



performing arts

page4



native arts

page10



literary arts

page14



visual arts

page16



Jeremy Garrett of the Infamous Stringdusters saws a tune at the Newberry.

Photo courtesy of Eric Heidle

In The Ring In White
Sulphur Springs

Tiny Montana towns large and small get creative in venues like no other, hosting reknown musicians and artists in unlikely spaces.

Read more, page 4



Montana Shakespeare in the Parks. Photo courtesy of Shawn Raecke

Imaginative Hope

You may be hard pressed to find an art form that is more reliant on a hopeful form of speculation than theater, since the whole process is fundamentally rooted in uncertainty: will all the parts come together, will the story prove true or funny, will the audience come at all, and will we be able to pull off this little miracle together admist changing weather and venues.

Read more, page 8



Saturday I was blessed to take my fully blind uncle into the powwow circle. Kristina Clark posting on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. Photo courtesy of Jennifer Woodcock.

We Are All Related: Netting
Community

Native artists explore online forums for art, and find it fosters community and lasting friendships.

Read more, page 10



A huge grasshopper Gil Mangel made to commemorate a disastrous plague of hoppers in the valley a few years back. Photo courtesy of Gil Mangel

Miracle of America Museum

Montana’s Outdoor Art Gallery feeds the imagination and begs guests to interact with the art for a truly unique experience.

Read more, page 20



Krys Holmes
Executive Director
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“A vibrant arts community across the Montana landscape means many moments of ambush and astonishment.”

Letting Art Surprise Us

“Art is not an accessory to pleasure, but the means of our connection to the cosmos.”

– Adam Gopnik

I believe the purpose of life is to surprise God. To do something creative and unexpected that delights and surprises even the divine creative force that set the universe in motion. Life itself is an improvisational act, and when the creative force that drives us all (“the force that through the green fuse drives the flower,” as Dylan Thomas says) makes something totally unexpected spring forth, you feel that little bubble of joy. That blessing. There’s something divine in it. We’ve all felt it.

Art is the power that helps us navigate uncertainties using the tools of delight and surprise. The jazz musician hears a wrong note, turns it into a flatted minor 7th chord, and creates a new progression that brings joy to the ear. A painter spray-paints two long-legged brolga birds on an Australian grain silo, and people drive hundreds of miles to see it. Or maybe we’re surprised by

traditional art in an unexpected spot: Megan Karls playing violin in a decommissioned missile silo. A *cappella* choir The Crossing, singing gorgeous harmonies in the Story Mill warehouse...

When I was a kid I was walking on a foggy beach one early morning and heard – but could not see, through the dense and foggy air – an operatic tenor singing “Nessun Dorma” to the whispering waves. It stopped me in my tracks, this powerful aria coming out of the disembodied mist. I wrote in my diary that day: “Ambushed by beauty.”

A vibrant arts community across the Montana landscape means many moments of ambush and astonishment. Many opportunities to be surprised by art. Many corners and turns, around which we are T-boned by delight.

Let’s cultivate this power across Montana. Let’s nourish the whole ecosystem that makes this happen. Let’s notice and delight in it. Let’s support the painters and musicians and weavers and warriors of art who make us smile or think or reflect deeply. And let’s remember that creativity is how we relate to the cosmos – and how the cosmos whispers back to us.

Be ambushed by beauty. Happy summer.

Krys Holmes,
Director, Montana Arts Council

Deadline Aug. 1 for Cultural Trust Grants

Cultural trust grants may be applied to cultural and aesthetic projects, including but not limited to the visual, performing, literary and media arts, history, archaeology, folklore, archives, collections, research, historic preservation and the construction or renovation of cultural facilities. Applications are encouraged for applicants serving rural communities, racial and ethnic groups, people with disabilities, institutionalized populations, youth and the aging.

Cultural Trust Guidelines are now posted on the Montana Arts Council’s website. The application deadline is Aug. 1, 2024, for the July 1, 2025-June 30, 2027 grant period. For information and guidelines, visit art.mt.gov/ca

State of the Arts Welcomes Submissions

State of the Arts welcomes submissions of photographs, press releases and newsworthy information from individual artists and arts organizations.

Next deadline:

The deadline for submissions is August 29 for the Fall issue (October-December).

Please check with the Montana Arts Council for reprint permission.

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In Memory of..



Photo © Ronnie Farley.



Elk Tooth Dress by Blackfeet traditional artist and educator Jackie Parsons. Beaded flag vest trio by Jackie Parsons.



Remembering Jackie Parsons: *A Legacy of Art and Community*

Jackie Parsons, a celebrated artist from the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, leaves behind a legacy that has deeply impacted both the art world and her community. Born and raised on the Blackfeet Reservation, Parsons faced early adversity, losing her parents at the age of three. She spent her early years under the care of her grandmother, who introduced her to the art of sewing. This foundational skill set the stage for Parsons’ lifelong artistic journey.

After her grandmother’s passing, Parsons was raised by her aunt and uncle, who, along with other relatives, fueled her creativity. In 1955, she married rancher Ken Parsons, and together they had six children, all of whom followed in her artistic footsteps, with four pursuing professional careers in the arts.

Parsons’ artistic career took a significant turn in 1996 when she won Best of Show at a competitive art event in Great Falls for her traditional woman’s saddle. This accolade led her to participate in the Northern Plains Tribal Arts Show in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Her works quickly gained recognition and found permanent homes in collections across New Zealand, China, and various galleries in the United States.

Throughout her life, Parsons mastered multiple art forms, including quillwork, beadwork, clothing design, woodcarving, painting, silversmithing, and writing. She often collaborated with other Native American

artists, including her children and renowned Blackfeet beadworker Ladean Miller.

From 1994 to 2013, Parsons served as a council member of the Montana Arts Council (MAC), even holding the chairman position from 2005 until her retirement. Her contributions to the council and her community were vast, reflecting her dedication to preserving and promoting Blackfeet art.

Jackie Parsons’ artistic philosophy was rooted in using whatever materials best expressed her vision. Her creations often featured hand-tanned buckskin, seed beads, sweet grass, wood, clay, paint, feathers, shells, bones, and wool. These elements came together in dresses, vests, war bonnets, dolls, and other traditional Blackfeet items. Her goal was to intertwine past traditional art with modern techniques, preserving the past while solidifying the future of Blackfeet art.

Cinda Holt, a fellow member of MAC, praised Parsons as a teacher and source of wisdom for generations of Blackfeet women, girls, and young men. Holt highlighted Parsons’ lifelong commitment to supporting her community through art and other services, building bridges between Indian and non-Indian worlds in Montana.

One of Parsons’ most notable achievements was her role as a featured artist and curator for the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian exhibit,

“Identity by Design: Tradition, Change, and Celebration in Native Women’s Dresses.” Her work was also prominently featured in the accompanying coffee-table book. She also co-curated a 30-piece display for the Smithsonian’s rotating tribal community exhibition, “Our Peoples: Giving Voice to Our Histories.”

Reflecting on her curatorial experience, Parsons stated, “It’s really been a spiritual encounter for me to be able to let the general public know what we are all about, that we are not savages, that we have a high intelligence of life and know how to utilize our natural surroundings.”

Parsons received numerous accolades throughout her career, including the First People’s Fund’s 2008 Cultural Capital Fellowship and the 2012 Community Spirit Award. These awards celebrated her artistic excellence and her role as a cultural bearer. In 2018, Parsons was honored with the Governor’s Arts Award, recognizing her outstanding contributions to the arts in Montana.

Known by her Blackfeet name, Eck Skim Aue Kee, meaning “Woman of Iron,” Jackie Parsons embodied strength in her art, teaching, and community commitment. Her legacy will continue to inspire and influence generations of artists and community members.

Jackie Parsons will be profoundly missed, but her spirit and contributions will live on through her art and the countless lives she touched.



Arlyne Reichert
January 14, 1926-May 3, 2024

Arlyne Reichert, 98, affectionately known as “The Bridge Lady”, passed away at Peace Hospice in Great Falls, Montana on May 3, 2024, surrounded by the love of her family.

Arlyne always had a passion for improving local and state government. In 1972 she was one of 100 elected delegates to rewrite Montana’s Constitution.

Arlyne was the recipient of prestigious awards, including the Distinguished Citizens Award from the National Municipal League, Great Falls Business and Professional Women of Achievement Award, the Great Falls Heritage Preservation Award, a Humanities Montana Heroes Award, the Paris Gibson Award, a YWCA Salute to Women Award, and a Great Falls Chamber of Commerce ‘We Stand Tall’ Award.

In 1994, Arlyne mobilized a community of supporters to save the historic Tenth Street Bridge from imminent demolition. At Arlyne’s request, there will be a community-wide celebration of her life at the south end of the Historic ARCH Bridge at 1:00 pm on Saturday, September 21, 2024.



James Whitlock
June 13, 1934-May 16, 2024

James “Jim” Whitlock, 89 Hamilton passed away Thursday, May 16, 2024 at the Remington at Sapphire in Hamilton.

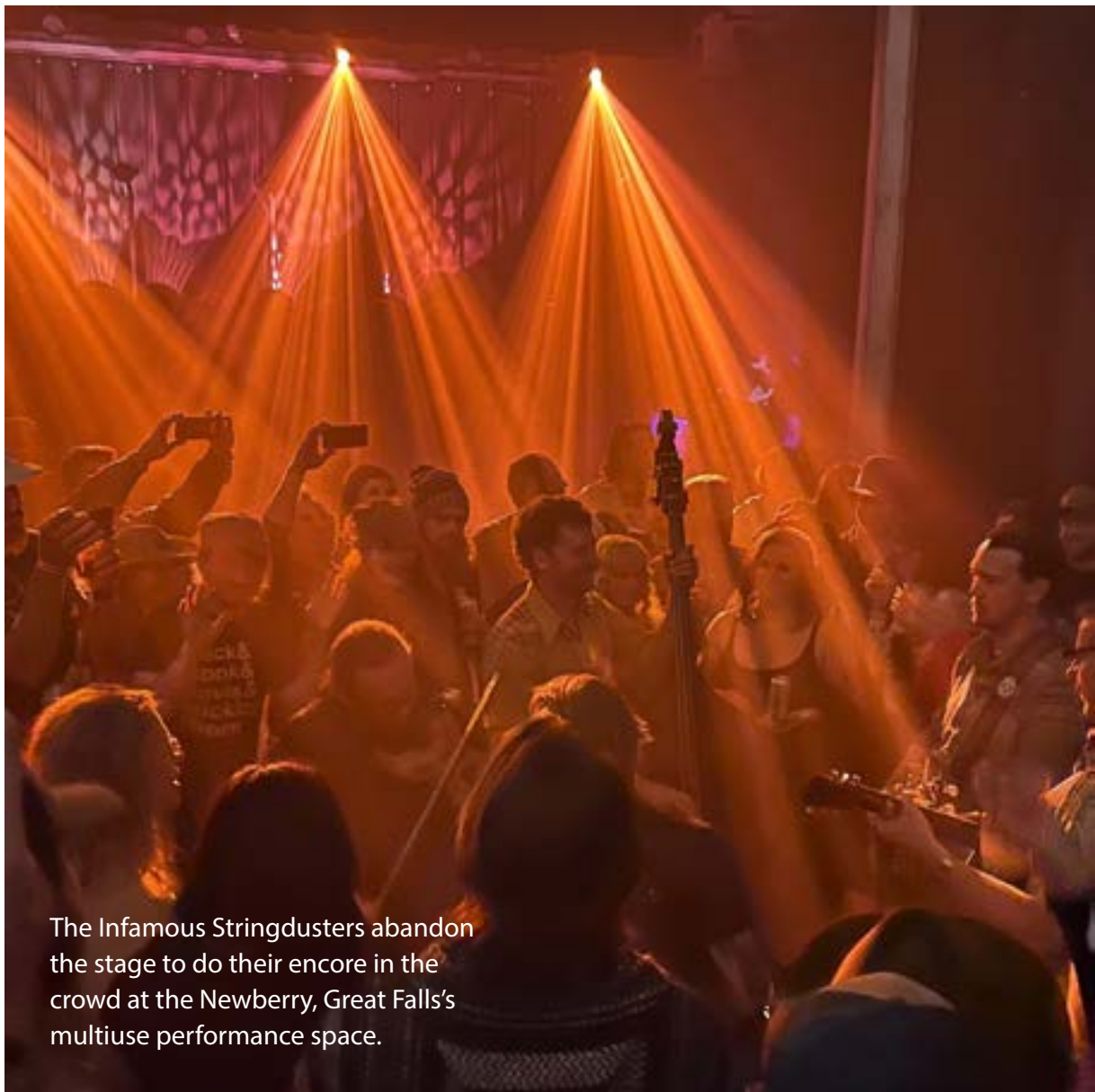
Having said since childhood that he wanted to live in the mountains; he came to Montana and the mountains looking for a job. After checking out Missoula he ended up in Hamilton and lived there the rest of his life.

When first arriving in the Bitterroot Valley he served as a Boy Scout leader, taking the boys on annual 50 mile/10 day backpacking trips. He and Jo Ann enjoyed square and round dancing. Connections through the Boy Scouts led to a job at Rocky Mountain Lab where he worked until he retired at the ripe old age of 55. He then spent summers in Alaska working for a fishing lodge and winter ski patrolling and working at Lost Trail Ski Area.

Being community minded, he served on the Ravalli County Credit Union Board of Directors, on the Montana Arts Council, on the Hamilton Zoning Board, on the Hamilton Study Commission and also served as Mayor of Hamilton for a decade.

Performing Arts

Music



The Infamous Stringdusters abandon the stage to do their encore in the crowd at the Newberry, Great Falls's multiuse performance space.



Montana Shakespeare in the Parks performs "Measure for Measure" in 2023 on the grounds of the Castle in White Sulphur Springs.

IN THE RING In White Sulphur Springs

By Eric Heidle

The week began in the most weirdly Montana way possible. On Tuesday, April 16, a most unusual jaywalker was witnessed casually threading its way through bustling midday traffic on Butte's Harrison Avenue—a full-grown Asian elephant. Montana law provides that pedestrians always have the right of way, and Mining City motorists dutifully complied—braking or even hitting reverse to clear a path. Escaped from a traveling circus set up at the nearby civic center, Viola the elephant was unharmed after a backfiring car sparked her impromptu journey toward the Flats, tailed by a scampering circus handler striving in vain to corral her. As Viola sauntered past a backdrop of corroded headframes and the terraced slopes of the Berkeley Pit, the scene resembled nothing so much as a middle-period Fellini film or high-concept TV spot for joint-pain pharmaceuticals.

Though this unlikely sequence of events took the week's prize for weirdness under the Big Sky, another happening a bit farther east provided an unusual—if more thoroughly

thought through—occurrence. And, in a way, the circus was responsible for this one too. The tiny town of White Sulphur Springs, a ranching community with its eponymous hot springs and faded railroading roots, played host to a unique musical experience by four world-class talents—in a venue like no other.

Drive west to the end of White Sulphur's Main Street and, just before the town turns to hay fields, you'll pass a stately stuccoed Victorian home brimming with gabled porches and gingerbread eaves known as the Ringling Mansion. You'll have heard of the nearby town of Ringling if you're familiar with the area—or you're a serious Parrothead. That the mayor of Margaritaville once wrote an ode to that "dyin' little town" might be as likely as an elephant hoofing its way out of uptown Butte, but Jimmy Buffett had a long association with Montana, particularly among the creative set of 1970s Livingston.

But the name Ringling should ring a bell for another reason: several generations of that wealthy family settled here, as railroaders and ranchers (though by some accounts John

Ringling spent much of his time railroading the locals into funding his ventures). But when he wasn't residing here, Ringling and his four siblings kept another big-time business going: the Ringling Brothers Circus.

Which brings us to Friday night in the living room of that mansion, which became the center ring for an evening of music by the Ahn Trio and Antigoni Goni. The Trio—sisters Angella, Lucia, and Maria—play violin, piano, and cello respectively and have played together most of their lives, in their native South Korea and here after emigrating to the States to study at the famed Juilliard School. Antigoni is a Greek guitarist based in Brussels who also studied and taught at Juilliard. And since Angella's hectic performance schedule and teaching duties at MSU don't keep her busy enough, she's also an enthusiastic member of the Arts Council.

If the players bring a unique mix of experience to the performance, they've also brought a remarkable slate of music. The first piece of the evening is David Balakrishnan's "Skylife," hard rock-inflected

and challenging, which fills the mansion’s wide parlor with invigorating noise. Next, Maria Ahn begins playing an instantly recognizable follow-up, the prelude to Bach’s Cello Suite No. 1, but after its famous first arpeggiated lines the notes descend instead of rise, effortlessly becoming another work iconic to late 20th century listeners: “Every Breath You Take” by the Police. It’s the first in a series of six works adapted by American composer Dušan Bogdanović from the songs of Police frontman Sting, and a fascinating adaptation of chamber instruments to the rhythms of pop music which itself draws from jazz, reggae, and other influences. Later, the quartet plays Atanas Ourkouzounov’s “Lamento et Rock Bulgare,” written especially for this collaboration, and paying off the evening’s overall theme: “Balkanophonia,” an affinity for music from around the Adriatic.

Another theme at work here is the love of turning unusual spaces into performance venues. Though the mansion’s parlor is no stranger to live music, this confluence of players, material, audience, and location has got to be unique. And it’s a spirit that’s been increasingly embraced statewide. Whether they’re new spaces purpose-built for performance, such as Bozeman’s Elm, or repurposed from existing sites in the way that Great Falls’ Newberry has been, entrepreneurs are reinventing these experiences in exciting ways. Helena’s Space One Eleven, for example, has shoehorned music, literature, and a “Tacos and Tassels” burlesque show into a cozy, charming space a block up from Last Chance Gulch. Even venues such as bookstores and libraries around the state have expanded their missions to include performances, cracking these spaces’ once-sacrosanct pacts of silence in the process.

The Ahn Trio and Antigoni Goni performing at the Ringling Mansion.

Even Montana’s forests prove that all the world’s a stage, as Havre’s Montana Actors’ Theatre showed last year, by staging “Macbeth” in Beaver Creek State Park—complete with witches, swords, daggers, and real live horses. Actor Jay Pyette, cofounder of the Theatre (and an Arts Council member) performed Banquo while helping mount the Scottish play, bringing together a community of actors, horse wranglers, sound techs, costumers and others to ensure that Birnam wood would indeed remove to the Hi-Line.

