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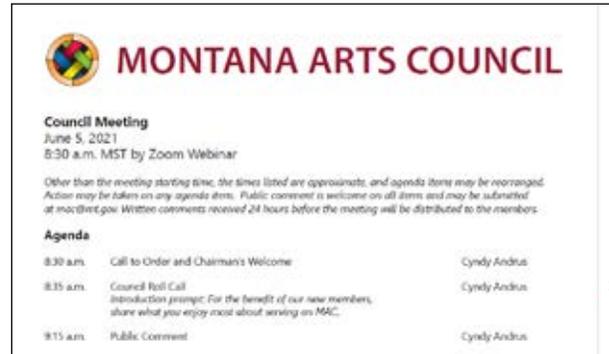
Montana  
Arts Council

December 2023 Meeting

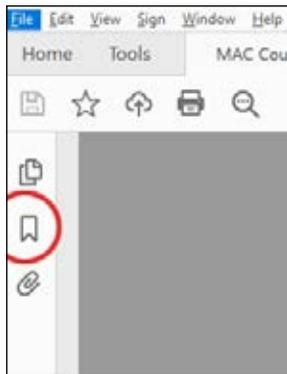
# Welcome

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:

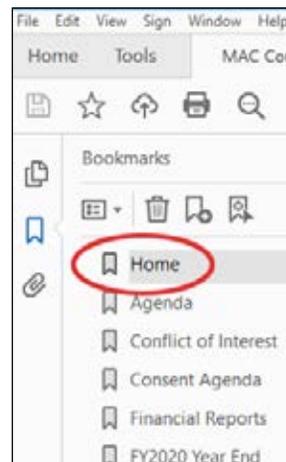
The information in the book is organized by the order in which it appears in the meeting's **agenda**, located on the [following page](#).



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

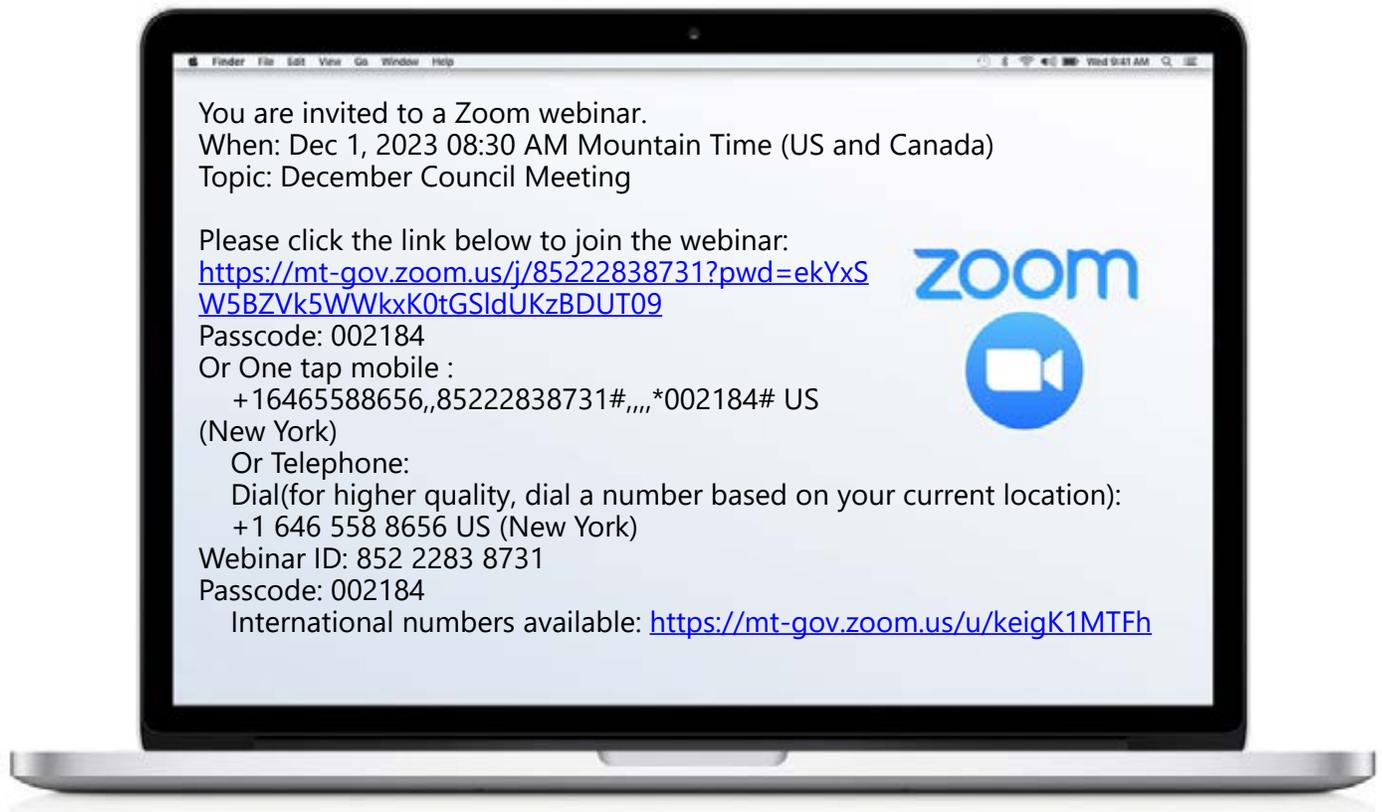
Also, at the bottom of each page will be its page number and the **section of the document** it's in:

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

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

*On the cover: Elizabeth Tritthart at her loom, located in her studio at the Imagine Butte Resource Center.*

# How to attend the meeting online





# MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL

## Council Meeting

November 30 - December 2, 2023

Butte, America

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

*Other than the meeting starting time, any the 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](mailto:mac@mt.gov) or through this [webform](#). Written comments received 24 hours before the meeting will be distributed to the Council before the meeting.*

### **Thursday, November 30, 2023**

After 3 p.m.    Traveling Council members may check-in  
Copper King Hotel & Convention Center  
4655 Harrison Ave. Butte 59701  
406-533-6960

5:00 p.m.      Reception – heavy hors d'oeuvres and cash bar (tentatively)  
Imagine Butte Resource Center  
68 W. Park St. Butte 59701  
Council members are encouraged to carpool.

## Friday, December 1, 2023

Meeting Location      Copper King Hotel & Convention Center  
Room Copper V

Lunch information      Copper King Convention Center

Zoom: <https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/85222838731?pwd=ekYxSW5BZVk5WWkxK0tGSldUKzBDUT09>

Webinar ID: 852 2283 8731

Passcode: 002184

Or join by phone: 646-558-8656

### Proposed Business Meeting Agenda

8:30 a.m.	Call to Order	Greg Murphy
	Roll Call and Public Comment	Ginny Newman
	Approval of Proposed Agenda ▶ <i>Action: Motion to approve proposed agenda</i>	Greg Murphy
	Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes ▶ <i>Action: Motion to approve June 8, 2023 Open Meeting Minutes</i>	Greg Murphy
	Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes ▶ <i>Action: Motion to approve August 28, 2023 Open Meeting Minutes</i>	Greg Murphy
	Council Orientation Refresher	Krys Holmes/ Kristin Burgoyne
	Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Report ▶ <i>Action: Motion to approve</i>	Jenifer Alger
	Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Report ▶ <i>Action: Motion to approve</i>	Jenifer Alger
	Legislative Update	Drew Geiger
	Montana Circle of American Masters ▶ <i>Action: Motion to approve recommendations</i>	Corky Clairmont
	Committee Reports	
	Executive Committee	Greg Murphy
	Strategic Investment Grant Committee	Jay Pyette
	Arts Education Committee	Angella Ahn
	Governor's Arts Awards Committee	Wylie Gustafson
	Poet Laureate Committee	Sean Chandler
	Folk and Traditional Arts Committee (no report)	
	Percent for Art Projects (no report)	

Committee Assignments  
Review Committee Assignments, if needed  
Appoint committee members to the Folk and Traditional Arts Committee  
▶ *Action: Motion to approve*

Greg Murphy

Strategic Plan/Work Plan/Initiatives

Krys Holmes

Next Meetings

Greg Murphy

May 30-June 1, 2024 Pablo/Polson **\*Note Dates**  
December 2025, Helena DATE TBD  
▶ *Action: Confirm date for December Meeting, in conjunction with next Governor's Arts Award*  
▶ *Action: Propose and finalize location for Spring 2025 meeting*

Report from the Executive Director

Krys Holmes

Report from the Chair

Greg Murphy

Generative/strategic discussion for the Council

Krys Holmes

**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?**

New Business

Greg Murphy

3:00 p.m. Adjourn Meeting

Post Meeting Details – Uptown Butte Christmas Stroll with dinner on your own

Noon: Hand out reimbursement forms

Afternoon Break: Explain and collect reimbursement forms (time left, time will return (approx.) and signature)

# Minutes of the Montana Arts Council

In open session  
Monday, August 28, 2023 8:30am  
Zoom

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The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Chair Murphy.

