

THE MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL



MAY 2024 MEETING

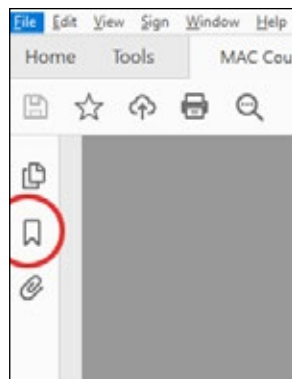
Welcome

There's a lot of information contained in this document, and we greatly appreciate the time and effort each of you on the Council devote to reviewing it in preparation for our upcoming meeting. To help find your way we've added a few navigational tools:

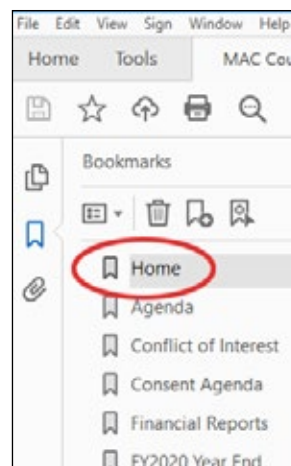
The information in the book is organized by the order in which it appears in the meeting's **agenda**, located on the [following page](#).



To jump to a given memo or report, use the **bookmarks** embedded in the PDF file. They're available by clicking on the bookmark icon near the upper left-hand side of the document. The list of bookmarks will appear and each item can be reached with a second click.



Step 1



Step 2

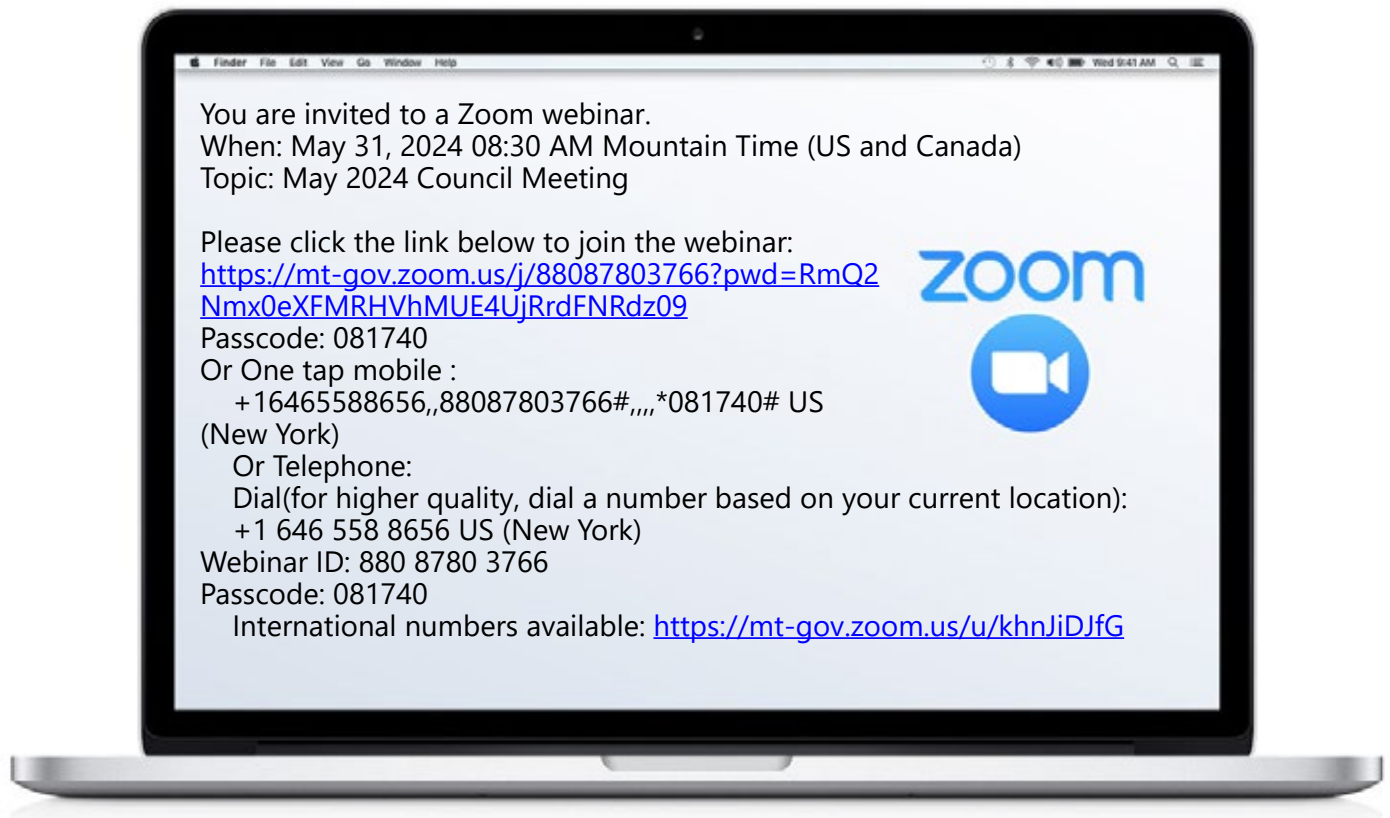
Also, at the bottom of each page will be its page number and the **section of the document** it's in:

Page 33 | Montana Arts Council June 2021 Meeting | **Grant Reports**

Thank you again. We're looking forward to seeing everyone.

On the cover: The strongest solar storm in decades illuminates the heavens above Montana in mid-May.

How to attend the meeting online



Schedule

Thursday, May 30

4:00 PM	Check in	Kwataqnuk Resort & Casino 49708 US Hwy 93 E Polson, MT
5:30-7:30 PM	Reception Hwy 93 Pablo, MT	Three Woodcocks Building - Salish-Kootenai College 58138 US Hwy 93 <i>Heading south on Hwy 93 from the hotel, turn LEFT at the red light at Clairmont Road onto the campus of SKC. Take the 2nd RIGHT onto Stanger Loop/Michael Pablo Loop Then the first LEFT onto Stanger Loop The parking lot will be on your right.</i>

Friday, May 31

8:00 AM	Breakfast	Alexander Room on the lower floor of the Kwataqnuk Hotel
8:30 AM	Meeting	Alexander Room
12:00 Noon	Lunch	Alexander Room
3:00 PM (approx)	Meeting ends	

*30 minutes following the end of the meeting meet in the lobby of the hotel to carpool to the Memorial & Corky's house.

Memorial Tour Council will gather at the Veterans' Memorial designed by Corky

*In front of the Salish-Kootenai Tribal HQ
Heading south on Hwy 93 from the hotel, turn RIGHT onto 2nd Street N. (just before the pedestrian overpass) Turn LEFT into the Tribal Headquarters parking lot. Park anywhere.*

Art & Dinner Corky's House (about 10 min from the Memorial)
33608 Emory Rd Ronan, MT
Dinner provided by Fiya Grill - Jamaican jerk food truck

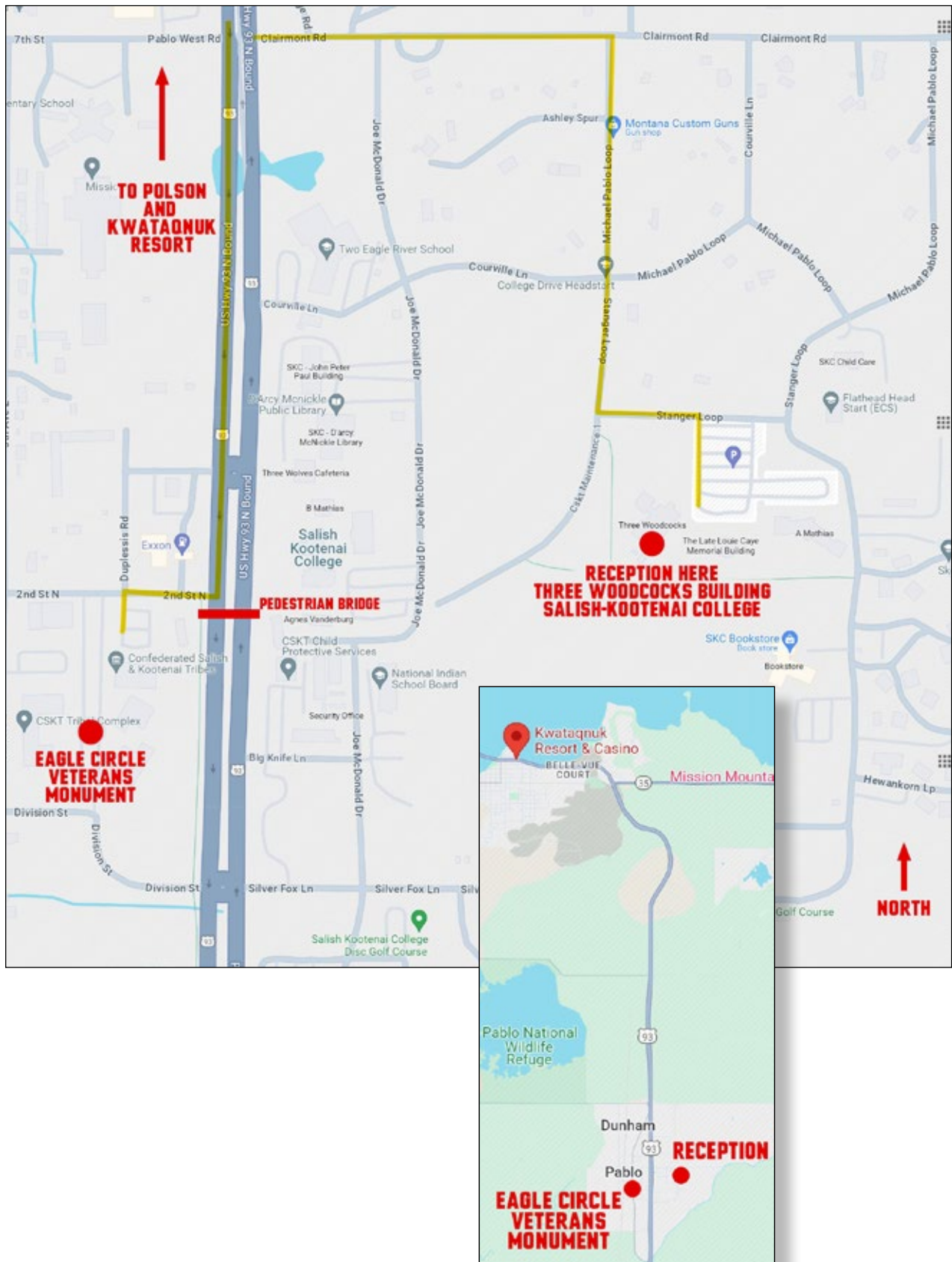
Saturday, June 1

11:00 AM	check out	Breakfast on your own
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Suggested places to visit as you travel to or from the meeting:

Miracle of America Museum	36094 Memory Lane, Polson, MT
Three Chiefs Cultural Center	36042 Major Houle Rd., Ronan, MT
Sandpiper Art Gallery	306 Main St., Polson, MT
CSKT Bison Range	58355 Bison Range Rd., Charlo, MT
Ninepipes Museum of Early Montana	69316 US-93, Charlo, MT

Map





MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL

Council Meeting

Friday, May 31, 2024

Polson/Pablo, MT

The Montana Arts Council makes reasonable accommodations for a person's ability to participate in state government. Requests beyond accessible facilities must be made 48 hours before the meeting date to the ADA Coordinator at kburgoyne@mt.gov or 406-444-6449.

Other than the meeting starting time, any times listed are approximate, and agenda items may be rearranged. Action may be taken on any agenda item.

Public comment is welcome on all items and may be submitted at mac@mt.gov or through this [webform](#). Written comments received 24 hours before the meeting will be distributed to the Council before the meeting.

Travel & Pre-Meeting Details

Kwataqnuq Resort
49708 US Hwy 93 | Polson, MT
406-883-3636

8:00 breakfast will be provided in the Alexander meeting room on the hotel lower level.

8:30 meeting begins

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/88087803766?pwd=RmQ2NmxeXFMRHVhMUE4UjRrdFNrdz09>

Passcode: 081740

Or One tap mobile :

+16465588656,,88087803766#,,, *081740# US

(New York)

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Webinar ID: 880 8780 3766

Passcode: 081740

International numbers available: <https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/khnJiDJfG>

Proposed Business Meeting Agenda

8:30 a.m.	Call to Order Introduce Honor song Honor song	Greg Murphy Krys Holmes TBA
	Opening remarks & Tribal acknowledgement	Greg Murphy
	Attendance: Council and members of the Public	Ginny Newman
	Call for Public Comment	Greg Muphy
	Approval of Proposed Agenda	Greg Murphy
	Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes Council meeting December 2, 2023 Council meeting January 10, 2024	Greg Murphy
	Conflicts of Interest	Kristin Han Burgoyne
	Acknowledgement of the passing of former MAC Chair, Jackie Parsons Greg introduces; Krys reads the resolution ▶ <i>Action proposed: Approve resolution honoring Jackie Parsons</i>	
	Legislative Update	Drew Geiger
	Cultural Trust Committee Recommendations ▶ <i>Action proposed: Motion to approve Cultural Trust Committee recommendations</i>	
	Committee Reports	Greg Murphy
	Executive Committee	Greg Murphy
	Strategic Investment Grant Committee ▶ <i>Action proposed: Motion to approve elimination of the emergency grant subset of the Strategic Investment Grant program.</i>	Jay Pyette
	Arts Education Committee ▶ <i>Action proposed: Motion to approve AISC Residencies awards as presented in the council book.</i> ▶ <i>Action proposed: Motion to delegate to the Arts Education Committee the authority to approve AISC Residencies awards of up to \$10,000 each.</i>	Angella Ahn

Governor's Arts Awards Committee	Wylie Gustafson
► <i>Action proposed: Motion to approve Governor's Arts Awards recommendations to forward to the Governor.</i>	
Poet Laureate Committee	Sean Chandler
Folk and Traditional Arts Committee	Corky Clairmont
► <i>Action proposed: Motion to delegate to Folk and Traditional Arts Committee authority to approve Montana Circle of American Masters (MCAM) and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program (TAAP) awards of \$3,000 each.</i>	
Percent for Art Projects	Kristin Burgoyne
Fiscal Year 2024 Year-To-Date Financial Report	Jenifer Alger
► <i>Action proposed: Motion to approve</i>	
Fiscal Year 2025 Proposed Budget	Jenifer Alger
► <i>Action proposed: Motion to approve</i>	
NASAA Update: Native Communities Initiative	Sean Chandler
Committee Assignments	Greg Murphy
Introduction of Art Revives Program	Kelly Barsdate & Krys Holmes
► <i>Action proposed: Motion to approve proposal</i>	
Review of Proposed Administrative Rules Revision	Greg Murphy
► <i>Action proposed: Motion to rescind approval of draft rules presented and approved in January 2024.</i>	
► <i>Action proposed: Motion to approve amendments to Organizational Rule</i>	
Report from the Executive Director Strategic Plan Update	Krys Holmes Kelly Barsdate & Krys Holmes
Report from the Chair	Greg Murphy
Next Meetings	Greg Murphy

Friday, December 6, 2024, Helena
(Governor's Arts Award Ceremony at 2pm
December 5)
Spring 2025 White Sulphur Springs, determine date
Winter 2025 determine location and date
(tentatively Great Falls on December 5, 2025)

New Business

Greg Murphy

Invite the public to consider the following
two discussion questions, and email MAC
staff with responses: (Questions here and in chat)

1. What is exciting you most about the arts in Montana right now?
2. Montana will change considerably in the next 10 years. What role can art play in making that change as positive as possible?

PLEASE RESPOND TO: **Mac@mt.gov**

Recess Council meeting until Council dinner.

Council members will be discussing:

1. What is exciting you most about the arts in Montana right now?
2. Montana will change considerably in the next 10 years. What role can art play in making that change as positive as possible?

Adjourn Meeting at end of Council dinner

Minutes of the Montana Arts Council

In open session

Friday, December 1, 2023

Copper King Hotel & Convention Center, Butte Montana

The meeting was called to order at 8:32 am.

1. Attendance:

Council Members Present In-Person: Sarah Calhoun, Sean Chandler, Corky Clairmont, Julie Mac, Cat McIntyre, Chair Greg Murphy, Linda Netschert, Vice-Chair Jay Pyette, Steve Zabel

Council Members Present Online: Angella Ahn; Wylie Gustafson; John Moore; Bridger Pierce

Council Members Absent: Troy Collins; Angela Russell

Staff and Contractors Present: Jenifer Alger; Kristin Han Burgoyne; Monica Grable; Eric Heidle; Krys Holmes; Brian Moody; Ginny Newman, Taylor Burby (online)

Guests: Hazer Novich, Drew Geiger

2. Public Comment: Chair Murphy called for public comment. Ginny Newman announced that no written public comments had been filed and that no member of the public was present in-person or online.

3. Proposed Agenda: Julie Mac moved, and Sarah Calhoun seconded to approve the proposed agenda. Motion carried on voice vote with no dissents.

4. Minutes of Open Session of June 9, 2023: Corky Clairmont moved and Linda Netschert seconded approval, as submitted, of the minutes of the open meeting session on June 9, 2023. Motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

5. Minutes of Open Session of August 28, 2023: Jay Pyette moved and Sean Chandler seconded approval, as submitted, of the minutes of the open meeting session on August 28, 2023. Motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

6. Council Orientation Refresher: Krys Holmes distributed a one-page orientation refresher to the Members and discussed the duties of their office. This document is included in the Council book appendix. She answered questions from the Members.

7. Fiscal Year 2023 Year to Date Financial Report: Chair recognized CFO Jenifer Alger who referred to the written report in the Council book and summarized important features. Jay Pyette moved and Steve Zabel seconded approval, as submitted, the FY2023 Financial Report. Motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

8. Fiscal Year 2024 Year to Date Financial Report: CFO Jennifer Alger referred to her written memorandum and materials in the Council book. Corky Clairmont moved and Sarah Calhoun seconded approval, as submitted, the FY2024 Financial Report. Motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

9. Montana Circle of American Masters: Corky Clairmont presented the slate of recommendations for induction into Montana Circle of American Masters and answered questions from the members. The recommendations include Ramey Growing Thunder for beadwork, Mike Ryan for boot-making, and Olivia "Rose" Williamson for beadwork. Jay Pyette moved and Steve Zabel seconded approval of the slate of recommendations as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

10. Committee Reports

Executive Committee: Chairman Greg Murphy reported on the activity of the Executive Committee since the last meeting and answered questions from Council Members. In particular he noted that he had consulted with committee members before approving the new Executive Director, Krys Holmes, to work half-time for two months to facilitate a smooth transition to new leadership at The Myrna Loy in Helena, and to inform her of a modest pay raise in accordance with a new State of Montana pay policy.

Strategic Investment Grant Committee: Jay Pyette reviewed the information in the Strategic Investment Grant Committee memo provided in the Council book and answered questions from Council Members.

Arts Education Committee: Bridger Pierce reviewed the information in the Arts Education Committee memo provided in the Council book and answered questions from Council Members.

Governor's Arts Awards Committee: Kristin Burgoyne reviewed the information in the committee report provided in the Council book and answered questions from Council members. The next Governor's Arts Awards presentation will be held December 5, 2024, in Helena.

Poet Laureate Committee: Sean Chandler reported that the Governor appointed Chris La Tray as Poet Laureate. Chris has begun his work. Greg Murphy suggested having Chris do a poetry reading/recitation at the Governor's Arts Awards.

Folk and Traditional Arts Committee (no report)

Percent for Art Projects (no report): There are no current active projects, and no action was taken.

11. Committee Assignments: Chairman Murphy asked the members to volunteer for the Folk and Traditional Arts Committee. Sean Chandler, Corky Clairmont and Julie Mac volunteered to serve on the Folk and Traditional Arts Committee, staffed by Brian Moody.

12. Strategic Plan/Work Plan/Initiatives: Krys Holmes reviewed the three steps and timeline of her plan to develop a strategic plan for the Council and answered questions from the Members.

13. Next Meetings: The next meeting will be May 30-June 1, 2024, in Pablo/Polson. The dates for the December 2024 meeting are December 5 - Governor's Arts Awards, December 6 – Council Meeting. Members voted by placing flag pins on a prepared map of Montana. After voting and discussion, White Sulphur Springs was selected as the location for June 2025.

14. Report from the Executive Director: Krys shared some personal background with the Members along with her excitement for her new role. She discussed a NASAA report highlighting the importance of the Arts to the state of Montana economy. She discussed the importance of supporting arts non-profit organizations as they navigate the intricacies of running their business and supporting their community.

15. Report from the Chair: Chair Murphy reported that, upon the nomination of Acting Executive Director Kristin Burgoyne, staff member Virginia Newman had been awarded the Governor's Award for Excellence, and expressed his appreciation for Ms. Burgoyne's excellent work leading the staff in 2023.

16. Generative/Strategic Discussion of the Council: Without objection, Chair Murphy suspended Robert's Rules to allow for freeform discussion. The Council discussed the first of two questions proposed. The second question was tabled for future discussion.

Two questions for Council discussion:

- **Thinking strategically about the arts across Montana, what are the most pressing needs you observe among arts organizations and artists?**
- **If we were fortunate enough to secure resources for truly transformational investments, what do we want them to achieve? What types of outcomes or impacts should we seek from a new initiative?**

17. Legislative Update: Drew Geiger gave the Council an update of the arts political climate in Montana and answered questions from the members.

18. New Business: Sean Chandler shared an update from NASAA (National Assembly of State Arts Agencies) which he serves as a board member. Upon canvassing the Council members by way of placing pins on a map of Montana, the June 2025 meeting will be in White Sulphur Springs, tentatively scheduled based on meeting space and hotel availability.

19. Adjournment: Jay Pyette moved, and Linda Netschert seconded that the Council adjourn. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents at 1:36 pm.

The foregoing minutes were approved by the Council in open session on May 31, 2024.

Greg Murphy, Chair

Krys Holmes, Executive Director and Recording Secretary

Conflict of Interest

Montana Arts Council Members | May 2024

Review the following action items and be prepared to state any conflicts of interest at the meeting, along with the nature of the conflict. The Chair will determine if you abstain from the vote on that item.

Artists in Schools and Communities Experiences and Residency Grants
Strategic Investment Grants
Cultural Trust Committee Recommendations
Governor's Arts Award Nominees

Montana Arts Council members shall disclose any real or perceived conflicts. A conflict of interest occurs when:

- A council member has a personal interest in an applicant in a manner that is inconsistent or incompatible with the council member's ability to exercise an objective judgement.
- A council member has significant financial interests associated with an applicant.
- A council member has intellectual property interests associated with an applicant.
- A council member is an immediate family member of an applicant by marriage or household.