If Shakespeare is the ultimate performance then perhaps no one can compete, in terms of venue at least, with Montana’s champion of the Bard: Shakespeare In the Parks. For more than a half century, the Bozeman-based troupe has set up, performed, broken down, and hauled Shakespeare’s tragedies and comedies from one end of Montana to the other, using their own portable stage and whatever backdrops are available each night. That might be the badlands at Makoshika State Park, the courthouse in a town square, or even a castle. Well, perhaps The Castle, anyway. That’s the name of White Sulphur Springs’ other imposing mansion, perched atop the east end of town and where Arts Council staffers caught a performance of “Measure for Measure” the last time we were in town.

It’s no surprise that Arts Council member and workwear company founder Sarah Calhoun joined us for that show—we’d just spent a day doing strategic planning down at the Ringling

Mansion as her guest. Sarah’s not only serving the arts on our behalf, she’s also the proprietor of the mansion—or as she’s named it, the Ringling Social Club and Boarding House. It’s available for lodging and meetings and performances, and if you’re lucky you might snag a room there in late July for another little project Sarah’s been tinkering with for the last decade or so. It’s yet another innovative performance venue, and just a short drive farther west from the house. Hang a right at the round bales; follow the plywood signs and cars stuffed with happy people till you hear music. In a land of odd and wonderful confluences of unusual locales and talents and audiences, what better place to hear Keb’ Mo’ or Charley Pride or Valerie June or Emmylou Harris? That’s right; just a stone’s throw from the house the Ringlings built is a mild-mannered cow pasture that, for one long weekend each summer, becomes the Red Ants Pants Music Festival. It’s the best circus around, a high-wire act that seems to effortlessly juggle country, blues, agriculture, food, arts, and assorted good times. The rings are filled with horses and cows and sheep, and while they haven’t yet featured any lions or tigers, there’s usually a stuffed bear or two on hand at the pepper spray demo. And though you’ll probably never see a full-size elephant strolling the back pasture, well...never say never.

The ringleaders of these new big tops under the Big Sky always seem to have one more trick up their sleeve.



The Steep Canyon Rangers entertain the crowd at Red Ants Pants, with the Little Belt Mountains looking on.

Printing Music with the State Champions

We visit The State Champions’ Aaron Parrett in his Helena print shop to talk about printing presses as musical instruments, taking his guitar parts out of songs to make them better, cowriting with Ezra Pound and recording an album in an unusual venue: a studio that was once his childhood bedroom.

State of the Arts: We’re standing here leaning over this printing press...

Aaron Parrett: Right; the Vandercook. 3500 pounds.

SOA: And so the sounds that open [the song] “Vandercook,” is that this?

AP: No, that’s the C&P. [Moves to Chandler and Price platen press and begins running it.] Hear that click? The ink plate advancing. And it’s this nice little bell sound? It’s just a great sound.

SOA: So, speaking of recording, the album was recorded in the attic of the house you grew up in as a kid?

AP: That’s the best part of this whole story. The way I met Matt Strachan, the guy who did the recording, it was probably ten years ago. I get this random email from this kid, and he’s like, “Man, I found your music on the interwebs, and I really want to cover the song you wrote called ‘Stumbo Lost Wages,’” named after the breakfast dish [at Helena’s No Sweat Café]. And then I didn’t hear from him for about a year, and then he texted me one day and said, “Dude, is your mom’s name Bonnie Parrett? I think I’m living in your old house.” It turns out he put the studio in the attic of that house, which is where my bedroom was when I was in high school.

SOA: What kind of recording setup is in there?

AP: That is a very small space. In fact, it’s so small that we couldn’t record [John] Dendy up there because Dendy’s too tall and his bass is too tall.

SOA: In the bluegrass tradition, where everyone is crowded around one mic playing together...

AP: No. Opposite. My attitude about recording has always been more...Pink Floyd. You know, the more tracks, the more awesome it is. I just do my thing and then get other people to play on it.

SOA: I would imagine you get a lot of pleasant surprises because it’s not what you hear in your head, but it might be better or different in a way that you wouldn’t have thought of.

AP: The best example of that is “Vandercook,” which I wrote on the guitar. And it’s just this G-C-D progression—but it’s kind of an

AP: And you hardly ever hear it. My uncle, who grew up in Butte in the 20s and 30s, he said one thing he noticed that had changed since

he was a kid was people don’t whistle. He said, it used to be you’d go to a job site and everybody’d be whistling; walk down the street in Butte, everybody you pass by is whistling. You don’t hear that much now.

SOA: Your influences, John’s and Jon’s influences—what do you guys bring to the table that’s common or different, but that works together?

AP: Music, taste-wise, you know, John and I are both Dylan fans. We bonded pretty heavily over early Bruce Springsteen. [Jon] Flynn is a different story. I was thinking about this as I was driving around today. What I like about Flynn’s playing is he’s like a blues guy, and he’s one of the most musical people I’ve ever played with. He’s pretty quiet; he doesn’t like to sing, but he can. And he’s the only lead player.

SOA: You went to grad school in Athens, Georgia, and John’s from Alabama. So I’m wondering about Southern influences.

AP: I think most of the music that I like, the best American music, is somehow connected to

the South. Even the Grateful Dead, you know, “Tennessee Jed,” and Jerry Garcia just had this...not that I’m a Deadhead. Please don’t put that on there.

SOA: Is a lot of that coming from personal observation or experience, or is it working with the genre, or both?

AP: I think the heart and soul of this country is the South. But in my mind it includes a lot of weird things like...Montana is a southern state! Because most of the white people that came here, three quarters of the people that were living here when we became a state, were secessionist. They’d come here from the Civil War, either to get away from the “tyrannical war of Northern aggression,” or because they didn’t want to fight for slavery. I don’t know what the word is. That whole...culture, I think, it deeply affected the West, and really the rest of the country.



unusual progression—but that was the whole appealing thing about the song. And then Dendy came up with this awesome bass line that was kind of like, “My Girl.” And then when Matt was trying to finish up the song, he’s like, “The bass is just...something’s not right about it.” And I realized John inverted the chords. Matt and I were like, “Well, we could start over, right?” Or we could just cut the guitar completely out and then play to the bass track.

SOA: And the whistling, probably a little off the cuff, but the way Nann [Parrett, Aaron’s wife and collaborator] did it...

AP: What I love about her whistling is it’s not really the melody, and it seems kind of aimless and unfocused—which is exactly the vibe of the song. And I think she f----- nailed it!

SOA: There’s a long tradition of whistle solos.

Country music is southern music. And it's all about, you know, heartbreak and prison and trains, train wrecks, all that s---. And I think it doesn't matter where you're living in the country, that's a common experience to everybody. Even in Alaska.

SOA: I want to talk about “Mirror, Mirror,” which is the one song no State Champion wrote.

AP: Oh, that's a good one. *Former* State Champion. Brian Hall was one of my best friends, and he is the antithesis of this whole southern thing we're talking about. He was from upstate New York. Cooperstown. I always loved “Mirror, Mirror,” and he and I recorded it, actually, and never made it onto anything like this. When we went in to record this, I took the version that he and I made and we put that into the computer and played to that.

SOA: So that DNA is kind of in there; he's sort of the ghost State Champion on this?

AP: He really is. And we did do a gig together. Dendy, Jon Flynn, Brian and I did do one gig together. Two years before he died. In 2016. But a lot of those lines [in the song] are right out of Ezra Pound.

SOA: I was going to say the “hauntingness” of that song is punctuated by some choices you made. You sing it one way twice, and then you add the word “cause” there every other time, and it just adds another little beat.

AP: You make it sound like a conscious decision. But really what happened was I went in and played the guitar and sang it and f---- up the timing, which gave it that weird progression. But we didn't want to go and fix it because that's the first take on the vocal and I nailed it. So I've really got to give a shout out to Matt because he made all the mistakes go away and knew what to keep and what to get rid of.

SOA: Well, like “Never Was Golden.” The Saint Valentine’s Day song. That one has a really unusual....

AP: That's super weird.

SOA: And also, “Morning Came Early.”

AP: What I love about that song is it's just this little like Zen koan of a song. So it's like a minute long, but it tells a great story. And it starts out with missing a plane.

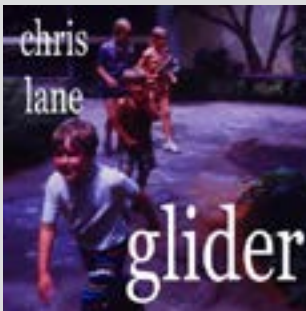
I don't know, this is kind of a downer record. But not really, because it's.... It's fun.



The State Champions’ debut album, *Independent Record*, will be available as a limited edition LP on Bandcamp, and on compact disc at an album release party on September 12 at The Myrna Loy center in Helena.

This interview has been edited for length, clarity, and cuss words.

Albums



Chris Lane’s latest album, “Glider,” is a delightful 16 minutes of acoustic alternative folk. The album, consists of 4 songs: Bulletproof, Sun Dance, Evergreen, and Skies the Limit and will help you find your happy place.
- **Downloadable Now**



Schizoid Johnny’s latest album, “Whole Lotta Luck,” is a culmination of three years of meticulous writing, rehearsing, and producing. Standout tracks include “Whole Lotta Luck,” “It’s My Winnebago,” and “He’s Alive!” As both a songwriter and poet, Johnny’s daily journaling and collection of ideas contribute to his creative process.
- **Downloadable Now**

MTPR Kids – 50 years young

By Michael Marsolek,
Program Director, Montana
Public Radio

MTPR Kids - For five decades, Montana Public Radio (MTPR) has been broadcasting children's programming in Montana. This year, we're celebrating on the air and off, with a special birthday party, concerts in the listening area by Grammy award-winning storyteller and songwriter Bill Harley, and archival moments shared throughout the year. Bill Harley had 6 concerts in the listening area and was part of a live 50th birthday party celebration on the Children's Corner in May.

KUFM first went on the air in January of 1965 on the University of Montana campus



in Missoula. In the 1970's, station manager/founding program director Terry Conrad, established not only the eclectic music service, but MTPR became one of the early stations to carry the new flagship programming from National Public Radio (NPR's All Things Considered). Later, Terry decided KUFM should have content for younger listeners, so with help from his wife, Germaine Conrad, The Pea Green Boat went on the air with songs and stories for children.

Beloved longtime hosts Marcia Dunn (23 years), Annie Garde (18 years), and Sam Manno (30+ years) created programs with stories, songs, special guests, radio dramas, and kids from our region.

Today's children's programs are The Pea Green Boat—the longest continuously running children's radio program in America—and The Children's Corner. Current hosts Vicki Chaney (The Pea Green Boat, M-F from 4-5 pm) and Sam Manno (The Children's Corner, Saturdays from 8 to 9:30 am) create this radio oasis for the young and the young at heart. I pledge to offer our radio oasis to the young and the young at heart today and into the future. MTPR Kids – 50 years and counting.

Montana Public Radio is the statewide public radio service based at the University of Montana in Missoula. The network includes 14 full-power FM transmitters and 3 translators as of spring 2024. The service covers most of Western and Central Montana over the air, from Great Falls to Hamilton and from Eureka and Libby to Dillon. In the summer of 2024, there will be new service broadcasting for the first time in Philipsburg and Browning.

Online listening and podcasts are featured through www.mtpr.org. MTPR is an NPR affiliate station and features 50% music programs and 50% news, public affairs, literary, and children's programming each week. In the model of eclectic public broadcasting, there is a great variety of programs. At MTPR, we are proud to note that half of the service is produced locally and half is national and syndicated programs.





North Valley Music School Breaks Ground on New Building and Campus

By Jessica Shaw

Kalispell’s North Valley Music School (NVMS) proudly announced the groundbreaking for its new music school, marking a significant milestone in the institution’s 26-year history. The ceremony took place on Friday, April 19, 2024, at the Smith Fields site, with esteemed guests including Mayor John Muhlfeld, Be Instrumental campaign donors, NVMS families, faculty, staff, board members, design and construction team members, and advisors in attendance.

NVMS has long been cherished in the Whitefish community for its dedication to enriching lives through the transformative power of music education. Currently impacting the lives of 696 registered students of all ages and abilities, NVMS has granted almost \$27,000 in scholarships to 44 students this year alone. Beyond offering private and group music instruction, NVMS provides opportunities for underprivileged youth and students of all backgrounds through concerts, workshops, and outreach programs.

The groundbreaking ceremony marks the final phase of the capital campaign to fully fund the new school, scheduled to open in Fall 2025. With widespread community support, including 500+ donors, NVMS has raised \$5.2 million of the \$7.5 million goal for the project and a permanent endowment fund.

Situated on a 2.2-acre parcel of land generously donated by Project Whitefish Kids and the City of Whitefish, the school will be a modern facility dedicated to fostering creativity and learning. Spanning 8,100 square feet, the facility will feature 15 studios, two practice rooms, a 100-seat multipurpose performance space, and a large group classroom. The campus will also offer safe drop-off zones, ample parking, acoustical treatments for improved sound quality, and a welcoming waiting area. The building’s materials and colors are consistent with the surrounding



structures, ensuring a harmonious integration into the neighborhood while prioritizing durability and ease of maintenance.

“The future home of NVMS is carefully designed to address the growing demand for music education in our community,” said Christine Rossi, NVMS Board Chair. **“Engineered to cater to our recent and projected growth in student enrollment, the facility will provide ample space for expanded program offerings and also eliminate the need to rent off-campus studios and performance spaces.”**

With \$2.3 million in additional funding still needed to fully fund the project, NVMS encourages the community to support the realization of this vision. Donors can contribute to the capital campaign through various avenues including one-time donations, naming opportunities, pledges, legacy gifts, corporate matches, and gifts of appreciated stock. For those seeking a creative way to support the school, donors can purchase a music note for the NVMS Music Tree, an art installation inside the new building inspired by the traditional brick campaign concept.

For more information and to donate to Be Instrumental, please visit **NVMS.me** or **contact Christine Rossi, Board Chairperson for North Valley Music School at christine@rossi1.com.**

Theater



Imaginative Hope

By Matt Foss
Photography by Shawn Raecke

As audience members look through their program each year, there are usually photos of favorite plays, alumni who they might recognize from past seasons, or a brief rundown on the history of Montana’s Shakespeare In the Parks. But there’s this thing in almost any theatrical endeavor that we perceive but rarely talk about and isn’t included in those notes we read in those short minutes after arriving and before the play starts. It permeates every stitch, every syllable, every sword fight we experience when bringing a story to the stage ... all of us together.

It could be called Hope.

It is a kind of imaginative hope that runs through the foundation of those truly affecting and meaningful theatrical experiences and one that is central to the story of Montana Shakespeare in the Parks.

There’s the hope the audience members bring with them that a play will transport them for the few short hours, that lets them add their imaginations to the mix with those of countless other artists to bring a play to life.

You may be hard pressed to find an art form that is more reliant on this hopeful form of speculation than theatre, since the whole process is fundamentally rooted in uncertainty: will all the parts come together, will the story prove true or funny, will the audience come at all, and will we be able to pull off this little miracle together.

It requires an almost Quixotic hope that it is going to work and that it is worthwhile to keep trying night after night to seek out something excellent.

Each night, the people who have worked for months without an audience tilt at the same windmill as that brand new audience coming to see the show all in the name of seeing what is going to happen, what is going to be possible at this moment, with these people, in this place. In an instant it happens, is unique, then is gone till the next show, the next town, the next year.

There may not be a theatre company in the world that sits so squarely and marvelously inside that uncertainty and hope than Montana Shakespeare in the Parks.

Though throughout the summer or the school year, the costumes stay the same and the actors say the same words, and those moments we share never will be the same again. The play is just a series of shared moments between the people on the stage and in the audience,

there for just a brief two hour’s traffic before everybody packs it up and tries to find the next day’s best version of what we all just made together.

Unlike a lot of theatres, the company is blessed with a long and meaningful relationship with the audience. There’s a knowledge that one of the best audiences you’ve ever had the privilege of working with and for is going to be there that day.

We may not always know if the weather is going to hold and there’s always the risk of rogue wildlife or kids or Frisbees joining the action on stage. Anybody who has toured Montana or seen a Montana Shakespeare in the Parks production knows it’s different doing theatre out here.

Much of that starts with Bruce Jacobson’s idea that art in general, and theatre in particular, should be free and available to all the people out west. He took something that is often



traded like a commodity, and sought to transform the company into something more akin to a fundamental right and basic service to the citizens of a community.

They had done something like this in New York’s Central Park. For a while, they took shows out on the back of flatbed trucks to bring the stories to the streets. They tried that again recently, and there are a few companies who have taken a swing as well.

But few, maybe none, have been doing it like Montana Shakes, for as long as Montana Shakes, and as well over those fifty years.

With three tours and additional and ancillary programming and shows, MSIP offers almost 12 months of theatre and outreach each year, seeking to remove those traditional barriers that keep folks from coming to plays, bringing the work to the communities and offering them in their parks, schools, and familiar places free of charge all year round.

Much of this expansion of reach and deepening in mission happened while our beloved Joel Jahnke was the artistic director. Joel led the company for almost 34 years, overseeing growing the tour to more cities, bringing in world class actors and directors and shepherding the innovative education programs into a vital part of the company.

Joel was my boss when I joined the company in 2003 for the most important job I have ever had. I had seen the company while working as a wildlife biologist in Red Lodge. It’s a long story how you go from chasing elk in the Beartooths to carrying a spear at Chicago Shakespeare, but that’s where they found me and took a chance on me as a young and epically green actor.

Kevin Asselin was one of the company managers on that tour too, along with an ensemble of actors, designers, directors, stage managers, technicians, and host families and audience members across the region that changed my life.

And my story is not that unique. Most folks have a transformational experience like that. Across all the years, across all the artists, it comes back to this last best place and some of the best folks in the world who make a commitment to stories and imagination, and art, and hope, in a time when it is so urgently necessary.

There are people and families across the state who remain meaningful parts of my life to this day. Twenty years since my first tour, I now have former students joining the company.

When they ask me what they should expect, I share that telling stories is a privilege and a service, and doing it for this company means you are an ambassador for something bigger than yourselves. If you let yourself be open to this place, these people, you will be

fundamentally changed because of their quality and grit and good heartedness.

And like Joel, I would struggle keeping down the tears because of the quiet knowing of how powerful the experience of meeting you all each evening in your parks or each morning in your schools would truly be.

Because the story and history of Montana Shakespeare in the Parks is intrinsically tied to the stories and history of you, the audience. It’s a collaboration and commitment bonded by hope that the show is going to go on and we’re going to find a way together to make sure it does.



