

Educators,

Allow me to introduce myself! My name is Kasey Mosley. I started as the full time Youth Educator at The Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience (The MAX) on February 1. I am a PhD candidate in US History through Mississippi State University, a licensed educator in the state of Mississippi in both English and Social Studies, and a former teacher/instructor at both the high school and university levels. I came to The MAX after serving as the Education Specialist at the Eudora Welty House & Garden Museum in Jackson, MS. I look forward to working closely with all of you as we take on the important task of infusing our students with knowledge and wonder.



The MAX opened in downtown Meridian, MS in 2018. It touts an impressive Hall of Fame gallery, several unique performance and meeting spaces, art studios, a recording studio, and a state-of-the-art interactive museum that sheds light on the culture, history, and long-lasting influence of over 400 creative Mississippians.

The MAX can serve as an impactful site of learning for your students outside of their classrooms and homes. Our mission reads, “Mississippi’s rich arts contributions are often unknown or misunderstood. We enlighten and inspire by sharing stories of creative expression to provide opportunity for all generations to reach their full potential.”

We are fully committed to this task, and deeply believe that our young people should recognize their place in the greater Mississippi story and be inspired to contribute their own talents to its advancement.

While we will still have programming for younger children, we will be increasing our focus on middle- and high-schoolers by offering more classes, workshops, events, and field trips that emphasize their specific interests and needs. Our youth are our future!

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Here are some things you should keep on your radar!

Our upcoming Changing Exhibit:

- *Choctaw Expressions in conjunction with Savages and Princesses: The Persistence of Native American Stereotypes* (More info here: <https://www.msarts.org/event/choctaw-expressions-in-conjunction-with-savages-and-princesses-the-persistence-of-native-american-stereotypes/>)
- This exhibit will be in our museum from May 1 – August 11, 2021.

Summer Plans:

- We are planning to have a summer packed with opportunities for your students to engage with the museum and its themes. We will have several art and music workshops, entertaining activities, and craft projects available to them! More information to come!

Sounds of Success Program

- The Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience (The MAX) will offer an immersive educational program titled The Sound of Success, a high school junior/senior skill and portfolio building program in collaboration with music mentors and public and private school educators.
- High school music teachers will recommend outstanding juniors and seniors who plan to pursue further training through higher education. The program will introduce students to professional mentors who will teach and guide the students and help develop sample work and performances for submittal to higher education programs or music schools. Instruction will include not only improved music skills and technique but also professional practices and character building. The goal of the program is to provide quality free counseling and training to students who otherwise could not afford professional guidance.
- We are awaiting decisions regarding grant funding for this project but keep it in mind and start sending in your recommendations of students who would benefit from this program. It will tentatively take place July 19-23, 2021.

Field Trips:

- The heart of The MAX mission is education. At The MAX, learners can explore the life stories of Mississippi's legends, see the creative process behind the artist's work, and pursue their own creative interests through interactive experiences. Your K–12 school group can enjoy just the exhibits, explore The MAX through a scavenger hunt, or even experience a hands-on creative workshop. These Make + Take workshop add-ons can focus on the subject that most closely fits your needs. Crafts, art projects, music, writing, discussion – the possibilities are endless!
- We will work with you to make sure that your field trip is a fun, engaging continuation of the content you're teaching in your classroom.

Classroom Visits, both Virtual and In-Person:

- As full-time Youth Educator, I'm also available for classroom visits, both virtual and in-person. These can be mini-lessons and discussions about the vast and diverse contributions of creative Mississippians past and present.

Free Admission for Educators:

- Don't forget: Educators always have free admission at The MAX. Just show your teacher ID! You are invited to come look around to see what the museum can offer you and your students.

Get Updates:

- Follow The MAX's main pages (@msartsorg) and our education-specific Learn at The MAX pages (@LearnatTheMAX) on Facebook and Instagram.
- Explore our website (<https://www.msarts.org/>) and particularly the pages in the Learn category (<https://www.msarts.org/learn/>).

Please feel free to direct any questions to me via email at kasey@msarts.org or phone at (601) 581-1550 ext. 23.

I look forward to working with all of you!

Best,
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Youth Educator
she/her/hers



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