

# THE MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL



**JUNE 2025 MEETING**

# Welcome! How to Use this Report

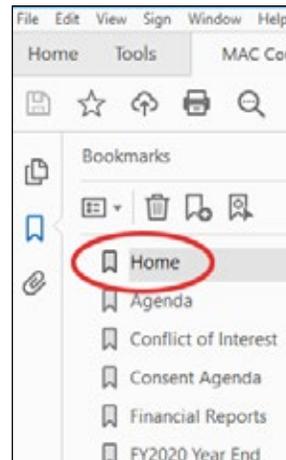
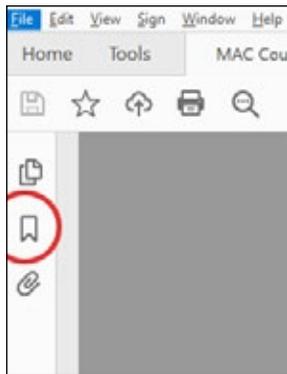
There's a lot of information contained in this document, and we greatly appreciate the time and effort each of you on the Council devote to reviewing it in preparation for our upcoming meeting. To help find your way we've added a few navigational tools:

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



MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL		
<b>Council Meeting</b>		
June 5, 2021		
8:30 a.m. MST by Zoom Webinar		
<small>Other than the meeting starting time, 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@mtartscouncil.org. Written comments received 24 hours before the meeting will be distributed to the members.</small>		
<b>Agenda</b>		
8:30 a.m.	Call to Order and Chairman's Welcome	Cyndy Andrus
8:35 a.m.	Council Roll Call <small>Introduction prompt: For the benefit of our new members, share what you enjoy most about serving on MAC.</small>	Cyndy Andrus
9:15 a.m.	Public Comment	Cyndy Andrus

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.



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: Christian Parrish Takes the Gun, aka Supaman, delivers his message of love and hope through hip hop.*

# Schedule

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## **Thursday, June 5, 2025**

After 3 pm     Traveling Council members may check-in  
The Edith Hotel  
808 3rd Ave SW, White Sulphur Springs, MT  
(406) 547-8888

6:00-8:00 pm   Community Reception  
The Ringling Social Club & Boarding House (Sarah's house)  
902 W Main Street, WSS

Dinner on your own

## **Friday, June 6, 2025**

Council Meeting  
8:30am  
Meagher County Public Library  
205 SW Garfield St.  
White Sulphur Springs, Montana



# MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL

## Council Meeting

8:30am

Meagher County Public Library

205 SW Garfield St.

White Sulphur Springs, Montana

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

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

Public comment is welcome on all items and may be submitted at [mac@mt.gov](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.

Lunch will be provided for Arts Council members, presenters & staff by Wild Oats Baking.



# Proposed Business Meeting Agenda

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## 8:30 am

Call to Order Steve Zabel  
Opening remarks & Tribal acknowledgement

Attendance: Council and members of the Public Ginny Newman

General Business Krys Holmes  
Call for Public Comment

Approval of Proposed Agenda and Council Meeting Minutes April 28, 2025

▶ *Action proposed: Motion to approve*

Conflicts of Interest

Next Meetings

Great Falls, Friday, December 5, 2025

## 9:00 am

Fiscal Year 2025 Year To Date Financial Report Jenifer Alger  
▶ *Action proposed: Motion to approve*

Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget Jenifer Alger  
▶ *Action proposed: Motion to approve*

## 9:30 am

Committee Reports Steve Zabel  
Executive Committee Steve Zabel  
Strategic Investment Grant Committee Jay Pyette  
Arts Education Committee Angella Ahn  
Governor's Arts Awards Committee Wylie Gustafson  
Poet Laureate Committee Sean Chandler  
Folk Arts Committee Corky Clairmont  
Fundraising Committee Steve Zabel  
Percent for Art Projects Kristin Burgoyne

## 10:00 am

Committee Assignments

## 10:30 am

Public Value Partnership + Statewide Service Organization Grant Recommendations  
▶ *Action proposed: Motion to approve*

## 10:45 am Break

## 11:00 am

NASAA Update: Native Communities Initiative Sean Chandler  
[https://nasaa-arts.org/nasaa\\_research/strengthening-state-arts-agency-relationships-with-native-communities/](https://nasaa-arts.org/nasaa_research/strengthening-state-arts-agency-relationships-with-native-communities/)

**11:30 am**

Report from the Executive Director

Krys Holmes

Orientation Refresher

Krys Holmes

**12:15 pm** Lunch (working if needed)

- How do you see your role as a Council member in this time of change?
- How can you leverage your expertise, relationships, and strengths to advocate for public funding of the arts?
- What public/private partnerships can you connect MAC to, to strengthen our programs?
- There are many ways to advocate for the arts on a local, state, and federal level. What should Council members' top priorities be?