Memorial Resolution by the Montana Arts Council

In honor of

Eck Skim Aue Kee – Woman of Iron

Also known as Jackie Parsons

Whereas, in 1994, Governor Mark Racicot appointed *Eck Skim Aue Kee – Woman of Iron*, also known as Jackie Parsons, a member of the Blackfeet Nation and citizen of Montana, to the Montana Arts Council; and,

Whereas, she was the first Native American woman appointed to the Council, blazing a trail for others; and,

Whereas, having served the Council and the people of Montana and the Blackfeet Nation with honor and distinction, and having exhibited uncommon qualities of leadership in the arts, Governor Brian Schweitzer then appointed Jackie Parsons as chair of the Council, to serve as its presiding officer and chief executive, a position she fulfilled for eight years until her retirement in 2012; and,

Whereas, she consistently, and with her innate humility, successfully led the Council in promoting the arts; and,

Whereas, she developed an extensive record of exemplary service to the people of the Blackfeet Nation, including as: Tribal Secretary, Nutrition Technician, Home Economics Specialist, Prosecutor, Blackfeet Tribal Judge, Director of Northern Plains Indian Crafts Association, and author; and,

Whereas, even after her retirement in 2001, she continued to teach at Blackfoot Community College, continued pursuing her career in art, was a Blackfeet Appellate Court Tribal Justice, and served on the Blackfeet Tribal Election Board; and,

Whereas, she was an accomplished and well-recognized artist in a wide variety of media including woodcarving, painting, beading, quilling, silversmithing, and writing; and,

Whereas, she created an exceptional body of work preserving traditional art and intertwining it with modern techniques, thereby preserving the past and solidifying the future of traditional art; and,

Whereas, she was a teacher and source of wisdom for four generations of women, girls and young men, and spent a lifetime supporting her community through art and providing other services to combat the effects of poverty; and,

Whereas, for over a decade she mentored up to 10 students for the annual art show at the Herd Museum in Phoenix, Arizona, and her students were national award-winners every year, competing among more than 1,300 students; and

Whereas, she built bridges between the Indian and non-Indian worlds; and,

Whereas, she won recognition far and wide for her efforts and accomplishments, including: the National Living Treasure Award; the Best of Show awards at People's Art — Great Falls, MT in 1996, and at the Sioux Falls, South Dakota Art Market; the Governor Janklow of South Dakota Best of Show Award in 2002; the Blue Ribbon for a War Shirt; the Blue Ribbon for an Elk Tooth Dress; Second place in contemporary beadwork at the Santa Fe Art Market, 2001; as well as numerous awards and place-showings at juried competitions throughout the United States; and,

Whereas, she was a featured artist and helped curate "Identity by Design: Tradition, Change, and Celebration in Native Women's Dresses," the inaugural exhibit at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., which then went on tour to New York, and her work was prominently featured in a book accompanying the exhibit; and,

Whereas, her artistic work and excellence were recognized by the First People's Fund through its 2008 Cultural Capital Fellowship and its 2012 Community Spirit Award, which "honors and celebrates exceptional Native artists and culture bearers across the country;" and,

Whereas, she was a 2018 winner of the Montana Governor's Arts Award which recognizes individuals and organizations whose achievements in the arts or on behalf of the arts benefiting all Montanans; and,

Whereas, she was a mother to six children—all of whom were artists, and four of whom pursued professional careers in the arts; and,

Whereas, she passed from this world on December 26, 2023, leaving a terrible void for her family, community, and the State of Montana, but a much better place for her having shared her manifest gifts and talents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Montana Arts Council hereby recognizes and gives thanks for the tremendous contributions to the arts, the dedication to the betterment of her communities, and the many accomplishments of *Eck Skim Aue Kee*, also known as Jackie Parsons, of the Blackfeet Nation and the State of Montana; and,
2. The Council extends to family of Jackie Parsons and the Blackfeet Nation its most sincere condolences upon her passing; and,
3. This Resolution be spread upon the permanent Minutes of the Montana Arts Council, and copies be provided to the members of the family of Jackie Parsons and to the Tribal Council of the Blackfeet Nation.

Approved by unanimous vote in the public session of the Montana Arts Council on May 31, 2024 at Polson, Montana on the reservation of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

Greg Murphy
Chair, Montana Arts Council

Krys Holmes
Executive Director and Recording
Secretary, Montana Arts Council



Jackie Parsons

Cultural Trust (aka Cultural & Aesthetic Projects or Coal Tax Funding)

In 1975, the Montana Legislature set aside a percentage of the Coal Tax to restore murals in the Capitol and support other cultural and aesthetic projects. This unique funding source is a Cultural Trust, with grant money allocated every two years. Grant funds are derived from the interest earned on the Cultural Trust.

In 1983, the Legislature established a Cultural and Aesthetic Projects Advisory Committee with 16 members, half appointed by the Montana Arts Council and half by the Montana Historical Society. The committee reviews all grant proposals and makes funding recommendations to the Legislature, which determines who will receive grant funds. The Montana Arts Council administers the program for the Legislature.

- Cultural Trust funding provides critical general operating support to Montana non-profit arts, history and cultural organizations and provides funding for special projects and capital expenditures.
- Applications are encouraged for applicants serving rural communities, racial and ethnic groups, people with disabilities, institutionalized populations, youth and the aging.
- The next program deadline is August 1, 2024 (for the funding cycle July 1, 2025-June 30, 2027)

Intermountain Opera performs and instructs for a crowd of local students.



CULTURAL TRUST

Memorandum

TO: Montana Arts Council Members
FROM: Kristin Han Burgoyne | Deputy Director
RE: Cultural and Aesthetics Projects Advisory Committee Appointments

The Cultural and Aesthetic Projects Advisory Committee has 16 members. The Montana Arts Council (MAC) and the Montana Historical Society (MHS) each appoint half of the members to four-year terms. Committee members review and provide scoring and comments. They hold a panel meeting in October, prior to the legislative session, and make grant commendations to the legislature. Committee members also review guidelines and reporting requirements, and recommend improvements to the process. Testimony for legislative panels is sometimes required.

This memo presents recommendations for service on the committee. The Council can discuss this at the May meeting and will vote on the appointments.

This biennium, the term is ending for only one MAC appointee, Susan Miller of Bozeman. Susan seeks reappointment for another term and I recommend she be accepted. Her biography follows.

MHS has several current vacancies that are in the process of being filled. If you are aware of individuals who would be interested in appointment, let me know. The following are the current committee members:

MAC Appointed

1. Virginia Bryan, Billings
2. Mary Callahan Baumstark, Lewistown
3. Troy Evans, Roundup
4. Lee Ellen Hveem, Billings
5. Jennifer Jeffries Thompson, Helena
6. Bess Lovec, Billings
7. **Susan Miller**, Bozeman
8. Ben Thiem, Kalispell

MHS Appointed

1. Shane Doyle, Bozeman
2. Tate Jones, Missoula
3. Don Matlock, Hamilton
4. Peter Rudd, Helena
5. Jill Baker, Missoula
6. Vacant
7. Vacant
8. Vacant

Susan Miller

Susan has served as General Director of Intermountain Opera Bozeman since January of 2022. A graduate of Loyola University Chicago, Miller first began her career as a professional actor (AEA) in Chicago, IL. After moving to Bozeman, Susan served as the Director of Visitor and Volunteer services at the Museum of the Rockies between 2007-2011 and as the Director of Education, then Director of Marketing and Outreach at Montana Shakespeare in the Parks between 2011-21. She was one of the co-creators of the Montana Shakes! elementary outreach program and helped expand that tour from a three-week pilot program in 2008 to the twelve-week tour it is today.

Acting highlights include playing Celeste #1/Betty in *Sunday in the Park with George* and Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, both at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, both directed by Gary Griffin; *Mother in Ragtime* at Light Opera Works directed by Lara Teeter; *The Ballad of Little Jo* at Steppenwolf Theatre (US/performed opposite Judy Kuhn); and Gypsy Rose Lee in *Gypsy* at Chicago's old Bailiwick Theatre opposite Alexandra Billings as Mama Rose. She toured with Montana Shakespeare in the Parks for three summers and one fall. Favorite roles include Viola in *Twelfth Night* and Silvia in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* both directed by Joel Jahnke. Susan won *The Las Vegas Review Journal's* Best Leading Actress in, a Musical award for her performance of The Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods* at Signature Theatre in 2006. She continues to perform in Bozeman. Recent appearances include Penny at The Ellen Theatre in *You Can't Take It With You*, and the lead singer in the funk band Swamp Dawg.

Miller currently serves on Montana Arts Council's Cultural & Aesthetic Trust committee and is a board member of The Shane Lalani Center for the Arts. She has presented at the Museum Association of Montana's annual conference on Volunteer Management and the Shakespeare Theatre Association's conference on theatrical education. She lives in Bozeman with her husband, three kids, and one goofy dog.

A photograph of Chris La Tray, a man with a grey beard and long hair, wearing a blue button-down shirt and a name tag. He is smiling and looking towards the right. In the foreground, a woman with long brown hair, wearing glasses and a dark blue shirt, is looking down at a piece of paper she is holding. The background is a bright, out-of-focus indoor space with large windows.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Chris La Tray, Montana's Poet Laureate, reacts
to work read by Meghan, a resident at the
Elkhorn Treatment Center in Boulder.*

Report of the Executive Committee

TO: The Montana Arts Council

DATE: May 31, 2024 Meeting in Polson, Montana

The Executive Committee met twice since the last meeting of the Council on January 10, 2024 by Zoom conference. The first meeting followed immediately after the Council's meeting of the same date. The meeting was called by Chair Murphy at the request of two members of the committee.

The second meeting of the committee was held on May 24, 2024 by Zoom conference for the purposes of reviewing the budget proposed by staff, of approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the committee, and of reviewing preparations for the upcoming Council meeting.

Role of the Chair as Chief Executive Officer

In December 2023, Chair Murphy wrote a memorandum to Lieutenant Governor of Montana, Kristen Juras, and copied the memorandum to Executive Director Krys Holmes and the members of the Executive Committee. The memorandum suggested the likely reason the presiding officer of the Council was also designated the chief executive officer in the very early days of the Council, and noted that circumstances have changed. The memorandum also raised the question of whether in light of changed circumstances it remains good policy that the Chair (the "presiding officer" of the Council under the statute) continue to serve as the chief executive of the Council as mandated by law. The memorandum also outlined some of the competing considerations as the chair perceived them. (The presiding officer of the Council is the only presiding officer among other similar state agencies also to bear the additional responsibilities of a chief executive officer.)

At the request of two members of the Executive Committee, Chair Murphy called a meeting of the Executive Committee for January 10, 2024. Chair Murphy was of the view that a change in policy to eliminate the role of the Chair as chief executive would require legislative action. Other members of the committee were of the view that questions relating to the respective roles of the Chair and Executive Director could and should be addressed by adoption of internal Council rules and policies. At the suggestion of a committee member with which Chair Murphy concurred, it was agreed that the advice of independent legal counsel should be sought. Over the dissent of Chair Murphy, the other members of the committee also voted to have Executive Director Holmes draft proposed internal rules or policies addressing the respective roles of the two officers.

Executive Director Krys Holmes contacted Assistant Attorney General Michelle Dietrich seeking her advice. Following discussions, Ms. Dietrich produced a memorandum containing her advice to the Executive Committee. Ms. Dietrich's memorandum was also shared with Executive Director Holmes. It is Chair Murphy's view that as a member of the governing body, each Council member is entitled to review the advice of counsel. If a Council member desires to review the advice from Ms. Dietrich, Chair Murphy will make it available to the member at the Council meeting in Polson.

Chair Murphy reported to the Executive Committee that he has come to the opinion there is little, if any, chance legislation will be proposed by the current Administration seeking to remove the designation of the presiding officer of the Council as also the Council's chief executive officer. In the opinion of Chair Murphy, the issue appears to be settled, at least for the time being.

The Budget and the Council Meeting

The Executive Committee met by Zoom conference on May 24, 2024 for the purposes of reviewing the budget being proposed by staff, and of reviewing the preparations for the upcoming Council meeting. The members of the Committee will express their views on the budget and other matters as they decide in their discretion to convey them at the Council meeting.

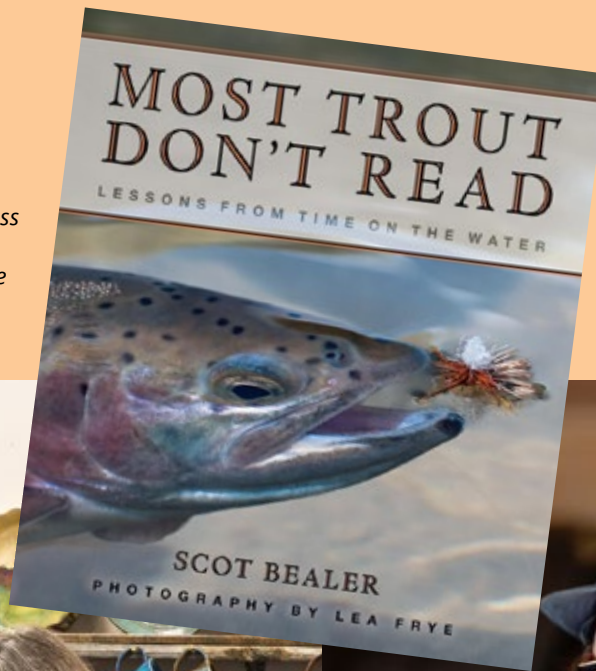
STRATEGIC GRANTS

Strategic Investment Grants

Strategic Investment Grants (SIG) provide up to \$1,000 for expenses related to opportunities for professional development, market expansion, and art events. SIG enables artists and teachers to advance their professional careers and supports nonprofit organizations in the advancement of arts-related programs.

- Monthly deadlines and a quick turnaround on funding decisions allow for artists and organizations to take advantage of opportunities when they arise.
- The straightforward and simple application makes SIG ideal for emerging artists and new arts organizations with little grant-writing capacity.

Most Trout Don't Read, with photography by Lea Frye, writer Tess Fahlgren in her mother's Glasgow studio, and Russell Rowland, whose "The State of Montana" podcast received funding through SIG.



INVESTMENT

Memorandum

To: Montana Arts Council Members

FROM: Jay Pyette | Chair, Strategic Investment Grants Committee

RE: Strategic Investment Grants

Strategic Investment Grants (SIG) provide up to \$1,000 for expenses related to opportunities for professional development, market expansion, and art events. SIG enables artists and teachers to advance their professional careers and supports nonprofit organizations in the advancement of arts-related programs.

Guidelines are available on the [MAC website](#). Applications are accepted on a monthly deadline via MAC's grant system. Funding recommendations are made by the SIG Committee based on the application meeting the grant criteria. Grant payments are made as a reimbursement for documented expenses.

The SIG Committee is currently comprised of Council members Angella Ahn, Sarah Calhoun, Cat McIntyre, and Bridger Pierce. The committee meets monthly by conference call to review applications.

The attached list of applications is from November 2023 to April 2024. For FY2024, \$99,488 in funding was requested and \$54,697 was awarded. As of the May committee meeting, for FY2025 \$20,950 has been requested and \$16,000 awarded.

Action needed: Motion to approve elimination of the emergency grant subset of the Strategic Investment Grant program.

The Emergency Grant category was created to provide funding to arts organizations and artists facing circumstances that threaten their mission or professional career such as natural disasters, illness, or equipment failure. We receive few applications in the Emergency Grant category and less than half receive funding. Dating back to FY2020, we have received 11 Emergency Grant applications and funded 4. Additionally, the requests put the committee in the position of making judgement calls about private or otherwise difficult circumstances.

SIG FY2024 (Project End Dates July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

List Includes Applications Received November 2023 - March 2024				
Applicant Name	Project Name	City	Request	Award
Kate Mostad	Recording debut album	Polson	\$1,000	\$0
Beaverhead Tourism Council	Dilly Dally Alley Project	Dillon	\$1,000	\$1,000
Anna Paige	"Out of the Picture" documentary screening at Smithsonian American Art Museum	Billings	\$1,000	\$733
Grant Geiger	The Western States Recording Project	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
Rachel Ritacco*	Ritacco Photography Camera Equipment	Helena	\$1,000	\$0
Christine Martin	Christine Martin attend the Helena and Missoula Montana Made Fairs	Butte	\$1,000	\$1,000
Les Cramer*	Jessica Zemsky Documentary Video	Helena	\$1,000	\$0
William (Bill) Willkey	Pug-Mill Clay Processing Studio Equipment	Helena	\$1,000	\$1,000
Garden City Ballet	Garden City Ballet - Free ballet for 500 children - Costume Updates	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
Audrey Hall*	Dear Western Sky	Livingston	\$1,000	\$1,000
Charles Finn	Travel Expenses to National Writing Conference AWP 2024	Havre	\$1,000	\$1,000
Jill Johnson*	Art to Print	Bozeman	\$997	\$997
The Great Falls Theatre Company	The Great Falls Theatre Company presents "A Charlie Brown Christmas"	Great Falls	\$1,000	\$0
Montana Institute for the Arts	"Heebuck", a TV Pilot	Kalispell	\$1,000	\$0
Kelly Schirmann*	OMO Studio Ceramic Production Equipment Request	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Hannah Dusek*	Community Movement/Dance Workshops	Missoula	\$900	\$0
Isaac Rowland	Video Podcasting Studio	Livingston	\$1,000	\$0
Stephanie Dishno	Advanced Ceramic Glaze Course Grant Proposal	Missoula	\$979	\$979
Lea Frye	Most Trout Don't Read - Self Published Book	Helena	\$1,000	\$0
Rachel Ritacco	Ritacco Photography Camera Equipment	Helena	\$1,000	\$1,000

Leslie Millar	RT travel and partial funding for 2 week Residency at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts	Arlee	\$1,000	\$0
Grant Geiger	The Western States Recording Project	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Bruna Massadas	Marketing for "Mountain Rose" Exhibition at the Emerson Art Center	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$1,000
Mikala Kearney*	The purchase of a professional grade sewing machine.	Big Sky	\$1,000	\$1,000
Danealle Orcutt*	00's Playlist Concept in Corpus Christi	Laurel	\$1,000	\$0
Caitlyn Lewis*	Sustainable Floral Design	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
James Patten*	Wild Root Staffs and Swords Tools and Shop	Gallatin Gateway	\$1,000	\$0
Bigfork Playhouse Children's Theatre	Bigfork Playhouse Children's Theatre Costume Rental Request	Bigfork	\$1,000	\$0
George Bumann	Book Publication & Promotion	Gardiner	\$1,000	\$1,000
Mineral County Performing Arts Council	Hannah Jackson Performance and School Outreach	Superior	\$1,000	\$0
Anaconda Ensemble Theatre*	Anaconda Ensemble Theatre presents 'The Harvest'	Anaconda	\$1,000	\$1,000
Amelia (Mya) Cluff	Attending and Exhibiting at NCECA '24	Belgrade	\$1,000	\$1,000
Tess Fahlgren*	Fahlgren AWP 2024 Attendance	Glasgow	\$866	\$866
Karter Bernhardt*	Kinetic Convergence Dance Collective at Elks Lodge	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
Stephanie Seguin	Product Catalog for Marketing and Promotional Expansion	Helena	\$1,000	\$1,000
LeeAnn Ramey	Robert Moore Workshop Attendance	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$1,000
Ogechukwu Egwuaka*	GRANT PROPOSAL FOR BOOK PROMOTION AND LAPTOP ASSISTANCE	Abuja, Nigeria	\$1,000	\$0
Shanlee Cox*	Emerging Artist Needs Financial Support to Complete Residency at the ZACC	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$1,000
Sarah Stoneback*	Attend the International Trumpet Guild Conference in Anaheim California	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$1,000
Grace Brogan	Attending the national Smithsonian Craft Show	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Sarah Sherman	Sweat at the Blue Slipper Theatre	Livingston	\$1,000	\$1,000

Norman Menzales	Video Project of Lakambini Flute Concerto with Great Falls Symphony	Missoula	\$1,000	
Dante Gambardella	Korean Apprenticeship with Hun Chun Lee	Bozeman	\$1,000	
Schoolhouse History & Art Center	Presentation at Montana Museums Association Annual Conference	Colstrip	\$808	\$782
Russell Rowland	THE STATE OF MONTANA - A Podcast about Politics in Montana	Billings	\$1,000	\$0
Naomi Siegel	Naomi Moon Siegel Ensemble Spring Montana Tour	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Sarah Weaver	Comedy Conference	Polson	\$1,000	\$1,000
Christina Larsen	Emergency Grant	Billings	\$1,000	\$0
Jemina Watstein*	Start-Up Equipment for Create Now Pop Up Studio	Columbia Falls	\$1,000	\$0
Keetje Kuipers	VCCA residency at Mt. San Angelo -- Montana Fellowship	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000

FY2025 (Project End Dates July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

List Includes Applications Received November 2023 - April 2024				
Dave Hull*	Dave Hull - Art Fair on the Square - Madison, WI 2024	Manhattan	\$1,000	\$0
Chip Clawson	"Molecules on the Myrna" Public Art	Helena	\$1,000	\$1,000
Victor Vosen	Project Roots Out	Heron	\$950	\$0
Traveler's Rest Preservation & Heritage Association	The Cabinet of Natural History Exhibition	Lolo	\$1,000	\$1,000
Lincoln County Public Libraries Foundation*	Lincoln County Library Community Arts	Libby	\$1,000	\$1,000
Rebecca Olfert*	Portait Painting for Elderly and Special Needs Adults	Glasgow	\$1,000	\$0
Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners	Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners - MAWS	Kalispell	\$1,000	\$1,000
Jessy Hanson	Artist Residency at Orqueveux	Lakeside	\$1,000	\$0
Zola Kell*	Equipment for Rug-Tufting Workshops hosted by Workroom, Missoula	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Random Acts of Silliness*	Expanding Arts Opportunities in the Gallatin Valley: Random Acts of Silliness	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$1,000
Sunday Dutro	Hire Editor for Sunday Dutro's Memoir and Publication	Thompson Falls	\$1,000	\$1,000
Izaak Opatz	BYNUM! (if you got 'em) Music Festivals	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Meghan Hanson	Cargo trailer for Meghan Hanson Arts	Stevensville	\$1,000	\$1,000
Maxim Loskutoff	Old King Montana Book Tour	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Amber Wilke*	Summer Dance Institute for Teachers (SDIT), a Dance Educator Training	East Helena	\$1,000	\$1,000
Jessica Partridge*	Dance Educator Training at the Summer Dance Institute for Teachers (SDIT)	Helena	\$1,000	\$1,000

**Denotes First Time Program Applicant*

ARTISTS IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

MAC's Artists in Schools and Communities (AISC) grant program supports a wide range of arts education needs, serving learners of every age and ability across a multitude of disciplines and settings.

There are two AISC grant opportunities:

AISC Experiences supports arts learning in three categories: in person or virtual engagement with guest artists; purchases of tools, supplies and equipment to support experimentation with new arts media or methods, and transportation funds to provide learners with first-hand experience with art and artists. Often these activities serve as a launch point for deeper learning.

- Provides grants of between \$250 and \$2500, with no cash match required
- Funds categories not typically covered by the Residencies grant
- Applications accepted three times per year in April, August and December

AISC Residencies grants connect learners of all ages and abilities with professional teaching artists through a diversity of learning formats and settings. Whether a single-day or months-long engagement, these projects hold one thing in common: hands-on learning.

- Provides grants of between \$2500 and \$10,000 with 1:1 matching funds required. New grantees and Tribal or Class C or smaller schools receive 2:1 funding.
- Allows for in-depth experiential learning in conjunction with a guest or teaching artist.
- Enhances arts-specific learning as well as supports arts integration projects.

Big Sky Beadwork conducting a class.



Macbeth, performed by Montana Shakespeare in the Parks' School Tour, in the fall of 2023.

Memorandum

TO: Montana Arts Council Members

FROM: Angella Ahn | Chair

RE: Arts Education Committee

As its primary task, the Arts Education Committee meets several times throughout the year to review and make determinations on applications submitted to the Artists in Schools and Communities' AISC Experiences grant process. In late January of this year the committee reviewed 14 grants submitted to the December deadline and awarded grants to all, totaling \$32,690. The list of awarded grants appears on the following page for your reference.

The committee will meet again on May 23 to review and make funding determinations on the 20 grants submitted to the AISC Experiences April 18 deadline.

In addition to awarding grants through **AISC Experiences**, the committee contributes feedback on AISC Residencies grant guidelines under development. One member of the Arts Education Committee serves as chair for the annual review of applications submitted to AISC Residencies by the assembled panel. This year the panel, chaired by Corky Clairmont, convened on April 24 -25 and reviewed 23 grants. Of those, all but one are being recommended for funding as shown on page 32. Serving as panelists for this year's **AISC Residencies** review: Mary Callahan Baumstark, Kayla de la Ossa and Claudia Crase.

Beyond their contributions toward both Artists in Schools and Communities grant processes, members of the committee work to connect organizations with these opportunities and consider and discuss arts learning topics of importance such as projects within MAC's initiative on Creative Aging and the need to increase access to arts learning in K-12 schools statewide. In the coming fiscal year, the committee will dedicate at least one of its four meetings to these and other topics.