Matt Foss, Director
Matt Foss received his M.F.A. in acting from Chicago’s Roosevelt University and Ph.D. in theatre studies and directing from Wayne State University in Detroit. Recent professional credits include Red Tape Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Oracle Theatre, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, American Blues Theatre, The Jewish Ensemble Theatre and Tipping Point Theatre.



We Are All Related: Netting Community

By Jennifer Woodcock-Medicine Horse

The baneful effects upon human society from addictive technology such as cell phones, the horrors of social media gone very wrong, and, perhaps the mere existence of the internet—the World Wide Web—are a frequently heard refrain. Especially from those who have not found a personal use for these tools in their own lives. The theme for this summer issue of State of the Arts, Changing Venues, offers an opportunity to take a critical look at this cluster of related topics from an Indigenous perspective reflecting back on the strictures of COVID isolation. To preface, I should disclose that I am an avid apologist for the positive potential of technology. The perils of online bullying, phishing scams, and identity theft are obvious and perhaps overshadow some of the good, which we can examine here. We are all personally familiar with cultural geography—we are born into a material world, live our lives trodding upon the ground, and when we walk on, our remains are resorbed by the earth in some fashion, if we are not shot out into space a la Jeff Bezos or SpaceX.

Cultural geography is the intersection between our natural world and human beings. Indigenous cultures around the planet are often referred to as “land-based cultures” because of an intimate relationship with their local environments built over tens of thousands of years. I would suggest that the Anthropocene, our latest geological era fundamentally shaped by the actions of humans, has ushered in a second form of geography. Gentle reader, (sorry, too much Bridgerton) please shut your eyes and imagine standing up from where you are sitting, walking to your car or bike, going to the grocery store, buying an avocado and then going to your bookstore or library to find a book with a good guacamole recipe, then returning home to your kitchen and making your food. You have just visualized a mental map—we are each replete with mental maps derived from our visual memories of places visited. It is also possible to have mental maps of places we have not visited in person. I have a vivid mental map and borrowed memory of my grandmother storming out of our ranch house to shoot eggs out of the belly of a satiated rattlesnake asleep in the rafters of our hen house—an incident for which I was not present, but witnessed by my father as a young child and related in lurid detail. In such fashion, we visit the World Wide Web—an ethereal geography, but as real in the mind as a material geography recollected from memory. For example, in the morning, I check email at three locations, take a look at the Facebook posts of friends and acquaintances around the world, and check several news services reporting text, images and video from across the globe. I am particularly fond of checking in on an elephant refuge website in Thailand that posts their elephants’ latest paintings.

Although the still images and text available prior to the internet allowed one a rough estimate of experiencing far locales, the internet brings a previously unattainable accuracy and immediacy regarding place and events. It is this aspect of the convergence of mental mapping, cultural geography of land and internet, and Indigenous cultural values that I would like to explore. In previous articles I have touched on the remarkable work of Carrie Moran McCleary, the Social Distance Powwow, and the National Museum of the American Indian’s Native Knowledge 360 initiative—here I will take a closer look at how each have availed themselves of the positive potential of the internet to foster community and connections among people remote in physical location.

Stories From Bead Night:

It was my good fortune to chat about this recently with Carrie Moran McCleary, fashion designer and proprietor of Plains Soul. Moran McCleary lives in the remote Apsáalooke community in Eastern Montana, but has friends all over, perhaps due to a combination of an effervescent personality and being exceedingly good at what she does. Into time immemorial, like-minded artists have sought the camaraderie of shared time within their communities. The twentieth century brought a variety of venues such as powwows, museum events and juried art fairs such as SWAIA that provided both an economic opportunity to sell work, but also an ephemeral

opportunity to meet and interact with artists from distant locations. Unfortunately, just as a possible friendship kindled, it was time to part ways.

Of course, methods for bridging far distances have long been available—the postal service has been operational in the United States since the 1700s. The landline telephone was introduced in the early 1900s and by the 1960s, 80 million landline telephones were in service. However, it is difficult to share a beadwork technique over the phone. Initially the internet and email were used for academic, scientific, military and commercial purposes and the concept of a market for personal computers was considered laughable. The World Wide Web was invented by a British scientist, Tim Berners-Lee, in 1989 for academic purposes, transferring information via HTTP—hyper text transfer protocol. In 1993 it was released to the public domain, and within a decade became a part of daily life. By the late 1990s, Apple cracked the personal market for home computers, and email for personal use simultaneously became widespread. The Blackberry smart phone was introduced in 1999, and added an email app in 2002, untethering access to email. Facebook launched in 2004 and introduced its livestream video platform in 2007. The iPhone was also launched in 2007. Zoom went public in 2013; by April 2020 during the COVID pandemic Zoom hosted 300 million meeting participants daily. In short, over an eye blink of history—a mere twenty years—we have shifted from a world in which communication was relatively distanced—the tracings of a hand in a letter, or a disembodied voice echoing down steel phone lines—to a world in which ubiquitous smart phones offers instant access to live video conversations across continents.

The World Economic Forum reports that in 2022 there were 8.58 billion mobile phone subscriptions, servicing a world population of 7.95 billion. Whereas laptop or tablet computers may well be unaffordable for much of the world’s billions, clearly, smart phones are ubiquitous and with the explosion of cross platform apps, iPhone or Android phone users are easily able to share video communication services such as Zoom.



Amy Deer (Winnebago/Siangu Lakota), Tatanka on the Prairie. Stories From Bead Night. 2024 Show. Image courtesy Carrie Moran McCleary. <https://www.rockyourbeads.com/exhibit2024>

Returning to my conversation with Carrie Moran McCleary, she shatters the cultural concept of “traditional” being rooted in yesteryear with the simple statement, “So, I mean, you know, Indians when we find something new, we’re gonna glom onto it.” This includes technology. She explained how access to the internet has supported the businesses of beadworkers:

For us, the internet has been an equalizer as small businesses, because while a big chunk of our business is local, people always talk about shop local, NO one shops local like Indians because they can’t go nowhere to go buy bead work. They’re not going to go to Billings to go buy beadwork. They’re gonna buy it from a beader, right? Which is gonna be local if they’re on the rez. It has made it an equalizer of people who maybe had seen something somewhere, but they don’t have the opportunity to buy that locally. You know, that’s the big difference. If you’re in large parts of the country, there isn’t anywhere to buy it locally. You can, you know, type in beadwork and something will come up online. So that that’s great for our businesses.



Salisha Old Bull (Salish/Apsaalooke), *Meadowlark Will Tell You*. Stories From Bead Night. 2024 Show. Image courtesy Carrie Moran McCleary. <https://www.rockyourbeads.com/exhibit2024>

Aside from pragmatic business purposes, Moran McCleary discussed her use of technology to bring her beading circle into a new form. She recalls that “what happened was people would come in my booth all the time and they would be like, I used to bead, but I don’t have anybody to bead with.” Thus was born in 2018 the first iteration of weekly Rock Your Beads night, on Facebook Messenger live videostreaming. Moran McCleary’s online beading group grew to include members across the US and Canada. When COVID hit, requiring strict isolation, folks got bored and stir crazy. Moran McCleary connected with Adam Garnet Jones, a filmmaker and beader who had moved a local beading group in Toronto online during the pandemic. Her daughter suggested moving Rock Your Beads to Zoom, and in March 2020 held their first Zoom meeting:

I remember the first week we had eleven people and my mom also, is in her eighties, and she’s like, “I don’t get this. What’s going? How do you want to bead with people you don’t know?” and I’m like, “well, we have a lot in common, we’re all bead-ers, you know?” And you find out quickly how much you do have in common, and we all have. I think, as Native people, when you get together in the room, we all have a similar story. We don’t have the same traditions about beadwork or about technology or about so many values you have in your world like grief or joyful times or, you know, whatever, but you still have a similar story. You have similar background, trauma makes you have a lot in common and so, I think that’s why we bond so quickly, you know, right away... Bonded really quickly. It was just crazy how quickly we bonded. And there were people from here, you know, at home on, but, people got tight, quick, you know, but in many ways that was your only contact for the week maybe with outside people not in your household.



Monica Jo Raphael (Anishinaabe/Lakota), *Bagosinem, God’s Garden Hat*. Stories From Bead Night. 2024 Show. Image courtesy Carrie Moran McCleary. <https://www.rockyourbeads.com/exhibit2024>

Moran McCleary related how she recalled that in her mother’s generation, women spent a considerable amount of time together on a regular basis, building friendships without feeling guilty about social time spent away from chores—something that was lost in our busy modern world, until COVID brought the world to a standstill. She discusses some of the value she has found in the online group:

I think the other thing that happened to our bead night was that I became interested in how now we have this community, what can we do to help one another? Like professionally or spiritually or mentally or whatever... I come from a long line of educators, not necessarily professional educators, so we’re always thinking about education... I think the biggest, most impactful person was - we had Nina Sanders come on, at some point a few months in, and she talked to everybody about art markets and how art markets could make a tremendous change. Change in the trajectory of your work. And not everybody on there was a professional beader. A lot of people are, you know, side hustle bead-ers, some people are just beading their kids outfit, but a big chunk of people were, interested in a full time art gig. So Nina was at that time on the board for SWAIA, and, she’s from here. She had just been a curator for the Apsaalooke Women and Warriors exhibit in Chicago.

The opportunity for mentorship and support for emerging artists is something Moran McCleary noted about the online Bead Night group:

Of course, obviously you’re doing similar work, you know, and it’s so fun to be able to talk to people about it. I mean we’re all very cautious about not revealing anything that would be inappropriate, but we can say, “oh, we don’t use this color. Our tribe doesn’t use this color for this reason or we don’t do this or that.” And it’s very interesting to learn about other people’s traditions. We love that. We love that. People are working on their outfit and they’ll say, “well, we make this this way because of this, and we make this this way,” you know, hearing all of those, sharing those stories. And I think it gives an artist more confidence as they’re sharing those stories - especially budding artists because art is a story. No matter what you’re making, it’s gonna be a story. Otherwise it’s not going to be great art, you know? So, learning how to share

that story has a lot to do with your success financially as an artist. So, you know, maybe that was really good for all of us too. But anyway, Nina Sanders came on, told everybody like you gotta start going to the art market. Here’s what happens and you make this really big piece and then you take it to this market and this market and this market and explaining all this stuff to us and I remember we got off the phone, we were all like, oh my god. So that first. Last year a bunch of us went to the Heard (juried art market) even though there wasn’t a physical market that year. I think there was three of us. Next year was five and we now average like there’ll be I think it was 2022. There were seven people from Bead Night at the Heard.

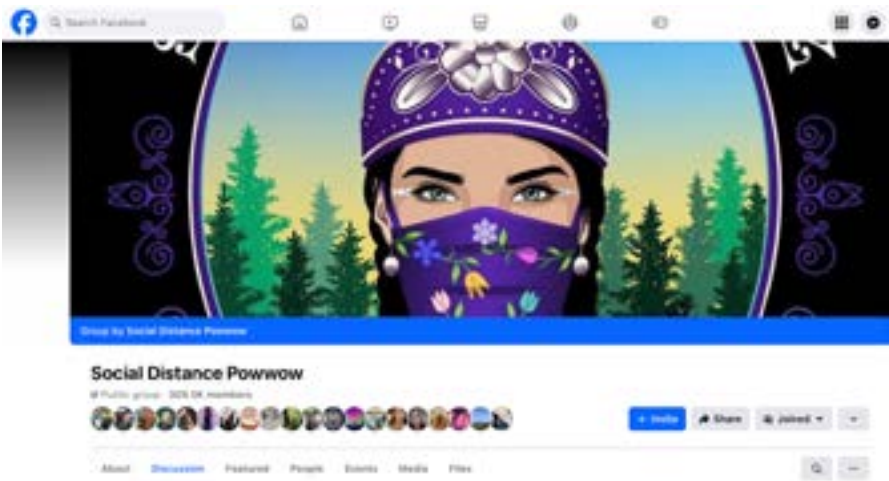
A particularly valuable aspect of Rock Your Beads is that in addition to the value to the members themselves, they have created a website, Stories from Bead Night (<https://www.rockyourbeads.com>) featuring 2023 and 2024 online exhibits and artist profiles, allowing the public a peek into the remarkable work being done by this talented and diverse group of artists.



(Left Image) **Joel Hernandez (Navajo/Sicangu Lakota),** *Dragonfly Finds Water*. Stories From Bead Night. 2024 Show. Image and text courtesy Carrie Moran McCleary. <https://www.rockyourbeads.com/exhibit2024>

(Right Image) **Joel Hernandez Sage Pin Povi Mountain Flower (Ohkay Owingeh/Taos Pueblo/Navajo Nation),** *Black for the Lady*. Stories From Bead Night. 2024 Show. Image and text courtesy Carrie Moran McCleary. <https://www.rockyourbeads.com/exhibit2024>

Social Distance Powwow:



Social Distance Powwow. Facebook home page. June 2024. Imagery courtesy Dan Simonds.

In contrast to the intimate blossoming of community hosted in Moran McCleary’s Bead Nights, Social Distance Powwow, cofounded in March 2020 by Dan Simonds (Mashuntucket Pequot), Whitney Rencountre (Crow Creek Hunkpati Dakota) and Stephanie Hebert (First Nations Mi’kmaq) addressed the disruption of COVID on a continental scale, and has continued unabated to the present. Simonds and his compatriots realized in the first quarter of 2020 that the extensive quarantining required to combat the spread of the pandemic would be catastrophic for a wide swathe of Indian Country—economically for everyone dependent on selling their artwork or crafts on the powwow circuit, competition dancers and drummers, and socially for those who connect annually with friends and relations at powwow gatherings. Powwows offer the opportunity for toddlers and youth dancers to learn from more experienced dancers, and an opportunity to appreciate the style and technique of dancers with decades of experience. They are the venue for showcasing a year’s worth of refinement of technique in dancing, drumming, singing, and creation of glorious regalia. The level of shock, disappointment and financial precarity related to the loss of the powwows cannot be overestimated. This catastrophe needed a solution and Simonds brainstormed a solution—the Social Distance Powwow, hosted on Facebook. He contacted Stephanie Hebert to assist with administrating the Facebook page membership, and Whitney Rencountre to serve as the online powwow emcee. Together, they launched the Social Distance Powwow (SDP) site and within a month had approximately 165,000 members. Today, a little over four years later, the site has 309,500 members.

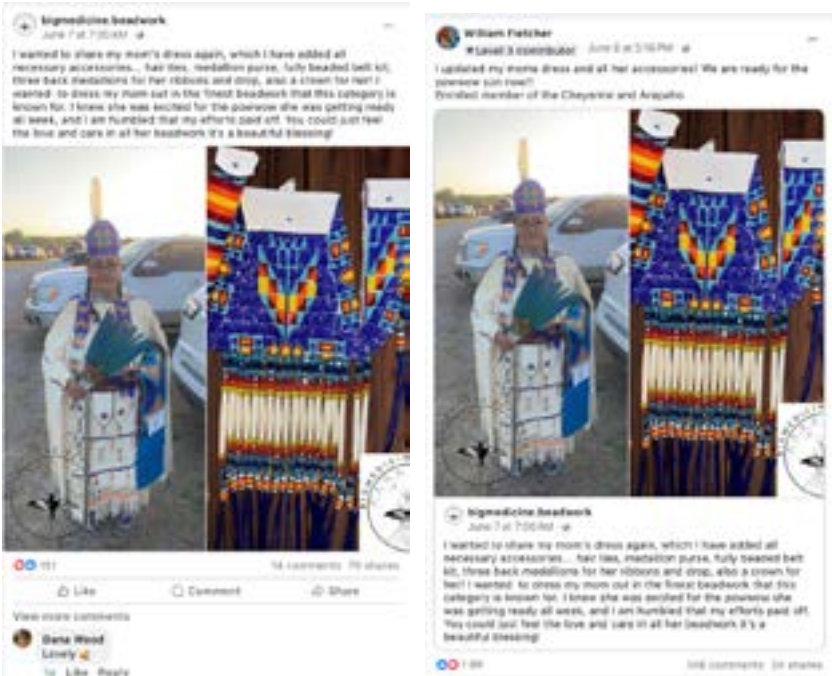


These beautiful aunties giving it their all. Heather Ashley posting on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 16, 2024. Imagery courtesy Erin Hill.

Clearly, the Social Distance Powwow filled a desperate need during the quarantine period of the pandemic, but what is quite interesting is that it has maintained a robust membership and activity to the present day. In an April 22, 2020 interview with Liza Black, Stephanie Herbert reflects:

I mean, we're getting messages from people saying that this has prevented them from committing suicide. We've got people messaging us that this is the only way that their grandparents will get to see them dance or the last time they saw their family member before they passed away from any number of reasons was dancing for the Social Distance Powwow. I get really emotional thinking about it... And it's humbling more than anything... A lot more people know who we are now than a few months ago. But you know what, at the end of the day, that doesn't matter. And I can safely say that about the three of us, the notoriety is not, we don't care, what we care about is that we're able to help. And these dancers are being able to dance. As a side effect to the size of this page, we were able to create the Social Distance Powwow Marketplace for all those vendors and artisans that I was talking about. And that is growing every day hand over fist. And we're getting messages from vendors saying that this has kept their business afloat, this has kept their lights on, this has kept the roof over their head. And, and that is the essence of it is that we're giving people hope. We don't allow politics or virus talk or any of that in there. This is a vacation from all that. It's a place where we don't have to worry. And it's a place where we can be ourselves and smile and laugh and not feel guilty for doing so.