**1:30 pm**

Cultural Advocacy Update

Paul Stahl

Legislative Update

Drew Geiger

Federal Funding Discussion

Krys Holmes

Report from the Chair

Steve Zabel

New Business Steve Zabel

**4:00 pm - Adjourn**

***Tentative 4:15 pm Interactive Art Activity***

Troy Collins

**Dinner on your Own**

**Dinner Suggestions**

Bar 47 24 E Main (10pm)

Jesse Pepper's Smoke Shack 511 E Main (8pm)

The Jawbone 11 E Main (Th 9pm, Fri 10pm)

Stockman Steakhouse 117 E Main (10pm)

Lane Bar 27 E Main (2am)

Stageline Pizza 210 E Main St (Th 7:30pm, Fri 8:30pm)

*Tentatively Closed:* Montana Roadhouse 904 3rd Ave SW (10pm)

**Breakfast and Lunch Suggestions**

Free Continental Breakfast at The Edith Hotel

Bob n' Kelli's Café 110 E Main (7am-2pm)

Wild Oats Baking 15 1st Ave SE (7am-12pm)

**Additional Activities to Consider**

Castle Museum & Carriage House 310 2nd Ave NE (10am-4pm)

The Charles M Bair Family Museum 2751 MT Hwy 294 (10am-4pm)

# Minutes of the Montana Arts Council

In open session  
Monday, April 28, 2025  
Zoom

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The meeting was called to order at 11:03am

## 1. Attendance:

**Council Members Present:** Angella Ahn, Sarah Calhoun, Sean Chandler, Corky Clairmont, Wylie Gustafson, Cat McIntyre, John Moore, Linda Netschert, Bridger Pierce, Vice-Chair Jay Pyette

**Council Members Absent:** Troy Collins, Julie Mac, Angela Russell, Chair Steve Zabel

**Staff Present:** Kristin Han Burgoyne, Monica Grable, Krys Holmes, Brian Moody, Ginny Newman

**Guests:** None

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

**3. Conflicts of Interest:** Vice-Chair Pyette declared a conflict with Montana Actor's Theatre.

**4. Consent Agenda:** Angella Ahn moved, and Linda Netschert seconded approval of the proposed agenda. Motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**5. Approval of Artists in Schools and Communities (AISC) Grants:** Artists in Schools and Communities Review Committee Chair Corky Clairmont discussed the process and noted how well-written the applications were this year. The 28 submitted residency applications were reviewed and funding recommendations were emailed to the committee. Corky provided some highlights of applications presented. Monica Grable noted the diversity of the experiences across many areas. The planned budget for FY2025 is \$275,000 and will include \$185,000 for residencies and \$90,000 for experiences split into three deadlines, the first of which will be reviewed at the next council meeting. Bridger Pierce moved, and Angella Ahn seconded approval of the AISC residency grants. Motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**6. Approval of Minutes:** Corky Clairmont moved, and Linda Netschert seconded approval of the minutes of the Full Council open session on December 5, 2025. Motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**7. Decide on summer 2026 Council Meeting Location:** Krys Holmes made a note that staff is operating in much uncertainty and expresses her appreciation. The date for the Summer 2026 meeting will be determined later. The three meeting locations considered (based on travel costs for current members, knowing that some will change) are:

**Livingston** (higher state lodging rate) is projected at **\$27,284**. Last visited in 2013.

**Red Lodge** is projected at **\$19,380**. Last visited in 2017.

**Ft. Benton** is projected at **\$17,742**. Last visited in 2001.

Wylie Gustafson discusses the benefits of Fort Benton for location, arts community, and history. Wylie Gustafson moved, and John Moore seconded Fort Benton. Motion carried on a voice vote with no dissents.

**8. Confirm MCAM attendance/hotel rooms (event is Friday, May 16):** The event is at 2:00 pm. Krys confirmed who will be attending and who needs hotel rooms.

**9. Confirm White Sulphur Springs Council Meeting attendance (Thu June 5 - Sat June 7):** Krys confirmed attendance and hotel needs for the full council meeting on June 6. Also discussed was the contingency plan for the meeting if current year federal funding is rescinded.

10. New Business: There was no new business.

**11. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:48 am.

# Conflict of Interest

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## **Montana Arts Council Members | June 2025**

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  
Strategic Investment Grants  
Public Value Partnerships  
Statewide Service Organizations

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.

