Montana Arts Council Baseline Values for Goals & Objectives 2025

January 25, 2023

Focus career development programs and promote the work of Montana artists

The current year Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP) cohorts are Billings and Red Lodge. Planning and promotion for FY24 are for Lewistown and, if funding is available, Glasgow.

Develop & launch folk & traditional arts apprenticeships

The program has been on hiatus since 2016. The agency has a list of prior applicants and recipients. Revision and roll out include surveys, field work and planning in FY24 and a program launch in FY25.

Identify communities not yet served or underserved

The baseline can be estimated by the activity reporting submitted by grantees. MAC will tentatively use FY22 data to create the base and then promote programs and allocate funding to support the communities identified.

Review, revise and update appropriate statutes, rules, policies, and procedures

The new MAC Chair has extensive knowledge of statute and rules and is enthusiastic to align statute, rule, policy and procedure. MAC staff intends to take full advantage of that enthusiasm. The baseline is current statute, rules policy, and procedures and a desire to review the framework globally and complete a thoughtful revision and update to create a cohesive and easy to understand guidance structure.

Seek and value input. Increase public involvement in processes and decision making

MAC annually seeks input from approximately 15-25 panelists and reviewers in the grant process.

Increase engagement with and among cultural anchors and assets

This doesn't have a well-defined baseline value but our experience is that all communities, even those without an arts non-profit organization, have a cultural anchor and cultural assets.

Identify trends via surveys and grant reports

MAC does not have a consistent methodology for analyzing data collected from surveys and grant reports. MAC will standardize the current practice into more consistent and reliable reporting.

Provide public information on programming

We currently provide information on grants and programs individually. The agency aims to improve this process by creating a unified set of timelines to allow the public to easily determine when all programs are available, including key deadlines for each.

Improve accessibility of website

The website was transitioned to the current website platform in the 2023 biennium. There are some identified and some yet-undiscovered accessibility issues that require expert analysis. These can then be corrected by the agency.

Develop online tutorial resources

MAC has a small number of recorded webinars and tutorials currently available that were completed as a pilot in FY22 and FY23 that have been very successful in providing information and education.

Continued training for staff

Current staff training completion rates will be used for the baseline. For example, staff uses an SITSD dashboard to track completion of state security training.