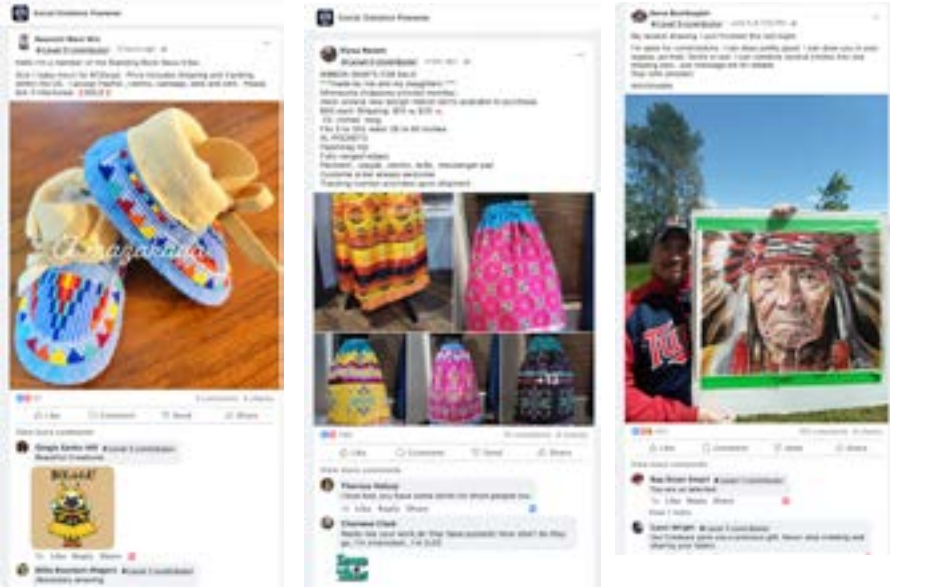
The positive tone established and monitored by Simonds and Hebert from the very beginning persists to the present, and can be observed both by the notable absence of internet trolls making cutting remarks, and by the consistent presence of appreciative comments and reposting of achievements. For example, bigmedicine. beadwork, a beadwork company owned by a Cheyenne family in El Reno, Oklahoma, posted images of their magnificent beadwork for their mother's regalia. The following day, this post was reposted by William Fletcher. The BigMedicine family have gained three thousand followers, a solid base of admirers upon which to base their business. Small family businesses don't tend to have large advertising budgets, so this kind of reposting serves as free advertising to an audience predisposed to be appreciative.



(Left Image) I wanted to share my mom's dress again. Bigmedicine.beadwork posting on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 7, 2024. Imagery courtesy Bigmedicine.beadwork;

(Right Image) I wanted to share my mom's dress again. William Fletcher repost of Bigmedicine.beadwork on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 8, 2024. Imagery courtesy Bigmedicine.beadwork.

The identification of creating a marketplace for Native artists to sell their work was expedient in 2020 for all who lost their powwow circuit venues that summer, but over the intervening four years, it has become clear that having this online platform is tremendously useful. If one skims Instagram, coming across any particular artist is a hit or miss proposition. Skimming down through postings on the SDP page one sees all the most recent vendors—everyone from youngsters selling a few simple pieces, to professionals such as Elysa Nason, a prolific seamstress of exceptional ribbon skirts, to Gene Boshkaykin, promoting his commissioned artwork. Awanchi Mani Win posted a pair of beautiful baby moccasins and they were sold within a few hours. Having access to this monitored Facebook page with 309,500 members is an outstanding feature of the benefit that internet based technology can offer Native artists. It is very difficult to imagine another scenario in which their sales cost would be so low and their exposure to potential buyers so high.

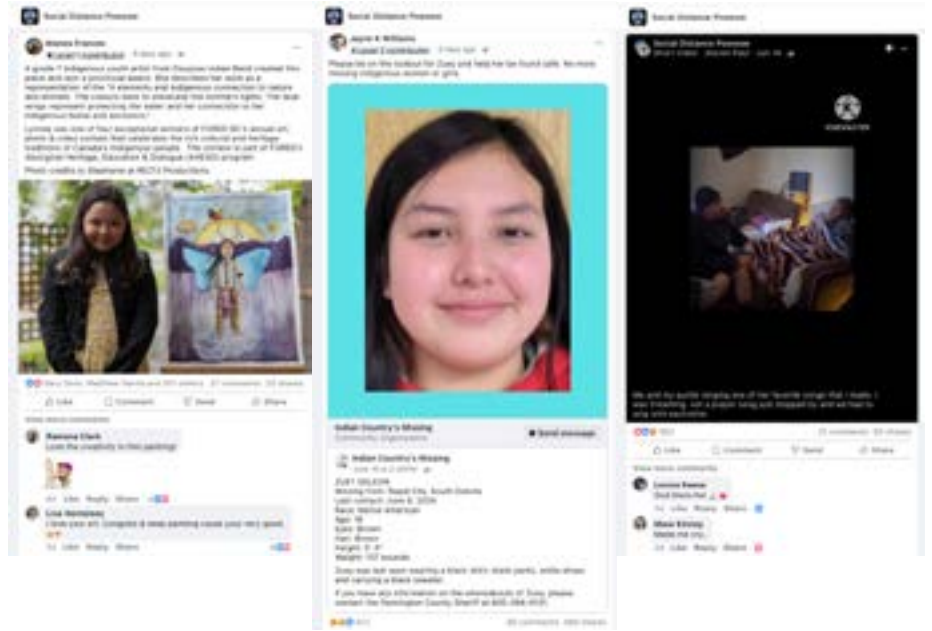


(Left Image) Size 1 baby mocs for \$120USD. Awanchi Mani Win posting on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 17, 2024. Imagery courtesy Awanchi Mani Win

(Middle Image) RIBBON SKIRTS FOR SALE. Elysa Nason posting on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 16, 2024. Imagery courtesy Elysa Nason

(Right Image) Hello, my name is Gene, I am open for commissions. Gene Boshkaykin posting on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 16, 2024. Imagery courtesy Gene Boshkaykin

Aside from the benefits of being able to sell or binge shop art, jewelry or clothing online, the SDP serves an important social purpose akin to the role of small town daily newspapers of yesteryear. Alanea Frances posted regarding Lynnea, a 7th grader who won a prestigious prize for her artwork. The post spurred 21 glowing comments and 20 shares—the kind of positive response that one could wish for the child and her proud family. On a more sombre note, Jayne K Williams reposted Indian Country's Missing's MMIP post regarding Zuey Deleon. A significant component to why the MMIP problem persists has been a blatant disregard by the mainstream media—this forum allows these crucial missing persons notices to gain exposure. Unique to the internet is the ability to create and post videos, in the case of Steven Paul, a video of him singing with his elderly auntie. During COVID a great many people lost their elderly relatives without having the ability to spend time or say goodbye. This kind of poignant shared moment clearly touched hearts with 31 comments and 60 shares.



(Left Image) A grade 7 Indigenous youth artist... won a provincial award. Alanea Frances posting on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 11, 2024. Imagery courtesy Stephanie at REZ13 Productions.

(Middle Image) Please be on the lookout for Zuey. Jayne K Williams reposting Indian Country's Missing post on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 14, 2024. Imagery courtesy Indian Country's Missing.

(Right Image) Me and my auntie singing one of her favorite songs that I made. Steven Paul posting on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 14, 2024. Imagery courtesy Steven Paul.

And finally, the powwow part of the Social Distance Powwow. During COVID one can only imagine the frustration of practicing one’s dances or songs all year, and then having the opportunity to perform simply evaporate. At that time, SDP was packed with videos people took of their performances and uploaded. Although it is natural to focus on the opportunity for the performers, many people come to powwows not to perform, but to appreciate and take in the dancing, drumming, and singing. Visiting the SDP site provides the opportunity not only to watch the performance, but to watch it repeatedly—if one is a young dancer studying techniques, for example. There is a great deal of bad news in the world, so bright spots are valuable. Kristina Clark brought cheer to many with her post regarding taking her blind uncle into the powwow circle to dance with her. The lead for the North Hill Singers provides excellent photos and an evocative account of managing up to sixteen youth singers at the Yakama Nation Treaty Days Powwow. Although we are back in person, the messaging capacity of SDP to keep hundreds of thousands of interested people informed on a wide variety of topics and events is invaluable as demonstrated by the thriving website post-COVID.

For example, Simonds reminds us of the Social Distance Powwow In-Person Marketplace featuring 25 artists and a Native fashion show on November 29th-30th at the Emerson Center for the Arts. In case you forgot to get your Christmas presents at the MSU American Indian Council Spring powwow.



(Left Image) Saturday I was blessed to take my fully blind uncle into the powwow circle. Kristina Clark posting on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 11, 2024. Imagery courtesy Kristina Clark.

(Middle Image) Social Distance Powwow In-person Marketplace. Dan Simonds posting on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 16, 2024. Imagery courtesy Dan Simonds.

(Right Image) YAKAMA NATION TREATY DAYS POWWOW. North Hill Singers posting on Social Distance Powwow, Facebook discussion page. June 12, 2024. Imagery courtesy North Hill Singers.

Sources:
Facebook: Social Distance Powwow
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/socialdistancepowwow/>
Transcript of Interview with Stephanie Herbert by Liza Black. April 22, 2020 Interviewer: Liza Black
Interviewee: Stephanie Herbert Location: Nova Scotia, Canada Transcriber: Sally Velez
<https://covid-19archive.org/files/original/ea78bc6cafd07f8ce6d7a2693b0f249ebe4be02c.pdf>

Native Knowledge 360, The NMAI reaches out:



Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of the American Indian, Native Knowledge 360. <https://americanindian.si.edu/nk360>

Since its inception, the NMAI has made excellent use of digital resources such as online exhibitions and webinars to carry ideas and information about the Indigenous cultures of the Americas far beyond its stone walls on the Washington DC Mall. Native Knowledge 360 (NK360) was created under the direction of Edwin Schupman, Manager of National Education, now retired. In 2012 the NMAI conducted a survey of US K-12 textbooks regarding Native American subject matter—which was found to be almost entirely lacking or if present, seriously misinformed. The dismaying results of their analysis led the NMAI to commit to address this reprehensible lack of accurate material for K-12 teachers. Schupman turned to the one state making progress in this area. In 1972 Montana passed a constitutional mandate requiring American Indian Education for all, and in 1999 passed the Indian Education For All (IEFA) act, this time with implementation funding. The Montana Office of Public Instruction provides IEFA lessons, resources, and support for K-12 teachers. Schupman formed working relationships with Montana IEFA specialists, and with the National Council for the Social Studies, developing a plan for building a national education resource. His team worked hard, and in 2018 NK360 was launched with a ten point document - NK360 Framework for Essential Understandings About American Indians, and four teaching modules designed for grades 4-12: *Northern Plains Treaties*, *Pacific Northwest History and Culture*, *Pacific Northwest Fish Wars*, and *Inka Road Innovations*. Subsequently additional lessons were added, *American Indian Removal*, *The “Sale” of Manhattan*, *The Impact of the Gold Rush on Native Americans of California*, *Life Along the River: The Pamunkey Indian Tribe of Virginia*, *Haudenosaunee Lands and the American Revolution*, and *American Indian Responses to Environmental Problems*. The lessons are very well designed both in terms of content as well as graphic design and ease of use. They include interviews with Native experts and source documents. The NK360 team provide teacher development workshops and frequent webinars to expand their capacity.

This carefully crafted educational material meticulously redacts and corrects the hegemonic historiography still perpetuated in many textbooks. Significant in this context is that it was carefully constructed to be used online by teachers and students. During the COVID quarantine, most K-12 classes were forced online at a moment’s notice, with very little time to convert class lessons from an in-person format to an online approach—quite a different matter entirely. At that time, much of the body of existing lessons available to teachers online was, in a word, dreadful. In addition to the NK360 lessons and resources, the NMAI offers a dozen online exhibitions, as well as a YouTube channel, for example. At a time when all communities suffered from short resources, painful isolation and excruciating boredom, this masterful use of the internet to disburse free classroom materials across a broad spectrum, interesting and easy to use, was a great boon in the moment to those who availed themselves of these resources. In terms of netting community, one could speculate that there may be some longer lasting gain. Because these lessons are so well crafted and engaging one could expect that they would leave young students interested and curious to learn more. Ignorance is the bedrock for hate and racism—so perhaps a seed or two of allyship was planted with these lessons during the bleak period of online k-12 classes.



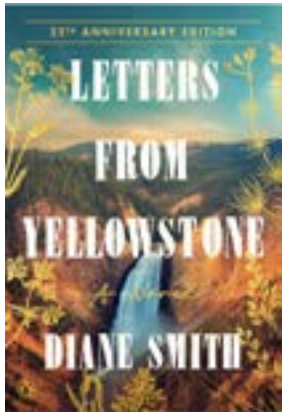
Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of the American Indian, Native Knowledge 360. *In The Spotlight*, June 2024. <https://americanindian.si.edu/nk360>

Sources:
National Museum of the American Indian. Smithsonian Institution. Native Knowledge 360. <https://americanindian.si.edu/nk360>
NK360 Framework for Essential Understandings About American Indians
<https://americanindian.si.edu/nk360/pdf/NMAI-Essential-Understandings.pdf>



Jennifer Woodcock-Medicine Horse
Program Director • *IndigenEyes: Contemporary Native American Art of the Rocky Mountain West*;
Adjunct Faculty MSU Dept. of Art History
Photo courtesy of Jennifer Woodcock-Medicine Horse

Books



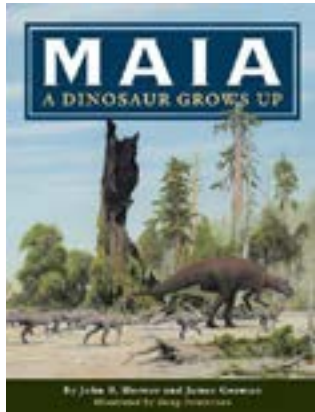
Letters From Yellowstone: 25th Anniversary Edition

*With a new introduction
by the author
by Diane Smith*

“A delightful trip through turn of the century Yellowstone . . . Bartram is as spunky a heroine as we could desire...the story also becomes a commentary on science and shared truth . . . Readers will find themselves caught up in the stories of these people and their lives.”
—The Portland Oregonian

“I loved this book in a way that I haven’t loved a book in some time. *Letters from Yellowstone* has it all—great story, engaging characters, fascinating history, science in the making, and all the awesome beauty of Yellowstone Park. But if one might be tempted to classify this novel as an idyll in the wild, think again—along with the plucky naturalists and fellow travelers, we meet railroad men and developers (in 1898!) intent on darker purposes for the Park. This may be a first novel, but Diane Smith is a seasoned observer of man’s relationship with the natural world. And lucky for us, she is a completely wonderful writer who has scored one for the good guys.”
—James Welch

Diane Smith is the author of two award-winning novels with a third in the works. Her first book, *Letters from Yellowstone* (Viking/Penguin), about a botanical field study in Yellowstone National Park in the late 1890s, celebrates its 25th anniversary in print in 2024. The novel won the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Fiction Prize, was a One Book Montana statewide read, and was featured on NPR’s “Living on Earth.”



MAIA: A Dinosaur Grows Up

*by John R. Horner and
James Gorman
Illustrated by Doug Henderson*

Dive into the prehistoric world of *Maia: A Dinosaur Grows Up*. This classic children’s book offers a realistic glimpse into the life of a young Maiasaura, set against the backdrop of Montana’s ancient landscapes.

Jack Horner, the first paleontologist to discover an extensive dinosaur nesting ground, invites readers to explore what life was like 80 million years ago. Through Horner’s expertise and Gorman’s keen storytelling, readers are transported into the world of the Maiasaura, a peaceable, duck-billed dinosaur species, and Montana’s state fossil.

Maia is not only a testament to the fascinating world of dinosaurs but also a celebration of Montana’s rich paleontological heritage. With its re-release, this beloved children’s book continues to inspire curiosity and ignite imaginations, reminding readers of the incredible diversity of life that once roamed the Earth.

John (Jack) R. Horner’s groundbreaking contributions to paleontology have earned him three honorary doctorates and many awards, including the Romer Simpson Medal. He was the Curator of Paleontology at the Museum of the Rockies and the technical advisor for all the Jurassic Park/Jurassic World movies.

James Gorman has a flair for science writing and has captivated audiences with his engaging storytelling for several books and publications including the *New York Times*, the *New Yorker*, *Time*, and the *Washington Post*.



Rampage by Firestorm: A Season for Disaster

by Robert W. Sisk

Embark on a thrilling journey into the heart of wildland firefighting with *Rampage by Firestorm: A Season for Disaster* by veteran Robert W. Sisk. This gripping account unveils the untold stories behind some of the most notorious wildland disasters in American history, capturing the adrenaline, heroism, and tragedy that define the firefighting experience.

Set against the backdrop of the rugged landscapes of Idaho, Colorado and Arizona, *Rampage by Firestorm* immerses readers in the tumultuous world of wildfire response. Through meticulous research and firsthand accounts, Sisk sheds light on the harrowing details of these wildland disasters, offering readers a poignant glimpse into the sacrifices made by firefighters in the line of duty.

Drawing from his extensive experience as a retired aerial firefighter, Sisk brings unparalleled authenticity to the table. From the adrenaline-pumping aerial maneuvers to the heart-wrenching moments of loss and triumph, Sisk’s narrative grips readers from start to finish, offering a visceral understanding of the challenges faced by firefighters in the field.

Robert W. Sisk is a retired helicopter pilot with 14,000 flight hours, including combat missions in Vietnam and firefighting in the US. He’s authored *Wings for the Valiant* and written for *Soldier of Fortune*, *Saga*, and *Survive* magazines. Now residing in southwestern Idaho, he enjoys ranch life and horses.



Stationed in Montana: The Memoir of Great Falls Broadcast Pioneer Dan Snyder

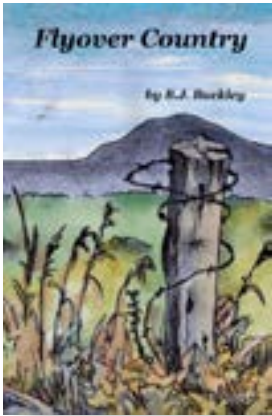
by Dan Snyder

Dan Snyder was born in Louisville Kentucky. His father was a stern German and gifted engineer whose tragedies, opportunities and marriages led to many unexpected life detours. Great Falls’ Air Base first brought Dan to Montana, but World War II ended, and he was discharged to New Jersey. A job at the *New York Times* spurred a passion for journalism. His Great Falls girlfriend came to visit, they married and moved to Missoula for college where Dan’s passions turned to English and philosophy.

His wife saw an article in the *Montana Kaimin* student paper about a Radio Guild being formed. Insisting he studied too much and needed something else, she told him to go and “don’t come home unless you’re elected president”. He was hooked. Dan worked as an announcer, program director and salesman at radios stations across Montana before plunging into the challenges of building new stations in the 1950’s.

The record windstorm that knocked his new KRTV off the air 45 minutes after their first sign on only spurred him on. His stations succeeded without network programming, despite predictions from competitors. Dan’s aspirations for growth in other states were derailed by tragedies, opportunities and marriages, like his father.

Dan loved Montana, the lifestyle and people. As a young southern boy, he never would have imagined his journey to a Great Falls Air Base, radio/tv stations, and a train station. Dan was destined to be STATIONED IN MONTANA.