# FINANCIAL REPORTS



*Krys Holmes delivers opening remarks at the 2025 Montana Circle of American Masters ceremony in Helena.*

# Memorandum: Fiscal YTD 2025 Budget Report

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

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

## **Staff Salaries + Benefits**

MAC is projecting a deficit of \$18,257 in this category. This is due to staff salaries being more than what was included in the personal services snapshot taken in July 2022. We are also estimating higher council member stipends than budgeted.

## **Programs**

MAC is projecting a net surplus of \$42,715 and is a result of the following:

- Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP) –Original budget included funds for 2 cohorts; however, there was only enough participation for one. The original budget has been shifted to include a professional development series to be held in the Spring of 2025. MAC will use the accrued MAP income to pay all these expenses. Any remaining income balance will be carried forward to FY 2026.
- Montana Circle of American Masters (MCAM), Traditional Artists Apprenticeship Program (TAAP), and Governor’s Arts Awards (GAA) – all underspent due to overestimating expenses.
- State of the Arts (SOA) - The \$4,364 projected overspent is due to commissioning an artist to paint our SOA dispenser and higher than projected postage costs.
- Poetry out Loud (POL). The \$6,990 unspent is for a short-term POL coordinator position and is included in line 2 – staff salaries + benefits.
- Creative Aging – The \$11,000 unspent was due to timing. The seed projects that were anticipated will happen in FY 2026.
- Folk Arts – Overbudgeted due to a misunderstanding in our NEA partnership agreement. We do not need to match \$1:\$1 by program.

## **Administration**

MAC is projecting a net surplus of \$24,848 and is a result of the following:

- Contracted Services – underspent due to not needing as much for strategic planning and poet laureate anthology as originally projected.
- Rent – underspent due to not needing some meeting space/room rentals.
- SITSD Fixed Costs – underspent by \$4,179 due to not being billed for 2 services that DOA suggested we include in our budget. This appropriation is restricted to SITSD services and can’t be spent on anything else. The remaining balance will revert to the general fund.

## Grants

MAC is projecting a net deficit in grants of \$75,619 and is a result of the following:

- Artists in Schools & Communities (AISC) - \$21,192 overspent due to more than anticipated Experiences grant applications.
- Public Value Partnerships (PVP) – \$49,000 overspent to use excess funds to provide an additional \$1,000 for each grantee.
- Statewide Service Organizations (SSO) - \$5,000 overspent to use excess funds to provide an additional \$1,000 for each grantee.

## Montana Community Foundation Endowment Fund Update

The FY 2025 budget uses \$10,000 from the Arts Education Fund to fund AISC grant awards and \$37,389 from the Governor’s Awards for Artists to fund the Governors Arts Awards (GAA) and Montana Circle of American Masters (MCAM) ceremonies. This fund will also pay for some Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program (TAAP) mentor stipends.

Current balances for both endowments are as follows:

- Arts Education Fund \$23,045
- Governor’s Award for Artists \$79,778

Projected year-end balances are as follows:

- Arts Education Fund \$13,045
- Governor’s Award for Artists \$42,389

## Remaining Balances/Carryforwards

The projected remaining balance of \$13,261 consists of the following:

Unused DOA SITSD	\$ 4,179
Unused NEA	\$ 2,211
Unused MAP Income	\$ 6,871

The unused DOA SITSD funds will revert to the General Fund. However, MAC will be allowed to carry forward 30% of the SITSD funds into FY 2026. This carry-forward will be used toward SIG grants to individuals.

Any unused NEA and MAP funds will be carried forward into FY 2026.