Arts Education Committee

Angella Ahn, Chair

Sean Chandler

Corky Clairmont

Bridger Pierce

Linda Netschert

December 2023 AISC Experiences Awards

Organization Name	Project Name	Organization City	Amt. Requested	Amt. Awarded
Art Mobile of Montana	Art Mobile of Montana Travel Money	Dillon	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Glacier Gateway Elementary	Art Programming for Glacier Gateway Elementary School	Columbia Falls	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Helena Symphony	Helena Symphony Education Experience with Percussionists Lynn Vartan and Weichen Lin	Helena	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Hellgate Elementary School District	The 5 Valleys Honor Band	Missoula	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Hungry Hill Center for Art, Education, and Outreach	Adaptive Pottery Wheel Purchase	Butte	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Intermountain Opera Association	"Wheels of Harmony" - Sharing Indigenous Culture and Music With Montana Schools	Bozeman	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Missoula Community Radio	Monthly A/V Club	Missoula	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
Partnering for Prevention: Taking A Stand Against Violence	Building Trauma Resilience and Healing thru Art and Music: NoMore Violence Week 2024	Great Falls	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00
Rau Elementary School	Artists in the Classroom	Sidney	\$690.00	\$690.00
Ravenwood Outdoor Learning Center	Arts & Ancestors	Whitefish	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Red Lodge Music Festival	Red Lodge Music Festival, Inc.	Billings	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Ruder Elementary	Art Programming for Ruder Elementary School	Columbia Falls	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Sunburst Arts and Education	Teen Musicals Development	Eureka	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Yellowstone Art Museum	Supporting Lifelong Learners and Creative Aging through Art Education	Billings	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
			\$32,690.00	\$32,690.00

FY25 AISC Residencies Recommendations

Organization Name	Organization City	Project Name	Requested	Recommendation
A VOICE	Pablo	Our Community Record Two Eagle River School	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Bare Bait Dance	Missoula	REVEAL - Community Workshop Series at Westside Theater	\$9,199.00	\$9,190.00
Belgrade School District #44	Belgrade	Belgrade and the Trans Siberian Orchestra Experience	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
Bozeman Art Museum	Bozeman	Exploring Creativity - Drawing In & Outside the Lines with the Bozeman Art Museum free art classes	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Cohesion Dance Project	Helena	Cohesion Dance Project's School and Community Outreach Expansion	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Elk River Arts & Lectures	Livingston	Livingston Literaries: A Writing Group for Teens	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Grandstreet Broadwater Productions, Inc.	Helena	Grandstreet Summer Theatre School	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Great Falls Public Schools Music and Art	Great Falls	Art in Residence, Mike Hollern, Sculptor	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Lowell School Parent Teacher Association	Missoula	Poets in Residence at Lowell Elementary School	\$3,813.00	\$3,800.00
Missoula Art Museum	Missoula	MAM's Teen Art Project (TAP): Public Art & Community - What type of beauty does this PLACE unveil?	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00
Missoula Writing Collaborative	Missoula	Young Writers of the Garden City	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Montana Actors' Theatre	Havre	MAT Youth Education Program	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Montana Repertory Theatre, University of Montana	Statewide	Montana Repertory Theatre's 2025 Educational Tour	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
NDN Arts	East Glacier Park	James Welch Native Arts Youth Writing Workshops	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
North Valley Music School	Whitefish	North Valley Music School's Teaching Artists In Schools Program	\$6,552.00	\$6,550.00
Singing Waters Montana	Helena	Z-Arts Middle School Arts Camp at Mimanagish	\$9,920.00	\$-
SPARK! Arts Ignite Learning	Missoula	K-8 SPARK! Arts Integration Residency Project	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
The Myrna Loy	Helena	Bill Bowers	\$3,375.00	\$3,375.00
The Shane Lalani Center for the Arts	Livingston	Youth Education Program	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Tinworks Art	Bozeman	Community workshops for hands-on art learning with local artists at Tinworks Art	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Tumblewheel Studios	Belfry	Tumblewheel Studios Teaching Artist in Residence	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
WaterWorks Art Museum	Miles City	The Art of Loving ART!	\$10,000.00	\$7,500.00
Young Poets, Montana State University Billings	Billings	Young Poets at Orchard Elementary	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
			\$194,859.00	\$182,415.00

Governor's Arts Awards

The Governor's Arts Awards honors individuals and institutions who have contributed a substantial legacy to the arts in Big Sky Country.

- Since 1981, 125 awards have been presented.
- The next ceremony will take place on December 5, 2024, in the Old Supreme Court Chambers at the Capitol Building with a reception to follow in the rotunda.
- The medallion artwork was inspired and designed by artist Al Chandler Good Strike.

GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARDS



Memorandum

TO: Montana Arts Council Members
FROM: Wylie Gustafson | Chair Governor's Arts Award Committee
RE: Governor's Arts Awards

The Governor's Arts Awards (GAA) Committee for 2024-2025 includes Troy Collins, Julie Mac, John Moore, Steve Zabel, and I serve as chair.

Nominations opened in January. Nominators completed a web-based or paper form with contact information and responses to brief narrative questions. Nominations closed March 5. Over 60 nominations were submitted for 40 nominees. Three staff members reviewed the nominations for eligibility and on the criteria and made brief comments. A full list of all nominees follows this memo.

The GAA Committee reviewed the nomination materials and researched the nominees. Each member submitted their top recommendations. Based on the close consensus of the committee, it was determined a final panel review was not necessary. The nominators of these finalists were notified and submitted additional information.

The Governor's Arts Award Committee presents the following (alphabetic) list.

1. Jim Dolan
2. John Dunnigan
3. Jackie Larson Bread
4. John Lowell
5. Gayle Shanahan

At the May meeting, the council will vote on the honorees to be presented to the Governor. The Governor will make final decisions and an update will be provided to the council. Please keep the recommended awardee list confidential until the official announcement is made by the Governor's Office in late summer.

Governors Arts Awards Finalists (Alphabetical)

Jim Dolan

Jim Dolan is a metal sculptor with a career spanning five decades. His portfolio includes over 170 large-scale public pieces world-wide and thousands of private pieces. Jim's style of welding steel and other metals into realistic representations is unique among sculptors. His sculptures range from table-top size to a golden eagle with a 36-foot wingspan, installed in Osaka, Japan. Aside from large sculpture, he creates three-dimensional, heat-endured metal paintings as well as architectural design elements. Observing the beauty and complexity of nature, Jim seeks to inspire others to appreciate nature and pursue their own talents and passions.

Raised in California, Jim knew Montana would be his home. While studying agriculture at Montana State University (MSU), he petitioned to receive in-state tuition. His reasoning being he would make his life and living in Montana, contributing to the state throughout his life. True to his word, Jim has spent his career in Montana.

After graduating, he started making metal sculptures. Rather than continuing with a career in ag, Jim's passion for art took over. He became a full-time metal sculptor, never looking back.

Most importantly, Jim believes in sharing his art. As a result, he is most proud of his public art around the United States and abroad. Above all, he has made good on his promise to contribute to Montana. Most noteworthy, as a gift to the people of the state of Montana, he created and donated the "Bleu Horses" in 2013. His largest installation, the herd of 39 blue horses are located on a hill off Highway 287 near Three Forks, Montana. Showing his gratitude to MSU, he has donated four sculptures to the campus. These include "Walt Whitman," "Ludwig," "Black Elk," and "Abraham Lincoln." His latest donation of Lincoln was unveiled for MSU's 125th anniversary.

<https://jimdolanart.com/>

John Dunnigan

John Dunnigan is a captivating and energizing solo musical act. He plays a variety of songs, including covers by artists such as Billy Currington, Jimmy Buffet, and Billy Joel. In addition to vocals, John's performances include various musical instruments, such as guitar, banjo and harmonica. John has a gift for reading crowds and creating the perfect setlist for the vibe in the room. He includes anecdotes and jokes between songs, which keep the crowd engaged throughout the set and allows him to form connections.

Dunnigan has been charming audiences across Montana for decades. His sincere, light-hearted folk tunes endear those who listen to his music, eager to hear more of what he has to say. Dunnigan has released four albums and continues to play his favorite venues throughout the Flathead Valley.

Dunnigan has recorded 5 "albums" mostly original tunes. Played 200+ shows a year for over 35 years. Was a member of the Rocky Mtn Association of Fairs, and played "hundreds" of fair dates.

Been on stage with Bruce Springsteen, Kris Kristofferson, and was the opening act for dozens and dozens of national acts. Did the Marconi Awards Show in Seattle with Jeff Foxworthy as the emcee and Dunnigan was the musical guest. Played at the Big Mountain Ski Resort for 30 years. Played guitar, harmonica, steel guitar and banjo on over two dozen recordings of other artists.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UDk9hA6qiGw>

Jackie Larson Bread

From Jackie Larson Bread's artist statement at the Santa Fe Indian Art Market: I consider my beadwork to be both traditional and contemporary. I bead traditional Blackfeet geometric and floral design to enhance the primary image of each beaded piece. The primary part of my beadwork is contemporary, photorealistic portraits of Blackfeet people. I have started beading images of animals/wildlife, using this technique. I was a painter for several years; this helps me to in essence paint with beads. My beadwork is usually composed into traditional items, such as bags, sheaths, boxes, parasols etc. The materials that I use consist of brain-tanned buckskin, a variety of glass beads ranging in size from 15, 13, and 11. The finished piece often includes brass bells and beads, sometimes fur and ribbons.

From the Native Arts and Culture Foundation website: "Bread has served as a consultant for the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian on Blackfeet traditional art. She has provided dozens of training classes for adults and children focusing on Blackfeet beadwork. She has lectured in many venues about her art and Blackfeet material culture, and throughout her career has collaborated with several artists. Over her fifty years of creating work, she has remained fascinated by the beauty, the construction, the meaning, the color, the tactile property, and the familial connection of these beaded pieces."

Jackie's beadwork has been acknowledged with many awards at the prestigious Heard Museum Show, in Phoenix, Arizona, the Santa Fe Indian Market, and the Northern Plains Tribal Arts Show in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

"I try to place myself in the frame of mind of a nineteenth century artist. Using a limited palette of colors, I strive to produce a beaded piece true to that time period. I use old stock beads or modern re-runs of old colors, to lend a feel of authenticity to each piece."

Jackie lives in Great Falls, Montana. Her art is housed in many permanent and private collections, including the Smithsonian Institution Museum of the American Indian, Washington, D.C., the C.M. Russell Museum, Great Falls, MT and the Museum of Art and Design, New York, NY. Jackie was the 2016 recipient of Native American Art Magazine's award of excellence. She is the frequent blue-ribbon award recipient at the Santa Fe Indian Art Market, as well.

<https://www.pinterest.ca/falashoka/jackie-larson-bread/>

<https://www.nativeartsandcultures.org/jackie-larson-bread>

<https://swaia.org/artist-directory/jackie-bread/>

<https://westernartandarchitecture.com/features/celebrating-a-centennial-bead-artist-jackie-larson-bread>

John Lowell

John Lowell has been performing in the Mountain West for the past 43 years. He's toured the world with his bands Kane's River, Growling Old Men, Wheel Hoss, and the John Lowell Band. John is a triple threat – songwriter, singer, and guitarist. His smooth voice is heard on many albums. John performs worldwide, has been featured on Garrison Keillor's "Prairie Home Companion" and is the 2022 winner of the International Western Music Association's Cowboy Song of the Year for a track from his release, "She's Leaving Cheyenne" which was named Album of the Year by Wyoming Public Radio.

John teaches at music camps in the US, UK, Canada and Europe and serves on the IBMA songwriting committee. He's recently performed at the Kerrville Folk Festival and the Lone Star Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Texas, the Crossroads Festival in Nottingham, UK and at the Finding Your Roots Festival in Ireland. He will perform in 2024 at the Cody Songwriters

Festival and the Grand Targhee Bluegrass Festival among other touring dates in Florida, Kansas, Montana and Texas. He did his 11th European tour last fall, and has tours to the UK and Europe planned for 2024. John and his wife (and frequent musical partner) Joanne Gardner Lowell live in Livingston, MT.

<https://johnlowell.com/>

Gayle Shanahan

Montana artist Mary Gayle Shanahan has been painting portraits since she was eleven years old. She has spent her whole life in Montana, the majority of it in Helena. Gayle is a watercolorist, a pastel and pen-and-ink artist, and a book illustrator. She is best known for her portraiture, especially of children and distinguished Montanans. Mary Gayle's portraits hang in public and private collections all over the state and the country. She grew up in Billings and majored in art at Billings Senior High School and later earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Montana, where she was a student of Aden Arnold, James Dew, and Walter Hook. She continued her studies under renowned portrait and landscape painters in Europe, Canada, and Mexico as well as across the United States. She studied and taught portraiture for over sixty years. Her authentic and recognizable portraits hang in private and public collections all over Montana and the United States.

Shanahan's passion for Montana, its art and history led her to collaborate with historian Jean Baucus to create a guide to the historical mansions of Helena, which is a prized possession of many local residents. Her pen and ink drawings of notable buildings in Butte, Anaconda, Three Forks, Billings and Helena are testament to her love of historic architecture and technical skill as an artist.

Today, Gayle Shanahan is still a working artist, creating portraits and taking new commissions. Asked about her longevity and what keeps her going, she says "art is the continuous thread that holds my life together."

Gayle's son Phil Shanahan created a YouTube video of a small sampling of her work.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBkuANfSM4o>

2024-2025 Governor's Arts Award Nominee List

	Nominee	Nominator	Community
1	Clyde Aspevig	Linda Williams	Bozeman
2	Dalton Brink	Alayna Rasile	Livingston
3	Lavonne Burgard	Jones Terrel	Kalispell
4	Chip Clawson	Philip Aaberg	Helena
5	Jim Dolan	Dean Folkvord	Belgrade
6	Jeff Downing	Alvaro Freyre	Helena
7	John Dunnigan	Danielle Schwartz, Toby Scott, Alex Hopkins, Willis Freed Lowrey, John Dunnigan, Amy Ridgeway	Whitefish
8	Julie Edwards	Megan Buecking	Big Sky
9	Judy Fjell	Judy Fay, Mackenzie Jones	Helena
10	Julia Galloway	Kim Anderson, Lisa Simon	Missoula
11	Lily Gladstone	Kristina Kau'i Bouquet, Jeri Rafter	Browning
12	Mariah Gladstone	Rachelle Brown	Duck Lake
13	Pamela Harr	Frank Fleisner	Glendive
14	Sean Heavey	Mary Honrud, Liz Edwin	Glasgow
15	Ashley Holland	Little Jane and the Pistol Whips	Livingston
16	Steve Huston	Linda Williams	Manhattan
17	Carrie Krause	Eric Funk, Gregory Young, Kathleen Ralph	Bozeman
18	Jackie Larson Bread	Arlynn Fishbaugh	Great Falls
19	John Lowell	Joanne Gardner	Livingston
20	Campbell Midgley	Robert Stutz	Helena
21	Montana Playwrights Network	Jan Jamruszka-Wilson	Helena
22	Mike Murray	Arin Lever, Kristine Storer, Christopher Messenger, Siya Oum, Jill Bridgeman, Maggie Eisenbarth	Kalispell
23	Tim Nielson	Nicole Whitescarver	Missoula
24	North Valley Music School	Deidre Corson	Whitefish
25	Kate Oltmann	Kelly Logue	Fortine
26	Robert Osborn	Linda Williams	Livingston
27	Nan Parsons	Jenny Bevill	Basin
28	Juli Robertson	Bethany DeBorde, Shyann Griffin, Sarah Wolfe, Cindie Tenneson, Rory Armstrong	Fort Benton
29	Seth Roby	Galen McAllister	Helena
30	Gayle Shanahan	Mary Florence Erving, Charlene Porsild, Paulette Etchart, Terry Cohea, Donna K. Davis, Janice Franko Doggett	Helena
31	K. Paul Stahl	Arlynn Fishbaugh	Helena
32	The Lucky Valentines	Jessica Salazar	Fort Benton
33	The Shane Lalani Center for the Arts	Skye Murphy	Livingston

34	Brach Thomson	Cathy Hay	Bigfork
35	Linda Tippetts	Loren Solberg, Choteau Arts, Susan Luinstra	Augusta
36	WaterWorks Art Museum**	Dixie Rieger	Miles City
37	April Werle	Marc Moss	Missoula
38	Brooke Wetzel	Rick Halmes	Corvallis
39	Whitefish Review	Brian Schott	Whitefish
40	John Zirkle	Barbara Rowley	Big Sky

*selected finalist

**previous recipient, not eligible

POET LAUREATE

Montana Poet Laureate

The Montana Poet Laureate recognizes and honors a citizen poet of exceptional talent and accomplishment. The Poet Laureate also encourages appreciation of poetry and literary life in Montana. This position was created by the state legislature in 2005.

The Poet Laureate is chosen on the basis of three criteria:

- Artistic excellence and achievement
- Ongoing contributions to the cultural community
- Worthiness of statewide recognition

Montana's current Poet Laureate, Chris La Tray, addresses students competing in Montana's 2024 Poetry Out Loud state finals.



FOLK AND TRADITIONAL ARTS

Montana Circle of American Masters

The Montana Circle of American Masters (MCAM) celebrates the contributions of Montana's master artists in traditional and folk arts. A member of Montana's Circle of American Masters is a person who throughout their lifetime of work in the traditional arts has created a notable body of work. Of significant cultural and artistic stature, their work is representative of the historic, traditional, and innovative arts distinctive to the State and is worthy of note on both a state and national level.

- Documents the unique cultural traditions of Montana by providing a platform for its foremost folk and traditional artists.
- Increases the visibility of artists and their communities.
- Provides a \$3000 award to new inductees.

Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program

The skills, techniques, and stories of folk and traditional artforms are passed down person to person. A mentor/apprentice relationship in a community setting is among the most effective ways to support the vitality of Montana's traditional arts. MAC's Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship program aims to play a crucial role in both preserving and evolving cherished traditions by facilitating a direct and immersive transfer of skills from mentor artists to passionate and committed learners.

- Gives mentor artists a \$3000 award to provide qualified apprentices with short-term, intensive learning.
- Supports rural Montana and its vibrant traditions by funding the passing on of foundational cultural knowledge.

Montana Circle of American Masters recipients Glenn Gilmore, Marc Brogger, and Terry Hill.



Percent for Art

In 1983, the 48th Montana Legislature "... in recognition of its responsibility to create a more humane environment of distinction, enjoyment, and pride for all its citizens and in recognition that public art is a resource that stimulates the vitality and economy of the state's communities and provides opportunity for artists to practice their crafts", enacted a law providing that, "capital project appropriations by the legislature shall include ... an amount not to exceed 1% of the amount appropriated for the use of the Montana Arts Council for the acquisition of art for new state buildings..."

- The Montana Arts Council has administered this program since its inception in 1985, already placing art in more than 18 state buildings.
- The most recent project is the DNRC Eastern Land Office in Miles City.



Installation of work funded by Percent for Art at Montana State University's historic Romney Hall, seen in Lego by university president Waded Cruzado after delivering remarks dedicating the renovated building in its reimanged gymnasium space.



PERCENT
FOR
ART

FINANCE REPORTS



TWO EAGLE
RIVER SCHOOL
Home of the Eagles

Artwork graces the
gym at Two Eagle River
School in Pablo.

Memorandum

TO: Montana Arts Council Members
FROM: Jenifer Alger | Chief Financial Officer
RE: Fiscal YTD 2024 Budget Report

Below is an explanation of those budget line items you may have questions about.

Staff Salaries + Benefits

MAC is projecting a surplus of \$28,100. This is due to the executive director position not being paid for 5 months.

Programs

MAC is projecting a surplus of \$29,400 and is a result of the following:

- Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP) – Approved budget included funds for 2 cohorts, but we ended up having enough participants for one. MAC will use accrued MAP income to pay all these expenses. Any remaining income balance will be carried forward to FY 2025.
- Montana Circle of American Masters (MCAM) – Approved budget included funds for a ceremony, but it was decided to postpone until the Spring of 2025. (Expenses = Income)
- State of the Arts (SOA) - The \$2,435 overspent is due to postage increases.
- Poetry out Loud (POL). The \$5,755 unspent is for a short-term POL coordinator position and is included in line 2 – staff salaries + benefits. The remaining \$5,000 unspent was for a poets in the schools initiative that did not happen.
- Creative Aging – There was \$4,740 from the FY 2023 NASAA grant that carried over to FY 2024. There was an additional \$11,725 awarded from Lifetime Arts to continue this program. (Expenses = Income)
- Folk Arts – The \$7,320 unspent is for a student intern archivist position and is included in line 2 – staff salaries + benefits.

Administration

MAC is projecting a surplus of \$36,800 and is a result of the following:

- Contracted Services – underspent due to postponing some strategic planning costs to FY 2025.
- Communications - underspent due to fewer mailings than were anticipated.
- Travel + Other Expenses - underspent due to less staff professional development, strategic planning travel being postponed to FY 2025, and not all council members traveling to meetings.
- Rent - overspent due to not estimating enough for meeting room and space rentals.
- SITSD Fixed Costs – underspent by \$4,180 due to not being billed for 2 services that DOA suggested we include in our budget. This appropriation is restricted for SITSD services; therefore, we cannot spend on anything else. Any remaining balance will revert to the general fund.

Grants

MAC is projecting a net surplus in grants of \$195,430 and is a result of the following:

- Artists in Schools & Communities (AISC) – \$2,260 overspent due to one FY 2023 Experiences grant being transferred to FY 2024.
- Public Value Partnerships (PVP) - \$92,500 exceeded the budget due to giving an additional \$1,500 to all eligible grantees and having more awards than projected.
- Statewide Service Organizations (SSO) - \$10,500 underspent due to reducing the amount of each award from previous years.
- Cultural & Aesthetics (C&A) - The total allocated is a biennial appropriation; therefore, the \$279,400 remaining will carry over to FY 2025 and will be fully spent.

Montana Community Foundation Endowment Fund Update

The FY 2024 budget uses \$10,000 from the Arts Education Fund to fund AISC grant awards and \$14,547 from the Governor's Awards for Artists to help fund some MCAM expenses.

Current balances for both endowments are as follows:

- Arts Education Fund \$27,356
- Governor's Award for Artists \$73,204

Remaining Balances/Carryforwards

The projected remaining balance of \$313,869 at FYE consists of the following:

Unused DOA SITSD	\$ 4,180
FY 2025 C&A Grant Funds	\$279,438
Unused NEA	\$ 341
Unused MAP Income	\$ 29,909

The unused DOA SITSD funds will revert to the General Fund. However, MAC will be allowed to carryforward 30% of the SITSD funds into FY 2025 and they will be used toward SIG grants to individuals.

The C&A grant funds, unused NEA, and MAP income will all carryforward into FY 2025.