Flyover Country

by B. J. Buckley

Fox-haunted fields, autumn,
the leaves red

ghosts: blood, hunt-stain,
bright hunger,

that low-slunk undulation
through fading

grasses, slick slither in and
out of cattails

in the borrow ditches, fur
flash, death's

soft frame. Mouse, vole,
pocket gopher,

pheasant chick, bug and
beetle, sweetest

berries bears forgot to pick,
fallen apples

and their worms, the fields'
waste: trampled

barley, broken corn, seed
from sunflowers

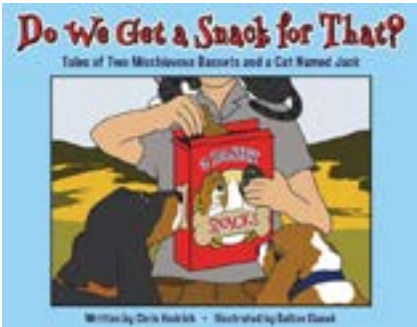
drying on their stems:
nothing spurned.

At last light, foxing on a page
of heavy frost,

straight quick line, her tracks:
she passed so

close, incendiary, and her
wild breath burned.

B.J. Buckley is a rural Montana poet & writer who has worked in Arts-in-Schools & Communities programs throughout the West and Midwest for more than four decades. She lives with her partner and critters along the Rocky Mountain Front, in the beer barley country west of Great Falls, Montana.



Do We Get a Snack for That?

by Chris Hedrich

Illustrations by Dalton Cianek

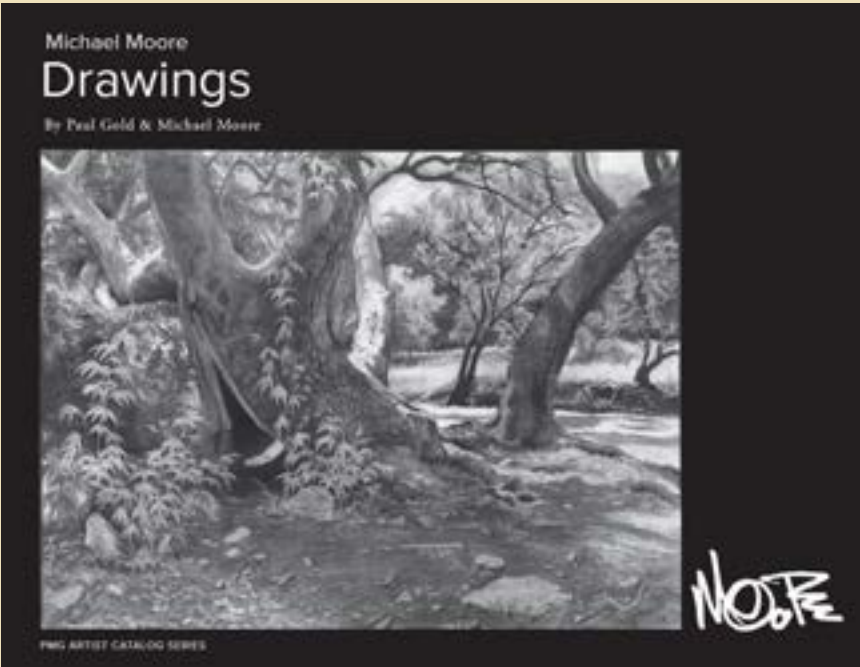
This heartwarming tale follows the adventures of Lance and Stanley, two lovable Basset Hounds, as they navigate through life alongside their feline friend, Jack. From lending a paw around the house to engaging in playful antics in the yard, these furry companions are always up to something. But their mischievous escapades are not without reward—the ever-pressing question remains: will they receive snacks for their efforts?

Readers of all ages will laugh out loud at the delightful antics and endearing personalities of these playful pups. *Do We Get a Snack for That?* is a must-read for anyone who has ever cherished the companionship of a furry friend.

A charming blend of humor, adventure, and heartwarming fun.

Chris Hedrich is a retired banker who has always enjoyed writing. She lives in White Sulphur Springs, Montana along with her husband Barry, where they own and operate 2 Basset Brewery.

Dalton Cianek is a Registered Nurse and self-taught graphic designer/illustrator. He and his wife Molly, also an RN, live and work in Rochester, Minnesota.



Michael Moore: Drawings

By Paul Gold and Michael Moore

I had the good fortune of enjoying an early-morning hike in Saguaro National Park outside Tucson, Arizona this spring and despite the rich colors, fragrant air, stark landscape, and a rare sighting—running water!—I quickly discovered that everything there is trying to stab you. Yuccas, cholla, barrel and saguaro cacti, and not a few of the critters that live among them are waiting to greet exposed flesh with pointy appendages, and sandals don't make the best footwear. The experience was thoroughly wonderful.

That my first viewing of Michael Moore's work in his new collection, "Drawings," instinctively made my ankles itchy is a testament to his skill at representing the desert southwest with such fidelity and care, and the experience was a likewise wonderful introduction to Moore's realist style. His patient, detailed charcoal drawings nevertheless express a Romantic quality, often depicting twisting tree trunks, jumbled rock landscapes, and buzzing desert views which hint at the primal wildness of unspoiled spaces.

Co-authored with Paul Gold, Moore pairs his drawings with written observations about what goes into them, and what he leaves out. The Helena native's wry humor informs the respectful richness of his Western landscapes from Arizona to Oregon to the Big Sky, and others have taken note: *Drawings* was named a Pima County Library 2023 Southwest Book of the Year finalist. So go check out a copy for yourself—even if your ankles remain unpierced, your artistic heart most surely won't.

By Eric Heidle

Adrian Arleo at Radius Gallery: **Ceramic** **Excellence Finds** **an In-State Home**

Radius Gallery in Missoula celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. The gallery has grown steadily since 2014, keeping pace with the amazing renaissance of Montana’s contemporary art scene. In March of 2023 Radius launched an ambitious expansion: an all-ceramics gallery called Clayworks next door to its downtown space.

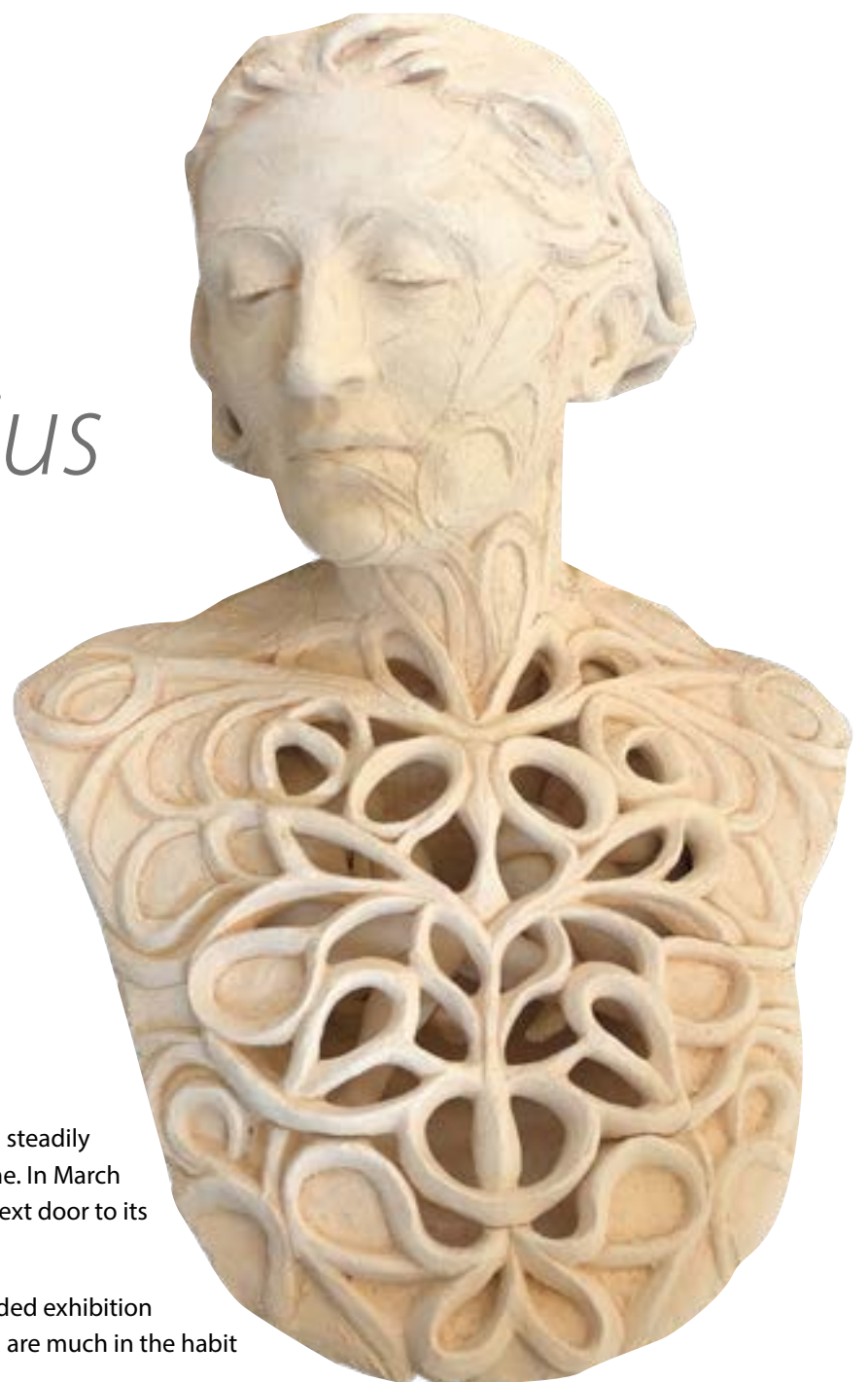
Montana’s ceramic arts scene is thriving and the Clayworks expansion creates a much-needed exhibition space—particularly for artists who make large-scale figurative and conceptual artworks and are much in the habit of shipping their creations to out-of-state galleries.

Adrian Arleo, a sculptor of large figurative works with an international reputation, has an upcoming show at Radius Clayworks, Jul 26 – Sep 7. Arleo expresses relief for not needing to crate and ship her works out of state for this major exhibit, a practice that has been necessary for the majority of her career in Montana.

At publication, these new sculptures fill her studio in Lolo in various states of finish—some still wet clay, some in the pre-glazed bisque state, and some in pieces that will be fitted together later. It represents more than a year’s worth of work, and with only weeks to go she’s feeling the anticipation and anxiety of representing, in full, the ideas that hold this series together.

And the ideas are worthy of our attention. Consider the figures—humans, dogs, a rabbit—with beautifully sculpted scroll-work surfaces that allow us to see, literally and imaginatively, inside these fellow travelers. Within the delicate cages of these bodies are smaller figures—a couple embracing, a woman curled around herself, a songbird alongside a hawk, predator and prey. Most of the work suggests rumination, what it is to be a questioning inheritor of this 21st Century, still tentatively feeling our way along. How do we negotiate life’s tragedies and confusion, its daily drip of bad news, and make sense of the world through language, myth, and our own felt desires? Can we remain attentive to the world’s turmoil without being tapped of our compassion? How do we remain sensitized to beauty, maintain our capacity to appreciate other forms of life and our relationships to them?

These and other weighty considerations should not be crated up and trucked out of state. We must embrace every opportunity to simply sit with and contemplate what Montana’s great artists have to offer. Adrian Arleo’s exhibit is a gift, we the lucky recipients.



To see the exhibit:
Visit Radius Gallery,
120 N Higgins Ave, Missoula.
Hours Tues – Friday 11 – 6;
Sat 11 -3pm.

*To sign up for an online preview
of the Arleo exhibit visit:*
www.radiusgallery.com



New Works by *Steven Young Lee and Beth Lo* presented by *Radius Gallery*

June 7 – July 20

Renowned Montana-based ceramists Steven Young Lee and Beth Lo will be debuting their latest exhibition at Radius Clayworks June 7th. This show will feature a return to larger, ambitious vessels and vases, including a few of their coveted collaborative pieces.

Both Steven Young Lee and Beth Lo work in the ceramic medium to explore the intersections of cultural heritage and Westernization, tradition, and personal experience, place and belonging.

Hidden Treasure in Montana

Story and photos by Jeffrey Conger

Montana Museum of Art and Culture

This new museum is stunning! It is a state-of-the-art space housing a world-class collection. Some might know that Montana has three official state museums: the Montana Historical Society in Helena, the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, and lastly the Montana Museum of Art and Culture in Missoula.

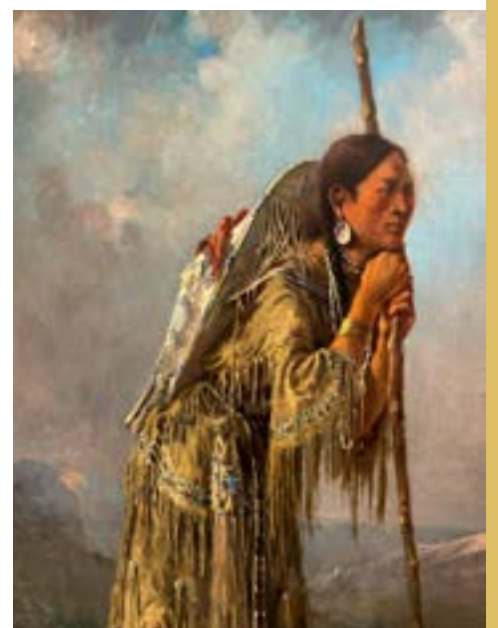
Even as one approaches the sculptural building (designed by A&E Design), the architectural elements of the exterior grab your attention like a beacon. Once inside, the light-filled space is people-friendly and laid out in such a way that makes the collection visible and accessible so visitors can see all three floors in a one-hour visit.

In the lobby, the giant glass wall from floor to ceiling of the Davidson Family Arts Education Center is an intentional design element. It reveals a multipurpose space that serves as a smart classroom for instruction and broadcast, a central processing and storage room for new acquisitions, and a curatorial workroom for designing upcoming exhibitions. The museum staff is thrilled to be working in the new center, an educational space designed to bring together students and visitors with a fantastic teaching collection.

Taking cues from iconic museums, including the Getty Museum, New York's MOMA, and the original Guggenheim, the grand circular staircase leads visitors to the upper level which currently houses selections from the permanent collection. Noticeable are the windows on the north and east that are specifically located to safeguard the art and showcase the river and mountain setting of the museum. The building's construction was made possible by several significant donors including Patt and Terry Payne, who made the generous lead gift of \$5 million to support the recent construction.

A glimpse of the permanent collection, the state's largest with upward of 11,000 pieces, is presently on view. It highlights singular works by master artists such as Donatello, Dorothea Lange, Pablo Picasso, Rembrandt, and Andy Warhol alongside the works of UM students and faculty and global artists. At the same time, there are also signature pieces by traditional Western artists and the Montana Modernists, including works by the celebrated modernist Henry Meloy.

So take time to visit the MMAC, the start of the arts and entertainment corridor of the University of Montana, at 795 S. 5th Street East (Campus Dr.) in Missoula. Visit them online at www.umt.edu/montanamuseum to learn more about their events, including the inaugural show on view through summer 2025 and the "Gates of Friendship: Recent Acquisitions of Asian and Asian-American Art" exhibition in the Joe Batts and Lana Richard Batts Gallery through December 2024.



The Montana Museum in Missoula opened its doors in September 2023, making it the newest of three state museums across Montana. Boasting a collection of over 11,000 items, it is a signature exhibit and educational space.

The Prairie Handspinners Guild (PHG) and Billings Weavers (PHG) will be hosting a gathering of fiber artists from across Montana and beyond,

as the Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners (MAWS) provides support for the 2024 biennial conference in Billings, August 1st-4th at the Billings Hotel and Conference Center. The theme for 2024 is *Our Fiber Planet: Expanding and Exploring the Future World of Our Fiber Traditions!* The conference will feature four days of learning, sharing and immersing into the world of fiber. A wide variety of classes are being offered with subjects ranging from knitting, spinning on a wheel or drop spindle, rigid heddle weaving, dyeing, nuno felting, rug hooking, working with flax, basket weaving, crocheting and more.

Two nationally recognized artists from the greater fiber community will share their knowledge: Kate Larson, editor of *Spin Off* magazine and Denise Kovnat, a preeminent color weaver.

Our keynote speakers will offer a fascinating look at their project of recreating 1700s-era point blankets like ones Lewis and Clark used on their expedition as trade goods with Native Americans. Bill Maxwell will offer his knowledge as a cultural anthropologist, LaVonne Stucky will share her experiences as a sheep rancher who processes wool at The Wool Mill in Belgrade, and Laina Therrien, owner of Wood-n- Woven in Terry will show the point blankets she's woven.

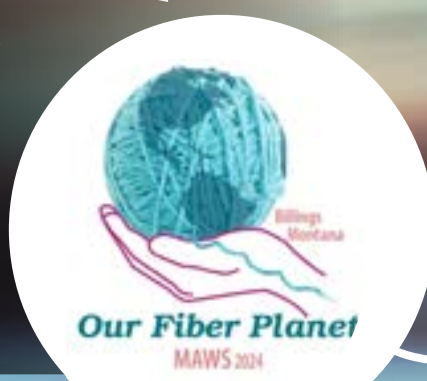
A vendor hall with over 20 booths will be open to the public, Montana's 10 guilds will showcase their members' work in the Open Show, featuring the theme *From Tradition to Innovation*, and the biennial Living Treasure award will be presented to recognize a MAWS member or members who have made outstanding contributions in fiber arts.

Additional activities include a fashion show and brunch, a towel and skein exchange, silent auction, door prizes, and free yoga.

The conference is supported in part by a grant from the Montana Arts Council.

For more information, including class openings, visit www.montanaweavespin.org.

The Fiber Artists are Gathering!





Artist Spotlight: Sharon Knauth

Story and photos by Hal and Gus Knauth

Sharon Knauth’s love for Montana and the Rocky Mountains is reflected in her lifelong passion for the arts and education.

Growing up in a talented family, Sharon’s brother Harold Alexander was an educator and opera singer performing around the country in venues from Salt Lake City, Denver, Colorado University, and New York. He inspired Sharon at a young age to pursue the arts and education. She earned her bachelor of arts degree in fine art and elementary education at the University of Northern Colorado in 1965. Over the next 15 years, she explored the Country training, painting, and educating in the schools in South Dakota, New York, and Colorado, including training with Kalman and Magdolna Czimbalmos in Staten Island and teaching at the Bemis Art School in Colorado Springs. *(Kalman and Magdolna Czimbalmos survived World War II in war-torn Hungary and arrived in*

Staten Island, NY. It was here they started painting churches and launched themselves among the elite artists of New York and America. In 1961, Magdolna painted Jacqueline Kennedy’s portrait for President John F. Kennedy.)