## FY 2025 YDT Montana Arts Council Approved Budget

Line #		FY25 Approved Budget	General Fund 27.09%	Cultural Trust 21.92%	NEA 46.64%	Other Income 4.36%	TOTAL	(Over)/ Under
<b>1</b>	<b>PERSONNEL SERVICES</b>							
2	Staff Salaries + Benefits	\$752,676	\$274,924	\$181,292	\$313,317	-	\$769,533	(\$16,857)
3	Honorariums/Stipends	\$9,000	\$6,100	\$1,600	\$2,700	-	\$10,400	(\$1,400)
4								
<b>5</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$761,676</b>	<b>\$281,024</b>	<b>\$182,892</b>	<b>\$316,017</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$779,933</b>	<b>(\$18,257)</b>
<b>6</b>								
<b>7</b>	<b>PROGRAMS</b>							
8	Montana Artrepreneur Program	\$46,825	-	-	-	\$36,545	\$36,545	\$10,280
9	MCAM/TAP	\$33,885	-	-	-	\$30,144	\$30,144	\$3,741
10	GAA	\$10,580	-	-	-	\$7,245	\$7,245	\$3,335
11	AIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	State of the Arts	\$72,000	\$31,133	-	\$45,231	-	\$76,364	(\$4,364)
13	Poetry Out Loud	\$33,900	-	-	\$26,910	-	\$26,910	\$6,990
14	Creative Aging	\$13,500	\$2,500	-	-	-	\$2,500	\$11,000
15	Folk Arts	\$40,000	\$8,267	-	\$20,000	-	\$28,267	\$11,733
16	Percent for Art Excess	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17								
<b>18</b>	<b>Programs: Total</b>	<b>\$250,690</b>	<b>\$41,900</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$92,141</b>	<b>\$79,934</b>	<b>\$207,975</b>	<b>\$42,715</b>
<b>19</b>								
<b>20</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>							
21	Contracted Services	\$32,575	\$7,610	\$3,473	\$9,105	-	\$20,188	\$12,387
22	Supplies & Materials	\$18,717	\$9,408	\$1,996	\$5,991	-	\$17,394	\$1,323
23	Communications	\$2,775	\$1,247	\$296	\$2,182	-	\$3,725	(\$950)
24	Travel	\$59,287	\$24,670	\$6,321	\$26,515	-	\$57,506	\$1,781
25	Rent	\$50,841	\$16,768	\$5,131	\$23,956	-	\$48,855	\$4,986
26	Other Expenses	\$60,329	\$2,599	\$15,205	\$41,382	-	\$59,187	\$1,142
27	Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

## FY 2025 YDT Montana Arts Council Approved Budget

28	SITSD Fixed Costs (Restricted)	\$71,123	\$32,094	\$12,446	\$22,404	-	\$66,944	\$4,179
29								
30	<b>Administration: Total</b>	<b>\$295,647</b>	<b>\$94,396</b>	<b>\$44,868</b>	<b>\$131,535</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$270,799</b>	<b>\$24,848</b>
31								
32	<b>GRANTS</b>							
33	Artists in Schools & Communities	\$275,000	\$75,000	-	\$211,192	\$10,000	\$296,192	(\$21,192)
34	Public Value Partnerships	\$294,000	\$76,213	-	\$266,787	-	\$343,000	(\$49,000)
35	Statewide Service Organizations	\$78,000	-	-	\$83,000	-	\$83,000	(\$5,000)
36	Strategic Investment	\$55,000	\$55,428	-	-	-	\$55,428	(\$428)
37	Cultural Trust Grants	\$279,438	-	\$279,437	-	-	\$279,437	\$1
38	Innovation Fund Pilot Project	\$10,000	-	-	-	\$10,000	\$10,000	-
39								
40	<b>Grants: Total</b>	<b>\$991,438</b>	<b>\$206,641</b>	<b>\$279,437</b>	<b>\$560,979</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$1,067,057</b>	<b>(\$75,619)</b>
41								
42	<b>TOTAL FY 2025 EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,299,451</b>	<b>\$623,961</b>	<b>\$507,197</b>	<b>\$1,100,672</b>	<b>\$93,934</b>	<b>\$2,325,764</b>	<b>(\$26,313)</b>
43								
44	<b>TOTAL FY 2025 REVENUES</b>	<b>\$2,314,244</b>	<b>\$626,842</b>	<b>\$507,197</b>	<b>\$1,079,400</b>	<b>\$100,805</b>	<b>\$2,314,244</b>	
45	<b>FYE 2024 Carryforwards</b>	<b>\$24,782</b>	<b>\$1,299</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$23,483</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$24,782</b>	
46								
47	<b>(OVER)/UNDER</b>	<b>\$39,575</b>	<b>\$4,180</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$2,211</b>	<b>\$6,871</b>	<b>\$13,262</b>	<b>\$13,262</b>

## Budget Comments

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

- Includes POL Coordinator

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

- Council member/C&A Panel payments

### Line 9: Programs: MCAM/TAAP

- \$30,144 from Governors Awards for Artists Fund (MCF)

### Line 10: Programs: GAA

- \$7,245 from Governors Awards for Artists Fund (MCF)

### Line 13: Programs: Poetry Out Loud

- \$25,000 from NEA, \$7,046 is for POL Coordinator and included in line 2.