**1. Attendance:**

**Council Members Present Online:** Greg Murphy, Chair; Jay Pyette, Vice-Chair; Angella Ahn; Corky Clairmont; Sarah Calhoun; Sean Chandler; Troy Collins; Wylie Gustafson; Julie Mac; John Moore; Linda Netschert; Bridger Pierce

**Council Members Absent:** Angela Russell; Steve Zabel

**Staff Present:** Jenifer Alger; Kristin Han Burgoyne; Monica Grable; Ginny Newman  
Guests: Paul Stahl. Unknown TA Guest.

**2. Motion and Second to Approve the Proposed Agenda:** Angella Ahn moved, and Corky Clairmont seconded to approve the proposed agenda. Motion carried on voice vote with no dissents.

**3. Public Comment:** Chair Murphy called for public comment. Ginny Newman announced that no written public comments had been filed. No members of the public commented.

**4. Executive Committee Report and Recommendations:** Jay Pyette presented the Executive Committee Report and Recommendations. Sarah Calhoun expressed the Executive Committee’s appreciation for the Chairman’s leadership through this transition and into the future.

Jay Pyette moved and Sarah Calhoun seconded the motion to make the offer to the candidate. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**5. Adjournment:** Sarah Calhoun moved, and Angella Ahn seconded that the Council adjourn. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents at 8:38 am.

The foregoing minutes were approved by the Council in open session on December 1, 2023.

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Greg Murphy, Chair

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Kristin H. Burgoyne, Acting Executive Director  
and Recording Secretary

# Minutes of the Montana Arts Council

In open session

Friday, June 9, 2023

Cottonwood Inn & Suites, Glasgow, Montana

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The meeting was called to order at 8:35 am.

## 1. Attendance:

**Council Members Present In-Person:** Greg Murphy, Chair; Angella Ahn; Corky Clairmont; Troy Collins; Tom Cordingley; Julie Mac; Bridger Pierce

**Council Members Present Online:** Sarah Calhoun; Wylie Gustafson; John Moore; Linda Netschert

**Council Members Absent:** Sean Chandler; Jay Pyette, Vice-Chair; Angela Russell; Steve Zabel

**Staff Present:** Jenifer Alger; Kristin Han Burgoyne; Monica Grable; Eric Heidle; Brian Moody; Ginny Newman

**Guests:** None

**2. Motion and Second to Approve the Proposed Agenda:** Tom Cordingley moved, and Angella Ahn seconded to approve the proposed agenda. Motion carried on voice vote with no dissents.

**3. 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.

**4. Minutes of Open Session of May 17, 2023:** Bridger Pierce moved and Tom Cordingley seconded approval, as submitted, of the minutes of the open meeting session on May 17, 2023. Motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**5. Minutes of Closed Session of May 17, 2023:** Tom Cordingley moved and Corky Clairmont seconded approval, as submitted, of the minutes of the closed meeting session on May 17, 2023. Motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**6. Conflicts of Interests:** Upon being recognized, Acting Executive Director Kristin Burgoyne asked if any Council member had a conflict of interest to announce. Tom Cordingley announced that he was the former Director of the Grandstreet Theatre and is still involved with the organization, and his daughter-in-law works at the Montana Free Press—Grandstreet Theatre is listed for approval as a recipient of a proposed grant organizations, and Montana Free Press requested a grant, but is not recommended for approval.

**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. FY Budget for 2023 is in good shape; within budget and will not overspend; Projected balance at end of fiscal year of \$65,318; largely due to unexpectedly not paying a position for six months; will be able to carry forward \$5,500. Will not have sufficient matching for federal grant but will apply for a waiver of the rule due to unexpected nature of not paying the position.

**8. Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Budget:** CFO Jenifer Alger referred to her written memorandum and materials in the Council book and highlighted the material differences from FY 2023. The Council received word in the previous week that NEA grant of \$1, 074,400 was approved. Increase in general fund and grant money from Montana, leads to confidence that will meet the NEA match requirements for FY 2024. Additional general discussion had.

**Motions:**

At the suggestion of the Chair, Tom Cordingley moved, and it was seconded, that the Montana Arts Council cover the travel expenses of Council member Sean Chandler in attending National Assembly of States Arts Agencies activities not covered by NASAA. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

Tom Cordingley moved, and Bridger Pierce seconded, that the Council accept the FY 2023 year-end report as submitted. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

Angella Ahn moved, and Bridger Pierce seconded that the proposed FY 2024 budget be approved as submitted. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**9. Artists in Schools and Communities Residencies Grants:** Tom Cordingley and Monica Grable reviewed generally the memorandum in the Council book and the lists of the grant applications and the recommendations appearing on pages 20 through 22 of the Council book.

Bridger Pierce moved, and Angella Ahn seconded that the Council approve the recommendations of the AISC panelists totaling \$175,000 as submitted on pages 21 and 22. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**10. Public Value Partnership and Statewide Service Organization Operating Support Grants:** Tom Cordingley and Kristin Burgoyne reviewed the grant programs as reflected on pages 22 through 24 of the Council book, including the recommendations to award grants at \$6,000 per recipient for the PVP grants totaling \$294,000, and \$18,000 for the Statewide Service Organization grants (with one exception for \$6,000), totaling \$78,000, as described on pages 23 and 24 of the Council book.

Angella Ahn moved, and Corky Clairmont seconded, that the Council approve the recommendations as submitted. (Tom Cordingley noted that he was the former director of the Grandstreet Theatre but is no longer employed and is not on the governing board, although he does contract with them for other work. Troy Collins noted that his wife is on the governing board of the Hamilton Players and did not vote. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents, with Tom Cordingley and Troy Collins abstaining from the Hamilton Players vote and Tom Cordingley abstaining from the Grandstreet Theater and Montana Free Press votes.

**11. Montana Circle of American Masters Ceremony:** Brian Moody reported on the May 19, 2023 Montana Circle of American Masters Ceremony at which Marc Blogger, Glenn Gilmore, and Terry Hill were honored. Lieutenant Governor Juras was present and presented the awards. The recipients were touched, as were their families and friends.

## 12. Committee Reports

**Executive Committee:** Chair Murphy reported that the committee had spent significant time on a personnel issue which was successfully resolved, and thanked Jay Pyette and the committee for their support.

**Poet Laureate:** Communication Director Eric Heidle included a description of the Poet Laureate program in the Council Book. The panel recommended Chris La Tray of Missoula, Corrie Williamson of Lewistown, and Charles Finn of Havre. Corky Clairmont moved, and Tom Cordingley seconded that the Council send the names of Chris La Tray of Missoula, Corrie Williamson of Lewistown, and Charles Finn of Havre to the governor for his selection of Montana's Poet Laureate. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**Strategic Investment Grants:** In the absence of committee chair, Jay Pyette, Tom Cordingley described generally the SIG program and the recommendations of the committee as described on pages 28 through 30. The SIG Committee meets monthly. Bridger Pierce moved, and Troy Collins seconded that the Council ratify the grants as described on pages 28 through 30, and also, going forward, to delegate to the SIG Committee the authority on its own to make the grants within the parameters of the program up to the amount of \$1,000 each, subject to the overall budget of the Council. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**Arts Education Committee:** Bridger Pierce reviewed the grant program, and the proposed Artists in Schools and Communities Experiences grants as described on Page 32 of the Council book totaling \$28,130. Corky Clairmont emphasized the quality and value of the grant program, as did Monica Grable who staffs the program. Angella Ahn moved, and Julie Mac seconded that the Council ratify the grants as described on page 32 of the Council book, and, going forward, authorize the committee to make grants up to \$2,500 within the parameters of the program and within the Council's relevant budget. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**Governor's Arts Awards:** Julie Mac reported on the Governor's Arts Awards ceremony in Helena on December 1, 2022. The Committee has not met since inasmuch as there is plenty of time before the next awards are to be made. Discussion was held as to whether to change the award date, but no action was taken.

**Percent for Art Committee:** There are no current active projects, and no action was taken.

**Strategic Planning Committee:** Chair Murphy recommended that the Strategic Planning Committee be disbanded, and that its functions be delegated to the Executive Committee. The committee had not met and submitted no report.