Sharon and her husband, David, and sons, Gus and Hal, moved to Butte in 1979. She substituted in the Butte Schools and provided children’s art classes at her home. In 1986, Knauth became the Executive Director of the Butte-Silver Bow Arts Foundation headquartered at the Arts Chateau (Clark Chateau). She was responsible for the daily operations of the Arts Chateau, Museum and Arts Center, as well as care and conservation of collections, exhibition, maintenance, and security of the circa 1898 building. Knauth designed and supervised installation of all decorative arts exhibits, and initiated and gained support for a 5 year plan for restoration of the building, participated in approval and selection of plans for renovation of the interior systems, and restoration of the exterior of the turn of the century chateau owned by Butte Silver-Bow County listed on the National Register of Historic buildings. During this time, she worked very closely with experts from the University of Montana.

The Arts Chateau exhibits and activities over the years included: annual student art exhibits, student art classes, student marionette theater, Eugene Ballet’s *Nutcracker* and *Swan*

River ballet performances, CM Russell’s “Cowboy Roping a Wolf” permanent exhibit, George Grant flies permanent exhibit, Elizabeth Lochrie exhibits, and traveling exhibits contracted for through the Montana Art Gallery Directors Association (MAGDA). Sharon was a founding member of the Chateau Quilt Guild celebrating 35 years in 2025. She was the recipient of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities in support of her Pride of Butte Oral History Project. All of Sharon’s Arts Chateau experiences and legacy are now located in detail at the Butte Archives and Clark Chateau.

Sharon was a founding member of the Butte Community Foundation, and a member of the Montana Community Foundation Board of Directors, Museums Association of Montana (Board of Directors), Montana Performing Arts Consortium, Montana Art Gallery Directors Association (Secretary), Montana Arts Council, Montana Committee for the Humanities, Montana State Historical Society, Butte-Silver Bow Chamber of Commerce, Montana Institute of the Arts, and established the first satellite of the arts for Very Special Arts Montana.

Sharon and her husband, David, moved to Bigfork in 1997 where she continued painting and teaching, and providing interior decorating services. She is currently happily retired in Bigfork, but continues spending time and painting her beloved Flathead Lake and Glacier National Park.



Miracle of America Museum



Disney's *A Bug's Life* lent inspiration for a huge ant that kids can sit on among the interactive exhibits, and there's a huge grasshopper Gil made to commemorate a disastrous plague of hoppers in the valley a few years back.

To accompany the museum's UFOs, one of which children (and maybe even adults) can board for a photo op, there's *ET's* cousin AT (short for Another Terrestrial) who is likewise phoning home.

Of course, no respectable outdoor art gallery like the one at the "Miracle" would be complete without its motorized Minions. A couple of them might even traverse the 4 ½ acre yard during the annual Live History Days celebration the 3rd weekend in July with bottles of cold water.

As far as sculptures go the above are only the tip of the iceberg, and the liveboat? Naturally, in true Gil Mangels fashion, it was converted into a Viking ship.

These and more sculptures, tiny and large, are available to see at the www.miracleofamericamuseum.org



Story and photos by Gil Mangels



If you've seen the movie, The Iron Giant, Gil Mangels' latest creation will need no imagination.

Motion-picture fans will love a romp through the arts at Montana's Outdoor Art Gallery hosted by the Miracle of America Museum at Polson, Montana. The museum is a massive collection of Americana, vehicles, memorabilia, historical artifacts, and last but not least, a collection of Gil's own hand-crafted metal artworks.

Displays reminiscent of A Night at the Museum with Gordon Williams, appear in the form of Tractorsaurus. Don't worry about it coming to life, though, Gill assures visitors. He reimagined it into a bobblehead, so seeing the head (once a Farmall tractor gas tank) bobbing around a bit is part of his vision. If you haven't seen that movie, maybe *Jurassic Park* will come to mind.

Gil's talents for sculpting in metal run deep here—he grew up on a farm just three miles south of the museum along Hwy 93 and worked at his own shop, Mangels Machine Works and Welding, for 50 years. He learned the values of recycling and repurposing in his line of work, and in viewing this whimsical collection you might even start to think of Gil as an *iron giant* of sorts.

Who wouldn't love R2-D2 from Star Wars? So when a dome-shaped garbage can found its way to the museum it was mounted on a battery operated golf caddy. In a similar vein, a rat everyone could love evolved from Gil's scrap iron pile to form *Chef Remi* after a viewing of *Ratatouille*. You'll find him offering a wedge of cheese just outside the museum's dairy barn.

Not all pieces are metal as witnessed by a more modern *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. When Gil was gifted a 1930 Franklin four-door sedan with the back body totally rotted off, an idea was born. It paid off to have a professional woodworker as a friend—and to have seen the movie numerous times.

If you're taking the little ones to the beach after a museum visit, you may not want them to see Gil's version of *Jaws* or *Flessie* out in front of the museum. However, any resemblance to the *Flathead Lake Monster* is purely coincidental.





Photos and story by
Monica Grable



Montana's **Creative Aging** Work Continues

Research shows the ages between 60 and 80 are the happiest—but also have potential for great loneliness. This spring the Montana Arts Council held a series of events to bring more joy, connection, and companionship to older Montanans, especially in rural towns. Through our Creative Aging initiative, MAC brought five projects to rural communities around the state to fire up new arts learning experiences for older adults. Plus, teaching artists immersed themselves in a day-long training to extend their skills in working with older adults. And we hosted a statewide convening of partners to generate new Creative Aging collaborations. All these activities are aimed at bringing more arts-centered activities to Montana's 60-plus folks.

In all, 36 adults over age 60 participated in workshops held throughout April and May at five rural Montana libraries.

A partnership of the Montana Arts Council and the Montana State Library, funded by a grant from Lifetime Arts, these projects gave older adults the opportunity to learn memoir writing with teaching artist Tess Fahlgren at the Glasgow City-County Library, experience creating with clay at the Rosebud County Library with Keely Perkins, photography composition with Jacob Cowgill at the Medicine Spring Library in Browning and poetry writing with Charles Finn through the Havre-Hill County Library in Havre. A fifth workshop series in Eureka, held at the Lincoln County Library, had older adults learning a wide variety of textile techniques under the direction of teaching artist Jemina Watstein.

Two important elements of each program's structure were that each class built upon prior sessions, leading to a sense of mastery by the end of each workshop series, and that students in the classes celebrated their successes with a culminating event which was shared with the public. The Glasgow writing class held a well-attended public reading of their work in the city park, the Browning, Eureka and Forsyth classes held art shows that opened with a community reception and the poetry class in Havre is working on an anthology of poems studied and written during their class time. Overwhelmingly, participants in the workshops expressed enthusiasm for learning a new art form,

a meaningful enhancement of their quality of life, and reduced isolation. The library directors experienced excitement for arts learning programming serving older adults in their spaces and the teaching artists were inspired to continue working with older learners based on their inspiring experiences.

For several of those teaching artists, their excitement led them to attend the Creative Aging for Teaching Artists Training held May 15 at Livingston's Shane Center. The twenty participants in that day-long training were led through a mini-workshop on ageism, sharing sessions on principles and best practices of Creative Aging class development and curriculum design; as well, they participated as

learners in demonstration classes in drawing and improv theater. The day was a rare chance for teaching artists across the state to meet one another and to make plans for future collaborations. In the months ahead, teaching artists who attended the training will be prepared to work with older adults along with those workshops they feel prepared to lead.

Culminating a year's worth of Creative Aging work, the Lewistown Public Library served as the host to a June 3rd cross-sector gathering of those working with older adults. This chance to explore common ground

and alignment across sectors was a rare opportunity to plan for future work across Montana and was, along with the library seed programs, a component of Lifetime Arts' Advancing Creative Aging in the Western States grant-funded initiative. Outcomes from the rural libraries' seed projects were shared, discussions on the still-emerging field of Creative Aging and current national trends were led by Lifetime Arts' staff and fruitful conversation—the "dreaming session"—is helping shape the future of Montana's Creative Aging work. With participants attending from aging services, libraries, arts organizations, and the teaching artist field, the day was filled with fruitful conversation that will continue into the new fiscal year. Those interested in taking part in future Creative Aging work in Montana are invited to be in touch with **Monica Grable, MAC's Arts Education Director, at Monica.Grable@mt.gov or by phone at (406) 444-6522.**





Artists in Schools and Communities

By Monica Grable
Tumblewheel file photo

Data shows that arts learning experiences boost brain health, social well-being, and creative problem-solving. Thanks to enduring support from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Montana Arts Council has been connecting artists of all disciplines with learners of all ages for five decades running.

Over the past fiscal year, AISC grants have sent poets into elementary classrooms, delivered a studio bus and teacher to provide arts instruction to older adults and supported projects that demonstrate the power of arts learning to affect our mental health. The same grants have enabled a nonprofit to provide adaptive access in its ceramics studio, provided K-12 students with online access to the contemporary work of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Montana artists and provided learners of every age with access to guest artists at the top of their field.

The following charts list recently awarded grants. Two additional application opportunities for this year’s AISC Experiences grant process have deadlines of August 15 and December 12. To learn more, please visit art.mt.gov/aisc and contact Arts Education Director Monica Grable at (406) 444-6522 or Monica.Grable@mt.gov.

Featured Grantee: Tumblewheel Studios

Tumblewheel Studios is a custom converted school bus turned self-contained, mobile art classroom. The nonprofit’s mission to “bring art to the people” focuses on delivering visual art education and art making supplies to underfunded schools and under-resourced communities with a steadfast commitment to building spaces in which everyone has equitable access to the arts. Montana-born sculptor and installation artist Jenna Reineking and multidisciplinary artist Nick Patton are the husband-wife duo leading the nonprofit organization as well as the arts learning experiences. Based in Belfry, Montana, the two have brought their 2001 Bluebird school bus-turned art classroom and maker space to rural communities all over central and southeastern Montana.

Learn more about them and their drive to enrich Montanans of every age with arts learning experiences, visit tumblewheelstudios.org.

FY25 AISC Residencies Grants Awarded

Organization Name	Organization City	Project Name	Awarded
A VOICE	Pablo	Our Community Record Two Eagle River School	\$10,000.00
Bare Bait Dance	Missoula	REVEAL - Community Workshop Series at Westside Theater	\$9,190.00
Belgrade School District #44	Belgrade	Belgrade and the Trans Siberian Orchestra Experience	\$9,000.00
Bozeman Art Museum	Bozeman	Exploring Creativity - Drawing In & Outside the Lines with the Bozeman Art Museum free art classes	\$10,000.00
Cohesion Dance Project	Helena	Cohesion Dance Project’s School and Community Outreach Expansion	\$10,000.00
Elk River Arts & Lectures	Livingston	Livingston Literaries: A Writing Group for Teens	\$7,000.00
Grandstreet Broadwater Productions, Inc.	Helena	Grandstreet Summer Theatre School	\$10,000.00
Great Falls Public Schools Music and Art	Great Falls	Art in Residence, Mike Hollern, Sculptor	\$5,000.00
Lowell School Parent Teacher Association	Missoula	Poets in Residency at Lowell Elementary School	\$3,800.00
Missoula Art Museum	Missoula	MAM’s Teen Art Project (TAP): Public Art & Community - What type of beauty does this PLACE unveil?	\$8,500.00
Missoula Writing Collaborative	Missoula	Young Writers of the Garden City	\$10,000.00
Montana Actors’ Theatre	Havre	MAT Youth Education Program	\$10,000.00
Montana Repertory Theatre, University of Montana	Statewide	Montana Repertory Theatre’s 2025 Educational Tour	\$10,000.00
North Valley Music School	Whitefish	North Valley Music School’s Teaching Artists In Schools Program	\$6,550.00
SPARK! Arts Ignite Learning	Missoula	K-8 SPARK! Arts Integration Residency Project	\$10,000.00
The Myrna Loy	Helena	Bill Bowers theater performance and residency	\$3,375.00
The Shane Lalani Center for the Arts	Livingston	Youth Education Program	\$10,000.00
Tinworks Art	Bozeman	Community workshops for hands-on art learning with local artists at Tinworks Art	\$10,000.00
Tumblewheel Studios	Belfry	Tumblewheel Studios Teaching Artist in Residence	\$10,000.00
WaterWorks Art Museum	Miles City	The Art of Loving ART!	\$7,500.00
Young Poets, Montana State University Billings	Billings	Young Poets at Orchard Elementary	\$7,500.00
			\$177,415.00

2024 AISC Experiences | April Round Grants Awarded

Organization Name	Organization City	Project Name	Awarded
Alpine Artisans, Inc.	Seeley Lake	Movements4Movement in the Seeley-Swan Valleys	\$2,400.00
Arts Council of Big Sky	Big Sky	Sculptor/Naturalist George Bumann Big Sky Artist Residency	\$2,500.00
Boulder Elementary School	Boulder	Boulder Creative Summer Art Projects	\$2,500.00
Council Groves Apartments, Inc.	Missoula	Council Groves Summer Program	\$2,475.00
Good Grief Group	Kalispell	Good Grief Camp	\$1,890.00
Land to Hand Montana	Whitefish	Art in the Wildcat Garden	\$1,510.00
Links for Learning	Livingston	Summer Art Classes Funding July 24	\$2,300.00
Missoula Art Museum	Missoula	TAP Arlee	\$2,500.00
Missoula Writing Collaborative	Missoula	Words with Wings Summer Program	\$2,000.00
Montana Shakespeare in the Parks	Bozeman	Shakespeare in Schools -- Fall 2024 Tour of A Midsummer Night's Dream	\$2,500.00
North Valley Music School	Whitefish	NVMS Music & Movement	\$1,785.00
Noxon School District 10	Noxon	Building student skills in 2d and 3d artistic media through material and career exploration.	\$2,500.00
open-ended community arts center	Hamilton	PRESENCE	\$2,385.00
Philipsburg Area Community Library	Philipsburg	Summer Art Experiences at the Library	\$2,300.00
Schoolhouse History & Art Center	Colstrip	Summer Camp 2024	\$2,410.00
Singing Waters Montana	Helena	Creative Arts Camp at Mimanagish	\$2,500.00
St. John's United	Billings	The Wellness of Art	\$2,500.00
The Roxy Theater	Missoula	Roxy Film Academy - Summer Camps	\$2,500.00
Tinworks Art	Bozeman	Multi-Use Projector for Arts Learning at Tinworks Art	\$2,500.00
			\$43,955.00

Meet Our Certified Artpreneurs



Sunday Dutro



Cheri Dyk



Meghan Hanson



Afton Ray-Rossol

By Monica Grable

The Montana Arts Council is delighted to recognize four Montana artists on the rise who recently achieved Montana Artpreneur Program certification status. What does it mean to become MAP Certified? When artists undertake participation in MAC’s Montana Artpreneur Program (MAP), a good portion of the steps involved in developing their arts business--the development of a website, business plan, marketing materials—are among those items included in what is known as the MAP “toolkit.” Achieving high level completion of 40 tools in the toolkit signifies that the artist and their arts business is market ready, a designation affirming their professional career as an artist.

All four of this year’s certified artists—Sunday Dutro, Cheri Dyk, Meghan Hanson and Afton Ray-Rossol—participated in the Fall 2023 cohort led by veteran MAP coach Liz Chappie-Zoller. Liz will again lead a MAP cohort this coming fall with a series of four two-day workshops taking place in Billings/Red Lodge, Bozeman, Helena and Missoula beginning in late August. Eight to twelve artists are selected for participation in each cohort and currently two spaces remain. To learn more and to apply, visit art.mt.gov/map. To learn more about these remarkable women, read on.

Sunday Dutro was born and raised in San Diego, attended college at UC Davis, studied in Barcelona, Spain and traveled extensively throughout Europe before following her heart to the mountains and eventually settling with her family in Thompson Falls. Always a writer—of letters, of journal entries, of articles, of short stories—Sunday began to formalize her career as a novelist in December of 2022; having now taken significant leaps forward, she is currently at work on a memoir. To connect with Sunday and discover more about her writing visit sundaydutroauthor.com.

Cheri Dyk is a Bozeman-based contemporary oil painter with a love of Montana’s captivating culture. Born and raised in the Bitterroot Valley, Cheri studied and built a graphic design career on the west coast before returning to Montana and, more recently, to her art. Her unique impressionistic style captures emotion, movement, and a connection with the subject; her earthy palette is complemented with pops of color and accented with gold and silver leaf, creating pieces that are dynamic, soulful and bold. Connect with Cheri and her work at cheridykart.com.
































































Meghan Hanson is an artist and architect sharing time between the Bitterroot Valley in Montana and Idaho’s Teton Valley. With art that is greatly influenced by her career as an architect, extensive travels across and outside the U.S. and a lifetime of living and working in the intermountain west, Meghan’s watercolor illustrations and paintings created on reclaimed wood embody her sense of place and deep regard for the land. She is “fascinated with exploring our place within our larger world” and does this through creating art that studies it. Go to meghanhanson.com to learn more.