FY24 MAC Budget 5/8/2024

Line #		FY24 Approved Budget	General Fund 23.93%	Cultural Trust 30.33%	NEA 41.77%	Other Income 3.97%	TOTAL	(Over)/ Under
1	PERSONNEL SERVICES							
2	Staff Salaries + Benefits	\$723,355	\$228,093	\$175,666	\$294,642	-	\$698,401	\$24,954
3	Honorariums/Stipends	\$13,200	\$5,600	-	\$4,500	-	\$10,100	\$3,100
4								
5	Total	\$736,555	\$233,693	\$175,666	\$299,142	-	\$708,501	\$28,054
6								
7	PROGRAMS							
8	Montana Artrepreneur Program	\$46,500	-	-	-	\$31,114	\$31,114	\$15,386
9	MCAM/GAA	\$29,355	-	-	-	\$14,547	\$14,547	\$14,808
10	State of the Arts	\$69,255	\$47,129	-	\$24,561	-	\$71,690	(\$2,435)
11	Poetry Out Loud	\$35,000	-	-	\$24,245	-	\$24,245	\$10,755
12	Creative Aging	\$20,000	\$20,000	-	-	\$16,465	\$36,465	(\$16,465)
13	Folk Arts	\$40,000	\$16,340	-	\$16,340	-	\$32,680	\$7,320
14								
15	Programs: Total	\$240,110	\$83,469	-	\$65,146	\$62,126	\$210,741	\$29,369
16								
17	ADMINISTRATION							
18	Contracted Services	\$93,082	\$3,520	\$5,225	\$73,484	-	\$82,229	\$10,853
19	Supplies & Materials	\$16,936	\$1,097	\$1,300	\$14,852	-	\$17,249	(\$313)
20	Communications	\$5,835	\$1,263	\$448	\$699	-	\$2,410	\$3,425
21	Travel	\$65,530	\$18,978	\$6,410	\$19,512	-	\$44,901	\$20,629
22	Rent	\$45,641	\$17,343	\$5,131	\$25,967	-	\$48,441	(\$2,800)
23	Other Expenses	\$59,345	\$13,987	\$14,554	\$29,969	-	\$58,510	\$835
24	Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	SITSD Fixed Costs (Restricted)	\$72,301	\$32,693	\$12,653	\$22,775	-	\$68,121	\$4,180
26								
27	Administration: Total	\$358,670	\$88,882	\$45,721	\$187,259	-	\$321,861	\$36,809
28								

Line #		FY24 Approved Budget	General Fund 23.93%	Cultural Trust 30.33%	NEA 41.77%	Other Income 3.97%	TOTAL	(Over)/ Under \$24,954
29	GRANTS							
30	Artists in Schools & Communities	\$250,000	\$69,638	-	\$172,622	\$10,000	\$252,260	(\$2,260)
31	Artists Innovation Awards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	Public Value Partnerships	\$275,000	\$94,537	-	\$272,963	-	\$367,500	(\$92,500)
33	Statewide Service Organizations	\$96,000	-	-	\$85,500	-	\$85,500	\$10,500
34	Strategic Investment	\$55,000	\$54,748	-	-	-	\$54,748	\$252
35	Cultural Trust Grants	\$558,876	-	\$279,438	-	-	\$279,438	\$279,438
36	Relief Funds/Percent for Art	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
37								
38	Grants: Total	\$1,234,876	\$218,923	\$279,438	\$531,085	\$10,000	\$1,039,446	\$195,430
39								
40	TOTAL FY 2024 EXPENSES	\$2,570,211	\$624,967	\$500,825	\$1,082,632	\$72,126	\$2,280,549	\$289,662
41								
42	TOTAL FY 2024 REVENUES	\$2,572,265	\$615,567	\$780,263	\$1,074,400	\$102,035	\$2,572,265	
43	FYE 2023 Carryforwards	\$22,153	\$13,580	-	\$8,573	-	\$22,153	
44								
45	(OVER)/UNDER	\$24,207	\$4,180	\$279,438	\$341	\$29,909	\$313,869	\$313,869

Budget Comments

Line 2: Personnel Services: Staff Salaries + Benefits

- Includes Folk Arts student intern archivist and POL Coordinator

Line 3: Personnel Services: Honorariums/ Stipends

- Council member/C&A Panel payments

Line 9: Programs: MCAM/GAA

- \$14,547 from Governors Awards for Artists Fund (MCF)

Line 12: Programs: Creative Aging

- \$4,740 from FYE 2023 + \$11,725 awarded from Lifetime Arts

Line 13: Programs: Folk Arts

- \$16,340 from GF and \$16,340 from NEA. Student intern archivist included in line 2

Line 18: Administration: Contracted Services

- Printing, insurance, legal fees, consultants, strategic planning contract, non-council stipends

Line 19: Administration: Supplies & Materials

- Software licenses, commodities

Line 20: Administration: Communications

- Postage, interagency mailings, and advertising

Line 21: Administration: Travel

- Council, staff, programs, and panels

Line 22: Administration: Rent

- Facility and offsite meeting rooms

Line 23: Administration: Other Expenses

- WESTAF dues (\$22,261), NASAA dues (\$10,360), staff training, subscriptions, registration, meetings

Line 25: Administration: SITSD Fixed Costs (Restricted)

- Funds are restricted for SITSD services only. Any unspent funds will revert to the GF.

Line 30: Grants: Artists in Schools & Communities

- \$10,000 from Arts Education Fund (MCF)

Line 32: Grants: Public Value Partnerships

- Additional \$1,500 for each grantee.

Line 35: Grants: Cultural Trust Grants

- Budget includes biennial amount of \$558,876. Remaining balance will carry forward into FY 2025.

Line 43: FYE 2023 Carryforwards

- FYE 2022 \$5,231 GF spent by 06/30/2024. FYE 2023 \$8,349 GF spent by 06/30/2025. NEA was spent by 12/31/2023.

Line 45: (OVER)/UNDER

- \$4,180 GF restricted for SITSD, \$279,438 C&A, \$341 NEA, and \$29,909 MAP.

Memorandum

TO: Montana Arts Council Members
FROM: Jenifer Alger | Chief Financial Officer
RE: Fiscal Year 2025 Proposed Budget Report

MAC is projecting to end the fiscal year with \$0 remaining. Below is an explanation of the differences between FY 2024 and FY 2025 expenditures and revenues:

Expenditures

MAC's FY 2025 budgeted expenditures are approximately \$32,300 more than the FY 2024 projections due to the following:

- **Personnel Services** - \$73,400 increase due to being fully staffed, employee raises approved by the 2023 legislature and more council member stipends being paid.
- **Programs** - \$33,000 increase due to one more planned MAP cohort and having both the MCAM and GAA ceremonies happening in FY 2025.
- **Administration** - \$26,200 decrease due to most of the poet laureate anthology project expenses being paid in FY 2024.
- **Grants** - \$48,000 decrease due to excess funds allocated to PVP and SSO grantees in FY 2024.

Revenues

MAC's FY 2025 estimated revenues are approximately \$20,000 more than the FY 2024 due to the following:

- **General Fund (HB 2+HB13):** \$11,300 increase is due to employee raises included in HB13.
- **Cultural Trust (HB2+HB13):** \$6,400 increase is due to employee raises included in HB13.
- **National Endowment for the Arts (NEA):** \$5,000 increase is due to the NEA awarding additional funds for Poetry Out Loud. The NEA's budget remained flat for FY 2025; therefore, MAC did not receive as big of an increase as in past years.
- **Other Income:** \$2,700 decrease due to a combination of having less accrued MAP income, using more MCF funds for MCAM, GAA and TAAP, receiving no additional creative aging revenue and using some of the WESTAF innovation funds for grants.
- **Special note:** This year we will have access to \$10,000 from the WESTAF Innovation Fund, which will be directed toward administering an innovative or new program, with a unique focus on human-centered and inclusive government. You will see this amount reflected in Income, and in Grant Expenses, as Innovation Fund Pilot Project. Funds will be paid for directly from WESTAF and will be used for small pilot projects demonstrating cross-sector partnerships in the arts.

FY25 MAC Budget 5/8/2024

LINE #		FY24 Projected	Proposed FY25 Budget	FY 2025 PROJECTED SPEND	FY25 Projected Outcome Through 06/30/2025
1	PERSONNEL SERVICES				
2	Personnel Services: Core Staff Salaries + Benefits	\$698,401	\$752,676	\$765,539	\$(12,863)
3	Personnel Services: Honorariums/Stipends	\$10,100	\$9,000	\$16,400	\$(7,400)
4					
5	Personnel Services: Total	\$708,501	\$761,676	\$781,939	\$(20,263)
6					
7	PROGRAMS				
8	Programs: MAP	\$31,114	\$46,825	\$46,825	\$-
9	Programs: MCAM/TAAP	\$14,547	\$33,885	\$33,885	\$-
10	Programs: GAA	\$-	\$10,580	\$10,580	\$-
11	Programs: AIA	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
12	Programs: State of the Arts	\$71,690	\$72,000	\$72,000	\$-
13	Programs: POL	\$24,245	\$33,900	\$27,000	\$6,900
14	Programs: Creative Aging	\$36,465	\$13,500	\$13,500	\$-
15	Programs: Folk Arts	\$32,680	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$-
16	Programs: Percent for Art Excess	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
17					
18	Programs: Total	\$210,741	\$250,690	\$243,790	\$6,900
19					
20	ADMINISTRATION				
21	Administration: Contracted Services	\$82,229	\$32,575	\$32,575	\$-
22	Administration: Supplies & Materials	\$17,249	\$18,717	\$18,717	\$-
23	Administration: Communications	\$2,410	\$2,775	\$2,775	\$-
24	Administration: Travel	\$44,901	\$59,287	\$59,287	\$-
25	Administration: Rent	\$48,441	\$50,841	\$50,841	\$-
26	Administration: Other Expenses	\$58,510	\$60,329	\$60,329	\$-
27	Administration: Equipment	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
28	Administration: SITSD Fixed Costs (Restricted)	\$68,121	\$71,123	\$71,123	\$-
29					

30	Administration: Total		\$321,861	\$295,647	\$295,647	\$-
31						
32	GRANTS					
33	Grants: Artists in Schools & Communities		\$252,260	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$-
34	Grants: Public Value Partnerships		\$367,500	\$294,000	\$294,000	\$-
35	Grants: Statewide Service Organizations		\$85,500	\$78,000	\$78,000	\$-
36	Grants: Strategic Investment		\$54,748	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$-
37	Grants: Cultural Trust Grants		\$279,438	\$279,438	\$279,438	\$-
38	Grants: Innovation Fund Pilot Project		\$-	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$-
39						
40	Grants: Total		\$1,039,446	\$991,438	\$991,438	\$-
41						
42	GRAND TOTALS		\$2,280,549	\$2,299,451	\$2,312,814	\$(13,363)
43						
44	INCOME					
45	General Fund		\$615,567	\$626,842		
46	Personal Services Contingency		\$-	\$-		
47	TOTAL GENERAL FUND		\$615,567	\$626,842		
48	Cultural Trust Administration		\$221,387	\$227,760		
49	Cultural Trust/Grants (Biennial)		\$279,438	\$279,438		
50	TOTAL CULTURAL TRUST		\$500,825	\$507,198		
51	Federal Partnership Agreement Plan		\$721,200	\$721,200		
52	Federal Poetry Out Loud		\$20,000	\$25,000		
53	Federal Underserved		\$254,200	\$254,200		
54	Federal Artists in the Schools		\$59,000	\$59,000		
55	Federal Folk Arts Partnership		\$20,000	\$20,000		
56	TOTAL FEDERAL		\$1,074,400	\$1,079,400		
57	Sigerson Permanent Fund		\$-	\$-		
58	MAP Earned Income		\$61,023	\$34,909		
59	Endowment: Montana Arts Council Arts Education Fund		\$10,000	\$10,000		
60	Endowment: Montana Arts Council Governor's Award for the Artists Fund		\$14,547	\$44,465		

61	Creative Aging Grants	\$16,465	\$-		
62	WESTAF Innovation Fund	\$-	\$10,000		
63	TOTAL OTHER INCOME	\$102,035	\$99,374		
64					
65	TOTAL INCOME	\$2,292,827	\$2,312,814		
66	Difference between Income + Expenses	\$12,278	\$13,363		
67	Carryforward from Prior Year	\$22,153	\$-		
68	Projected Final Balance/Carryforward	\$34,431	\$13,363		\$0

FY 2025 MAC Budget Summary

Date: 05/08/2024

Budget area	Estimated	Notes
Income	\$ 2,312,814.00	Budget Line 65
Personnel Expenses	\$ 781,939.00	Budget Line 5
Program Expenses	\$ 243,790.00	Budget Line 18
Administration Expenses	\$ 295,647.00	Budget Line 30
Grant Expenses	\$ 991,438.00	Budget Line 40
Balance (income minus expenses)	\$ -	

***NOTE:** This is not a profit/loss statement. This information shows the estimated income and expenditures. The goal is that the ending balance equals zero (\$0.00).

FY 2025 MAC Income

Income	Estimated	Percentage	Notes
General Fund	\$ 626,842.00	27.10%	Budget Line 47
Cultural Trust Fund	\$ 507,198.00	21.93%	Budget Line 50
NEA Federal Fund	\$ 1,079,400.00	46.67%	Budget Line 56
Other Income - Sigerson Perm Fund	\$ -	0.00%	Budget Line 57
Other Income - MAP Earned Income	\$ 34,909.00	1.51%	Budget Line 58
Other Income - MCF Arts Education Fund	\$ 10,000.00	0.43%	Budget Line 59
Other Income - MCF Governor's Award for the Artists Fund	\$ 44,465.00	1.92%	Budget Line 60
Other Income - Creative Aging Grants	\$ -	0.00%	Budget Line 61
WESTAF Innovation Fund	\$ 10,000.00	0.43%	Budget Line 62
Total Income	\$ 2,312,814.00	100.00%	

FY 2025 Personnel Expenses

Expenses	Estimated	Notes
Staff Salaries + Benefits (7.00 FTE)	\$ 758,639.00	Budget Line 2
POL Coordinator*	\$ 6,900.00	Budget Line 2
Council Stipends - Council Meeting Attendance	\$ 9,000.00	Budget Line 3
Council Stipends - Chair Helena Trips (4)	\$ 400.00	Budget Line 3
Council Stipends - Strategic Planning Trips	\$ 1,200.00	Budget Line 3
Council Stipends - Communities of Practice	\$ 1,000.00	Budget Line 3
Council Stipends - AISC/PVP/SSO grant panels	\$ 3,200.00	Budget Line 3
C&A Committee Stipends - panel meeting	\$ 1,600.00	Budget Line 3
Total Personnel Expenses	\$ 781,939.00	

NOTE: The agency is fully staffed. Almost all of these expenses are fixed, and are driven by Council activity and program stipends.

* \$5,000 supported by NEA specified funds.

FY 2025 Program Expenses

Expenses	Estimated	Notes	
MAP - Coach contracts (2)	\$ 24,500.00	Budget Line 8	
MAP - coach training/mentor stipends and travel	\$ 1,500.00	MT Artrepreneur Program: \$35,000 of the total expense is supported by the MAP earned income (See "Income" tab, row 10). Additionally, participants each pay \$500 to participate. All these funds are designated towards the MAP program and cannot be spent elsewhere.	
MAP - supply kits	\$ 1,100.00		
MAP - textbooks	\$ 1,900.00		
MAP - guest artist speaker stipends	\$ 1,500.00		
MAP - application/certification review and mentorship stipends	\$ 4,800.00		
MAP - certification review travel	\$ 1,875.00		
MAP - facility/meeting room rent	\$ 7,600.00		
MAP - coach orientation launch meeting	\$ 75.00		
MAP - misc. supplies	\$ 75.00		
MAP - staff travel to attend cohorts	\$ 900.00		
MAP - DOJ legal fees	\$ 250.00		
MAP - DOA Print & Mail printing costs	\$ 450.00		
MAP - DOA Print & Mail postage costs	\$ 300.00		46,825.00
MCAM - DOA Print & Mail printing costs	\$ 735.00	Budget Line 9	
MCAM - inductee awards	\$ 1,500.00	Montana Circle of American Masters: This expense is 100% supported by designated funds for this program through MT Community Foundation (see "income" tab, row 12).	
MCAM - ASL interpreter	\$ 200.00		
MCAM - caterer	\$ 2,350.00		
MCAM - professional photography of inductee work	\$ 1,500.00		
MCAM - council and panel member stipends	\$ 2,200.00	Traditonal Arts Apprenticeship Program: This expense is 100% supported by designated funds for this program through MT Community Foundation (see "income" tab, row 12).	
MCAM - inductee stipends	\$ 9,000.00		
MCAM - Folk Festival participant stipends	\$ 1,650.00		
MCAM - misc. supplies	\$ 125.00		
MCAM - DOA Print & Mail postage costs	\$ 175.00		
MCAM - council and inductee travel	\$ 4,250.00		23,685.00
TAAP - award for apprenticeship mentors	\$ 9,000.00	Budget Line 9	
TAAP - panel member stipends	\$ 1,200.00		10,200.00
GAA - DOA Print & Mail printing costs	\$ 700.00	Budget Line 10	
GAA - musicians	\$ 1,500.00	Governor's Arts Awards: This expense is 100% supported by designated funds for this program through MT Community Foundation (see "Income" tab, row 12.) These funds are designated towards the GAA program and cannot be spent elsewhere.	
GAA - ASL interpreter	\$ 750.00		
GAA - misc. supplies	\$ 2,030.00		
GAA - videotaping	\$ 100.00		
GAA - caterer	\$ 3,500.00		
GAA - DOA Print & Mail postage costs	\$ 500.00		
GAA - awardees travel	\$ 1,500.00		10,580.00
AIA	\$ -	Budget Line 11	
SOA - DOA Print & Mail services contract (Bozeman Daily Chronicle)	\$ 28,945.00	Budget Line 12	
SOA - events calendar contract (Banik Communications)	\$ 4,655.00	State of the Arts: These expenses reflect actual cost of publishing/distributing "State of the Arts" and little wiggle room is available here. This contract goes out through State Procurement.	
SOA - layout, design, and article writing services contract (Buffalo Jump)	\$ 34,000.00		
SOA - misc. article writers & purchase of photos	\$ 4,000.00		
SOA - DOA Print & Mail postage costs	\$ 400.00		72,000.00

FY 2025 Program Expenses

Expenses	Estimated	Notes	
POL - Coordinator (expense included in personnel services budget line 2)	\$ 100.00	Budget Line 13	
POL - Outreach team (regional)	\$ 2,000.00		
POL - videographer	\$ 250.00	Poetry Out Loud: This program is almost entirely funded by the NEA, and those funds can't be used for anything else. This one is a bit challenging to budget because it's hard to predict # of school participants, and where they're located - among other unpredictable factors.	
POL - ASL interpreters	\$ 750.00		
POL - Poets in Schools stipends	\$ 2,500.00		
POL - tech manager	\$ 200.00		
POL - state champion coaching	\$ 600.00		
POL - judges stipends	\$ 2,700.00		
POL - state finals stipends (other)	\$ 600.00		
POL - workshops with poets stipends	\$ 1,000.00		
POL - regional + state finals supplies	\$ 2,500.00		
POL - State finals guest artist stipend	\$ 500.00		
POL - DOA Print & Mail postage costs	\$ 500.00		
POL - DOA Print & Mail printing costs	\$ 1,500.00		
POL - staff, participant and teacher travel	\$ 8,300.00		
POL - facility and meeting room rent	\$ 2,950.00		
POL - subscriptions	\$ 50.00		27,000.00
Creative Aging - teaching artists professional development	\$ 2,500.00	Budget Line 14	
Creative Aging - teaching artists contracted services	\$ 6,750.00	Creative Aging: This program builds on a previous grant through NASAA. We are continuing to fund it because of the partnerships and rural outreach it is generating.	
Creative Aging - supplies	\$ 900.00		
Creative Aging - DOA Print & Mail postage costs	\$ 500.00		
Creative Aging - teaching artists in-state travel	\$ 350.00		
Creative Aging - partnership meetings in-state travel	\$ 2,500.00		13,500.00
Folk Arts - Folklorist contract (Taylor Burby)	\$ 27,846.00	Budget Line 15	
Folk Arts - DOJ Legal fees	\$ 121.00	Folk Arts: Reviving MAC's long-dormant program, in response to broad public support.	
Folk Arts - staff in-state travel	\$ 300.00		
Folk Arts - TBD (expense may switch to personnel Budget Line 2)	\$ 11,733.00		40,000.00
Percent for Art Excess	\$ -	Budget Line 16	
Total Program Expenses	\$ 243,790.00		

NOTE: Most of these expenditures are based on the requirements to fulfill the goals & purposes of each program. While there is flexibility to change here, almost every program is pretty stripped-down in this budget.

FY 2025 Administration Expenses

Expenses	Estimated	Notes
Contracted Services - Poet Laureate Anthology	\$ 12,845.00	Rolled over from FY2024 budget
Contracted Services - Strategic Planning	\$ 1,289.00	Rolled over from FY2024 budget
Contracted Services - non-council member stipends for grant panel participation	\$ 4,050.00	Fixed
Contracted Services - DOA Warrant Writer	\$ 177.00	Fixed
Contracted Services - DOA Recycling	\$ 549.00	Fixed
Contracted Services - copier printing maint	\$ 377.00	Fixed
Contracted Services - DOA HR Information System Fees	\$ 2,106.00	Fixed
Contracted Services - DOA Workers Compensation Fees	\$ 180.00	Fixed
Contracted Services - DOA SABHRS (State Accounting System) Fees	\$ 7,822.00	Fixed
Contracted Services - DOJ Legal Fees	\$ 3,000.00	Fixed
Contracted Services - External CPA internal audit services	\$ 180.00	Fixed
Supplies & Materials - food & misc. supplies for council meetings and panels	\$ 2,600.00	Based on history & current estimates
Supplies & Materials - supplies for communities of practice	\$ 1,250.00	Based on history & current estimates
Supplies & Materials - grant management system (Foundant)	\$ 9,000.00	Fixed
Supplies & Materials - contact management system	\$ 2,000.00	Fixed
Supplies & Materials - misc. supplies for AISC grant panel	\$ 100.00	Fixed
Supplies & Materials - office water cooler	\$ 657.00	
Supplies & Materials - misc. office supplies	\$ 2,600.00	Based on history & current estimates
Supplies & Materials - meeting supplies + refreshments for strategic planning	\$ 400.00	Estimated. Unspent budget will go toward grants.
Supplies & Materials - laminated labor law posters	\$ 110.00	Required
Communications - DOA Print & Mail postage for AISC	\$ 400.00	Fixed
Communications - DOA Print & Mail postage for office	\$ 100.00	Fixed
Communications - DOA Messenger Services (interagency deadhead)	\$ 2,275.00	Fixed