### Line 21: Administration: Contracted Services

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

### Line 22: Administration: Supplies & Materials

- Software licenses, commodities

### Line 23: Administration: Communications

- Postage, interagency mailings, and advertising

### Line 24: Administration: Travel

- Council, staff, programs, and panels

### Line 25: Administration: Rent

- Facility and offsite meeting rooms

### Line 26: Administration: Other Expenses

- Creative West (formerly WESTAF) dues (\$22,261), NASAA dues (\$14,075), staff training, subscriptions, registration, meetings

### Line 28: Administration: SITSD Fixed Costs (Restricted)

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

### Line 33: Grants: Artists in Schools & Communities

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

### Line 38: Grants: Innovation Fund Pilot Project

- \$10,000 from the Creative West (formerly WESTAF) innovation funds.

### Line 45: FYE 2024 Carryforwards

- FYE 2024 \$1,299 GF spent by 06/30/2026. NEA will be spent by 12/31/2024.

### Line 45: (OVER)/UNDER

- \$4,179 GF restricted for SITSD; \$2,211 NEA; and \$6,871 MAP.

# Memorandum: FY2026 Proposed Budget Report

TO: Montana Arts Council Members  
FROM: Jenifer Alger | Chief Financial Officer  
RE: Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget Report

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

The following budget discussion is based on information on hand at the time of writing this memo. Some of the unknowns at this time are: 1) We do not know the exact amount we will receive from the HB13 pay and health insurance increases, and 2) We do not know what our NEA grant award amount will be. We anticipate receiving our offer letter in early to mid-June.

MAC is projecting to end the fiscal year with \$2,500 remaining. Below is an explanation of the differences between FY 2025 and FY 2026 expenditures and revenues:

## **Expenditures**

MAC's FY 2026 projected expenditures are approximately \$234,000 more than the FY 2025 projections due to the following:

- Personnel Services - \$27,700 net increase due to being fully staffed, employee raises approved by the 2025 legislature and more council member stipends being paid. The \$786,000 proposed budget includes an estimate of HB13 increases.
- Programs - \$26,800 net increase due to possibly receiving an additional \$50,000 from the NEA. The NEA allowed MAC to apply for an additional \$25,000 each for Arts in Healthcare and the America 250 celebration. The MCAM, TAAP and GAA expenses will be less because this is not a ceremony year.
- Administration - \$8,300 net decrease mostly due to reduced SITSD fixed cost rates and minor increases to all other expense categories.
- Grants - \$187,700 net increase due to higher projected Cultural Trust earnings in FY 2026 than FY 2025; therefore, higher Cultural & Aesthetic grant payments for FY 2026.

## **Revenues**

MAC's FY 2026 estimated revenues are approximately \$244,500 more than FY 2025 due to the following:

- General Fund (HB2+HB13): \$53,800 net increase is due to employee pay raises included in HB13, SITSD rate reductions, and we received an additional \$55,000 to fund Strategic Investment Grants (SIG).
- Cultural Trust (HB2+HB9+HB13): \$198,300 net increase is due to employee increases included in HB13, SITSD rate reductions, and higher interest rates in the Cultural Trust fund.
- National Endowment for the Arts (NEA): \$50,000 increase is due to the NEA possibly awarding additional funds for Arts in Healthcare and America 250. Until we receive our official offer letter, we are using the FY 2025 award amount plus the additional \$50,000 we were allowed to apply for.
- Other Income: \$57,600 net decrease due to a combination of having less accrued MAP income, using less MCF funds for MCAM, GAA and TAAP, and receiving additional creative aging revenue from a private grant.
- FY 2025 Carryforwards: Estimated General Fund and NEA carryforwards of \$1,254 and \$2,211 respectively.

## **Additional Notes**

Upon receiving confirmation of our HB13 appropriation amount and our NEA grant award, we will update the budget accordingly. If there are significant changes based on these dollars, we will present the updated budget to the Executive Committee for approval as soon as possible.

## FY 2026 Montana Arts Council Proposed Budget

LINE #			FY25 Projected	Proposed FY26 Budget	FY 2026 PROJECTED SPEND	FY26 Projected Outcome Through 06/30/2026	Budget Description
1	<b>PERSONNEL SERVICES</b>						
2		Personnel Services: Core Staff Salaries + Benefits	\$769,533	\$786,224	\$794,040	\$(7,816)	Includes POL Coordinator (\$8,050)
3		Personnel Services: Honorariums/Stipends	\$10,400	\$9,000	\$13,600	\$(4,600)	Council member and C&A panel stipends.
4							
5	<b>Personnel Services: Total</b>		<b>\$779,933</b>	<b>\$795,224</b>	<b>\$807,640</b>	<b>\$(12,416)</b>	
6							
7	<b>PROGRAMS</b>						
8		Programs: MAP	\$36,545	\$38,075	\$38,075	\$-	
9		Programs: MCAM/TAAP	\$30,144	\$12,450	\$12,450	\$-	
10		Programs: GAA	\$7,245	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$-	
11		Programs: State of the Arts	\$76,364	\$75,000	\$75,064	\$(64)	Buffalo Jump, Print and Mail, Events Calendar and article writers
12		Programs: POL	\$26,910	\$33,375	\$25,325	\$8,050	POL Coordinator - \$8,050
13		Programs: Creative Aging	\$2,500	\$12,700	\$12,700	\$-	
14		Programs: Arts in Healthcare	\$-	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$-	
15		Programs: America 250	\$-	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$-	
16		Programs: Folk Arts	\$28,267	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$-	
17		Programs: Percent for Art Excess	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	
18							
19	<b>Programs: Total</b>		<b>\$207,975</b>	<b>\$242,800</b>	<b>\$234,814</b>	<b>\$7,986</b>	
20							

