-appropriate, hands-on science lesson in their classroom.