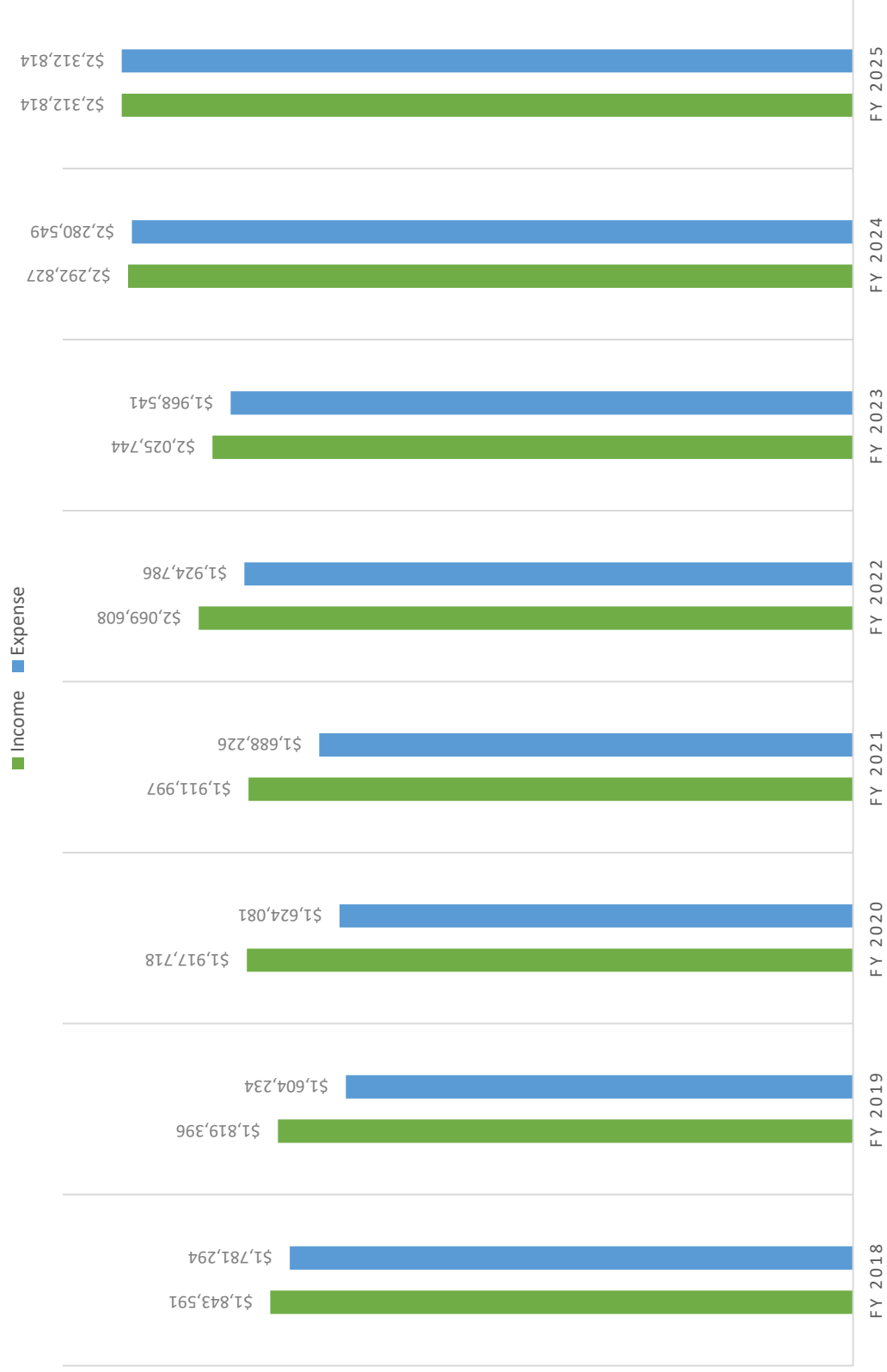
FY 2025 Administration Expenses

Expenses	Estimated	Notes
Travel - Council + Staff in-state travel to and from council meetings	\$ 22,260.00	Determined by meeting location
Travel - council chair visits to and from Helena (4 trips)	\$ 1,400.00	
Travel - Poet Laureate travel	\$ 5,000.00	Poet Laureate's only compensation
Travel - former poet laureate's travel to book festival	\$ 3,000.00	Fixed
Travel - strategic planning meetings	\$ 3,000.00	Rolled over from FY2024 budget
Travel - grant panelist travel	\$ 1,250.00	
Travel - Staff professional development (in-state)	\$ 7,809.00	Includes all in-state outreach, community visits, etc.
Travel - Staff professional development (out-of-state)	\$ 15,568.00	Important to maintain nationwide connections & partnerships to benefit Montana
Rent - meeting room rent for council and grant panels	\$ 850.00	
Rent - meeting room rent for strategic planning	\$ 4,500.00	Rolled over from FY2024 budget
Rent - building lease	\$ 45,491.00	Fixed
Other Expenses - Membership dues to GIA, National Guild for Community Arts Education and MNA	\$ 925.00	Fixed
Other Expenses - Annual dues to NASAA	\$ 10,360.00	Fixed
Other Expenses - Annual dues to WESTAF	\$ 22,261.00	Fixed
Other Expenses - grant station membership	\$ 95.00	Fixed
Other Expenses - staff conference registration, training and parking fees	\$ 9,724.00	Hard to reduce but possible if absolutely needed
Other Expenses - DOA Management Training Center Fees	\$ 240.00	Fixed
Other Expenses - DOA Statewide Cost Allocation Plan (SWCAP)	\$ 16,724.00	Fixed
Equipment	\$ -	Placeholder
DOA SITSD Fixed Costs	\$ 71,123.00	Fixed & restricted
Total Administration Expenses	\$ 295,647.00	

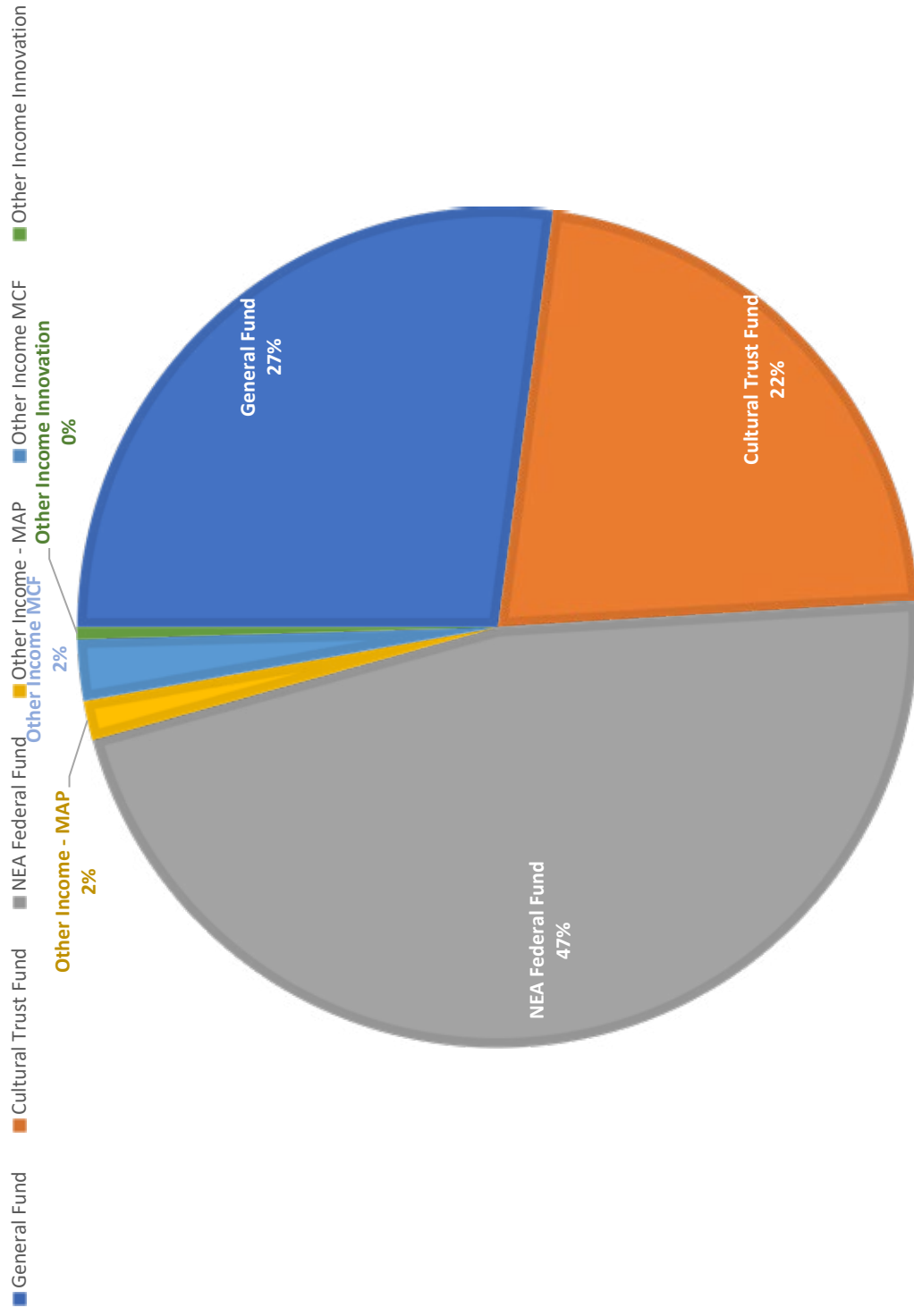
FY 2025 Grant Expenses

Expenses	Estimated	Notes
Artists In Schools & Communities	\$ 275,000.00	Budget Line 33 - Paid to non-profit organizations
Public Value Partnerships	\$ 294,000.00	Budget Line 34 - Paid to non-profit organizations
Statewide Service Organizations	\$ 78,000.00	Budget Line 35 - Paid to non-profit organizations
Strategic Investment Grants	\$ 55,000.00	Budget Line 36 - Paid to non-profit organizations + individuals
Cultural Trust Grants	\$ 279,438.00	Budget Line 37 - Paid to non-profit organizations listed in HB 9
Innovation Fund Pilot Project	\$ 10,000.00	Budget Line 38 - Paid to non-profit organizations + individuals
Total Grant Expenses	\$ 991,438.00	

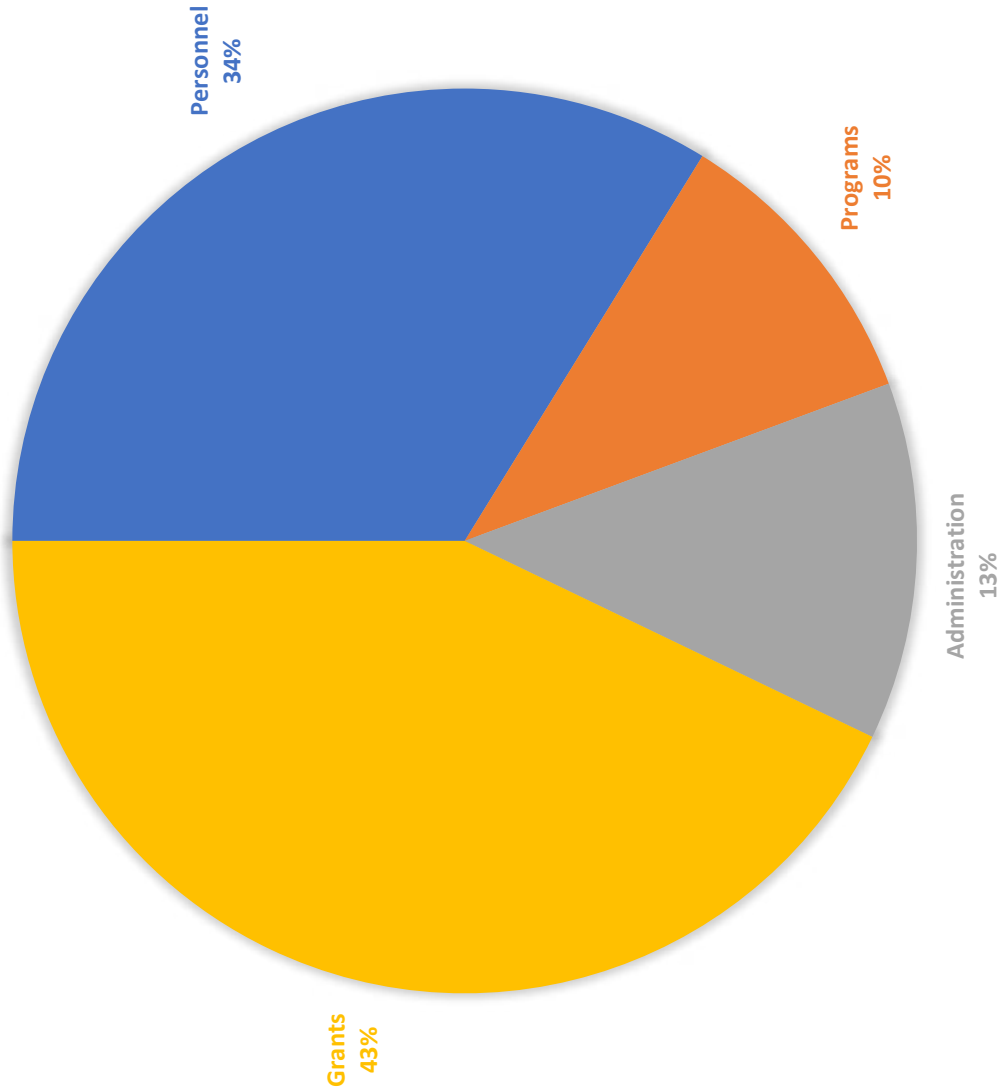
FY 2018-2025 INCOME/EXPENSE COMPARISON



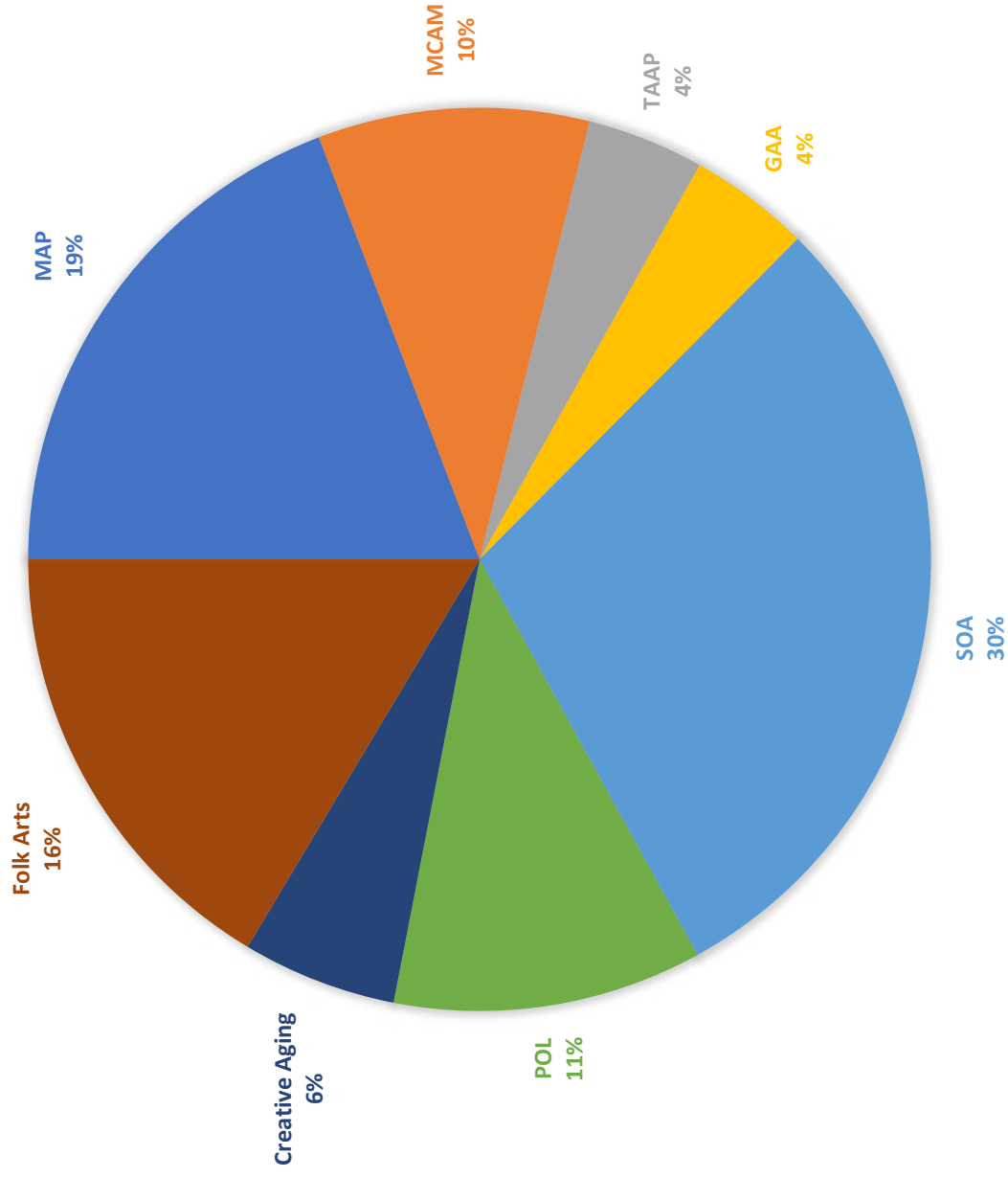
FY 2025 INCOME



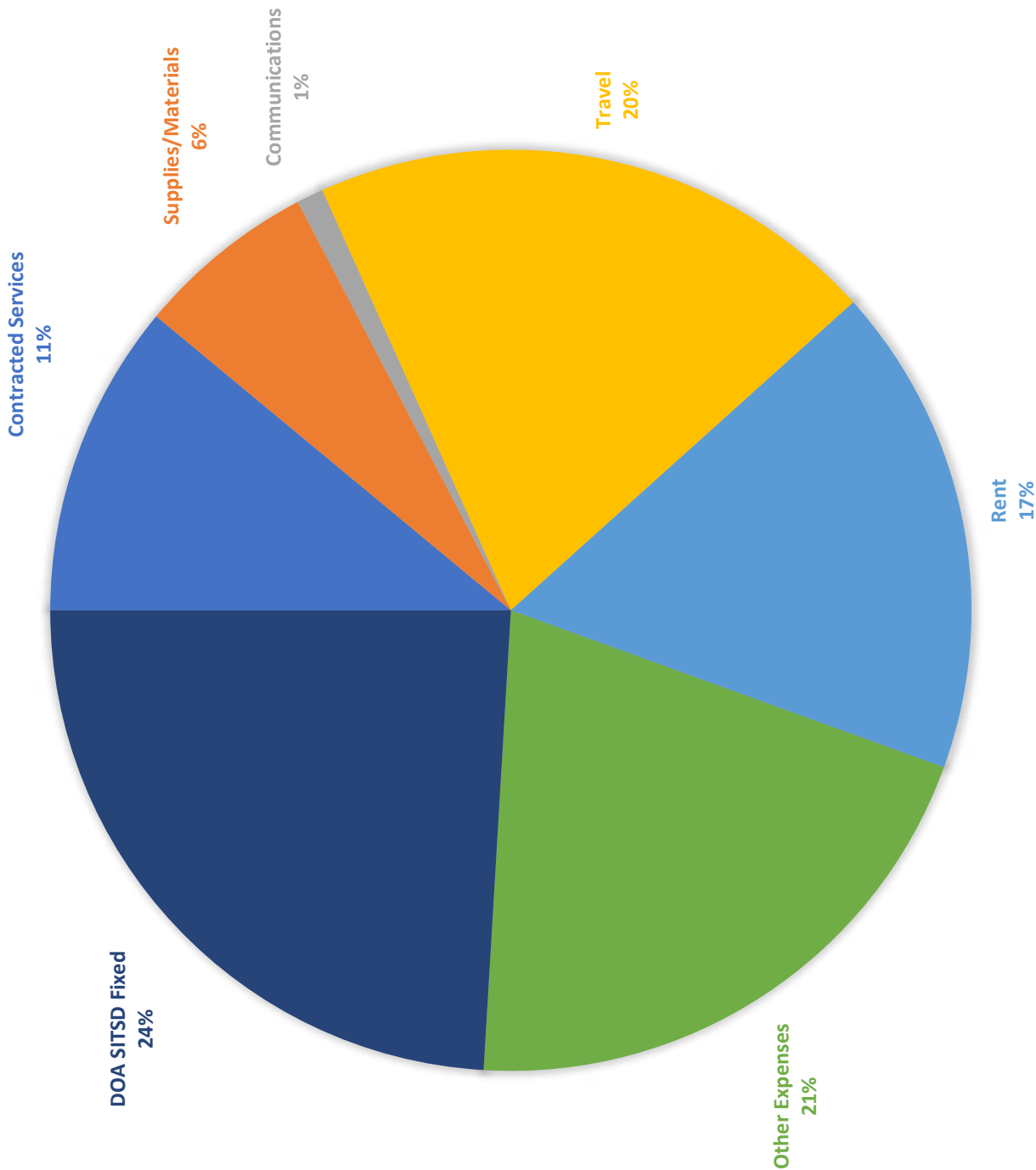
FY 2025 BUDGET BY CATEGORY



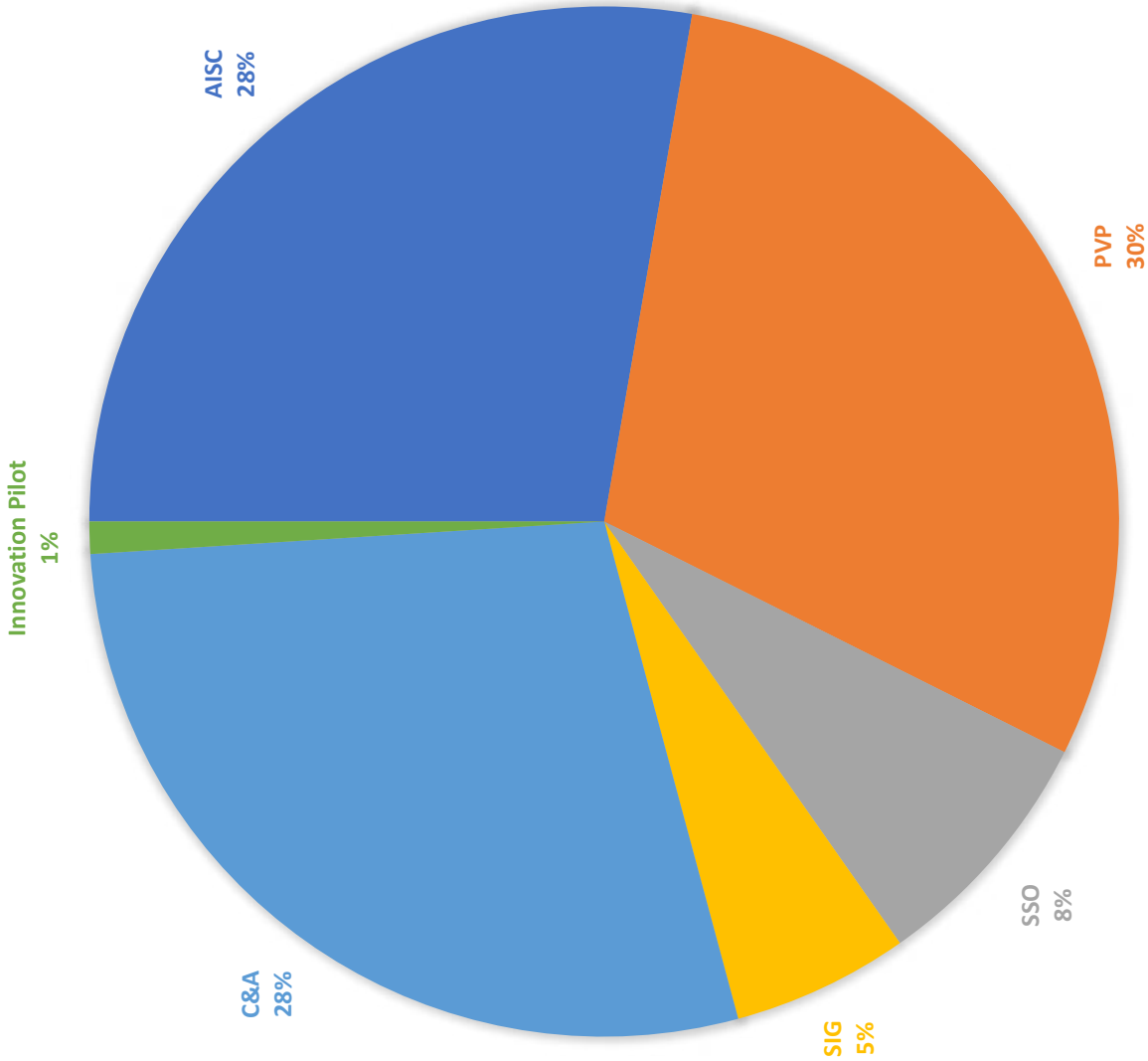
FY 2025 PROGRAMS



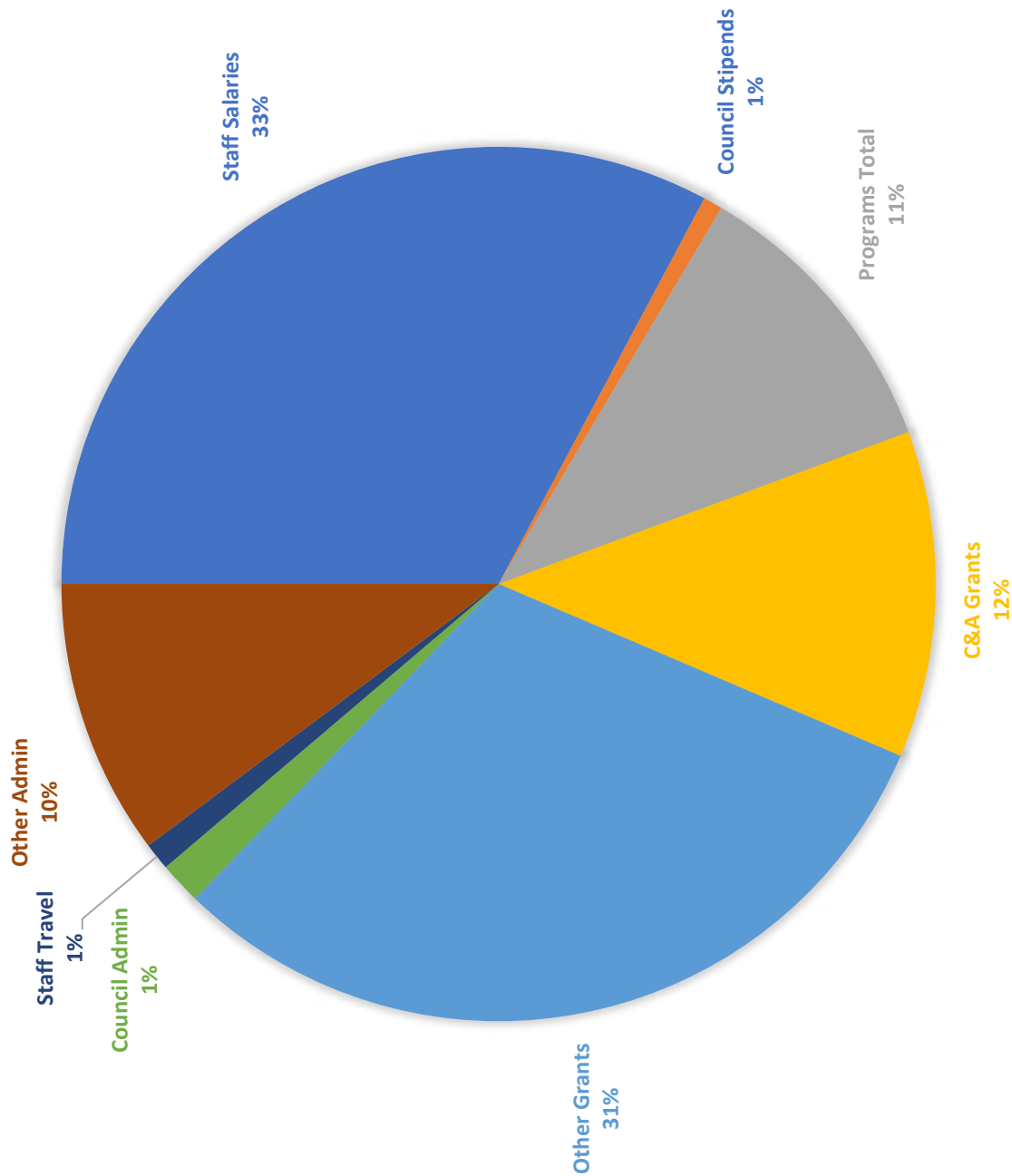
FY 2025 ADMINISTRATION



FY 2025 GRANTS



FY 2025 EXPENSES BY CATEGORY





THE **PATH** AHEAD

*Having just traveled through
Ptarmigan Tunnel, hikers
move toward new horizons in
Glacier National Park.*