**13. Committee Assignments:** Chair Murphy reviewed his proposed committee assignments for FY24.

**Executive Committee**

Greg Murphy, Chair  
Jay Pyette\*, Vice-Chair  
Corky Clairmont\*  
Tom Cordingley\*  
Sarah Calhoun  
Sean Chandler

**Governor's Arts Awards**

Wylie Gustafson, Chair  
Julie Mac  
John Moore  
Steve Zabel\*  
Troy Collins  
Greg Murphy (ex officio)

**Strategic Investment Grants**

Jay Pyette\*, Chair  
Angella Ahn\*  
Tom Cordingley\*  
Sarah Calhoun  
Troy Collins  
Bridger Pierce  
Greg Murphy (ex officio)

**Poet Laureate**

Sean Chandler, Chair  
Bridger Pierce  
Angela Russell  
Linda Netschert  
Greg Murphy (ex officio)

\*Subject to reappointment to the Council by the Governor.

**Arts Education Committee**

Angella Ahn\*, Chair  
Sean Chandler  
Corky Clairmont\*  
Linda Netschert  
Bridger Pierce  
Greg Murphy (ex officio)

**Motions:**

Bridger Pierce moved, and Tom Cordingley seconded that the Strategic Planning Committee be eliminated. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

Angella Ahn moved, and Corky Clairmont seconded that the Council approve the appointments proposed by Chair Murphy. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

Corky Clairmont moved, and Bridger Pierce seconded that the Council authorize a Folk and Traditional Arts Committee composed of five members plus the Chair (ex officio), with a charge to the committee to be made later. The motion carried with no dissents.

The Search for the new Executive Director will be conducted by the Executive Committee, with ultimate hiring decision be made by the full Council.

**14. Bylaws and Administrative Rules:**

**Motions:**

Wylie Gustafson moved, and Corky Clairmont seconded that the Bylaws as proposed by the Chair and included in the Council book from pages 37 to 42 be adopted, with paragraph 4.3 (e) 5 being amended to read "Folk and Traditional Arts Committee." The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents. The five-person limit on the size of the Executive Committee is suspended pending the governor's coming appointment decisions.

Bridger Pierce moved, and Julie Mac seconded that the Acting Executive Director be directed to work with the Secretary of State's office to publish for notice and comment and take other steps leading to revisions of the Administrative Rules as proposed by the Chair and the Acting Executive Director and previously distributed to the Council. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**15. Legislative Report:** Drew Geiger did not join the meeting.

**16. Executive Director's Report:** Acting Executive Director Kristin Burgoyne reported on the results of the legislative session. The Council received the funds requested to the Governor's budget office, and modifications in the accounting by MAC. She also commented on the other ways MAC is involved in the distribution of funds for art projects. Artist Innovation Awards are suspended for the time being, to be evaluated again in two years.

**17. Chair's Report:** Chair Murphy thanked the Council members for the support they provided to him during a challenging year. He also thanked the staff for soldiering on so ably, for their patience, and for their dedication to their jobs and the mission of the Council.

Chair Murphy said that in addition to the regular work of the Council, there would be two strategic projects: (1) Identify and retain a new Executive Director; and (2) Develop a plan for implementing a transformation grants program for presentation to the governor for the next biennium.

**18. New Business:** No new business was raised.

**19. Adjournment:** The Council was reminded of the reception and dinner at Fort Peck with representatives of the local communities at 5:30 pm, followed by an attendance of a performance of "Hank Williams: Lost Highway" at 7:30 pm at the Fort Peck Theatre. (The Council had toured the studio of Cathryn McIntyre and the murals of downtown Glasgow on Thursday afternoon and evening on June 8. Chair Murphy thanked the staff for making all the arrangements.). Those who desired a tour of the Fort Peck Interpretive Center and the dam were to meet the next morning (Saturday) in the lobby.

**Motion:** Julie Mac moved, and Troy Collins seconded that the Council adjourn. The motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents at 11:45 am.

The foregoing minutes were approved by the Council in open session on December 1, 2023.

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Greg Murphy, Chair

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Kristin H. Burgoyne, Acting Executive Director  
and Recording Secretary

# Conflict of Interest

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## **Montana Arts Council Members | December 2023**

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 Grants  
Strategic Investment Grants

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.



*Detail from an early city map found in the Butte archives.*



# Financial Reports

# Memorandum

To: Montana Arts Council Members  
From: Jenifer Alger | Chief Financial Officer  
RE: Fiscal Year 2023 Year-to-Date Report

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MAC is projected to end the fiscal year with \$93,674 remaining, due to unused Personal Services, unused State Information Technology Services, one unpaid Strategic Investment Grant, FY 2022 General Fund carry forward, NEA Carryforward, and Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP) income carried forward.

Below is an explanation of some budget line items.

## **Staff Salaries + Benefits**

MAC will have a surplus of \$27,842. This is due to a combination of the executive director position not being paid for almost 6 months, staff pay adjustments and/or bonuses, and paying more in council member stipends than originally budgeted.

## **Programs**

MAC will have a deficit of \$28,351 and is a result of the following:

- Underbudgeted for MAP expenses. Budget was proposed and approved prior to the limited solicitation procurement to contract with coaches for both the Billings and Red Lodge locations. The successful bidder for both locations came in higher than projected. The budget also did not account for renting spaces in the communities for the in-person cohorts.
- Underbudgeted for Governor's Arts Awards (GAA) ceremony. The last ceremony was in December 2018 and some items have increased in cost since that time.
- Underbudgeted for the Montana Circle of American Masters (MCAM) ceremony held in May 2023. When the original budget was proposed back in June 2022, there was no budget for this ceremony.
- Underbudgeted in the State of the Arts newspaper. The budget did not include enough funds for additional guest writers.
- Underbudgeted for Poetry out Loud (POL). An additional \$5,000 was proposed and approved to help pay for staff travel, motel rooms for the state finalists and meeting room rent for a gathering the night before the competition.

## **Administration**

MAC will have a surplus of \$81,711 and is a result of the following:

- Overbudgeted in Contracted Services, Supplies, Communications, Travel and Other Expenses. We anticipated adding a contractor for our strategic planning efforts that did not happen. Staff traveled to fewer conferences than originally planned and not all council members traveled for either of the two council meetings.
- Creative Aging carryforward from FY 2022. This is a paper loss only as we overestimated how much we would spend by FYE 2022.
- Underbudgeted for Folk Arts. The budget did not include an archival contractor.

## Grants

MAC is projecting a net deficit in grants of \$127,991 and is a result of the following:

- Artists in Schools & Communities (AISC) – \$28,710 overspent due to two FY 2022 Experiences grants being transferred to FY 2023 and underestimating the amount needed for the FY 2023 Experiences grants.
- Public Value Partnerships (PVP) - \$67,500 overspent due to receiving some additional General Fund (GF) to assist us with achieving our NEA match. Each of the 46 PVP grantees received an additional \$1,500 toward FY 2023 operating support.
- Strategic Investment Grants (SIG) - \$8,129 overspent due to increased applications.
- Cultural Trust Grants –Since this is a biennial appropriation, both the cash and projected expenses carried forward from FY 2022. The reason this looks like a loss is that we overestimated how many payments would be made in FY 2022.
- ARPA Grants - \$3,102 overspent due to an overwhelming response to the program.
- Percent for Art - \$1,000 overspent in purchasing of art. Since the funding for the Montana Southwest Vets Home in Butte ran out, we had to use some general fund to pay the remaining invoices.

## MAP Funds Carried Forward

We will not spend any of the MAP funds in FY 2023. Therefore, the current balance of \$55,523 will carryforward into FY 2024 and can be used for future expenses.

## Montana Community Foundation Endowment Fund Update

The FY 2023 budget used \$5,000 from the Arts Education Fund to fund AISC grant awards and \$9,631 from the Governor’s Awards for Artists to help fund the GAA and MCAM ceremonies and receptions.

Current balances for both endowments are as follows:

- Arts Education Fund                      \$26,551
- Governor’s Award for Artists        \$55,983

## Sigerson Fund Update

The Sigerson Fund was setup with private funds to help pay one (\$3,000) Artist Innovation Award (AIA) for a clay artist in even numbered fiscal years. The corpus (un-spendable amount) of the fund totals \$66,000 and is located with the Department of Commerce/Board of Investments. We are only allowed to spend the earnings on the corpus. The Sigerson Fund balance as of FYE 2023 was \$2,660 in spendable earnings. We did not spend any of these funds in FY 2023.

The projected rate of return for these funds was about 3.792%.

## Remaining Balances/Carryforwards

The projected remaining balance of \$93,674 at FYE consists of the following:

Unused personal services	\$27,842
Over spent administration	\$(8,334)
Unused DOA SITSD	\$ 1,599
Unpaid SIG Grant	\$ 1,000
Unused FY22 GF Carryforward	\$ 5,231
Unused NEA	\$ 6,073
Unused MAP Income	\$55,523
Unused Creative Aging Grant	\$ 4,740

MAC will be allowed to carryforward 30% of the net unused personal services, over spent administration and unused SITSD funds into FY 2024 and will need to have it spent by FYE 2025.

The unpaid SIG grant will revert to the general fund.