## FY 2026 Montana Arts Council Proposed Budget

LINE #			FY25 Projected	Proposed FY26 Budget	FY 2026 PROJECTED SPEND	FY26 Projected Outcome Through 06/30/2026	Budget Description
21	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>						
22		Administration: Contracted Services	\$20,188	\$23,000	\$22,993	\$7	
23		Administration: Supplies & Materials	\$17,394	\$19,000	\$18,767	\$233	
24		Administration: Communications	\$3,725	\$4,000	\$3,810	\$190	
25		Administration: Travel	\$57,506	\$60,000	\$57,507	\$2,493	
26		Administration: Rent	\$45,855	\$47,100	\$47,091	\$9	Includes building lease
27		Administration: Other Expenses	\$59,187	\$69,000	\$69,064	\$(64)	Includes SWCAP
28		Administration: Equipment	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	Placeholder for replacement copier
29		Administration: SITSD Fixed Costs (Restricted)	\$66,944	\$43,250	\$43,250	\$-	Restricted FY26 HB2 budget.
30							
31	<b>Administration: Total</b>		<b>\$270,799</b>	<b>\$265,350</b>	<b>\$262,482</b>	<b>\$2,868</b>	
32							

## FY 2026 Montana Arts Council Proposed Budget

LINE #			FY25 Projected	Proposed FY26 Budget	FY 2026 PROJECTED SPEND	FY26 Projected Outcome Through 06/30/2026	Budget Description
33	<b>GRANTS</b>						
34		Grants: Artists in Schools & Communities	\$296,192	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$-	
35		Grants: Public Value Partnerships	\$343,000	\$360,000	\$360,000	\$-	
36		Grants: Statewide Service Organizations	\$83,000	\$78,000	\$78,000	\$-	
37		Grants: Strategic Investment	\$55,428	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$-	
38		Grants: Cultural Trust Grants	\$279,437	\$476,750	\$476,750	\$-	
39		Grants: Innovation Fund Pilot Project	\$10,000	\$-	\$-	\$-	
40							
41	<b>Grants: Total</b>		<b>\$1,067,057</b>	<b>\$1,254,750</b>	<b>\$1,254,750</b>	<b>\$-</b>	
42							
43	<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>		<b>\$2,325,764</b>	<b>\$2,558,124</b>	<b>\$2,559,686</b>	<b>\$(1,562)</b>	
44							

## FY 2026 Montana Arts Council Proposed Budget

LINE #			FY25 Projected	Proposed FY26 Budget	FY 2026 PROJECTED SPEND	FY26 Projected Outcome Through 06/30/2026	Budget Description
45	<b>INCOME</b>						
46		General Fund	\$626,842	\$680,679			
47		Personal Services Contingency	\$-	\$-			This is a placeholder just in case we need to request funding.
48	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>		\$626,842	\$680,679			
49		Cultural Trust Administration	\$227,760	\$228,715			
50		Cultural Trust/Grants (Biennial)	\$279,437	\$476,750			Unspent will revert to Cultural Trust fund.
51	<b>TOTAL CULTURAL TRUST</b>		\$507,197	\$705,465			
52		Federal Partnership Agreement Plan	\$721,200	\$721,200			
53		Federal Poetry Out Loud	\$25,000	\$25,000			
54		Federal Underserved	\$254,200	\$254,200			
55		Federal Artists in the Schools	\$59,000	\$59,000			
56		Federal Arts in Healthcare	\$-	\$25,000			
57		Federal America 250	\$-	\$25,000			
58		Federal Folk Arts Partnership	\$20,000	\$20,000			
59	<b>TOTAL FEDERAL</b>		\$1,079,400	\$1,129,400			