What if there was one tool that could do all these things:

- Drive economic development in communities large and small;
- Help diversify and stabilize Montana's economy;
- Enhance community cohesiveness and improve civic engagement;
- Make our towns more livable;
- Reduce school truancy;
- Improve educational goals like higher graduation rates and higher test scores;
- Increase chances of employability after graduation;
- Teach social-emotional learning in children;
- Reduce anxiety;
- Lower blood pressure;
- Improve public health outcomes;
- Help brains build synapses, both in early child development and post-traumatic brain injury;
- Reduce or mitigate some effects of Parkinson's Disease;
- Help restore memory and verbalization in Alzheimer's patients;
- Help with PTSD and other kinds of trauma recovery;
- Reduce recidivism after release from correctional facilities;
- Help community planners capitalize on local assets to build better communities;
- Boost tourism;
- Turn under-used public spaces and abandoned buildings into creative hubs for innovation;
- Help preserve history, language, and cultural identity;
- Engage people of all ages in solving community problems;

and:

- Create joy

... And what if you learned that this one tool was widely available, created no pollution, was not tied to supply chains, and operates entirely through small, locally-owned businesses and individual entrepreneurs, and whose profits almost entirely stay in the local community?

Art is that magic tool. Exposure to art, engagement with art, and creation of art—in any of its forms—has been proven to bring all these assets listed above into public and private life. Cities and towns across the world—small rural towns as well as the largest urban centers—are using artists and arts nonprofits as partners and drivers to improve community economic, physical, mental, social, and cultural health.

The attached proposal is the Montana Arts Council's initiative to put this power to work in Montana.

ART REVIVES

A PROPOSAL TO ADVANCE CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE ARTS
HELPING TO REVITALIZE MONTANA COMMUNITIES THROUGH INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY



**MONTANA
ARTS COUNCIL**
an agency of state government

Rationale

This proposal is focused on two of Governor Gianforte's goals: To boost economic vitality and diversity across Montana – especially in rural and Tribal communities; and to create/enhance jobs.

Proposal

We propose \$500,000 allocated in the Governor's budget for the 2026-27 Biennium to fund a program to leverage the power of art to enhance economic vitality and community life in Montana.

The Art Revives initiative will:

- Encourage and empower cross-sector partnerships that engage artists and arts organizations in addressing a community problem or opportunity;
- Increase job opportunities for artists and expand capacity in arts across Montana;
- Expand and leverage funding opportunities beyond this grant program - with other state agencies, private funders, and other organizations, including Tribal groups — to strengthen communities and generate high-impact return on investment;
- Strengthen the state's efforts to enhance health, education, transportation, tourism, environmental, and economic vitality in communities across the state, no matter their size or capacity;
- Amplify [the current federal initiative](#) to bring the arts into cross-sector partnerships to help solve problems in innovative ways, while lifting up Montana's unique community life and culture.

We propose two-year grants, \$5,000 - \$20,000 per artist or \$10,000 - \$75,000 per organization or community, specifically for engaging artists to help address a community problem, opportunity, or need.

- Grants may be categorized into target areas: workforce development, tourism & economic vitality, housing, transportation, public health, safety, or place-based issues.
- Applicants may apply as individual artists, an arts nonprofit, or a local community or Tribal organization or entity. Every application requires a cross-sector community partnership which includes at least one artist and at least two community organizations (city or Tribal government, library, school, chamber of commerce, arts organization, etc.)
- Partners must supply matching funds, determined on a sliding scale.
- MAC will create toolkits and resources artists working with communities, and will leverage existing relationships to help strengthen & sustain those partnerships.

Montana will see significant changes in the next 10 years. This initiative brings some of our state's 16,580 artists and creators into the center of community planning and problem-solving to enhance innovation, make community-directed changes, boost economic diversity, and enhance community livability in towns big and small.

Background

Many projects across America have demonstrated the efficiency and success of bringing artists and the arts into collaboration with non-arts sectors to address challenges together. An art park in N. Carolina attracted more than \$25 million in private development within a two-block radius of the park. A new cultural district in small-town New Jersey generated \$30.8 million in private investment and \$3.3 million in volunteer hours. Paducah, Kentucky's Arts Relocation Program saw a 10-to-1 return on investment within 10 years.* Currently there is **unprecedented investment on the federal level** in sectors where leveraging the arts builds success—in education, rural health, mental health, veterans' issues, livability, tourism and economic development, aging and neurological diseases, transportation/safety, and community planning.

Arts and culture should not be seen as the “cherry on top” of public programs. The “arts-at-the-center” practice brings artists into public projects from the beginning to embed creativity, innovation, and local culture in community and economic development.

The results: Community-based, collaborative solutions that build public support; engage multiple stakeholders; heal divisions; and uplift Montana's unique cultural identity, especially in rural communities.

For more information read this great article, [Creativity Sparks Economic Renewal](#) (National League of Cities, 2021) by former Bozeman mayor (and former Montana Arts Council Chair) Cyndy Andrus.

Appropriateness for the Montana Arts Council

One benefit is that this grant program builds on expertise, systems, and granting infrastructure that is already in place. It requires no additional FTE or overhead costs. It follows the Council-driven public process for all Arts Council grants. A small percentage of the funds will go toward support materials, trainings, communication, and documentation of the program by agency staff.

Examples Of Cross-Sector Partnerships With The Arts

Arts in community development & economic vitality:

- The Myrna Loy (Helena) partnered with 4 artists, 3 local businesses and the County government in a 2-year project to revitalize the blighted [Rodney Street neighborhood](#) through community-based art, and to create the Rodney Arts District.
- In Billings, [Riverstone Health](#) blends public art with food, health, and community connections.
- Springboard for the Arts [Rural Regenerator Fellowships](#) – A 2-year fellowship bringing artists & organizations together to advance the role of the arts in community development.
- [Citizen's Initiative for Rural Design](#): National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Housing Assistance Council, to help communities smaller than 50,000 people plan comprehensive revitalization strategies.
- Public Art St. Paul collaborates with the City to design public spaces, engage citizens in planning, and help redesign city systems – like their project to [transform city sidewalks](#) with poetry written by locals.

** These three examples were presented in [Rural Prosperity Through the Arts & Creative Sector: A Rural Action Guide for Governors and States](#), National Governors Association, 2019.*

- Multiple cities have engaged Artists-in-Residence into a City department to help resolve problems, provide innovative or new process improvements, and engage citizens around community issues.
- Boston Planning Council hosts an Artist-In Residence to integrate arts and culture into all aspects of civic planning in the greater Metro Boston area.
- Artists in North Dakota partnered with the MD Dept of Transportation and ND Council on the Arts to create a [statewide public art pathway](#) to spur tourism and strengthen cultural identity.
- North Carolina Arts Council created three [arts and culture trail programs](#) that, together, traverse all 100 counties in the state and have resulted in well-documented economic impact.

Arts in Health:

- Arts Councils [in many states](#) support artist residencies in hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and VA centers to promote healing through music, dance, theater, standup comedy, poetry, and visual arts. NASAA maintains a collection of projects and toolkits for leveraging the arts for more successful health outcomes.
- [Wyoming Health & Wellness through the Arts](#) (Collaboration between Wyoming Arts Council and partners in healthcare, aging, military and disabilities sectors)
- [N. Carolina Military & Veterans Healing Arts](#) (Grant program funding collaborations between arts organizations and dozens of statewide veteran's organizations & centers.)
- From the Center for Disease Control Foundation, a brief paper on [using the arts to improve public health.](#)

Arts in other sectors:

- [Washington D.C. Color the Curb Safety Program](#) (A collaboration between the DC Commission on the Arts, DC Public Schools, and DC Dept of Transportation)
- In Atlanta: Artists design bus stops, alleyways, pathways to mental health resources, highway tunnels connecting fractured neighborhoods, and other physical sites.
- [Transportation departments](#) have long engaged artists to help address entrenched public safety problems. Here is [a guidebook](#) for embedding artists in transportation projects.

There is no single best approach. Successful programs are rooted in community, conducted by local artists and other partners, and respond to specific needs in each neighborhood or town.



Krys Holmes, Executive Director | krys.holmes@mt.gov | 406-444-6520

Kelly Barsdate
Chief Program and Planning Officer, NASAA

Kelly Barsdate is the Chief Program and Planning Officer for the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA). She has worked at NASAA since 1991, helping to make the case for the arts during multiple recessions and swings of the political pendulum. Kelly was the original author of *Why Should Government Support the Arts?*, writes NASAA's Practical Advocates, has prepared numerous policy monographs, and has authored legislative testimony for use at the federal and state levels. She oversees NASAA's knowledge services and executive education programs for state arts agencies, and has directed collaborations with the National Governors Association, the National Conference of State Legislatures, the National Endowment for the Arts, ArtPlace America, the National Association of Community Economic Development Agencies and other policy partners. Kelly sits on the advisory board of the Indiana University Center for Cultural Affairs and is a contributing editor of the peer-reviewed *Journal of Arts Management, Law, and Society*. She holds an Executive Certificate of Facilitation from Georgetown University; a Change Leader certification from the state of Utah; and a degree in English from Oberlin College. Born and raised in rural Alaska, Kelly's arts background includes studies in clarinet performance and music education at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music as well as training in dance and ceramics. She is an avid amateur naturalist and an enthusiastic bird nerd.



Memorandum

TO: Montana Arts Council, Executive Director Krys Holmes, and Deputy Director Kristin Burgoyne
FROM: Greg Murphy, Chairman
RE: ARMs
DATE: May 31, 2024

"The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men Gang aft agley...."

Robert Burns

Introduction

You will recall that at the Council meeting on December 2, 2022 I advised the Council that I believed the Council's Bylaws and the Administrative Rules (ARMS) applying to the Council's organization and operations deserved review and revision. (I was told that former chair, Cynthia Andrus, was of the same view.) Indeed, at my suggestion at the December 2 meeting the Council adopted a resolution directing the then-Executive Director to take steps to eliminate the rule prohibiting grants to individuals.

Acting Executive Director Kristin Burgoyne and I met in Helena in March 2023 to discuss how the Bylaws and ARMs could otherwise be profitably amended to conform to current practice and to conform to better practice. She and I prepared initial drafts.

In the hierarchy of the law, the U.S. Constitution and federal law is supreme, the Montana Constitution is second, statutes come in third, administrative rules come in fourth, and bylaws and adopted policies come in fifth and sixth respectively. The higher the authority, the more arduous the process is for amendment.

Changes to MAC's Bylaws can be made at a single meeting. The process for amending is simple and efficient. The most recent amendments to MAC's Bylaws were approved by the Council at its meeting in June 2023.

The process for amending the ARMs is more complicated because the law contains more detailed requirements relating to notice, public comment, and the like.

As she had requested an opportunity to review the proposed changes to the Bylaws, the Lieutenant Governor also requested an opportunity to review the proposed ARM changes before they would be presented to the Council for consideration. Given the role she plays in the Administration, her request was entirely appropriate. As it happened, developments in other areas of MAC's business and the Lieutenant Governor's otherwise very busy schedule delayed our ability to meet with her until December, 2023. That was not entirely a bad thing because by December 2023 Krys Holmes was aboard as MAC's full-time Executive Director and could participate.

Development of Proposed Amendments to MAC's ARMs

Lieutenant Governor Juras, Krys Holmes, Kristin Burgoyne, and I, along with a liaison officer with the Department of Education, met in the capitol in mid-December 2023 to go over the proposed draft amendments Kristin and I had prepared back in February of 2023. It was a productive meeting. We reached consensus on appropriate amendments to be proposed to the Council. Those amendments, with a couple of other minor changes, were presented to the Council in a Zoom meeting on January 10, 2024, and were approved to be moved forward to the next step in adoption.

So, how is that the Secretary of State has not yet published for notice and comment the amendments approved by the Council in January?

Montana law requires that a "rules reviewer" review and sign-off on any proposed changes before the Secretary of State publishes the proposed changes for notice and comment. In January I had left on a month-long vacation out of the country, but Kristin did not let any grass grow under our feet. Assistant Attorney General Michelle Dietrich was designated to be the rules reviewer.

After I returned from my trip, I learned that Michelle Dietrich had identified an issue that had escaped the rest of us involved in the process up to that point. While the rest of us, including the Lieutenant Governor, had assumed that the Council's ARMs adopted and published decades ago were validly adopted, Ms. Dietrich did not make that assumption. As the good lawyer she is, she went back to the basics, and she found a problem. She could find no express delegation by the legislature to the Council to adopt administrative rules. This was in contrast to every other agency of which she was aware that had adopted administrative rules. You might ask, "Doesn't the fact that decades have passed without objection mean something?" Or, is there some express or implied authority elsewhere in the law such as Montana's Administrative Procedure Act supporting the making of rules by MAC?" Those would be reasonable questions. Ms. Dietrich was asked those questions and others. She made a compelling argument to the effect that before an executive branch agency may make law (ARMs ordinarily have the force of law.), the legislature must make an express delegation of the authority to make rules. (On the federal side administrative rules are called "regulations," as in the "Code of Federal Regulations.") We all learned in grade school that the legislature makes laws, the executive executes them, and the judiciary resolves disputes arising under them.¹ If one cares about the separation of powers doctrine, which is one of the pillars supporting civil liberties, one must pay attention to this fundamental concept. Michelle's advice was consistent with those principles. Moreover, her sign-off was required before we could move forward.

¹History buffs will remember that the U.S. Supreme Court declared unconstitutional several of the grants of regulation-making authority in the early "New Deal" legislation to new federal agencies. That led to FDR's attempt to increase the membership of the United Supreme Court from nine to 15 and to pack the court with justices more likely to be favorable to his program. That effort was vigorously resisted by Montana Senator Burton K. Wheeler, who, like FDR, was a Democrat. Ultimately, there was a "switch in time that saved nine," and the Supreme Court held that Congress could give federal agencies rule-making authority and adopt regulations having the force of law. The administrative state was born. The Code of Federal Regulations now is longer than the United States Code.

What Should Be Done?

So, what are the consequences of the legislature not expressly delegating to MAC the authority to make administrative rules as it had with other agencies? Are the published ARMs at issue void? Are they merely advisory? If they were not adopted properly, should they be repealed? Are all of the rules invalid, or just some of them? Other than an organizational rule which is otherwise required by Montana law, does MAC actually need administrative rules relating to the making of grants? Can satisfying the need for the public to have notice about grants and how they are administered be addressed in a form other than an administrative rule?

Additional discussions were held, and a consensus among those studying these issues has been reached.

First, my oft-stated concern that MAC has been operating outside the express dictate of the rule prohibiting grants to individuals has largely been relieved. If the prohibition against making grants to individuals was not validly adopted in the first place, MAC cannot be legitimately criticized for not enforcing it. (Conditions of NEA grants also prohibit grants to individuals, but Kristin Burgoyne informs me that the staff takes care that monies going to SIG recipients are not funded with federal money.) In other words, MAC may continue to operate as it has without being in violation of law in this respect.

While MAC is not operating in violation of valid law, it is not a good situation that the Montana Administrative Rules contain rules relating to MAC which were not properly authorized in the first place. Consequently, I recommend that MAC should move to publish notice of intent to repeal the ARMs relating to MAC's operations, excepting those addressing the organization of MAC which is otherwise required by law, and those relating to the Cultural Grants side of the operations for which rule-making authority was expressly granted, and adopting the model procedural rules published by the Montana Attorney General for the use by all agencies if desired. (MAC can adopt the latter by simple reference.)

Further, MAC should review its grant guidelines to assure that they appropriately advise the public, and particularly grant applicants, of how MAC will exercise its discretion in making grants. (Receipt of a grant is not a matter of right or entitlement.). The guidelines should be published and readily findable on MAC's website, and appropriate clauses should be included in grant contracts. (I am not suggesting that they are not fine now; only, that a review is warranted.)

At the end of this memorandum is a sample motion I recommend that a Council member make at our meeting on May 31.

States followed suit with their own agencies. Montana's administrative rules, the "ARMs," are nowhere nearly as extensive as the Code of Federal Regulations.

I opened this memorandum with a quotation of a couple lines by the great Scottish poet, Robert Burns. While the plans for amending the ARMs “gang aft agley,” in this case it is a good thing. The law will be cleaned up, and MAC will enjoy more flexibility in its operations than it otherwise would have been the case.

Please see the attached rules showing the proposed amendments. One copy shows the amendments from the existing rules, and the second shows the rules as they would appear if finally adopted.

Sample Motion

“Mr. Chair, I move that the Montana Arts Council approve the publishing for notice and comment the draft amendments and repeal of the Montana Administrative Rules relating to the Montana Arts Council as reflected in the documents attached to your memorandum to the Council on the subject dated May 31, 2024.”

Revise: 10.111.101 Organizational Rule
Revise: 10.111.201 Incorporation of Model Rules
Repeal: 10.111.601 Eligibility for Grants
Repeal: 10.111.611 Grant Conditions

10.111.101 ORGANIZATIONAL RULE

- (1) The Montana Arts Council was established by executive order in 1965 and codified by the Montana legislature in 1967 under 22-2-201, MCA. The council is allocated to the Board of Education for administrative purposes under 2-15-1511, MCA.
- (2) The council's mission is to develop the creative potential of all Montanans, advance education, spur economic vibrancy, and revitalize communities through the arts. This work is done through grants, programs, trainings, community outreach, and other activities developed from public comment.
- (3) Grant guidelines are established by the council. Grant guidelines may vary from program to program, as appropriate to the goals, purposes, and restrictions of each grant. Guidelines may be updated or amended as the council deems necessary. Guidelines and submission deadlines are publicly available on the council's website, <https://art.mt.gov>.
- (4) In addition to state funds, the council also has authority to manage and distribute federal and private funds in pursuit of its mission.
- (5) Additionally, the council may form other committees and advisory panels as needed to achieve its goals, provide for public input, and conduct general business.
- (6) (8) The following chart depicts the organization of the Montana Arts council: Model Rules Of Agency Organization

~~the statutes contained in Sec. [22-2-101](#) MCA. Sec. [2-15-1513](#) MCA transfers the Council to the Department of Education for administrative purposes. The Montana Arts Council encourages throughout the state the study and presentation of the arts. It endeavors to stimulate public interest and participation in arts activities and to cooperate with public and private institutions engaged within the state in artistic and cultural activities. Many of its objectives are reached through a program of grants in the areas of technical assistance, broadbased assistance to arts organizations, assistance in touring of art resources, special project assistance, and pilot project development. More than three-quarters of the administrative staff's operations deal with application for and distribution of federal funds on behalf of arts organizations throughout the state. The remainder is concerned with informational and technical services rendered to individuals and organizations pursuant to cultural development.~~

~~(2) The Montana Arts Council consists of fifteen members appointed by the Governor for five-year terms. Meetings of the Council are called by the Chairperson when necessary. The Council is required to meet at least twice a year; however, four meetings are normally held to carry out its work. The Council, through its general meetings, or executive action, makes the final determination on all grants.~~

~~(3) The Chairperson is appointed from the membership of the Council by the, Governor. The Chairperson serves at the will of the Governor and his term may exceed five years.~~

~~(4) The Chairperson shall, with the advice and consent of the Council, employ an Executive Director to act as secretary to the Council and carry out the Council's programs.~~

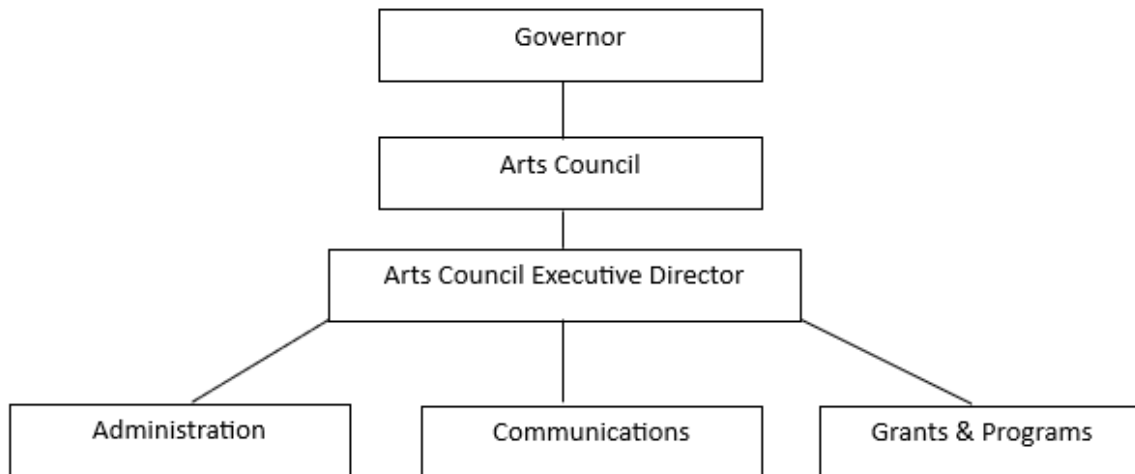
~~requests of \$500 or less.~~

~~(6) Advisory committees are established by the Council. They act only in an advisory capacity and have no policy-making authority. Generally, the Advisory Committees are as follows: visual arts, music, drama, dance, and combined projects.~~

~~(7) Grant forms and submission deadlines are readily available to all those who request them. Requests for grants submitted to the Arts Council are generally reviewed by an advisory committee which then passes its recommendation on to the Council. All grants are made contingent upon Federal appropriations. The grant instrument is a contract containing certain conditions which, upon the acceptance of the grant is accomplished by the signature of the authorizing official of the requesting organization on a grant contract and return of it to the Executive Director of the Montana Arts Council.~~

~~Organization of the Montana Arts Council~~

ORGANIZATION OF THE MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL



History: Sec. [2-4-201](#) MCA; IMP, Sec. [2-4-201](#) MCA; Eff. 12/31/72.