The FY22 GF Carryforward, unused NEA, MAP income, and Creative Aging amounts will carryforward into FY 2024. The FY22 GF Carryforward must be spent by FYE 2024 and will be used to pay some SIG grants awarded to individuals.

## NEA Match Requirement Shortfall

As of the completion of this report, we are projecting an estimated \$10,434 shortfall in reaching our NEA match for FY 2023. This shortfall is due to not being able to fully expend our personal services and DOA SITSD budgets.

We still have 10 grants (1 PVP, 2 AISC, and 7 C&A) pending payment. We have until December 31 to make these payments; therefore, FY 2023 cannot be closed out until they have been issued.

As soon as we know the exact match shortfall amount, we will notify the NEA and request a waiver.

**FY 2023 YTD Montana Arts Council Approved Budget**

Line #		FY23 Approved Budget	General Fund 29.13%	Cultural Trust 20.44%	NEA 46.59%	Other Income 3.85%	TOTAL	(Over)/ Under
<b>1</b>	<b>PERSONNEL SERVICES</b>							
2	Staff Salaries + Benefits	\$704,492	\$219,260	\$196,301	\$260,539	-	\$676,100	\$28,392
3	Honorariums/Stipends	\$3,500	\$1,275	\$750	\$2,025	-	\$4,050	(\$550)
<b>4</b>								
<b>5</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$707,992</b>	<b>\$220,535</b>	<b>\$197,051</b>	<b>\$262,564</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$680,150</b>	<b>\$27,842</b>
<b>6</b>								
<b>7</b>	<b>PROGRAMS</b>							
8	Montana Artrepreneur Program	\$32,000	\$38,860	-	-	-	\$38,860	(\$6,860)
9	MCAM/GAA	\$14,000	\$21,557	-	-	\$9,631	\$31,188	(\$17,188)
<b>10</b>	State of the Arts	\$67,511	\$13,304	\$8,210	\$47,688	-	\$69,202	(\$1,691)
<b>11</b>	Poetry Out Loud	\$20,000	-	-	\$22,612	-	\$22,612	(\$2,612)
<b>12</b>								
<b>13</b>	<b>Programs: Total</b>	<b>\$133,511</b>	<b>\$73,721</b>	<b>\$8,210</b>	<b>\$70,300</b>	<b>\$9,631</b>	<b>\$171,709</b>	<b>(\$28,351)</b>
<b>14</b>								
<b>15</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>							
16	Contracted Services	\$45,000	\$6,976	\$1,994	\$10,454	-	\$19,425	\$25,576
17	Supplies & Materials	\$34,000	\$5,927	\$3,746	\$7,192	-	\$16,866	\$17,134
18	Communications	\$8,000	\$1,665	\$555	\$2,323	-	\$4,542	\$3,458
19	Travel	\$65,000	\$9,639	\$3,907	\$18,826	-	\$32,373	\$32,627
20	Rent	\$46,991	\$16,818	\$5,131	\$23,767	-	\$46,716	\$1,275
21	Other Expenses	\$50,000	\$18,085	\$5,479	\$18,150	-	\$41,713	\$8,287
22	Equipment	\$467	\$312	\$95	\$439	-	\$846	(\$379)
23	SITSD Fixed Costs (Restricted)	\$28,438	\$12,904	\$4,977	\$8,958	-	\$26,839	\$1,599
24	Indirect Costs (SWCAP)	\$11,753	-	\$5,959	\$6,419	-	\$12,378	(\$625)
25	Creative Aging	-	-	-	-	\$3,000	\$3,000	(\$3,000)
26	Folk Arts	\$25,000	\$14,621	-	\$14,621	-	\$29,241	(\$4,241)
<b>27</b>								
<b>28</b>	<b>Administration: Total</b>	<b>\$314,649</b>	<b>\$86,946</b>	<b>\$31,844</b>	<b>\$111,148</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$232,938</b>	<b>\$81,711</b>



## Budget Comments

### Line 2: Personnel Services: Staff Salaries + Benefits

- HB13 added \$7,574 to the budget to cover the \$1,040 lump sum each employee received.

### Line 3: Personnel Services: Honorariums/ Stipends

- Council member/C&A Panel payments

### Line 9: Programs: MCAM/GAA

- \$9,631 from Governors Awards for Artists Fund (MCF)

### Line 16: Administration: Contracted Services

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

### Line 17: Administration: Supplies & Materials

- Software licenses, commodities

### Line 18: Administration: Communications

- Postage, interagency mailings, and advertising

### Line 19: Administration: Travel

- Council, staff, programs, and panels

### Line 20: Administration: Rent

- Facility and offsite meeting rooms

### Line 21: Administration: Other Expenses

- WESTAF dues (\$22,261), NASAA dues (\$10,155), staff training, subscriptions, registration, meetings

### Line 22: Administration: Equipment

- Copier lease and maintenance.

### Line 25: Administration: Creative Aging

- Unspent amount at FYE 2022 carried forward.

### Line 26: Administration: Folk Arts

- Includes \$14,621 from the NEA, \$14,621 from the GF.

### Line 31: Grants: Artists in Schools & Communities

- \$5,000 from Arts Education Fund (MCF)

### Line 33: Grants: Public Value Partnerships

- Additional funds of \$54,000 received from HB 3 to cover our NEA match requirement.

### Line 36: Grants: Cultural Trust Grants

- \$176,950 unspent at FY 2022

### Line 37: Grants: Relief Funds

- ARPA grants were awarded over the NEA amount received.

### Line 44: FYE 2022 Carryforwards

- FYE 2021 \$21,557 GF spent by 06/30/2023. FYE 2022 \$5,231 GF spent by 06/30/2024. NEA must be spent by 12/31/2022.

### Line 46: (OVER)/UNDER

- \$27,842 GF restricted for Personal Services, (\$8,334) overspent admin, \$1,599 SITSD, \$1,000 SIG, \$5,231 FY 2022 GF CF, \$6,073 NEA, \$55,523 MAP, and \$4,740 Creative Aging.

# Memorandum

To: Montana Arts Council Members  
From: Jenifer Alger | Chief Financial Officer  
RE: Fiscal Year 2024 Year-to-Date Report

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MAC is projected to end the fiscal year with \$47,845 remaining, due to unused Personal Services and Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP) income carried forward.

Below is an explanation of some budget line items.

## **Staff Salaries + Benefits**

MAC is projecting a surplus of \$22,828. This is due to the executive director position not being paid for approximately 4 months.

## **Programs**

MAC is projecting a surplus of \$23,958 and is a result of the following:

- Montana Circle of American Masters (MCAM). Underspent due to MAC proposing to postpone the 2024 ceremony to 2025. The 3 inductees will be honored in a dual ceremony with the 2025 honorees.
- Governor's Arts Awards (GAA). Underspent by \$7,500 as we are postponing the archival project.
- Poetry out Loud (POL). The \$5,750 surplus is due to this amount being spent out of the Staff + Benefits line. We hired a short-term worker to assist with POL outreach coordination.
- Creative Aging carryforward from FY 2023. This is a paper loss only as we overestimated how much we would spend by FYE 2023.
- Folk Arts. The \$8,140 surplus is due to this amount being spent out of the Staff + Benefits line. We hired a student intern to assist with some data archival duties.

## **Administration**

MAC is projecting a deficit of \$7,019 and is a result of the following:

- Overbudgeted in Contracted Services: Archival contractor for percent for art documents has been postponed.
- Underbudgeted in travel, rent, and other expenses. The travel budget was under projected due to switching our December meeting from Helena to Butte. There were also some travel expenses not accounted for during the Executive Director search. Most of the deficit in other expenses is due to the Statewide Cost Allocation Plan (SWCAP) amount from Department of Administration (DOA) was higher than projected.

## **Grants**

MAC is projecting a net deficit in grants of \$1,000 and is a result of the following:

- Public Value Partnerships (PVP) - \$19,000 overspent due to increased applicants.
- Statewide Service Organizations (SSO) - \$18,000 underspent due to decreased award amounts.

## **MAP Funds Carried Forward**

We project using approximately \$31,807 of accumulated MAP funds in FY 2024. This will leave an estimated remaining balance of \$29,216 that will carryforward into FY 2025 and can be used for future expenses.

## **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 the MCAM awardee's honorariums, panel stipends, medallions, and professional photographer.

Current balances for both endowments are as follows:

- Arts Education Fund \$26,551
- Governor's Award for Artists \$55,983

Projected endowment balances at FYE are as follows:

- Arts Education Fund \$17,309
- Governor's Award for Artists \$58,514

## **Sigerson Fund Update**

The Sigerson Fund was setup with private funds to help pay one (\$3,000) Artist Innovation Award (AIA) for a clay artist in even numbered fiscal years. The corpus (un-spendable amount) of the fund totals \$66,000 and is located with the Department of Commerce/Board of Investments. We are only allowed to spend the earnings on the corpus. As of this report the Sigerson Fund has a balance of \$4,198 in spendable earnings with a projected FYE balance of \$6,699. We will not spend any of these funds in FY 2024.