## FY 2026 Montana Arts Council Proposed Budget

LINE #			FY25 Projected	Proposed FY26 Budget	FY 2026 PROJECTED SPEND	FY26 Projected Outcome Through 06/30/2026	Budget Description
60		Sigerson Permanent Fund	\$-	\$-			Restricted funds for ceramic/clay artists
61		MAP Earned Income	\$43,416	\$6,871			FY 2025 Carryforward (\$6,871)
62		Endowment: Montana Arts Council Arts Education Fund	\$10,000	\$10,000			Restricted funds for AISC grants.
63		Endowment: Montana Arts Council Governor's Award for the Artists Fund	\$37,389	\$13,650			Restricted funds for GAA + MCAM + TAAP
64		Creative Aging Grants	\$-	\$12,700			Lifetime Arts Grant
65		Creative West Innovation Fund	\$10,000	\$-			
66	<b>TOTAL OTHER INCOME</b>		\$100,805	\$43,221			
67							
68	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		\$2,314,244	\$2,558,765			
69	Difference between Income + Expenses		\$(11,520)	\$641			
70	Carryforward from Prior Year		\$24,781	\$3,465			FY25 NEA CF (\$2,211) - spend by 12/31/2025 + FY25 GF CF (\$1,254) - spend by 06/30/2027.
71	Projected Final Balance/ Carryforward		\$13,261	\$4,106		\$2,544	Lapse breakdown = \$2,544 NEA

# COMMITTEE REPORTS



*Anna Lund of the Holter Museum of Art teaches a workshop for Poetry Out Loud State Finalists.*

# Memorandum: Strategic Investment Grants

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, Julie Mac, Cat McIntyre, Wylie Gustafson, and Bridger Pierce. The committee meets monthly by conference call to review applications.

The attached list of applications only includes the last month of FY2025 applications (November 2024) and the first month of FY2026 applications (May 2025). At the November 2024 review meeting all available funding was allocated. The program was closed until April 2025 and May was the first review meeting of the new fiscal year.

### SIG FY2025 (November 2024)

Applicant	Project Name	Community	Request	Award
Afton Ray-Rossol	Montana Artist's Expenses for Participation in National Show, in Montana	Sidney	\$1,000	\$1,000
Michael Barrett	Interactive Performance Art History Map	Columbus	\$1,000	\$0
Rebecca Fiske	Arts Festival booth purchase	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
Danielle O'Malley	Crating and Shipping Work to a National Juried Exhibition	Helena	\$1,000	\$1,000
Kaylee Osentowski	USITT 2025 Individual Attendance	Great Falls	\$1,000	\$0
Heidi Zielinski	Alegre Retreat - Fiber Art Conference Independent Study	Stevensville	\$1,000	\$1,000
Garden City Ballet	Garden City Ballet - Free Ballet for 50 Children	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
William Ryerson	Giant Wave Music Video Shoot and Collaborative Production	Billings	\$1,000	\$1,000

### SIG FY2026 (May 2025)

Applicant	Project Name	Community	Request	Award
Anaconda Ensemble Theatre	Living History at Smelterman's Day	Anaconda	\$1,000	\$1,000
Jane Waggoner Deschner	Learn to make a photobook from an expert	Billings	\$1,000	\$1,000
Travelers' Rest Preservation and Heritage Association	Visions of Lewis and Clark Kite Exhibit	Lolo	\$1,000	\$1,000
Authors of the Flathead	Honorarium for Montana-based writer Debbie Burke to present at Authors of the Flathead 2025 conference	Kalispell	\$1,000	\$1,000
Matthew Knright	Cortona Sessions 2025	Misoula	\$1,000	\$0
Kate Belton	Customized kick-wheel for hand-building, throwing, and trimming large pieces	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$1,000
Ryan Parker	Arles les Recontres De LA Photographie Portfolio Review	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$0
Jessica Hays	Arles Festival and Portfolio	Bozeman	\$1,000	\$0
Shannon Baumbach	iPad Pro, Apple Pen and Magic Keyboard for major advancements in my art business!	Lakeside	\$1,000	\$0
Brooklyn Draper	Missoula Dance Fest 2025	Missoula	\$1,000	\$0
Jess Janae Black	Jess Janae Black Clothing Line	Arlee	\$699	\$0

# Memorandum: Arts Education Committee

TO: Montana Arts Council Members  
FROM: Angella Ahn | Arts Education Committee Chair  
RE: Committee Report

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MAC’s Arts Education Committee provides expertise, guidance and support for arts learning initiatives and is charged with oversight of our agency’s Artists in Schools and Communities (AISC) grant program—the umbrella under which two grant opportunities, AISC Experiences and AISC Residencies, are held. Together these grants serve arts learners of every age and ability across disciplines, settings, and teaching models.