REASONABLE NECESSITY: Currently, much of the organizational rule repeats statutory language from 22-2-10, 22-2-103, 22-2-104, 22-2-105, MCA. The rule amendments are needed to come into compliance with 2-4-305, MCA, which prohibits the unnecessary repetition of statute.

10.111.201 INCORPORATIONADOPTION OF MODEL RULES

(1) The Montana Arts Council adopts the Attorney General's Model Rules of Administrative Procedure.

(2) The model rules are found at ARM [1.3.101](#) through [1.3.233](#).

~~(1) The Chairperson, acting as statutory executive officer of the Montana Arts Council in concert with the executive committee of the Montana Arts Council, adopted the Attorney General's Model Rules of Administrative Procedure on December 29, 1972.~~

History: Sec. [2-4-202](#) MCA, IMP, Sec. [2-4-202](#) MCA; Eff. 12/31/72

REASONABLE NECESSITY: This revision modernizes the language of the adoption of model rules.

10.111.601 ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANTS

~~(1) Arts o Nonprofit organizations and government agencies, institutions, and community organizations are eligible to receive grants, provided that each has or is in the process of obtaining IRS non-profit status as a public or private foundation.~~

~~(2) Grants may be made to duly organized "temporary" committees in support of projects determined to be in the best interest of the community at large. However, should such committees accrue profits from grant funded projects it must be returned to the Montana Arts Council unless the committee received IRS non-profit status within the fiscal year of the grant award.~~

~~(2) Organizations seeking general operating support grants (for general operating expenses) must have evidence of nonprofit status and a financial statement comparable to IRS Form 990.~~

~~(3) Each organization seeking General Support grants must present evidence of its non-profit status and a financial statement comparable to IRS Form 990.~~

~~(3)(4) Individuals may not receive grants from the Montana Arts Council but and are eligible to be contracted for professional services. Individuals may receive partial reimbursement for travel and per diem cost in accordance with Human Resource Assistance, Special Programs "B".~~

~~(4)(5) Academic institutions and/or departments thereof are not eligible to receive grants for projects or programs which are, or clearly should be, part of their normal, educational function.~~

~~(6) Grants may not be awarded to academic institutions or individuals to underwrite or supplant tuition, fees, scholarships or other educational costs in projects that involve participation for academic credits or grades, unless written exception from the Montana Arts Council is provided.~~

~~(7) If the applicant for a Montana Arts Council grant is a representative of or is responsible to a "board, council, commission, etc.," a cover letter shall accompany the original application which contains the approval by signature of a quorum of such a body.~~

~~(5)(8) No grant request will be considered which contains costs incurred from any previous grant agreement.~~

~~(6) Council members or immediate family members of council members (spouse and any member of the household, or any parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or corresponding in-law) are not eligible for grants.~~

~~(7) Grants awarded by the Council are made at the sole discretion of the Council.~~

History: Sec. [22-2-102](#) MCA; ~~IMP~~, Sec. [22-2-102](#) MCA; Eff. 12/31/72.

REASONABLE NECESSITY: The legislature has not granted the Montana Arts Council the authority to adopt rules addressing grant eligibility. Accordingly, this rule is being repealed.

10.111.611 GRANT CONDITIONS

~~(1) The Council shall establish guidelines for the award of grants.~~

~~(2) No grants award shall be issued if the sub-grantee fails to accept the conditions of the grant, or fails to have properly reported on any previous grant.~~

~~(3) No award shall be issued if the grantee fails to have reported appropriately on any previous grant.~~

~~(2) The sub-grantee must agree that the funds granted shall be expended solely for the activities described in the approved application and above, unless a specific amendment in writing has been received from the sub-grantee and subsequently approved. Any funds granted must be committed within the grant period. Significant changes requiring such amendments include:~~

~~(a) Changes of project purpose or scope.~~

~~(b) Changes in the key professional personnel identified in the approved proposal.~~

~~(c) Changes in duration of the grant period.~~

~~(d) Changes in non-profit tax exempt status.~~

~~(3) After consultation with the Council unexpended funds shall be returned to the Council at the conclusion of the grant period for transmission to the federal government.~~

~~(4) The grantee shall return unexpended or unobligated grant funds to the Council.~~

~~(5)(4) The sub-grantee shall maintain accounts, records, and other evidence pertaining to the costs incurred and revenues acquired under this grant. The system of accounting employed by the grantee shall be in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and will be applied in a consistent manner so that the project expenditures can be clearly identified. The records should clearly show that matching or cost-sharing expenditures are not less than the amount contemplated in the grant agreement and amendments thereto. Records must be maintained for three years from the official termination date of the grant period or until a Federal audit has been completed and any questions arising from it have been resolved, whichever is the lesser period.~~

~~(6)(5) Sub-grantees The grantees will submit periodic reports of expenditures and such other financial reports and descriptive reports as the Council may require. In all cases the grantee is required to submit, within 30 days after the termination of the grant period:~~

~~(a) a final financial report on the appropriate form,~~

~~(b) a narrative report stating what was accomplished with Endowment support.~~

~~(6) During the time set out in paragraph (4) sub-grantee agrees that the Federal government and the S and state government shall have access to and the right to examine relevant any directly pertinent books, documents, papers and records of the grantee involving transactions related to a grant, this grant at the principal place of business of grantee during regular business hours.~~

~~(7) The grantee will comply with all applicable federal and state laws. The sub-grantee must agree to conform with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which provides that "...no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." All grants are subject to review to determine whether grantees are meeting the requirements of Title VI and are eligible to continue to receive such Federal assistance.~~

~~(8) It is a further condition of the grant that the sub-grantee will furnish adequate assurances to the Secretary of Labor that all professional performers and related or supporting personnel employed on projects or productions which are financed in whole, or in part, under this grant will be paid, without subsequent deduction or rebate on any account, not less than the minimum compensation for persons employed in similar activities and no part of any project or production which is financed in whole or in part under this sub-grant will be performed or engaged in or under working conditions which are unsanitary or hazardous or dangerous to the health and safety of the employees engaged in such project or production. Compliance with the safety and sanitary laws of Montana shall be prima facie evidence of compliance.~~

~~(9) The sub-grantee must agree that the funds received under this grant shall not be used to supplant funds normally budgeted for services of the same type.~~

~~(10) The sub-grantee must agree that it is the official and sole agency for the administration of the plan described in this contract.~~

~~(11) The sub-grantee must agree to provide matching amounts equal to the amounts set forth in his proposal.~~

~~(12) The sub-grantee must agree that funds received under this grant will not be matched with funds received under any other grant from the Federal government.~~

~~(8) The grantee will include promotional credit to the funders of the grant as required.~~

~~(13) The sub-grantee must agree to include in all promotion, publicity, advertising and printed programs, posters, catalogs and title panels, the following credit line: "With the support of the Montana Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts—a Federal agency." When no printed matter is produced, verbal credit shall be given.~~

~~(9) When it appears that a grantee is not acting in compliance with grant conditions, the grant may be terminated in whole or in part.~~

~~(14) The Council may, at its discretion after consultation with the sub-grantee, terminate on 30 days written notice any grant, in whole or in part. Such termination shall not affect any commitment which, in the judgment of the Council, had become firm prior to the effective date of the termination. The sub-grantee must agree to furnish the Council, within 60 days after the date of termination, an itemized accounting of funds expended, obligated and remaining under the grant. The sub-grantee must also~~

~~agree to remit within 30 days after the receipt of a written request therefor, any amount determined to be due.~~

~~(15) Information collected from the public in connection with a grant project must not, without prior written approval of the Director of the Montana Arts Council, in any way be represented as information being collected by or for a State or Federal Agency.~~

~~(16) Prior to publishing the results of grant activity the Montana Arts Council must be consulted regarding "acknowledgement and disclaimer" requirements established by the Federal government.~~

History: Sec. [22-2-102](#) MCA; IMP, Sec. [22-2-102](#) MCA; Eff. 12/31/72.

REASONABLE NECESSITY: The legislature has not granted the Montana Arts Council the authority to adopt rules addressing grant conditions. Accordingly, this rule is being repealed.

10.111.101 ORGANIZATIONAL RULE

- (1) The Montana Arts Council was established by executive order in 1965 and codified by the Montana legislature in 1967 under 22-2-201, MCA. The council is allocated to the Board of Education for administrative purposes under 2-15-1511, MCA.
- (2) The council's mission is to develop the creative potential of all Montanans, advance education, spur economic vibrancy, and revitalize communities through the arts. This work is done through grants, programs, trainings, community outreach, and other activities developed from public comment.
- (3) Grant guidelines are established by the council. Grant guidelines may vary from program to program, as appropriate to the goals, purposes, and restrictions of each grant. Guidelines may be updated or amended as the council deems necessary. Guidelines and submission deadlines are publicly available on the council's website, <https://art.mt.gov>.
- (4) In addition to state funds, the council also has authority to manage and distribute federal and private funds in pursuit of its mission.
- (5) Additionally, the council may form other committees and advisory panels as needed to achieve its goals, provide for public input, and conduct general business.
- (6) The following chart depicts the organization of the council:

ORGANIZATION OF THE MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL



History: Sec. [2-4-201](#) MCA; [IMP](#), Sec. [2-4-201](#) MCA; Eff. 12/31/72.

10.111.201 ADOPTION OF MODEL RULES

- (1) The Montana Arts Council adopts the Attorney General's Model Rules of Administrative Procedure.
- (2) The model rules are found at ARM [1.3.101](#) through [1.3.233](#).

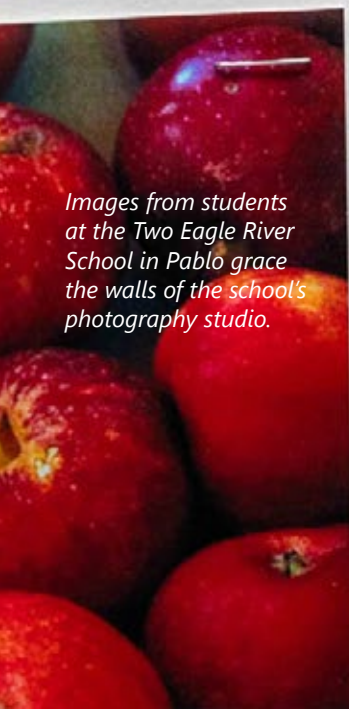
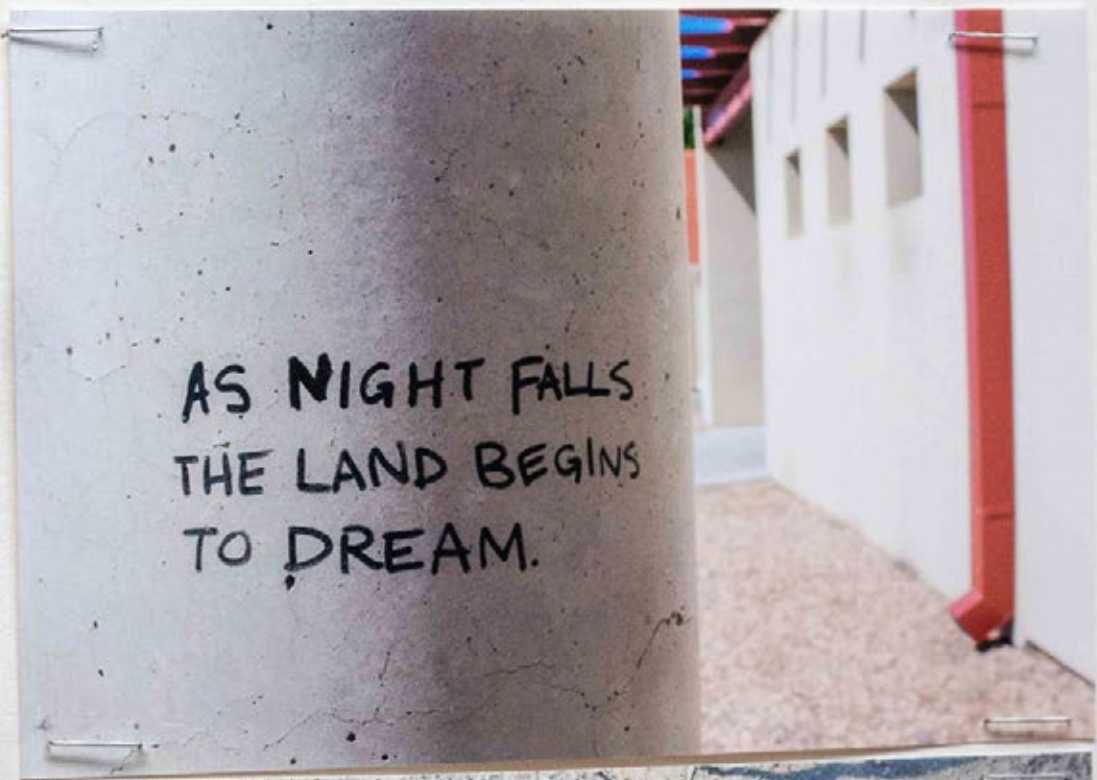
History: Sec. [2-4-202](#) MCA, [IMP](#), Sec. [2-4-202](#) MCA; Eff. 12/31/72

10.111.601 ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANTS Repealed

History: Sec. [22-2-102](#) MCA; [IMP](#), Sec. [22-2-102](#) MCA; Eff. 12/31/72.

10.111.611 GRANT CONDITIONS Repealed

History: Sec. [22-2-102](#) MCA; [IMP](#), Sec. [22-2-102](#) MCA; Eff. 12/31/72.



Images from students at the Two Eagle River School in Pablo grace the walls of the school's photography studio.



Frequently-Used Acronyms

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AFTA	Americans for the Arts
AIA	Artist's Innovation Awards
AIE	Arts in Education
AISC	Artists in the Schools and Communities
ARPA	American Rescue Plan Act
CoP	Communities of Practice
C&A	Cultural and Aesthetic Grant Program also referred to as Cultural Trust
CARES	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2020
501-c-3	Internal Revenue Service code for charitable organizations
504	504 Section for the '83 Rehab Act – <i>Access for People with Disabilities</i>
GAA	Governor's Arts Awards
GIA	Grantmakers in the Arts
IMLS	Institute of Museum and Library Services, a Federal agency
MAC	Montana Arts Council
MACAEF	Montana Arts Council Arts Education Fund
MACGAFF	Montana Arts Council Governor's Award for the Arts Fund
MAGDA	Montana Art Gallery Director's Association
MAM	Montana Association of Museums
MAP	Montana Artrepreneur Program
MASO	Montana Association of Symphony Orchestras
MCAM	Montana's Circle of American Masters
MCF	Montana Community Foundation
MDAA	Montana Dance Arts Association
MPAC	Montana Performing Arts Consortium
MTLA	Montana Teacher Leaders in the Arts
NASAA	National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
NEA	National Endowment for the Arts
NISP	National Information Standards Project, a coding for arts funding
NEH	National Endowment for the Humanities
OPI	Office of Public Instruction
PL	Poet Laureate
POL	Poetry Out Loud
PVP	Public Value Partnership
RFP	Request for Proposal
SAA	State Arts Agency
SABHRS	Statewide Accounting Budgeting and Human Resources System
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SIG	Strategic Investment Grants
SITSD	State Information Technology Service Division
SSO	Statewide Service Organization
SWCAP	Statewide Cost Allocation Plan
TA	Technical Assistance
TCG	Theatre Communications Group
WESTAF	Western States Arts Federation

MAC Program Reference Guide

Artists in Schools and Communities (AISC)

Program Description

The Montana Arts Council continually strives to foster access to robust arts learning opportunities to benefit citizens of all ages and abilities. To that end, MAC's Artists in Schools and Communities (AISC) grant program supports a broad range of arts learning projects through its two subcategories: AISC Experiences and AISC Residencies.

The **AISC Experiences** grant program is designed to engage learners as audience members, viewers and artists through activities that plant a seed of inspiration, often proving both foundational and transformative. Awards under this process range from \$250 to \$2500 and an applicant cash match is not required. Applications are accepted three times per year, though only one AISC Experiences award per calendar year may be received by each grantee organization.

AISC Experiences offers financial support of arts learning activities in three categories:

- Purchase of tools, supplies or small equipment to support experimentation with new arts media and methods
- Transportation to support first-hand experiences with art or artists
- Direct engagement with guest artists for a virtual or in-person session that may or may not include a hands-on learning component

AISC Residencies grants connect learners of all ages and abilities with professional teaching artists through a diverse array of learning settings, program formats and artistic disciplines. Residencies range from a couple of hours to months-long experiences and may engage one or several guest artists working with a single core group of learners or with multiple groups, all sharing the key components of experiential learning, a depth of knowledge gained and a strong emphasis on the process of art creation. Because of this emphasis, activities under the AISC Residencies grant category must include hands-on learning.

The award range under the AISC Residencies category is \$2500 - \$10,000 and a 1:1 applicant cash match is required. First-time applicants, along with Class C and Tribal schools, are eligible to receive funds with a 2:1 cash match supporting 2/3 of the project expense. Applications are accepted once per year, typically in mid-March, and may be paired with an AISC Experiences award in the same calendar year.

Timeline

New guidelines post to the website in January, with an AISC Residencies due date of mid-March—for projects taking place inside of the next fiscal year—and AISC Experiences deadlines of mid-April, mid-August and mid-December for projects taking place in the 6-month period following each deadline.

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Website: <https://art.mt.gov/aisc>

Communities of Practice (CoP)

Program Description

Designed to engage similarly aligned professionals around their shared interests, Communities of Practice (CoPs) are organized groups of individuals that communicate about and collaborate within their field of work, sharing knowledge, strategies, goals and experiences. Each community is held together by a common purpose, which usually focuses on sharing experiences and insights related to a topic or discipline. MAC is in the beginning stages of developing Communities of Practice to support teaching artists, museum and art center education directors, and K-12 fine arts administrators.

Typically informal in nature, to allow for greater sharing potential as a professional learning experience, each CoP will have a designated facilitator and that facilitator may change from meeting to meeting. In each case, a minimum of quarterly meetings will be organized in the coming year with the potential to meet in person, with MAC's support, at least once. The Teaching Artist Community of Practice is especially important as we focus on building that community in Montana for future involvement in MAC's Creative Aging initiative and other career development opportunities expressly for teaching artists.

Timeline: TBD / Ongoing

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Website: Pending

Creative Aging

Program Description

This lifelong learning-oriented practice of providing arts learning opportunities to adults 60 and over has emerged by name over the past 10-15 years as a nationally recognized field of work within arts education. Just as there are best practices and standards that guide the development of K-12 arts curriculum, Creative Aging (CA) programs are built on the belief that learners of every age deserve access to robust sequential arts learning opportunities and that those opportunities lead to mastery in an arts discipline. This kind of programming respects learners' abilities, no matter their age, and provides meaningful experience in the arts that stand in contrast to the one-off "arts and crafts" engagement that is typically offered through many senior centers.

Programs in the realm of Creative Aging focus on a depth of study and progression of learning that reflects the tenets of true arts education. Though there are subcategories of CA that focus on the needs of older adults with cognitive and physical impairments, such as serving older adults with dementia, the primary focus of MAC's Creative Aging work involves the development of arts learning programs providing experiential opportunities to adults with a desire to learn an art form or media new to them. Still new for Montana, our initiative launched late in fiscal year 2021 with initial foundational learning workshops led by Lifetime Arts, a national leader in Creative Aging work, and is continuing into the 2024 fiscal year with our inclusion in Lifetime Arts' Advancing Creative Aging in Western Region initiative, funded by the Smith Charitable Trust.

In the spring of 2023, a grant proposal was submitted to the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) grant opportunity, States Leading Creative Aging that would provide funding to support professional development for teaching artists and MAC-initiated pilot projects that would pair trained teaching artists with arts and non-arts organizations looking to begin Creative Aging programs. MAC is planning a modest investment toward teaching artist training with or without being awarded the NASAA grant.

Timeline: TBD / Ongoing

Staff Contact: Monica Grable Monica.Grable@mt.gov | 406.444.6522

Website: Pending

Folk Arts Apprenticeship Program (Currently in Development)

Program Description

The Folk Arts Apprenticeship program will help to assure the survival, development and continued evolution of community-based traditional art forms found throughout Montana. The program allows master traditional artists to pass along their unique skills to promising novice artists that work in their art form. The master artist works with the apprentice on a one-on-one basis over an agreed upon period of time to teach specific aspects of the tradition.

Timeline

Early 2024 program launch.

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Governor's Arts Awards

Program Description

The Governor's Arts Award honors outstanding citizens and organizations in Montana whose achievements in the arts, or on behalf of the arts, benefit all Montanans.

Awardees demonstrate: 1. Achievement and artistic excellence 2. Dedication to Montana 3. Ongoing contributions to the cultural community 4. Worthiness of recognition

Anyone or any organization in Montana with commensurate accomplishments can be nominated for the Governor's Arts Awards. The Montana Arts Council makes recommendations of honorees to the Governor, who makes the final decision. The honorees are selected from candidates who have been put forth in a formal nomination process by the public.

The Governor's Arts Award (GAA) was first awarded in 1981. Since that time, approximately 125 awards have been presented.

"For generations, Montana has stirred the creativity of writers, artists, and musicians who have helped shape our vibrant culture. We're proud to honor these individuals for their unique talents and contributions to Montana." -Governor Greg Gianforte

Timeline

The Governors Arts Award ceremony is presented every other year. The last ceremony was held in December 2022 (FY23) and the next is scheduled for FY25 in conjunction with the December council meeting in Helena. (Tentative consideration of moving from December 2024 to May 2025 to be presented in alternating years from the Montana Circle of American Masters Ceremony and to avoid winter weather.)

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Website Links

<https://art.mt.gov/gaa>

Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP)

With a mission to help artists build a sustainable life in the arts, the Montana Arts Council provides a program to artists called the Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP). Over the course of the program's history, MAP has provided professional development to more than 500 artists in our state and in so doing has garnered national recognition. MAP provides practical coursework covering 35 pragmatic, professional practice tools of art and business following a general outline of discovering, showing, telling, and funding each artist's story.

As an art-centered business development program taught by working artists and open to artists of all disciplines, the program provides:

- 40 hours of college-level instruction
- Experience with 35 practical business tools
- Demystification of the world of business
- Affirming the title of 'Artist' as a credible profession
- A mentorship opportunity with an artist of each participant's choosing
- Peer to peer support within the cohort

At the program's heart is the philosophy that a sustainable career in the arts is attainable when artists advance their proficiency in a chosen medium, gain understanding of and proactively engage in the arts community, and when they are able to confidently articulate their story and purpose as an artist through the strategic development of their patron network.

Applications are accepted once or twice yearly, with the opportunity to join a cohort in identified changing locations around the state. The program is traditionally comprised of four in-person weekend workshops (once every 3-4 weeks) and interim meetings via Zoom. MAC partners with museums and galleries around the state to act as hosts. Participants in MAP are asked to pay a fee of \$500 to cover the purchase of the MAP text and supplies and a small portion of the venue rental cost. MAC invests approximately \$2000 per participant, covering the expenses of the coach/teaching artist and venue expenses.

Timeline: May 1 deadline for applications; cohort begins with Workshop 1 in late August, concludes Workshop 4 in November.