The projected rate of return for these funds is currently about 5.69%.

## **Remaining Balances/Carryforwards**

The projected remaining balance of \$47,845 at FYE consists of the following:

Unused personal services	\$18,628
Unused MAP Income	\$29,216

MAC will be allowed to carryforward 30% of the unused personal services into FY 2025 and will need to have it spent by FYE 2026.

The full amount of MAP income will carryforward into FY 2025.

## **NEA Match Requirement Shortfall**

As of the completion of this report, we are estimating an \$18,700 shortfall in reaching our NEA match for FY 2024. This shortfall is due to not being able to fully expend our personal services budget. We can request a waiver from the NEA if needed.

**FY 2024 YTD Montana Arts Council Approved Budget**

Line #		FY24 Approved Budget	General Fund 24.04%	Cultural Trust 30.47%	NEA 41.96%	Other Income 3.53%	TOTAL	(Over)/ Under
1	PERSONNEL SERVICES							
2	Staff Salaries + Benefits	\$723,355	\$227,419	\$175,666	\$294,642	-	\$697,727	\$25,628
3	Honorariums/Stipends	\$13,200	\$11,500	-	\$4,500	-	\$16,000	(\$2,800)
4								
5	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$736,555</b>	<b>\$238,919</b>	<b>\$175,666</b>	<b>\$299,142</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$713,727</b>	<b>\$22,828</b>
6								
7	<b>PROGRAMS</b>							
8	Montana Arttrepreneur Program	\$46,500	\$14,693	-	-	\$31,807	\$46,500	-
9	MCAM/GAA	\$29,355	-	-	-	\$14,547	\$14,547	\$14,808
10	State of the Arts	\$69,255	-	-	\$69,255	-	\$69,255	-
11	Poetry Out Loud	\$35,000	-	-	\$29,250	-	\$29,250	\$5,750
12	Creative Aging	\$20,000	\$20,000	-	-	\$4,740	\$24,740	(\$4,740)
13	Folk Arts	\$40,000	\$15,930	-	\$15,930	-	\$31,860	\$8,140
14								
15	<b>Programs: Total</b>	<b>\$240,110</b>	<b>\$50,623</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$114,435</b>	<b>\$51,094</b>	<b>\$216,152</b>	<b>\$23,958</b>
16								
17	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>							
18	Contracted Services	\$93,082	\$5,754	\$5,225	\$76,330	-	\$87,039	\$5,773
19	Supplies & Materials	\$16,936	\$3,097	\$1,300	\$11,154	-	\$15,551	\$1,385
20	Communications	\$5,835	\$1,666	\$448	\$3,275	-	\$5,389	\$446
21	Travel	\$65,530	\$23,833	\$6,410	\$44,151	-	\$74,395	(\$8,865)
22	Rent	\$45,641	\$17,143	\$5,131	\$25,717	-	\$47,991	(\$2,350)
23	Other Expenses	\$59,345	\$13,687	\$14,554	\$34,512	-	\$62,753	(\$3,408)
24	Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	SITSD Fixed Costs (Restricted)	<b>\$72,301</b>	\$36,873	\$12,653	\$22,775	-	\$72,301	-
26								
27	<b>Administration: Total</b>	<b>\$358,670</b>	<b>\$102,054</b>	<b>\$45,721</b>	<b>\$217,915</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$365,689</b>	<b>(\$7,019)</b>



## Budget Comments

### Line 3: Personnel Services: Honorariums/ Stipends

- Council member/C&A Panel payments. Planned budget is \$4,200 over the legislative appropriation of \$9,000.

### Line 9: Programs: MCAM/GAA

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

### Line 12: Programs: Creative Aging

- Includes \$4,740 unspent at FYE 2023 plus \$20,000 general fund.

### Line 13: Programs: Folk Arts

- Includes \$15,930 from the NEA, \$15,930 from the GF.

### 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 (\$10,155), staff training, subscriptions, registration, meetings

### Line 25: Administration: SITSD Fixed Costs

- After the June meeting we were informed that our legislative appropriation for SITSD was \$28,438 higher than presented.

### Line 30: Grants: Artists in Schools & Communities

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

### Line 35: Grants: Cultural Trust Grants

- \$558,876 total biennial amount

### Line 43: FYE 2023 Carryforwards

- FYE 2022 \$5,231 GF spent by 06/30/2024. FYE 2023 \$7,445 GF spent by 06/30/2025. NEA must be spent by 12/31/2023.

### Line 45: (OVER)/UNDER

- \$18,628 GF restricted for Personal Services and \$29,216 MAP.

# THE IBRC COMMUNITY PRINTMAKING STUDIO



## Grants and Programs

*Shared tools result in stellar artwork.*

# Memorandum

To: Montana Arts Council Members  
From: Corky Clairmont, Acting Chair, Folk Arts Committee & Taylor Burby, Folklorist  
RE: Montana Circle of American Masters Induction Recommendations 2023

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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.

## Montana Circle of American Masters Inductee Recommendations for 2023

### Ramey Growing Thunder, PhD

Ramey’s award-winning Sioux Lane stitch and flat stitch (also known as applique) beadwork, along with her star quilts, are deeply rooted in and representative of her cultural heritage and community. Her unique designs incorporate color palettes specific to her lineage and occasionally integrate her husband Darryl Growing Thunder’s ledger work.



While she also produces cradleboards, bags, moccasins, beaded jewelry, ribbon skirts, and ribbon shirts, Ramey’s niche in the art world is her beaded late-1800s antique doctor bags. When beading, she replaces the bag’s leather with brain-tanned hides from deer, elk, or moose, utilizing the original hardware while refurbishing and reattaching them. This practice pays homage to a historical cultural artistic statement whereby Dakota women adorned doctor bags with beads as a sign of gratitude for Western medicine doctors who helped their community. Making the doctor bags not only allows her to keep a tradition practiced by few alive but also honors her efforts to become a doctor herself; on May 13, 2023, Ramey received her Ph.D. in interdisciplinary studies with a focus on Cultural and Linguistic Anthropology, Native American Studies, and Educational Leadership.

Ramey's artistic journey has been marked by numerous significant accomplishments. In 2003, she kick-started her art show career by winning a third-place ribbon for her cradleboard at the Southwestern Association for Indian Arts award. Subsequently, she claimed the title of Best of Show at the Fort Peck Community College art show in 2005, followed by a first-place win in beadwork at the Northern Plains Indian Art Market in 2007 for her beaded cradleboard. Her artistic prowess continued to shine as she crafted her first fully beaded doctor satchel in 2009, earning her a first-place ribbon in the beadwork category. In 2011, one of her beaded doctor bags won 2nd place in the beadwork category at the Heard Art show in Phoenix, AZ, and notably, in 2016, her beaded doctor bag earned her the Best of Classification in Beadwork award and secured her first place in the beadwork division. Ramey attributes her success to merit scholarships, fellowships, and collectors, which have not only supported her but have also positively impacted her community.



Ramey is committed to sharing her knowledge and resources, teaching others how to bead and create star quilts, thereby empowering them to enhance their incomes and contribute to the local economy. She has taught her three sons and engaged with all within the Fort Peck Reservation communities, offering cultural arts classes to K-12 students, teachers, and college students interested in learning her art forms. She also taught her mother—who had started teaching Ramey how to bead when Ramey was just two years old—how to make star quilts, helping her financially following the passing of Ramey's father in 2022. Ramey's efforts extend to local, state, and national youth and adults, fostering cultural art preservation through knowledge sharing. Ramey aims to encourage her community to "Aim Higher," inspired by her late father's motto, reflected in her recent project, a beaded rifle case.

Ramey was recommended for induction by the 2022-2023 Montana Circle of American Masters panel on Friday, October 27, 2023.

### **Mike Ryan**

Mike, who specializes in crafting custom Western and working boots and shoes, has established a deep connection between his art form and the culture and community of Montana. Western boots play a fundamental role in the ranching, rodeo, and outdoor work culture in this region, where well-built, durable, and comfortable footwear is a necessity for both practical work and fashion. The tradition of Western leatherwork and boot making has a long history dating back to the mid-nineteenth century in Montana, making it an integral part of many rural communities across the state. Throughout Montana's growth, the demand for quality work footwear, whether for ranching, logging, mining, or other outdoor occupations, has been closely tied to the development of civic and cultural communities. Mike's boots continue this tradition, offering a wide range of styles from functional work boots to ornate rodeo and dress boots. The use of traditional handcrafting techniques, methods, and materials has remained constant over time, preserving a cultural legacy. Custom-fitted footwear not only provides comfort but also durability and ease of maintenance, reinforcing the idea that custom-made tools of the trade are essential.