Afton Ray-Rossol is a Sidney, Montana-based western and wildlife artist, working primarily in acrylic on hand-textured wood surfaces. In addition to being a painter, Afton is a professional framer who on occasion returns to working on glass and in watercolor. Aiming to produce stunning artwork that “stirs up joy and gratitude for nature and the west through originality that balances bold and stylish with rustic and grounded” Afton’s art evokes a deep connection to the MonDak region. See Afton’s work and connect with her via her website, boldwestart.com.






















































Summer Calendar 2024






























































Anaconda						
St. Timothys Memorial Chapel	🎵	2024 Montana Chamber Music Festival	July 21	4:00 PM	sttimothysmusic.org	\$25
	🎵	Ragtime Piano	July 28	4:00 PM	sttimothysmusic.org	\$25
	🎵	David Casey Band	August 11	4:00 PM	sttimothysmusic.org	\$25
	🎵	Tim Ryan Rouillier	August 20	4:00 PM	sttimothysmusic.org	\$25
Washoe Park	🎨	Art in the Park	July 19-21	Daily	cvmac.org	Free
Basin						
Montana Artists Refuge	🎵	Lands of the Free: Languages of Improvisation	August 22	7:00 PM	baroquemusicmontana.org	\$25
Belt						
Belt Rodeo Grounds at Castner Park	🎵	BeltStock	August 24	4:00 PM	beltperformingartscenter.com	\$30
Billings						
First Interstate Arena at Metrapark	🎵	Pierce the Veil	July 16	7:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$54+
	🎵	Boy's Like Girls with 30H!3 and Red Jumpsuit Apparatus	August 9	7:00 PM	metrapark.com/events	\$35+
	🎵	Hozier	August 27	7:00 PM	metrapark.com/events	\$39.50+
Kirk's Grocery	🎵	Giant Wave, Windier & Ashes Jessen	July 13	7:00 PM	kirksgrocery.com/	\$10+
	🎵	Another Castle	July 20	7:00 PM	kirksgrocery.com/	\$10+
	🎵	The Love Darts	July 25	5:00 PM	downtownbillings.com/event/	Free
	🖼️	Jurried Homeschool Student Art Exhibition Pop Up	July 26	5:00 PM	kirksgrocery.com/	Free
Alberta Bair Theater	📢	Bored Teachers: The Struggle is Real!	July 25	7:30 PM	albertabairtheater.org	\$35+
	🎵	Girl Named Tom	August 3	7:30 PM	albertabairtheater.org	\$45+
	🎵	Crystal Gayle	September 24	7:30 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$30+
NOVA Center for the Performing Arts	🎭	Acting Camp	July 15-19	9:00 AM	novabillings.org	\$325
	🎭	Itty Bitty Camp: Space Adventures	July 22-26	9:00 AM	novabillings.org	\$150
	🎭	Itty Bitty Camp: World of Wizardry	July 22-26	1:00 PM	novabillings.org	\$150
	🎭	Electives Camp	Jul 29-Aug 2	9:00 AM	novabillings.org	\$350
	🎭	Itty Bitty Camp: Pirates & Mermaids	August 5-8	9:00 AM	novabillings.org	\$150
Yellowstone Art Museum	🖼️	Celebrating Complexities	July-Oct 6	Daily	artmuseum.org	\$6+
	🖼️	A Couple of Art Lovers Part 2: The Generosity of Miriam Sample	July-Aug 18	Daily	artmuseum.org	\$6+
Downtown Billings	🖼️	Art Walk	August 2	5:00 PM	billings365.com/art-walk-2024	Free
Prescott Hall, Rocky Mountain College	🎵	Amoris Domicilium	September 12	7:30 PM	baroquemusicmontana.org	\$5+
Crooked Line Studio	🖼️	Open Art	July 15, 19, 22, 26, 29	10:00 AM & 6:00 PM	crookedlinestudio.com	\$8
	🖼️	Painting 101 with Carolyn Thayer	July 15, 22, 29	6:00 PM	crookedlinestudio.com	\$225
	🖼️	Mixed Media Meet Up	July 17, 24, 31	6:00 PM	crookedlinestudio.com	\$10
	🖼️	Friday Painters with Carolyn Thayer	July 12, 19, 26	1:00 PM	crookedlinestudio.com	\$225
	🖼️	Open Oil	July 12, 19, 26	1:00 PM	crookedlinestudio.com	\$10
	🖼️	Painting 102 with Carolyn Thayer	July 18 & 25	6:00 PM	crookedlinestudio.com	\$225
	🖼️	Lakeside with Brittney Hernandez	July 13	2:00 PM	crookedlinestudio.com	\$45
	🖼️	Enchanted Forest Kids Summer Camp	July 15-18	6:00 PM	crookedlinestudio.com	\$185
	🎵	Big Bubble Rave	July 13	9:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$17+
The Pub Station Ballroom	🎵	Young Doubliners	July 18	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$22
	🎵	Arkiak: The Summer Immolation Tour	July 20	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$15
	🎵	Jason Boland & The Stragglers	July 21	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$25
	🎵	Pony Bradshaw	July 22	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$20
	🎵	Blackhawk	July 26	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$29.50
	🎵	Nattali Rize	July 28	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$18
	🎵	Wyatt Flores	August 1 & 2	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$30+
	🎵	Strfkr	August 3	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$25
	🎵	Hinder, Smile Empty Soul	August 8	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$29.50
	🎵	Melissa Carper	August 11	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$16
	🎵	Built to Spill: There's Nothing Wrong with Love	August 18	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$30
	🎵	Atmosphere - Tour De Friends Part Trois	August 6	6:45 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$35
	🎵	Iration and Pepper with Special Guests	August 16	5:30 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$49.50+
Downtown Billings Skatepark	🎵	Ice Nine Kills & In This Moment: Kiss of Death Part 2	August 21	5:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$69.50
	🎵	Fruition	August 23	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$20
	🎵	Pulse 2	August 31	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$20
The Pub Station Taproom	🎵	Extreme with Special Guests Living Colour	September 4	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$39.50+
	🎵	Struggle Jennings: The El Comino Tour	September 5	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$25+
	🎵	The National Parks	September 10	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$20+
	🎵	The Bieber Party: Justin Bieber Night	September 13	9:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$15+
	📢	Ryan Hamilton	September 18	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$39.50+
	🎵	Not. Greenday	September 21	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com/events/	\$15
	🎵	The Hellroaring	July 18	5:00 PM	downtownbillings.com	Free
	🎵					
Bigfork						
For Fine Art	🖼️	Roger Rink	August 2	5:00 PM	forfineart.com/events	Free
	🖼️	Tabby Ivy	September 6	4:00 PM	forfineart.com/events	Free











































































































Bigfork Summer Playhouse		Crazy for You	July-Aug	2:00 PM & 8:00 PM	bigforksummerplayhouse.com	\$22+
		Beauty & The Beast	July-Aug	2:00 PM & 8:00 PM	bigforksummerplayhouse.com	\$22+
		Footloose	July-Aug	2:00 PM & 8:00 PM	bigforksummerplayhouse.com	\$22+
		Legally Blonde	July-Aug	2:00 PM & 8:00 PM	bigforksummerplayhouse.com	\$22+
		The Benefit Revue	July 21	7:00 PM	bigforksummerplayhouse.com	\$22+
		The HITS of the 50s, 60s & 70s	August 22-31	2:00 PM & 7:30 PM	bigforksummerplayhouse.com	\$45
Big Sky						
Art Council Art Studio		All Levels Pottery - 5 week session	July-Aug	1:00 PM & 6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	\$290
		Intermediate Pottery - 5 week session	July-Aug	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	\$290
		Watercolor Wednesdays	July-Aug	2:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	\$50
		All Levels Pottery - 5 week session	July 17, 24 & 31	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	\$290
		Summer ARTventure Kid's Art Class	July-Aug	4:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	\$40
		Open Pottery Studio	July-Aug	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	\$20
		All Levels Pottery - 5 week session	July-Aug	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	\$290
		Open Pottery Studio	July-Aug	12:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	\$20
		Open Studio Family Fridays	July-Aug	10:00 AM	bigskyarts.org/events	\$10
		Community Art Class: Paint Your Pet with Jesine Muson	August 7	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	\$50
		Community Art Class: Clay Runes/bowls with Julie Edwards	August 14	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	\$50
Len Hill Park		The Wood Brothers	July 18	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	Free
		Artisan Festival	July 20	11:00 AM	bigskyarts.org/pages	Free
		Mikaela Davis	July 25	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	Free
		Carolyn Wonderland	August 1	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	Free
		Doom Flamingo	August 8	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	Free
		Erica Falls and Vintage Soul	August 15	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	Free
		Fruition	August 22	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	Free
		The Lil Smokies	August 29	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	Free
		Pinky and the Floyd	September 5	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	Free
		Blistered Earth with Scavenger	September 12	6:00 PM	bigskyarts.org/events	Free
		Lands of the Free: Languages of Improvisation	August 20	7:00 PM	baroquemusicmontana.org	\$5+
Wilson Hotel		2024 Montana Chamber Music Festival	July 23	7:00 PM	montanachambermusic.org	TBA
Bonner						
KettleHouse Amphitheater		Ziggy Marley	July 13	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$39+
		Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit	July 14	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$42.50+
		Lyle Lovett and his Large Band	July 16	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$39+
		Portugal. The Man	July 17	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$38+
		Primus & Coheed and Cambria	July 22	7:30 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$39+
		The Decemberists	July 26	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$38+
		Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue With Big Boi	July 28	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$39+
		Jason Mraz	August 1	7:30 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$39.50+
		Dierks Bentley	August 4	7:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$39.50+
		The Dead South	August 5	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$35+
		Robert Plant & Alison Krauss	August 8 & 9	7:30 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$55+
		Gary Clark JR	August 12	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$39.50+
		O.A.R.	August 14	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$39+
		Kaleo	August 29	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$39+
		Lindsey Stirling	August 30	7:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$45.50+
		Goose	September 19 & 20	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$42.50+
		Sturgill Simpson	September 22	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$69.50+
Bozeman						
Peace of Christ Community Church		Amoris Domicilium	September 15	4:00 PM	baroquemusicmontana.org	\$5+
The Rialto		Nattali Rize	July 27	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$22+
		Igor & the Red Elvies	August 11	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$22+
		Blistered Earth	September 14	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$22+
		Not. Greenday	September 20	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$22+
		Lindsay Lou	September 21	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$22+
Museum of the Rockies		Living History Farm	July-Sept 2	11:00 AM	museumoftherockies.org	\$10.50+
		Taylor Planetarium	July-Sept 2	Daily	museumoftherockies.org	\$4+
		Dragons, Unicorns, and Mermaids: Mythic Creatures	July-Jan 5	Daily	museumoftherockies.org	\$10.50+
Bozeman Art Museum		Glacier Revisited	Thru Jul 28	Daily	bozemanartmuseum.org	Free
		Plein Air Montana 2024	Jul 28-Aug 3	Daily	bozemanartmuseum.org	Free
Reynolds Recital Hall		1st Annual Young Artists Concert	July 22	7:30 PM	montanachambermusic.org	\$15
		2024 Montana Chamber Music Festival	July 26	7:30 PM	montanachambermusic.org	\$10+
Backyard of Paul and Carrie		Lands of the Free: Languages of Improvisation	August 15	6:00 PM	baroquemusicmontana. org	\$5+
Main Street		Sweet Pea Juried Art Show	July-Aug 9	Daily	sweetpeafestival.org	Free
		Chalk on the Walk	July 30	All Day	sweetpeafestival.org	Free
		Music on Main	August 1	6:30 PM	sweetpeafestival.org	Free

Lindley Park	🎵	Sweet Pea Festival	August 4-6	Daily	sweetpeafestival.org	\$30+
Downtown Bozeman	🖼️	Downtown Art Walk	July 12, Aug 9, Sept 13	6:00 PM	downtownbozeman.org	Free
The Elm	🎵	Blitzen Trapper	July 11	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$25+
	🎵	Lyle Lovett and his Large Band	July 17	7:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$59+
	🎵	Samantha Fish	July 22	7:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$35+
	🎵	Soja	July 23	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$35+
	🎵	Strfkr	August 2	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$25+
	🎵	King Buzzo	August 12	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$29.50+
	🎵	The Head & The Heart	August 17	7:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$65+
	🎵	Lettuce	August 18	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$35+
	🎵	Joy Oladokun	August 20	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$26+
	🎵	K. Fly	August 21	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$27+
	🎵	The Movement	September 26	7:00 PM	logjampresents.com/event	\$35+
Tinworks Art	🖼️	Agnes Denes Wheatfield	Jun 15-Oct 19	Daily	tinworksart.org/	Free
The Ellen Theatre	🎭	Mary Poppins - The Musical	July 11-28	3:00 PM & 7:30 PM	theellen.my.salesforce-sites.com	\$46+
The Emerson	📢	The Struggle is Real	July 26	7:30 PM	theemerson.org/event	\$46+
	🎵	Girl Named Tom	August 13	7:30 PM	theemerson.org/event	\$46+
Live from the Divide	🎵	Buffalo Kin	July 3	8:00 PM	livefromthedivide.com	\$40
	🎵	Sarah Shook & The Disarmers	July 12	8:00 PM	livefromthedivide.com	\$60
	🎵	Sterling Drake	July 26	8:00 PM	livefromthedivide.com	\$45
Browning						
Browning	🏠	North American Indian Days	July 11-14	6:00 PM	facebook.com/NDNDAYS	Free
Butte						
West Park Street	🖼️📢	Butte Farmers Market	May 18-Oct 5	8:00 AM Saturdays	mainstreetbutte.org	Free
Uptown Butte	🎵	Montana Folk Festival	July 12-14	Daily	montanafolkfestival.com	Free
Immaculate Conception Church	🎵	2024 Montana Chamber Music Festival	July 28	3:00 PM	montanachambermusic.org	Free
The Covellite Theatre	🎵	Unofficial Folk Fest Afterparty: Ty Walker & The Humanoids	July 13	10:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	\$10+
	📢	302 Comedy Presents: Summer Comedy Nights	July 16	7:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	🎭	World Museum of Mining Presents: Butte the Bold	July 18	7:30 PM	covellitepresents.org	\$25
	📢	Black Book Entertainment presents an 18+ Burlesque Show	July 20	8:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	\$25+
	📢	All Ages Open Mic	July 23	7:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	🎵	Cruz Contreras (solo)	July 25	8:00 AM	covellitepresents.org	free
	🎵	Pathos & Logos	July 27	8:00 PM	montanabooking.com	\$10+
	📢	Youth Open Mic Hosted by Peyton Waters	July 30	6:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	🎵	Chuck Briseno	August 1	8:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	🖼️	Uptown Butte Artwalk - Featured Monthly Artist	August 2	5:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	🎵	Montana Songwriters Showcase	August 4	7:30 PM	covellitepresents.org	\$10+
	📢	302 Comedy Presents: Summer Comedy Nights	August 6	7:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	📢	All Ages Open Mic	August 13	7:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	🏠	"Shoot The Guns" Film Premiere	August 18	7:30 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	📢	302 Comedy Presents: Summer Comedy Nights	August 20	7:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	🎵	Jesse Daniel w/ Tylor & The Train Robbers	August 24	8:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	\$25+
	📢	All Ages Open Mic	August 27	7:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	🎵	Lil Smokies	August 28	7:30 PM	covellitepresents.org	\$30+
	📢	302 Comedy Presents: Summer Comedy Nights	September 3	7:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	🖼️	Uptown Butte Artwalk - Featured Monthly Artist	September 6	5:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
	📢	302 Comedy Presents: Summer Comedy Nights	September 17	7:00 PM	covellitepresents.org	free
Cardwell						
1865 Highway 2	🎵	Headwaters Country Jam	July 25-27	Daily	frontgatetickets.com	\$125+
Colstrip						
Schoolhouse History & Art Center	🖼️	Sean Chandler: The Magnitude of No One	Through July 31	Daily	colstripshac.org	Free
	🖼️	Paint Camp	July 15-18	10:00 AM	colstripshac.org	Free
	🖼️	Summer Camp: Natures Paint Brush	July 22-25	10:00 AM	colstripshac.org	Free
	🖼️	Summer Camp: Screen Painting	Jul 29-Aug 1	10:00 AM	colstripshac.org	Free
	🖼️	The Last Glacier Project	August 5-30	Daily	colstripshac.org	Free
	🖼️	Unsettled Lands by Manette Bradford	Sept 8-Nov 29	Daily	colstripshac.org	Free
Crow Agency						
Crow Reservation	🏠	Crow Fair	August 18-20	Daily	visitmt.com	Free
Ennis						
Peter T's Park	🎵	You Knew Me When	July 18	5:00 PM	ennischamber.com	Free
	🎵	Paul Handelman	July 25	5:00 PM	ennischamber.com	Free
	🎵	Mercedes Carroll	August 1	5:00 PM	ennischamber.com	Free
	🎵	Montana Exit	August 8	5:00 PM	ennischamber.com	Free
	🎵	Hoke Granger	August 15	5:00 PM	ennischamber.com	Free
	🎵	The Music Bachs	August 22	5:00 PM	ennischamber.com	Free
	🎵	DeGroot Band	August 29	5:00 PM	ennischamber.com	Free