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Website: <https://art.mt.gov/map>

Montana Circle of American Masters (MCAM)

Program Description

The Montana Circle of American Masters (MCAM) is a program of the Montana Arts Council that celebrates the contributions of our state's master folk and traditional artists. A member of MCAM is a person who throughout their lifetime of work in the traditional arts has created a notable body of work. Of significant cultural and artistic stature, their work is representative of the historic, traditional, and innovative arts and handcrafts distinctive to the State and is worthy of note on both a state and national level.

Folk and traditional arts include fine handcrafts, decorative arts, and performance arts that are indigenous to an ethnic, geographic, linguistic, religious, or occupational community. They reflect the aesthetics and values of the community in which they arise and are often symbols of a group's identity. The traditional arts recognized by these awards include traditions such as quilting, beading, dance, leatherwork, woodwork, metalwork, storytelling, weaving, ledger art, and music.

Timeline

The application process will open in June 2023. New inductees are confirmed by the full Council at the December Council meeting. The next induction ceremony will occur in May 2024.

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Website Link

<https://art.mt.gov/mcam>

Percent for Art

Program Description

The Percent for Art program was established in 22.2.4 of the Montana Code in 1983. MAC is the administrator of the selection and installation process. The project budget generally includes administration (19%), maintenance (1%), and artwork (80%) if using a contractor. If the program is administered in-house, the administration costs may be lower.

The Percent for Art program currently includes over 150 works of art around the state in public buildings.

Timeline

Public Art projects for FY24-25 will be determined by MAC and DOA Architecture & Engineering based on HB5 eligible projects after the legislative session.

Staff Contact

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Website Links

<https://art.mt.gov/percentforart>

Poet Laureate

Program Description

The Montana Poet Laureate recognizes and honors a citizen poet of exceptional talent and accomplishment. The Poet Laureate also encourages appreciation of poetry and literary life in Montana. This position was created by the state legislature in 2005.

The Poet Laureate is chosen on the basis of three criteria:

- Artistic excellence and achievement
- Ongoing contributions to the cultural community
- Worthiness of statewide recognition

To be eligible, the poet must currently reside in Montana and have been a resident for at least one year. Montana Arts Council members, staff, or their immediate family or household are not eligible.

Timeline

Nominations are made in the spring of even-numbered years, and these nominations are narrowed to three finalists by a panel. These finalists are confirmed by the Council at its June meeting and sent to the Governor's office for the Governor to select the next poet laureate from.

Staff Contact

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Website Link

https://art.mt.gov/poet_laureate

Poetry Out Loud (POL)

Program Description

Created in 2005 by the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Poetry Foundation, Poetry Out Loud (POL) engages high school students in all fifty-five states and jurisdictions in the art of poetry through recitation of notable poets' work, past and present. The Montana Arts Council, tasked with administering the program in our state with \$20K in funding from the NEA, engages students in grades 9-12 through participation within their respective classrooms or through school clubs, or individually through a virtual support team if their schools are not participating.

Typically led by classroom teachers or school librarians, Poetry Out Loud provides a wealth of resources and curriculum, together with the anthology accessible online via poetryoutloud.org. The anthology—from which students choose poems that resonate with them—includes more than 1200 poems and includes poets' biographies. In most cases, students participate in a classroom recitation that advances them to a schoolwide contest and subsequently advances the top three students at each school to one of 4 Regional competitions and finally to the Montana Poetry Out Loud State Finals, held in early March in Helena. One POL Champion will emerge from the State Finals to represent Montana at the National Poetry Out Loud Finals in DC and compete for the program's top monetary prizes, including the \$20,000 grand prize.

In Montana, we are fortunate to have long-term participation with Poetry Out Loud by many of our state's Poets Laureate, who return year after year to serve as judges and to coach our State Champion, as well as the support of our campus partners—colleges and universities in the state—who've acted as hosts for our regional events. Through participation in POL, students build their self-confidence, gain fluency in poetry recitation and spoken word performance, develop and hone their public speaking skills while discovering their unique voices and meet and celebrate peers from around the state.

Timeline: Recruitment period begins in August and extends through October; students are engaged with poetry throughout November and December, with school contests taking place in January; Regional events are held in the first half of February, followed by State Finals on the first Saturday in March.

Staff Contact Monica Grable Monica.Grable@mt.gov | 406.444.6522

Website: <https://art.mt.gov/pol>

Public Value Partnerships (PVP), Statewide Service Organizations (SSO), Cultural Trust (C&A)

General Operating Support: **Public Value Partnerships (PVP), Statewide Service Organizations (SSO)**

General Operating Support, Special Projects, and Capital Expenditures: **Cultural Trust (C&A)**

Public Value Partnerships (PVP) provide operating support for the artistic and educational mission of Montana arts organizations. The program recognizes strong operations, stable management, ongoing engagement, and high-quality programming for the communities being served.

Statewide Service Organization (SSO) grants provide operating support for Montana non-profit arts organizations with statewide service impact and members and clients must include organizations, not just individuals. The program recognizes strong operations, stable management, ongoing engagement, and high-quality services. A Statewide Arts Service Organization (SSO) is defined as an organization with a statewide membership and statewide board of directors. Its primary function is to provide member organizations and artists with programs and services more efficiently and cost-effectively than if those members had to acquire them individually.

Cultural Trust (aka Cultural & Aesthetic Projects or Coal Tax Funding) seeks to support a robust cultural environment with funding for programs, activities, and acquisitions. In 1975, the Montana Legislature set aside a percentage of the Coal Tax to restore murals in the Capitol and support other cultural and aesthetic projects. This unique funding source is a Cultural Trust, with grant money allocated every two years. Grant funds are derived from the interest earned on the Cultural Trust. In 1983, the Legislature established a Cultural and Aesthetic Projects Advisory Committee with 16 members, half appointed by the Montana Arts Council and half by the Montana Historical Society. The committee reviews all grant proposals and makes funding recommendations to the Legislature, which determines who will receive grant funds. The Montana Arts Council administers the program for the Legislature.

Timeline

These three programs had panel processes in FY 2023 to determine funding for FY 2024-2025. The Cultural Trust will have a panel process in October 2024 (FY 2025) prior to the next legislative session beginning in January 2025 to determine funding for FY 2026-2027. PVP/SSO will be paneled, tentatively, in March/April 2025 (FY 2025) for FY 2026-2027.

Staff Contact

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Website Links

<https://art.mt.gov/pvp>

<https://art.mt.gov/sso>

<https://art.mt.gov/ca>

Strategic Investment Grants

Program Description

Strategic Investment Grants (SIG) provide up to \$1000 for expenses related to opportunities for professional development, market expansion, and art events. SIG enables artists and teachers to advance their professional careers and supports nonprofit organizations in the advancement of arts-related programs. SIG payments are made on a reimbursement basis.

SIG supports a wide variety of arts-related activities and opportunities:

- Attendance at workshops, trainings, residencies, or conferences
- Exhibiting at trade shows, gallery showings conferences, festivals, or other art events
- Public outreach and marketing for events or publications
- Expansion of online presence or entry into new online marketplaces
- Performances, public art installations, demonstrations, or exhibitions
- Investments in technology or tools that represent a clear step forward professionally

Timeline

SIG has a deadline on the 15th of each month. When the 15th falls on a weekend, the deadline becomes the first business day following the weekend.

Staff Contact

Brian Moody, brian.moody2@mt.gov, 406-444-4700

Website Link

<https://art.mt.gov/sig>

Folk and Traditional Arts

Program Description

MAC's Folk and Traditional Arts programs promote the work of individual artists and advocate for the continuation of Montana's folk and traditional arts traditions. Reintroduced in 2022, the Montana Circle of American Masters (MCAM) celebrates exemplary artists for a lifetime of achievement, artistic excellence, and contributions to the State's folk and traditional arts lineage. Currently in development, and scheduled for a spring 2024 reintroduction, the Apprenticeship program matches exemplary practitioners with students dedicated to the work of carrying on folk and traditional arts traditions. Also in progress is the development of a roster of current Montana folk and traditional arts practitioners. Finally, MAC is partnering with the Montana History Portal to host the digitized archives of over four decades of folk arts materials currently housed in the Helena office.

Committee Responsibilities

- Participate in the panel process to review applications to the Montana Circle of American Masters. This panel will include committee members and outside folk arts experts.
- Participate in the panel process to review applications to the Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship program. This panel will include committee members and outside folk arts experts.
- Contribute to the design of folk arts programs.
- Assist in outreach and recruitment of artists and organizations to participate in fieldwork and programs.
- Committee Chair will report on folk and traditional arts activities at the December and June Council meetings.

Timeline

Until all folk arts programs are reestablished and program timelines are finalized, the committee will meet on an as-needed basis. Review panels for both MCAM and the Apprenticeship program will tentatively meet in September or October of each year.

Staff Contacts

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Montana Arts Council Member Biographies

Angella Ahn

Violinist Angella Ahn has had an extensive career, performing not only in every state in the U.S., but in over 30 countries. As a member of the Ahn Trio, she has played in venues as diverse as the White House, the Jazz Dock in Prague, Buenos Aires' Teatro Colon, Vienna's Musikverein, New York's Lincoln Center, Leipzig's Gewandhaus, Beijing's Concert Hall, Istanbul's Aya Irini in Topkapi Palace, the iTunes Festival, and TEDWomen.

In addition to live performances, Angella has an impressive discography with her trio. The nine enthusiastically received albums include *Lullaby for My Favorite Insomniac*, released by Sony (No. 8 in the Billboard Charts for 26 weeks); *Dvorak, Suk and Shostakovich*, released by EMI (winner of Germany's prestigious ECHO Award); and their most recent, *Blue*, a musical diary. She has recently released two digital tracks with her trio, "Nuvole Bianche" and "Candybox." Wide-ranging collaborations have allowed the trio to work with modern dance companies (including a B-boy group), film directors, rock bands, and DJ Spooky. Because of their eclectic interests and innovative exploration in music, New York Newsday has called the trio "Classical revolutionaries."

Angella enjoys living in Bozeman, Montana, where she is currently Associate Professor of Violin and Viola at Montana State University. The depth of her experience and knowledge has made her perfectly suited to help the next generation of young musicians, and she is a devoted and sought-after teacher, being named by the university both a "Most Valuable Professor" and "Professor of the Month". Beyond her teaching, she serves on the Montana Arts Council and the Bozeman Symphony Board. She is the artistic director of the Big Sky Classical Music Festival, where she is heard performing with many guest artists such as Matt Haimovitz and Rachel Barton Pine. She is also the Artistic Director of Montana

Chamber Music Society. She has often taught at Mark O'Connor's Fiddle camps and has been featured with musicians as diverse as Phil Aaberg, Darol Anger, Emmylou Harris, and John Prine. She can be seen in "Angella Ahn and Friends," a program presented by Montana PBS' Emmy award-winning 11th & Grant with Eric Funk, as well as in *The Hive*, a film produced by Tippet Rise Art Center in collaboration with the acclaimed sculptor Stephen Talasnik and director Matthew McKee.

Angella has given masterclasses throughout North America, Asia, and Europe. A graduate of the Juilliard School of Music, she shares the widely regarded pedagogy of her mentors Dorothy DeLay and Hyo Kang. She plays a 2013 violin made for her by renowned luthier Sam Zygmuntowicz of Brooklyn, New York.

Sarah Calhoun

Sarah Calhoun is the owner of Red Ants Pants, the executive director of the Red Ants Pants Foundation and the producer the Red Ants Pants Music Festival. The festival is in its tenth year and draws tens of thousands to a cow pasture in Meagher County. It was named the Event of the Year by the Montana Office of Tourism. From her home in the small town of White Sulphur Springs, she has become an inspiration to entrepreneurs nationwide and is known for her dedication to supporting rural communities, the arts, and women's leadership. In 2018 she was named to the Montana Business Hall of Fame. In 2012, named the National Women in Business Champion for the SBA. She has been invited to the White House twice, and honored when Governor Schweitzer named her the 2011 Entrepreneur of the Year for the State of Montana. She has given two TEDx talks, dozens of keynote addresses, and has gained national press such as CNBC, CNN, Bloomberg, *Sunset*, *Entrepreneur*, *National Geographic*, *The New York Times* and *The Huffington Post*.

Montana Arts Council Member Biographies

Sean Falcon Chandler

Sean, an enrolled member of the Aaniiin (Gros Ventre Nation), is the President of Aaniiih Nakoda College (ANC) located on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation. Since 2002, Sean has been employed with ANC, serving mostly as Director of American Indian Studies until 2017 when he began to fill the role of Academic Dean and later as President in 2020. In addition to his administration duties, he also instructs the Aaniiih (Gros Ventre) Language to grade school aged children in ANC's White Clay Immersion School. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Art and a Master of Arts in Native American Studies from Montana State University-Bozeman. In 2014, he attained a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from The University of Montana with his dissertation entitled, "The Identity of Upholding Indigenous Lifeways."

Corwin Clairmont

Corky is a celebrated contemporary artist, teacher, mentor, a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, and has recently retired as the art director at Salish Kootenai College. He is a 2008 Governor's Arts Award recipient.

Troy Collins

As a nationally renowned western landscape impressionist, Troy Collins creates paintings with brilliant color, texture and insight from his studio nestled in the middle of the Bitterroot Mountain Range.

His paintings have graced the halls of the Montana and California State Capitols, the Pentagon, the U.S. Capital, and are included in many corporate and private collections throughout the United States and Europe. Troy's work has been featured in over 100 magazines and four books and he has also been chosen as one of the top 25 quick finish

artists in the West. Troy is a proud member of the C.M. Russell Museum's Russell Skull Society of Artists.

Wylie Galt Gustafson

Wylie Gustafson is an American Original. The singer, songwriter, rancher, horseman, and world-famous Yahoo! yodeler leads the musical outfit known as Wylie and the Wild West. The group is internationally known for their vibrant presentation of the music—both original and traditional—of America and its colorful West. They delight audiences around the world with their one of a kind brand of music, including elements of cowboy, traditional country, western swing, folk, and, of course yodeling. Wylie is a real life cowboy born into a 4th generation ranching family on the empty sprawl of Northern Montana. He is a member of the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame and the Montana Pro Rodeo Wall and Hall of Fame. He's the real deal and, as one music writer quipped, "All old school without being a tired period piece."

Julie Mac

Julie Mac is a TV Host and Content Producer who can paint a picture from start to finish. She has years of experience in the television and commercial industry. Julie has been blessed with production opportunities with the likes of Discovery, A&E, NBC, MTV, VH1, FOX, ESPN, HGTV, and others. She has covered star-studded events such as the Billboard Awards, iHeart Radio Music Festival, and Sundance. When Julie is not producing you may find her speaking at a youth event or emceeding a fashion show or introducing artist on a concert stage.

Julie has a love for discovering fun things to do. As a matter of fact, creating enjoyment for others is fun for her hence that's why she's a perfect match as our host for Montana's Best plus who perfect to have host the show

Montana Arts Council Member Biographies

from someone who is from Montana. She grew up skiing the slopes of the mountains, hiking the trails that lead to breath taking views, and working with local businesses. Dirt doesn't scare her, outdoor adventures thrill her, dressing to the nines excites her, and people fascinate her brain. Julie's eye for detail is detailed. Her mission is to "motivate, educate, and influence people for the better by using media.

Cat McIntyre

Cat is a visual artist working in multiple media, from traditional paint on canvas to paint on salvaged tin and wood, to large-scale murals. Living and working in Glasgow since 2010 after completing her MFA at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Cat has been a strong advocate in her community for the power of public art and the importance of the arts to her town's ongoing vitality.

John L. Moore

John L. Moore is a third-generation rancher, award-winning novelist and award-winning journalist from Miles City. His writing career began at age 17 with the *Miles City Star* and in the past 52 years he has authored seven novels, several non-fiction books, over 1500 articles, and has published literary short stories and poetry. He has also appeared in four documentaries as an authority on the history of horses on the Great Plains. He is a 2019 inductee into the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame and a 2021 inductee into the Montana Pro Rodeo Hall and Wall of Fame.

Greg Murphy, Chair

A native Montanan, Greg Murphy became interested in the arts at an early age when he took up the French horn while in grade school. He was the principal horn player at the University of Montana in his undergraduate days, and played horn with the Missoula Symphony, the

Helena Symphony, and the Billings Symphony, the latter for 23 years. He has been practicing law in Montana for over 40 years. Greg earned many professional accolades, including the William J. Jameson Award, the highest award given by the Montana State Bar Association, for having shown "ethical and personal conduct, commitment and activities that exemplify the essence of professionalism." His peer review ratings rank him at the highest level of professional excellence for his legal expertise, communication skills, and ethical standards. He was named a Mountain States "Super Lawyer," as well as listed among the "Best Lawyers in America." Greg chaired the National Conference of Bar Examiners, the Montana Board of Bar Examiners, and the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, the national law school accrediting agency. He has served many other state, community, and charitable boards. Greg's wife, Kate, is a photographer and painter. Greg and Kate's three children are accomplished musicians in their own rights.

Linda Netschert

Linda Netschert is the owner and publisher of Farcountry Press and Sweetgrass Books. Linda bought Farcountry Press, an award-winning regional book publishing company, in 2011 after a career spent selling their books throughout the West and managing book sales and marketing for Lee Enterprises' national publishing program. A Montana native with a degree from Western Montana College, Linda has been a manager in retail, theatre, and the hospitality industry before joining Farcountry Press as a sales rep more than 25 years ago. Throughout her book publishing career, she has nurtured book professionals from across the country, especially Montana authors, photographers, and illustrators. Through Sweetgrass Books, the same staff helps others custom publish their own books. When she is

Montana Arts Council Member Biographies

not working, Linda can be found on the lake, in the mountains riding & driving her horses, and enjoying her ever-growing menagerie of farm animals.

Bridger Pierce

Bridger Pierce serves as Vice President of Operations for Warm Springs Productions, a full-service television production company based in Missoula and Manhattan.

Jay Pyette, Vice Chair

Jay was the Artistic Director of the Montana Actors' Theatre in Havre, Montana for 27 years before transitioning to the role of Executive Director. He also taught English and Theatre at Havre High School as well as Montana State University-Northern. Jay enjoys every aspect of theatrical production as well as playwrighting. His drama *The Dead of Winter* was selected for production at the Union Theatre in London, UK for July of 2003 and his comedy *Rugburns* toured parts of Montana in 2008 and again in 2018.

Angela Russell

Angela Russell, a member of the Crow Tribe, has spent her life involved in health, social, and political issues for the Crow Nation and the State of Montana. She served four terms in the Montana House of Representatives, one term with the newly created Crow Tribal Legislature, and served as Chief Judge for the Crow Tribal Court. Ms. Russell actively participated in the National Council of Native American Legislators and served as an officer of the Native American Court Judges Association. She was a co-organizer of the Apsáalooke Committee for the Arts promoting and supporting local artists and craftsperson's. She published the Apsáalooke Calendar for thirty years, which featured early

Crow photographs and history, poetry, and artwork. Public service has included serving as Chair for the Friends of Chief Plenty Coups, as a trustee of the Big Horn County Library Association, and as a member of the Montana Board of Crime Control. Ms. Russell received a bachelor's degree and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Montana and a Master's Degree from Tulane University.

Steve Zabel

Founder of Montana Trails Gallery in Bozeman, Steve Zabel grew up on a ranch in the Madison Valley and began his art career by publishing prints of work by his father Larry Zabel, the respected western wildlife painter. Montana Trails Gallery has operated from several locations on Bozeman's Main Street and has long been a mainstay of Montana's western art scene, earning a reputation for its strong historic collections which include work by Charles M. Russell, Frederic Remington, Joseph Henry Sharp, and others.

Council Terms

Term Expiration Date		Council Member	Member Since
February	2025	Sean Falcon Chandler	February 2016
February	2025	Angela Russell	February 2020
February	2025	Sarah Calhoun	April 2021
February	2025	Wylie Gustafson	April 2021
February	2025	Linda Netschert	April 2021
February	2027	Troy Collins	February 2022
February	2027	Julie Mac	February 2022
February	2027	John L. Moore	February 2022
February	2027	Greg Murphy, Chair	February 2022
February	2027	Bridger Pierce	February 2022
February	2028	Corwin Clairmont	May 2008
February	2028	Jay Pyette, Vice Chair	April 2013
February	2028	Angella Ahn	May 2018
February	2028	Steve Zabel	April 2021
February	2028	Cat McIntyre	June 2023

The Boards and Appointments Advisor to the Governor's office, will be sending out notices to all council members whose terms are expiring by early December. If you would like to continue to serve, you will need to update your application per the instructions provided.

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Montana Arts Council Committees

The Council Chair is an ex-officio member of all committees and makes Committee appointments. Committee appointments are reviewed annually at the June meeting.

Executive Committee

Staffed by Krys Holmes

The Executive Committee is set in MCA 22-2-104 and includes the Chair, the Vice-Chair, and three additional Council members. The Executive Committee provides oversight of finances and operations. The Committee meets four times per year and as needed.

Members: Greg Murphy, Chair
 Jay Pyette, Vice-Chair
 Sarah Calhoun
 Sean Chandler
 Corky Clairmont

Strategic Investment Grants

Staffed by Brian Moody

The Strategic Investment Grants Committee (SIG) provides oversight of the SIG grant program. Duties include reviewing applications submitted, developing funding decisions, and guiding program revisions. The Committee meets monthly by conference call to review fewer than ten applications, generally within an hour. Additional calls are scheduled as needed.

Members: Jay Pyette, Chair
 Angella Ahn
 Sarah Calhoun
 Cat McIntyre
 Bridger Pierce

Arts Education Committee

Staffed by Monica Grable

The Arts Education Committee provides guidance in program development, participates in the review process, reaches out to educational entities, and represents MAC at education events. This Committee meets as needed, generally four times per year.

Members: Angella Ahn, Chair
 Sean Chandler
 Corky Clairmont
 Linda Netschert
 Bridger Pierce

** Indicates appointment term has ended. Members may continue to stay engaged with the committees work as needed.*

Montana Arts Council Committees

The Council Chair is an ex-officio member of all committees and makes Committee appointments. Committee appointments are reviewed annually at the June meeting.

Governor's Arts Awards 2022

Staffed by Kristin Han Burgoyne

The Governor's Arts Award (GAA) Committee provides oversight to selecting and recognizing GAA honorees. The Committee generally meets up to six times to advise on the process and develop the slate of recommendations presented to the Council. Honorees are announced in even-numbered years.

Members: Wylie Gustafson, Chair
 Julie Mac
 John Moore
 Steve Zabel
 Troy Collins

Poet Laureate 2023

Staffed by Eric Heidle

The Poet Laureate Committee provides oversight in identifying recommendations to the Governor in compliance with MCA 2-15-242. The Committee generally meets up to six times to advise on the process and develop the slate of recommendations for the Council to authorize. The Governor announces the Poet Laureate in August of odd-numbered years.

Members: Sean Chandler (Chair)
 Bridger Pierce
 Angela Russell
 Linda Netschert

Executive Director Search Committee Summer 2023

Executive Committee

Folk and Traditional Arts Committee

June 2023, authorization of a Folk and Traditional Arts Committee composed of five members plus the Chair (ex officio), committee duties will be developed.

Members: Corky Clairmont (Chair)
 Sarah Calhoun
 Sean Chandler
 Julie Mac
 Jay Pyette

** Indicates appointment term has ended. Members may continue to stay engaged with the committees work as needed.*

Percent for Art Chair

Staffed by Kristin Han Burgoyne

MAC works in coordination with the Department of Administration to implement the Percent for Art Program, which places artwork in public buildings. The appointed committee chair for each project will run the public meetings, monitor the process, and present the selected artwork to the Council for approval. Meetings take place over a conference call and in person. The number of meetings varies by the project, and service can range from 6 months to over a year.

Strategic Planning Committee

Committee disbanded, FY 2024

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*Detail from Corwin
"Corky" Clairmont's Eagle
Circle in Pablo, dedicated
to our veterans.*



MONTANA
ARTS COUNCIL