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Mike's journey into the art of boot and shoemaking began when he grew up near Brussett, MT. He gained early experience at a shoe repair shop in Jordan, which served the local ranching communities. Following his service in the Navy, he honed his skills at Al's Bootery in Billings, learning boot and shoe repair from experienced colleagues. Later, he furthered his expertise by working at Boyce Tack & Western store for six years. In 1986, he opened his own shop in Helena, MT, specializing in shoe repair and gradually establishing a clientele for custom boots. Over the years, he collaborated with other bootmakers, saddle makers, and leatherworkers, broadening his knowledge and techniques. His daughter, Chris, also worked alongside him for nearly 11 years, thus passing down the tradition from one generation to the next.

While Mike may not have received formal awards, his career is marked by building over 5,000 pairs of custom boots, gaining recognition and respect from customers throughout Montana and the Western region. Numerous articles in local newspapers and magazines have featured his work, showcasing the quality and style of his craft. Mike's contribution to the community lies in providing high-quality, durable, and personalized footwear for those who rely on boots for their daily work or special occasions. His commitment to maintaining the tradition of Western boot making is evident in the enduring quality of his products and the personal touch he adds to each pair. Mike's work embodies a connection to Montana's cultural heritage and values, and it reflects the enduring tradition of boot making, which has remained essentially unchanged for over 160 years.

Mike was recommended for induction by the 2022-2023 Montana Circle of American Masters panel on Friday, October 27, 2023.

**Olivia “Rose” Williamson**

Owner and operator of Lady Pompadour Beadwork and Design, Rose’s work serves as a reflection of her people’s traditions, both traditional and contemporary; she is well-known within the Apsaalooke community and across the Northern Plains for her work in two-needle Apsaalooke beadwork, acrylic on rawhide, and fashion design. Rose’s repertoire includes traditional Apsaalooke clothing, Apsaalooke horse gear, moccasins and all modern Apsaalooke clothing, fully beaded outfits, and powwow outfits, the latter being a testament to her time as a champion powwow dancer. Rose’s work pays homage to the traditions that have been integral to her community’s way of life.



Throughout her career in the arts, Rose has achieved several notable milestones and accomplishments. During her college years, she received the prestigious “Best in Show” award for a beaded Crow-style cradleboard at the American Indian Higher Education Consortium in the early 2000s. Rose’s artistic prowess has also been recognized as she was accepted into the Native Peoples Market in Rapid City, South Dakota and the renowned Heard Indian Art Market in both 2022 and 2023, a significant accolade within the Native art community. Her jewelry has graced the platforms of esteemed Crow fashion designers, including Designs by Della and Plains Soul models, and she has also ventured into the world of fashion by designing her own clothing. Further, painted rawhide has been hung in the Bozeman Emerson Cultural Center, which featured work centered on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People, an issue close to close Rose.



Further, painted rawhide has been hung in the Bozeman Emerson Cultural Center, which featured work centered on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People, an issue close to close Rose.

Rose’s contributions extend beyond her artistic creations. She has selflessly donated her art to numerous youth-related causes and used her art to raise awareness on critical issues; her beaded wall hanging was used as a billboard and handbill across the state of Montana by the Billings Urban Indian Health and Wellness Center. Rose was asked to create an image to help convince community members to screen for colorectal cancer, and her response was a beautiful image of an Apsaalooke family in front of the Apsaalooke mountains, the sky, the trees and the grasslands. Further, Rose’s commitment to supporting the Indigenous community is evidenced by her creation of the Facebook page “All Native Nations Entrepreneurs,” a platform where she promotes Native artists and businesses and shares valuable information about business and art grants. Her selfless efforts have established a foundation for Indigenous entrepreneurs to connect with a wider audience, reflecting her unwavering dedication to her community; she sees Indigenous folks’ ability to operate their own businesses as the way they, as tribal communities, will rise above poverty of mind, economy and spirit.

Rose was recommended for induction by the 2022-2023 Montana Circle of American Masters panel on Friday, October 27, 2023.

John Lowell, David Engel, and Gary Middle Rider were not recommended for induction by the 2022-2023 Montana Circle of American Masters panel on Friday, October 27, 2023. Full bios available upon request.

## Montana Circle of American Masters Inductees and Recommendations, By Ranking

	Andrea Graham	Bill Pratt	Corky Clairmont	Jennifer Woodcock-Medicine Horse	Sean Chandler	Steven Hatcher	Final Score (Av.)	Induction Recommendation
<b>Ramey Growing Thunder, PhD,</b> <i>Beader and Star Quilter</i> (Ft. Peck) Nominator: Noah Pino	25	22.33	25	25	24.67	23.67	<b>24.28</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Michael Ryan,</b> <i>Custom Boot Maker</i> (Helena) Nominator: Mike Korn	24	22.67	25	23.33	23.67	23.67	<b>23.72</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Olivia "Rose" Williamson,</b> <i>Beader and Fashion Designer</i> (Crow Agency) Nominators: Carrie Moran McCleary and Della Stump	21.67	23	24	18.33	22.67	22	<b>21.95</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>John Lowell,</b> <i>Musician</i> (Livingston) Nominator: Joanne Lowell	18.67	19	22	22.67	21.33	19	<b>20.45</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Gary Middle Rider Jr.,</b> <i>Maker of Drums, Breastplates, Rattles, and Shields</i> (Ashland) Nominator: Anne Kania	21	23.33	22.33	16.67	22.67	13	<b>19.83</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>David Engel,</b> <i>Horse Drawn Carriage Restorer</i> (Joliet) Nominator: Arnon Hurwitz	21.33	22	20	19.67	15	19.33	<b>19.56</b>	<b>NO</b>

## 2023 Montana Circle of American Masters Panel

**Andrea Graham** is a public folklorist who has worked in the American Studies Program at the University of Wyoming, and for state and regional folklife programs in Nevada, South Dakota, Virginia, Tennessee, and Florida. She has also worked as an independent folklorist and oral historian, undertaking field research and producing programs in California, Idaho, Iowa, Montana, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming. Her research interests focus on rural western traditions and communities, particularly material and occupational culture, and vernacular architecture. Andrea holds an MA in Folklore & Folklife from the University of Pennsylvania.

**William B. Pratt** worked for MAC for 17 years (1979-1996) as its Community Arts Coordinator and Director of Organizational Services. In addition, he served as staff for the Montana Community Foundation, Foundation Northwest in Spokane and as program officer for the Big Sky Institute for the Advancement of Nonprofits. He has extensive experience in grants administration, the development of arts and nonprofit organizations, and fostering philanthropy in the state. In 2019, Bill created the William B. Pratt Endowment Fund to make grants in Folk and Traditional arts and Media art. Bill has a life-long interest in Indigenous, Folk and Traditional arts, with experience as a musician working in the folk tradition and as a living history and production artisan in forged iron. This fund also honors his work in documentary and industrial film/video production and fostering community video production efforts.

**Corwin “Corky” Clairmont** is a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and a college professor, administrator, and professional artist. While living in Los Angeles, Corky pursued a contemporary exhibiting artist career as well as teaching and becoming department head of printmaking at the Otis/Parsons Art Institute located in Los Angeles, CA. Upon his return to Montana in 1984, Corky began administrative work at the newly accredited Salish Kootenai College located in Pablo, Montana, on the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Reservation. There, he developed the SKC Fine Arts Department and art degree program. Through work as a printmaker, conceptual and installation artist, Corky’s images discuss and explore situations or issues that affect tribal people such as sovereignty and colonization, giving a cultural and historical perspective. Corky’s artwork has been exhibited throughout the United States and in several Countries including China, Germany, Norway, New Zealand, France, and at the US Embassy located in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, Africa. Awards have included Ford Foundation and National Endowment of the Arts, the Eiteljorg Fellowship Award, the 2008 Montana Governor’s Award for Visual Arts, and The Arts Missoula 2019 Individual Artist Award. He currently serves on the State Board of the Montana Arts Council.

**Jennifer Woodcock-Medicine Horse, PhD** is program director of IndigenEyes: Contemporary Native American Art of the Rocky Mountain West and is an adjunct faculty member in the Departments of Native American Studies and Art History at Montana State University. Jennifer does interdisciplinary research, weaving together American Studies, Museum Studies, Media Studies, Indigenous Studies, Postcolonialism, Ecocriticism, Cultural Anthropology, Geography and Anthropocene studies. Her PhD was awarded in July 2018 for ‘Green Museums Waking up the World: Indigenous and mainstream approaches to exploring sustainability.’ In addition, she curates exhibits and events, and writes quarterly for the Montana Arts Council journal, State of the Arts.