During the 2025 fiscal year, a combined 70 grant projects were awarded AISC funding, totalling nearly \$300,000. While 21 projects were supported through the AISC Residencies program, prioritizing hands-on learning led by professional artists, another 49 projects were supported across three separate AISC Experiences grant deadlines, providing funding for transformational arts learning experiences of all types.

In April, a panel of four arts and education professionals led by Corky Clairmont reviewed and recommended funding for 28 FY26 AISC Residencies grant projects; these were subsequently approved by the Council on April 28. The Arts Education Committee then met on May 20 to review another 24 submissions, a record number, to the April AISC Experiences deadline. These AISC awards represent significant growth in access to arts learning experiences across our state, made possible through MAC’s investments and the tremendous work of many arts and non-arts organizations. With final funding allocations pending as we await word from the NEA, those organizations approved or recommended for funding have been notified that MAC will need to receive funds in hand prior to contracts being issued and grant funds disbursed.

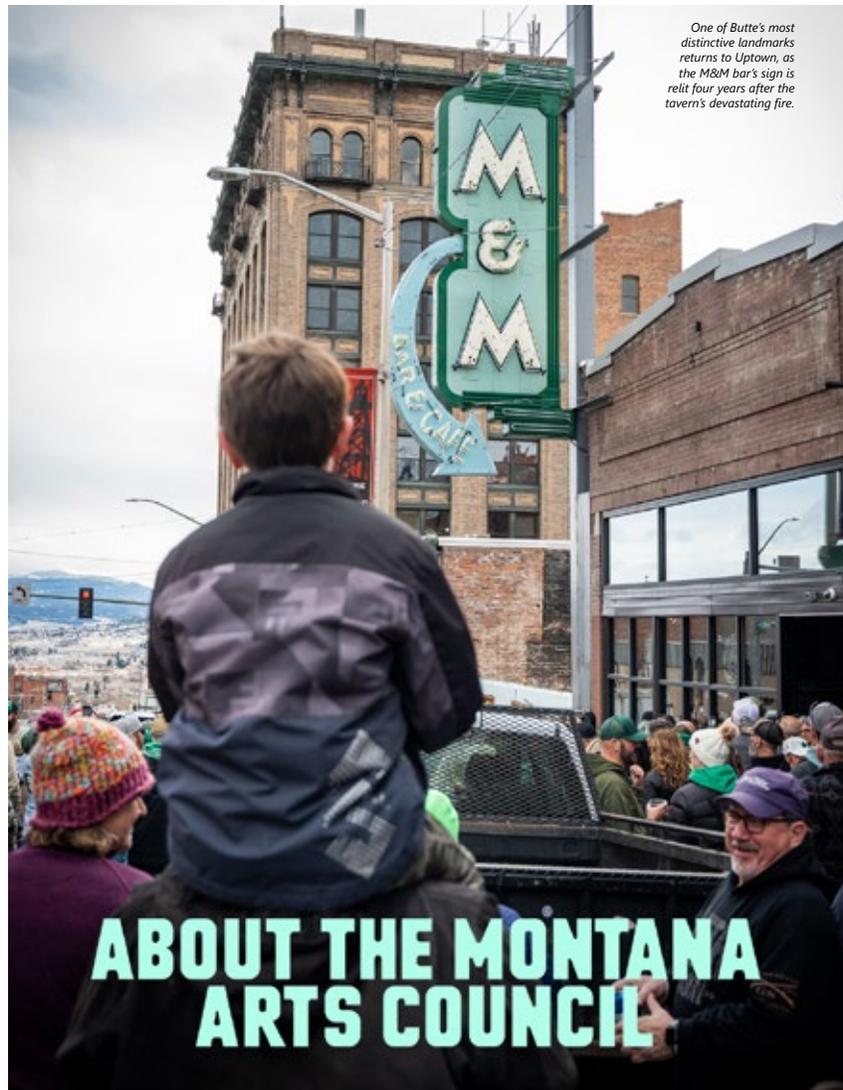
Along with the ongoing work of reviewing submitted grant applications, members of the committee will work in the coming months to connect organizations with MAC’s education-focused opportunities and will meet to discuss important arts learning-focused topics.

## Arts Education Committee

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

# About The Montana Arts Council

In an effort to shorten this document and save a few trees, we've turned the About the Montana Arts Council section of the Council book into its own document. To view this section, containing our list of frequently-used acronyms, Council member bios and contact info, and staff info, please [click here](#).



Linen fabric hand-woven by  
MCAM honoree Joanne Hall  
of Clancy, using one of her  
traditional textile looms.