**Sean Chandler** is an enrolled member of the Aaniiih (Gros Ventre Nation) and President of Aaniiih Nakoda College located on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation in Montana. Chandler acquired a B.A. in Art in 1997, M.A. in Native American Studies in 2003 from Montana State University-Bozeman, and Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from the University of Montana in 2014. Since, Chandler has devoted more time to his art while fulfilling his duties as tribal college president. He has always been involved in art, starting at an early age when his father taught him the traditional arts of his ancestors, including hide and tipi painting. Integrating those early teachings, Chandler voices his own style to communicate the contemporary life he lives. He currently serves on the State Board of the Montana Arts Council.

**Steven Hatcher** is the state folklorist and director of the Folk and Traditional Arts Program at the Idaho Commission on the Arts. A public sector folklorist with 22 years of experience, Steven spent a decade living in four countries and on as many continents. Overseas, his experience focused on the educational side of public folklore through contract positions awarded by the State Department and as an expatriate hired in the local economy. At the Idaho Commission on the Arts, Steven documents, supports, and celebrates the folklife of Idaho through public programs and grant funding.



*Left: Carrie McCleary beading an intricate pattern. Right: Ben Swanke trimming leather for a new saddle.*

# Memorandum

To: Montana Arts Council Members  
From: Jay Pyette | Chair, Strategic Investment Grants Committee  
RE: Strategic Investment Grants

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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 May to October 2023. For FY2024, as of the October review meeting, \$49,963 has been requested and \$28,963 has been awarded.

### Strategic Investment Grant List FY2023

(Project End Dates Between July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)

Applicant	Project Name	Applicant City	Request	Award
Anna Paige	Master Class with Gretel Ehrlich	Billings	\$1,000	\$0
The Roxy Theater	Workshop Attendance	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Katrina Farnum*	Haven Writing Program Grant Request	Stevensville	\$1,000	\$0
Diego Kjelland	My Generation	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
Kathleen Meyer*	Attendance at Five-Day Haven Writing Retreat	Victor	\$1,000	\$1,000
Heather Olsen*	Metal fabrication tools for Nimax Silversmith	Helena	\$1,000	\$1,000
Hamilton Players	Emergency Grant	Hamilton	\$1,000	\$1,000

\*Denotes first-time program applicant.

## Strategic Investment Grant List FY2024

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

Western Montana Learning Collaborative	WPMLC August Institute -- Cameron Decker	Lolo	\$1,000	\$0
Carol Hartman	Art Santa Fe	Red Lodge	\$1,000	\$1,000
Chelsea Smith*	The Witches Ball	Butte	\$1,000	\$0
Baroque Music Montana	Corelli - Lover of Art and Long Walks	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$0
Denise Rauch*	Moder Band Summit	Butte	\$1,000	\$1,000
Phoenix Arts Alliance*	Afternoon Arts Program at IBRC	Butte	\$1,000	\$0
Liz Chappie-Zoller	The Russell First Strike Auction - Ad for August Event	Three Forks	\$1,000	\$1,000
Brooke Carnwath*	Elk River Writers Workshop Attendance	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$1,000
Marissa Porte	Missoula Fairy Trail	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
Tessa Heck*	Camera for documentation of work	Kalispell	\$1,000	\$1,000
Mary Kate Teske*	Debut Album Release	Billings	\$1,000	\$1,000
John Knight	Travel and Lodging Request for the Floral Arrangement with Text Photography Exhibition in St. Louis	Missoula	\$963	\$963
Grant Geiger*	The Western States	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
Heidi Faessel*	Anderson Ranch Sculpture Master Class	Whitefish	\$1,000	\$1,000
Khandro Kelly	Red Light Volume II	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$0
April Werle	The Other Art Fair - April Werle	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Maxim Loskutoff	Emergency Grant	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Queen City Ballet Company*	Queen City Ballet Company New Marketing for the Nutcracker 2023	Helena	\$1,000	\$1,000
Eileen Laskowski*	Completion of Artwork Storage and Inventory	Billings	\$1,000	\$1,000
Celeste Sotola	Exhibit at Western Design Conference September 5-10, 2023, Jackson Hole, WY	Basin	\$1,000	\$1,000
Eureka Community Players	Writers' Workshop	Eureka	\$1,000	\$1,000
Sunday Dutro*	Send Sunday Dutro to Writing by Writers Boot-Camp in California	Thompson Falls	\$1,000	\$0

\*Denotes first-time program applicant.

Jules Schoebel	A Very Merry Mead & Read	Helena	\$1,000	\$0
Flathead Celtic Festival	2023 Flathead Celtic Festival	Kalispell	\$1,000	\$0
Beaverhead Tourism Council*	Dillon Art Alley	Dillon	\$1,000	\$0
Raven's Feather Productions	Shiner	Helena	\$1,000	\$0
Bailey Zook*	Kiln for Pottery Studio	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Experimental Theatre Cooperative	Montana Short Cuts	Clancy	\$1,000	\$0
Southwest Native Community*	Southwest Native Community Powow	Butte	\$1,000	\$0
Patricia Thornton*	Attendance the 2023 Rocky Mountain Printmaking Alliance Conference	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Suffer Out Loud*	Suffer Out Loud - Artist Collaboration for Suicide Awareness	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$0
Jack Schwarze*	Short term residency at Red Lodge Clay Center	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$1,000
Brianna Burke*	Quilts for Art Installation	Helena	\$1,000	\$1,000
Daniel DiFava*	Daniel DiFava Video Equipment	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
Danielle O'Malley	Funding to support attendance at Red Lodge Clay Center as a Short Term Resident during October 2023	Helena	\$1,000	\$1,000
Caroline Patterson	Patterson Fire Novel Residency Request	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
Tara McFarland	Attendance to 2023 International Associa	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
William Kautz*	Bill Kautz: A Family's Story of the Birth and Death of a Child Through Love and Music	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Daniel Iverson*	Advanced Stone Setting Class - New Approach School for Jeweler	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Ben Weiss*	Modality: Stargazer Performance	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Kelli Van Noppen*	small craft in a big valley	Missoula	\$1,000	\$1,000
Ravalli County Museum*	Live Music for Apple Day & Apple Night	Hamilton	\$1,000	\$0

*\*Denotes first-time program applicant.*

# Memorandum

To: Montana Arts Council Members  
From: Bridger Pierce | AISC Review Chair  
RE: Arts Education Committee

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As a primary part of its work, the council’s Arts Education Committee meets multiple times per year to review and determine funding for applications submitted to the Artists in Schools and Communities (AISC) Experiences grant program. Of the two processes under AISC, this grant—with awards of up to \$2500 without a required match—is often a launch point for new grantees and/or new projects. Because of this, the AISC Experiences grant is helping to spread arts learning opportunities across the state for learners of every age and ability.

The August deadline for AISC Experiences saw 13 applications submitted, two of which were not advanced to the committee due to eligibility requirements. The committee met in October to review the 11 eligible grants and voted to approve all for funding, detailed on the next page, \$27,464 in total. Among these impressive requests were applications to support experiences across arts disciplines and learner ages, including 2 requests serving tribal schools and three projects featuring the art of indigenous artists.

Another round of AISC Experiences grants will be reviewed by the committee in late January, to award grant funds to projects with beginning dates of February 1 or later. The committee invites all council members to reach out to prospective grantees in their area to encourage applications to the December 14 deadline for arts learning activities involving first-hand experiences with art or artists, transportation needs and purchases of tools, supplies and equipment that open opportunities for exploration of new media and methods.

MAC Education Committee

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

## 2023 AISC Experiences Awards | August Submissions

Organization	City	Project Name	Award
Alberta Bair Theater	Billings	Project Hip Hop with the 360 ALLSTARS	\$2,500.00
Bigger Sky Kids, Inc.	Wolf Point	Studio Mastery for Beginning & Intermediate Artists	\$2,500.00
Billings Symphony Society	Billings	Musical Story Time with the Billings Symphony	\$2,500.00
Bozeman Art Museum	Bozeman	Bozeman Art Museum Creative Aging Experience	\$2,500.00
East Side School	Livingston	Art Exploration to Understand the Past	\$2,495.00
Hockaday Museum of Art	Kalispell	Traveling Medicine Show	\$2,469.00
Lame Deer Public School District	Lame Deer	First Fire Ignited	\$2,500.00
Missoula Art Museum	Missoula	Museum as Megaphone: Virtual Fifth Grade Art Experience Live Days with Artist Molly Murphy Adams	\$2,500.00
Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art	Great Falls	Monte Yellowbird, Sr.: Be the Storyteller of Your World, Create a Visual Voice with Art	\$2,500.00
Queen City Ballet Company	Helena	Queen City Ballet Company's School Outreach Performance for Helena Area Students	\$2,500.00
Western Strings	Lodge Grass+	Crow String Project	\$2,500.00
			<b>\$27,464.00</b>

# Memorandum

To: Montana Arts Council Members  
From: Wylie Gustafson, Chair Governor's Arts Award Committee  
RE: Governor's Arts Awards Update

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The Governor's Arts Awards (GAA) Committee for the next award year was formed at the June 2023 meeting and includes Troy Collins, Julie Mac, John Moore and Steve Zabel.

The committee is staffed by Kristin Han Burgoyne and Ginny Newman. They have updated the materials and the committee will review and approve the process. Nominations will open in early January followed by announcements in the State of the Arts, in eblasts, and on social media. Council members will be provided with email announcement information and I ask that you share this information with anyone who is interested in the process and may want to provide a nomination.

At the June 2024 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.

# Memorandum

Date: November 17, 2023

To: Montana Arts Council Members

From: Krys Holmes, Executive Director

RE: Strategic Plan/Work Plan

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One of the priorities outlined by the Executive Committee during my hiring process was to complete a Strategic Plan within my first year of employment. The following proposal is ambitious but achievable in the time frame, and advances MAC goals of 1) supporting the arts field across Montana, and 2) increasing the ways the arts can contribute to community and economic vitality. I believe this plan can also be integrated with our 2025 Goals & Objectives document (pg 3.), which was submitted to OBPP in January, 2023.

This proposal has three main parts:

**1. An in-depth survey/inquiry into the most pressing needs/opportunities/obstacles in the arts field in Montana (artists, arts organizations, communities):**

- As we strategize a forward path toward transformational grants, what is the clear, accurate picture of the challenges and opportunities the field is experiencing?

**2. A focused exploration of funding sources in & outside Montana, with an eye toward helping close the gap between groups/organizations/communities and potential funders:**

- Some national funders have keen interest in supporting initiatives addressing rural communities, isolated seniors, and promoting Indigenous artists and performers. How can we help Montana's creative community connect to those funders?

**3. Exploring, with Montana Nonprofit Association a new partnership to bring organizational sustainability to arts nonprofits whose operating landscape has changed significantly post-Covid.**

- Montana's arts and culture organizations are all locally controlled small businesses (< \$5 million/year, according to SBA definition). Most are chronically under-funded and operating at limited capacity. This means they can't afford the risk of new programs, often struggle to maintain their facilities, offer competitive pay, and compete for funds (both donations and grants). How might MAC create partnerships/connections for struggling arts and culture organizations to become more sustainable?
- The arts have proven to be powerful economic drivers in community development, economic stability and vitality, and enlivening downtowns. How can Montana better deploy its rich creative/cultural resources to strengthen our towns, communities, and reservations?

## TIMELINE

### Jan-March 2024

- Design and construct a **statewide survey** of artists, arts organizations and small communities (including current/recent MAC grant recipients), to discover and identify needs, concerns, and opportunities. This survey will focus on: sustainability & organizational strength of arts organizations; opportunities for public/private partnerships; obstacles & pain points; and community needs & opportunities. This survey is designed to provide a wide-reaching, inclusive snapshot of the arts & culture field across the state.
- Contract with a Montana-based consultant (<\$10,000) to help design survey, and to conduct deeper interviews after the survey ends (April-May).
- Partner with Montana Nonprofit Association to explore ways to deploy MNA resources to **strengthen arts and culture nonprofits statewide**.
- Assess expenditures for this 6-month period of strategic planning, and include next steps in **FY 2025 budget planning**.

### April-May 2024

- Work with Consultant to **dig deeper** into survey results, host more in-depth phone interviews, and have more comprehensive conversations with arts organizations and small-town community leaders. This step is designed to build out the statewide survey results to gain more grass-roots insight about specifics.
- Staff evaluates identified needs & opportunities from survey – as well as from ongoing work – to **explore changes** to current granting programs (ongoing).
- Contact regional and national funders to explore new opportunities to **attract new funding to Montana** arts organizations, communities, and partnerships. The goal here is to address Montana’s funding desert, identify new opportunities, and see how we can make connections between funders and our communities. Much of this work will be supported through our nationwide networks of associations, funders, and colleagues in the field, and our partnership with MT Nonprofit Assoc.

### June – August 2024

- Create a **State of the Field report** that compiles all the information collected, and synthesizes it into a concise statement of statewide needs & opportunities. This report will also suggest steps forward – both steps MAC can take, and recommendations we can make for further work & other partnerships.
- Weave results and recommendations from the State of the Field report into MAC’s ongoing Goals & Objectives to create a **refined Strategic Plan and FY 2025 work plan**. The purpose of this plan is to outline stepping stones toward better serving the state of Montana through the power of the arts.

Montana Arts Council 51140  
2025 Biennium OGS



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

Program: The Montana Arts Council is a single-program agency that administers, manages, and promotes artistic endeavors through grants, programs, and services.

Objective: To develop creative potential, advance education, spur economic vibrancy, and revitalize communities.

Goals: To expand opportunities, ensure access, and build connections.

Initiative	Who	Measure
<b>Continue to create more high-paying jobs</b>		
Focus career development programs and promote the work of Montana artists	Executive, Programs	Host 1 Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP) cohort per year in rural Montana, focusing on northeast region first (y/n)
Develop & launch folk & traditional arts apprenticeships	Executive, Programs	Measure number of applicants
Identify communities not yet served or underserved	All	Provide service in identified community (y/n)

<b>Reduce regulation in state government (Red Tape Relief Initiative)</b>		
Review, revise and update appropriate statutes, rules, policies, and procedures	Communications, Programs	Inventory existing statutes and rules (y/n) Standardize procedures and assess inconsistencies (y/n)

<b>Improve customer service, accountability, &amp; efficiency</b>		
Seek and value input. Increase public involvement in processes and decision making	Executive, Programs	Grow & diversify review panelist pool by 20%
Increase engagement with and among cultural anchors and assets	Programs	Revise interactive map of communities served to distinguish between location of program & location of funded organization (y/n) Surveys and final reports demonstrate reach and impact Develop and implement 3 communities of practice
Identify trends via surveys and grant reports	Programs	Use collected data to revise guidelines and improve process
Provide public information on programming	Communications, Programs	Standardize program timelines and information & make available online and in print (y/n)

<b>Bring the State of Montana's technology into the 21st century</b>		
Improve accessibility of website	Communications, Programs	Conduct outside audit of MAC website accessibility & implement findings
Develop online tutorial resources	Communications, Programs	Develop 5 web-based and 4 written tutorials
Continued training for staff	All	All staff will complete both required & recommended training

# About the Montana Arts Council

“Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year but when you volunteer, you vote everyday about the kind of community you want to live in.”

- Marjorie Moor

# Frequently-Used Acronyms

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

**Staff Contact:** Monica Grable [Monica.Grable@mt.gov](mailto:Monica.Grable@mt.gov) | 406.444.6522

**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

**Staff Contact:** Monica Grable [Monica.Grable@mt.gov](mailto:Monica.Grable@mt.gov) | 406.444.6522

**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](mailto: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.

### **Staff Contact**

Brian Moody, [brian.moody2@mt.gov](mailto:brian.moody2@mt.gov), 406-444-4700

Taylor Burby, [folkloristburby@gmail.com](mailto:folkloristburby@gmail.com)

## **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.)

### **Staff Contact**

Kristin Burgoyne, [kburgoyne@mt.gov](mailto:kburgoyne@mt.gov), 406-444-6449

### **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.

**Staff Contact:** Monica Grable [Monica.Grable@mt.gov](mailto:Monica.Grable@mt.gov) | 406.444.6522

**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.

### Staff Contact

Brian Moody, [brian.moody2@mt.gov](mailto:brian.moody2@mt.gov), 406-444-4700  
Taylor Burby, [folkloristburby@gmail.com](mailto:folkloristburby@gmail.com)

### Website Link

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

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## 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

Kristin Burgoyne, [kburgoyne@mt.gov](mailto:kburgoyne@mt.gov), 406-444-6449

### 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

Eric Heidle, [eric.heidle@mt.gov](mailto:eric.heidle@mt.gov), 406-444-6133

### Website Link

[https://art.mt.gov/poet\\_laureate](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](http://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](mailto: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**

Kristin Burgoyne, [kburgoyne@mt.gov](mailto:kburgoyne@mt.gov), 406-444-6449

### **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 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. When the 15<sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend, the deadline becomes the first business day following the weekend.

### **Staff Contact**

Brian Moody, [brian.moody2@mt.gov](mailto: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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Taylor Burby, [folkloristburby@gmail.com](mailto:folkloristburby@gmail.com), 406-209-8839

# 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 Aberg, 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 of 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 Aaniinen (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

<b>Term Expiration Date</b>		<b>Council Member</b>	<b>Member Since</b>
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.

# Montana Arts Council Contact Information

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Chair**

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**Steve Zabel**

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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  
Troy Collins  
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.

## **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

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

# MAC Staff

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*New artwork drying at the print shop located in the Imagine Butte Resource Center.*



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