Summer 2024					
Peter T's Park		Left for Dead 2.0	September 3	5:00 PM	ennischamber.com Free
		Madison Valley Arts Festival	July 29	10:00 AM	ennisarts.org Free
Various Locations		Art in the Garden Tour	August 17	10:00 AM	ennisarts.org \$10
Emigrant					
The Old Saloon		Wheeler Walker Jr.	July 13	6:00 PM	oldsaloonmt.com \$40
		Steve Earle	August 8	6:00 PM	oldsaloonmt.com \$35+
Eureka					
Lincoln County Fairgrounds		Fiberfest Eureka	August 3-4	9:00 AM	eurekafiberfest.org Free
Downtown Eureka		Do the Trail!	July 6	9:00 AM	sunburstarts.org/events Free
Indian Springs Ranch		Summer Series: Terry Sherven	July 21	5:00 PM	sunburstarts.org/events Free
		Summer Series: Jessica Roki Kilroy	August 18	5:00 PM	sunburstarts.org/events Free
		Toast of the Town	September 13	5:00 PM	sunburstarts.org/events \$25
Flathead Lake					
United Methodist Camp		Performing Arts Camp	Jul 28-Aug 10	Daily	mctinc.org \$1,250
Fort Benton					
TBD		KidsMAT Camp	August 5-8	Daily	mtactors.com/shows-events \$50
Fort Peck					
Fort Peck Interpretive Center		Bremen or Bust	June 29	10:00 AM	fortpecktheatre.org \$6+
Fort Peck Summer Theatre		Bonnie & Clyde	July 5-21	4:00 PM & 7:30 PM	fortpecktheatre.org \$6+
		Cinderella	Jul 26-Aug 11	4:00 PM & 7:30 PM	fortpecktheatre.org \$6+
		Fort Peck Summer Theatre Camp	August 5-7	9:00 AM	fortpecktheatre.org/camp \$200
		Fort Peck Summer Theatre Showcase	August 8	12:00 PM	fortpecktheatre.org/camp \$200
Georgetown Lake					
St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel		2024 Montana Chamber Music Festival	July 21	4:00 PM	montanachambermusic.org \$25
Glasgow					
Glasgow Library		Bremen or Bust	June 25	10:00 AM	fortpecktheatre.org \$6+
Evangelical Church		Fort Peck Summer Theatre Camp	July 30-Aug 2	Daily	fortpecktheatre.org/camp \$200
Great Falls					
Downtown Great Falls		ArtsFest Montana	August	Daily	artsfestmontana.com/ Free
Downtown Summer Jam		Ella Langley	July 19	6:30 PM	downtownsummerjam.com \$20
		Bryan Martin	August 21	6:30 PM	downtownsummerjam.com \$20
Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art		ARTS on Fire	September 14	10:00 AM	the-square.org/events Free
400 Central Avenue		Montana Multi Cultural Fair	August 8	5:00 PM	mtmcf.com
Great Falls Public Library		Summer Music Series with Brandon Hale and the Dirty Shame	July 16	7:00 PM	greatfallslibrary.org Free
		Summer Music Series with the Belt Valley Theatre Players	July 23	7:00 PM	greatfallslibrary.org Free
The Newberry		Wheeler Walker Jr.	July 14	7:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$47.70+
		Shakey Graves	July 18	6:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$44.10+
		Samantha Fish	July 21	7:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$43.20+
		Wild Horses	July 22	7:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$18+
		Toad the Wet Sprocket	July 26	7:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$43.20+
		The Bellamy Brothers	August 9	7:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$36+
		Parmalee	August 11	7:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$44.10+
		Heart by Heart	August 13	7:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$25.20+
		K. Fly	August 22	7:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$34.20+
		Apes of State & Sister Wife Sex Strike	September 4	7:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$22.50+
		Extreme with Special Guests Living Colour	September 5	8:00 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$54+
		Chase Matthew	September 8	7:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$24.30+
		The National Parks, Wild Spirit Tour	September 11	7:30 PM	thenewberrymt.com/events \$22.50+
Hamilton					
Ravalli County Fairgrounds		Plein Air at the Fair	August 28	8:30 AM	ravallicountyfairgroundsfoundation.org Free
Harlowton					
Harlo Main		Harlo Music Project Concert	August 10	2:30 PM	harlomusicproject.com \$40+
Havre					
MSUN/MAT Theatre		KidsMAT Camp	July 15-29	Daily	mtactors.com/shows-events \$50
Havre Library		Books & Babies	Wednesdays	10:15 AM	havrehilllibrary.org Free
		Storytime	Wednesdays & Fridays	10:30 AM	havrehilllibrary.org Free
		Crafternoon	Wednesdays	3:30 PM	havrehilllibrary.org Free
		Yarn Circle	Fridays	4:00 PM	havrehilllibrary.org Free
		Havre Festival Days	September 20-24	Daily	chinookfriends.org Free
Helena					
Holter Museum of Art		Barb Schwarz Karst: Stark Unreality	Jul 12-Sept 1	Daily	holtermuseum.org Free
		Amoris Domicilium	September 13	7:30 PM	baroquemusicmontana.org \$5+
The Myrna Loy		"Only Now, Only You" By Bonnie Lambert	Jun 7-Jul 26	7:30 PM	themyrnaloy.com Free
		Le Vent Du Nord	July 11	7:30 PM	themyrnaloy.com \$26
		Ty Walker and the Humanoids	July 12	7:30 PM	themyrnaloy.com \$30

The Myrna Loy		String & Shawdow Puppet Theater	August 1	7:00 PM	themyrnaloy.com	Free
		Govorov & De Groot	August 8	7:30 PM	themyrnaloy.com	\$20
		A Night of Patsy Cline with Juliette Angelo	September 5	7:00 PM	themyrnaloy.com	\$25
		The State Champions Album Release Show	September 12	7:30 PM	themyrnaloy.com	\$20
Lewis & Clark Brewing Company		Melissa Carper	August 8	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com	\$16
		Driftwood	August 11	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com	\$20
		Built to Spill: There's Nothing Wrong with Love	August 17	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com	\$30
		Fruition	September 19	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com	\$15
Archie Bray Gallery		Not. Greenday	August 24	8:00 PM	thepubstation.com	\$22
		Teen/Tween Art Excursions	July 17	12:00 PM	lclibrary.org/455	Free
		Archie's Avant Garden Party	July 18	6:00 PM	archiebray.org/events	TBD
		Artist Amplified; People's Pottery Project	August 15	6:30 PM	archiebray.org/events	Free
		Artist Amplified; Danielle O'Malley	September 19	6:00 PM	archiebray.org/events	Free
		Bray and Brews	July 19	4:00 PM	archiebray.org/events	Free
		Montana Clay Tour	July 20 & 21	10:00 AM	montanaclaytour.com	Free
		2024 MT Brewers Summer Rendezvous	August 3	3:00 PM	montanabrewers.org/events	\$25+
Lewis and Clark Library		Tiny Tot Tuesdays	July 16, 23, 30	10:30 AM	lclibrary.org/455	Free
		Tween STEAM	July 16, 23, 30	2:00 PM	lclibrary.org/455	Free
		Wonderful Wednesdays	July 17, 24, 31	10:30 AM	lclibrary.org/455	Free
		Teen/Tween Writer's Group	July 17, 24, 31	4:00 PM	lclibrary.org/455	Free
		Storytime in the Park	July 18, 25	10:30 AM	lclibrary.org/455	Free
		Youth Media Lab	July 18, 25, 31	2:00 PM	lclibrary.org/455	Free
		Talk & Walk Book club	July 17, 24, 31	10:00 AM	lclibrary.org/455	Free
Downtown Helena		Arts Festival Week	July 15-21	Daily	omertaarts.org	Free
Jeffers						
Trinity Espiscopal Church		Amoris Domicilium	September 14	2:00 PM	baroquemusicmontana.org	\$20
Kalispell						
Northwest Montana History Museum		Big Rock Candy Mountain Book Club	September 4	2:00 PM	nwmthistory.org	Free
Hockaday Museum of Art		Unsettled Lands: Manette Rene Bradford	July-Aug 31	Daily	hockadaymuseum.com	\$5+
		Artist Wilderness Connection: Celebrating Twenty Years	July-Oct 26	Daily	hockadaymuseum.com	\$5+
		Silver Linings: Clouds by Michelle Osman	Sept 7-Dec 15	Daily	hockadaymuseum.com	\$5+
Wachholz College Center		An Evening with Judy Collins	July 24	7:30 PM	wachholzcollegecenter.org	\$46+
		Toad the Wet Sprocket	July 25	7:30 PM	wachholzcollegecenter.org	\$35+
		Los Lobos: 50th Anniversary Tour	July 26	7:30 PM	wachholzcollegecenter.org	\$45+
		Yo-Yo Ma	August 3	7:30 PM	wachholzcollegecenter.org	\$180+
		Girl Named Tom	August 11	7:30 PM	wachholzcollegecenter.org	\$55.90+
		Bring them Home	August 29	6:00 PM	wachholzcollegecenter.org	\$25+
		Don McLean	September 4	7:30 PM	wachholzcollegecenter.org	\$45+
		Violinist Sarah Chang & Pianist Sonya Ovrutsky Fensome	September 22	3:00 PM	wachholzcollegecenter.org	\$47+
Lewistown						
Fergus High School		MT Cowboy Poetry Gathering & Western Music Rendezvous	August 8-11	Daily	montanacowboypoetrygathering.com	\$48+
Main Street		Chokecherry Festival	September 7	Daily	lewistownchokecherry.com	Free
Creekside Park		Centerfest	August 3	11:00 AM	centerfestmt.com	\$52+
Livingston						
The Blue Slipper Theatre		Once by Enda Walsh	August 23-25, 29-31	TBD	blueslipper.org/once	TBD
Shane Lalani Center for the Arts		2024 Montana Chamber Music Festival	July 24	7:00 PM	montanachambermusic.org	\$10+
		Summer Concert Series - Montana Deluxe	July 18	5:00 PM	theshanecenter.org	Free
		An Evening with Roy Rogers & Ramblin' Jack Elliott	July 20	7:00 PM	theshanecenter.org	\$100+
		Summer Concert Series - Jack Barksdale with Mike Meadows	July 25	5:00 PM	theshanecenter.org	Free
		2024 Spotlight Gala	August 24	5:30 PM	theshanecenter.org	\$125+
		Crying Uncle Bluegrass	September 7	7:00 PM	theshanecenter.org	\$15+
The Dulcie Theatre		MSU School of Music	September 15	3:00 PM	theshanecenter.org	Free
Missoula						
The Wilma		Blitzen Trapper	July 12	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com	\$22+
		Shakey Graves	July 19	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com	\$45+
		Strfkr	July 31	8:00 PM	logjampresents.com	\$22+
		Norman Maclean Literary Festival	September 27-29	9:30 AM	macleanfootsteps.com	Free
Washington Grizzly Stadium		P!nk	August 28	6:30 PM	logjampresents.com	\$69.65+
Downtown Missoula		First Friday Art Walk	July-Aug 2, Sept 6	5:00 PM	artsmissoula.org	Free
Caras Park		Unseen Missoula: Basements and Back Alleys	July-September	4:00 PM & 10:00 AM	missouladowntown.com	\$15
		2024 MT Brewers Fall Rendezvous	September 21	3:00 PM	montanabrewers.org/events	\$25+
Bonner Park		Missouls City Band Summer Concert Series	July 17, 24, 31 Aug 7	7:30 PM	missoulacityband.org	Free
Missoula Children's Theatre		The Addams Family Performing Arts Camp	Thru Jul 21	5:00 PM	mctinc.org	\$350
		The Addams Family	July 20 & 21	4:00 PM & 6:00 PM	mctinc.org	\$5+
		Let it Be Performing Arts Camp	Jul 2-Aug 10	5:00 PM	mctinc.org	\$350
		Let it Be	August 9 & 10	5:00 PM & 7:00 PM	mctinc.org	\$5+

Missoula Children's Theatre		Charlotte's Web	September 21	10:00 AM & 12:00 PM	mctinc.org	\$5+
		A Midsummer Night's Dream Production Class	Sept 10-Oct 6	4:00 PM	mctinc.org	\$200
		Alice in Wonderland Production Class	Sept 16-Oct 2	4:00 PM	mctinc.org	\$200
		Finding Nemo Production Class	Sept 24-Nov 2	4:00 PM	mctinc.org	\$250
Missoula Public Library		Birding Journals for Kids	July 2	1:00 PM	missoulapubliclibrary.org	Free
		The Hearing Dog	July 12	2:00 PM	missoulapubliclibrary.org	Free
		Altered Books for Everyone	July 14	1:30 PM	missoulapubliclibrary.org	Free
	 	Mission2Mars	July 20	1:30 PM	missoulapubliclibrary.org	Free
		Game Day Jr.	July 21	1:00 PM	missoulapubliclibrary.org	Free
		Breaking Some Moves	July 30	1:30 PM	missoulapubliclibrary.org	Free
		Summer Celebration	August 3	12:00 PM	missoulapubliclibrary.org	Free
Riverside Parking Lot		Clark Fork Market	May-October	8:00 AM Saturdays	clarkforkmarket.com	Free
Radius Gallery		Beth Lo & Steven Young Lee	Jun 7-Jul 20	Daily	radiusgallery.com	Free
		K. Able, J. Indreland, J. Shear & D. Swenson	Jul 12-Aug 24	Daily	radiusgallery.com	Free
		Adrian Arleo	Jul 26-Sept 7	Daily	radiusgallery.com	Free
		Theo Ellsworth	Aug 16-Sept 21	Daily	radiusgallery.com	Free
		Carol Gouthro & Patti Warashina	Sept 13-Oct 23	Daily	radiusgallery.com	Free
		Downtown on Tap	September 24	5:00 PM	missouladowntown.com	Free
Missoula Art Museum		Summer Camp: Dream Books!	July 15-19	9:00 AM	missoulaartmuseum.org	\$100+
		Summer Camp: Sculpture	July 22-26	9:00 AM	missoulaartmuseum.org	\$100+
		Summer Camp: Pop! Art! Fun!	Jul 29-Aug 2	9:00 AM	missoulaartmuseum.org	\$100+
		Summer Camp: Mixed Media Madness	August 5-9	9:00 AM	missoulaartmuseum.org	\$100+
Zootown Arts Community Center		Martha's Children with Fritz Road & My Finest Hour	July 10	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$10+
		Margo Cliker	July 11	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$18+
		Amalganations' w/Pineapple Inc.	July 12	7:30 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$10+
		Windier w/ the Waddlers & Cactus Cuts	July 15	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$10+
		Less Talk, More Rock/All Music Trivia	July 17	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$10
		Winona Forever	July 18	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$15+
		Montana Songwriters Showcase	July 19	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$20
		Acalvaria + Axe of Volition	July 20	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$10+
		The Amazing Bubble Man	July 21	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$10+
		Notfavve, Lil Jane, Aydin Ray & Ben Das	July 23	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$10+
		Leisure Hour w/ The Western States & But I'm A Cheerleader	July 25	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$10+
		Jeff Rosenstock	July 26	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$25+
		Amy Silverberg	July 27	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$18+
		Sluice + Fust	July 30	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$12+
		Greg Freeman + Guidon Bear w/ Chris Sand	July 31	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$10+
		Lindsay Lou	September 20	7:00 PM	showroom.zootownarts.org	\$15+
Big Sky Brewing Co. Amphitheater		Up, Up & Away Summer Tour 24	July 8	7:00 PM	bigskybrew.com	\$49.50+
		The Avett Brothers	July 10	8:00 PM	bigskybrew.com	\$54.50+
		Dwight Yoakam	July 18	7:00 PM	bigskybrew.com	\$49+
		Koe Wetzal	August 7	8:00 PM	bigskybrew.comseries/	\$38+
Paradise Valley						
Pine Creek Lodge		Ryan Adams: Solo 2024	July 14	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	\$60+
		Shakey Graves	July 16 & 17	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	\$60+
		The Young Dubliners with Doublewide Dreams	July 19	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	\$25+
		MOE	July 26 & 27	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	\$56+
		Nick Shoulder & The Okay Cawdad	August 4	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	\$35+
		Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers - Spirit Trail	August 15	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	\$60+
		Creekside Revival Music Festival	August 22-25	5:00 PM & 12:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	\$30+
		Jampoke	August 28	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	Free
		Lena Marie Schiffer Trio	August 29	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	Free
		The Lil Smokies	August 30	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	\$30+
		Fooz Fighters	August 31	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	\$30+
		Johnny Dango	September 1	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	Free
		The High Hawks	September 6	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	\$30+
		Tophouse	September 21	7:00 PM	pinecreeklodgemontana.com	\$25+
Plentywood						
Sheridan Library		Bremen or Bust	June 26	11:00 AM	fortpecktheatre.org	\$6+
Polson						
Camp Marshall		Performing Arts Skills Camp	Jul 28-Aug 3	Daily	mctinc.org	\$625
Sandpiper Art and Gift Gallery		The Aye's Have It	Jul 15-Sept 13	Daily	sandpiperartgalleryandgifts.com	Free
		Upcycled and Recreated	Sept 16-Nov 1	Daily	sandpiperartgalleryandgifts.com	Free
Miracle of America Museum		Live History Days Celebration	July 20-21	9:00 AM	miracleofamericamuseum.org	\$5+


Red Lodge						
Broadway Street		Red Lodge Art Walk	July 13, Aug 10, Sept 14	3:00 PM	rlacf.org/red-lodge-art-walk	Free
Messiah Luthern Church		Amoris Domicilium	September 11	7:00 PM	baroquemusicmontana.org	\$40
Rexford						
Abayance Bay Marina		The Travelin' McCourys	July 6	5:00 PM	abayancebaymarina.com	\$32.50
		Blistered Earth	July 13	5:00 PM	abayancebaymarina.com	\$22
		The Wood Brothers	July 19	5:00 PM	abayancebaymarina.com	\$44.05
		The Red Clay Strays	July 27	5:00 PM	abayancebaymarina.com	\$37.75
		The Infamous Stringdusters and Molly Tuttle	August 3	5:00 PM	abayancebaymarina.com	\$43
		The War and Treaty & Texas Hill	August 11	4:00 PM	abayancebaymarina.com	\$48.25
		Molly Hatchet	August 17	5:00 PM	abayancebaymarina.com	\$32.50
		Glacier Symphony presents 'Water Music'	August 18	4:00 PM	abayancebaymarina.com	\$37.75
		Three Dog Night	August 23	5:00 PM	abayancebaymarina.com	\$53.50
		Craig Morgan	August 31	5:00 PM	abayancebaymarina.com	\$53.50
Ringling						
Ringling Church		Lands of the Free: Languages of Improvisation	August 14	6:30 PM	baroquemusicmontana.org	Donation
Rocky Boy						
		Rocky Boy Powwow	August 3-4	Daily	havrechamber.com/events	Free
Scobey						
Rex Theatre		Bremen or Bust	June 26	2:30 PM	fortpecktheatre.org	\$6+
Seeley Lake						
Community Foundation Building		Alpine Artisans Open Book Club	July 13	7:00 PM	alpineartisans.org	Free
		24th Loon and Fish Art Show	July 19-21	Daily	alpineartisans.org	Free
Various Locations		Nature of Art Workshops	September 20-22	9:00 AM	alpineartisans.org	\$30+
Shepherd						
Kania House		Lands of the Free: Languages of Improvisation	August 23	7:15 PM	baroquemusicmontana.org	\$5+
Stanford						
Stanford Fairgrounds		CMR Stampede Quick Finish Art & Auction	July 20	5:30 PM	cmrstampede.com	Free
Three Forks						
The Bridge near Three Forks		Rockin' The Rivers	August 8-10	Daily	rockintherivers.com	\$230+
Trego						
The Trego Pub		The Backwoods Accordion Festival	July 20	2:00 PM	facebook.com	Free
Virginia City						
Performing Arts Theatre		Rustele Your Bustle Vaudeville Show	July-Aug	4:00 PM	virginiacityplayers.com	\$15+
		The Wonderful Wizard of Oz + Vaudeville	July 12-14, 19-21	2:00 PM & 7:00 PM	virginiacityplayers.com	\$17+
		Christmas in July	July 23-28	2:00 PM, 4:00 PM & 7:00 PM	virginiacityplayers.com	\$17+
		The Wolfman of the West + Vaudeville	August-Sept 1	2:00 PM & 7:00 PM	virginiacityplayers.com	\$17+
St. Paul's Episcopal Church		2024 Montana Chamber Music Festival	July 27	7:00 PM	montanachambermusic.org	Free
		Lands of the Free: Languages of Improvisation	August 24	7:00 PM	baroquemusicmontana.org	\$20
West Yellowstone						
Pioneer Park		Music in the Park - Lies or Lullabies	July 20	6:00 PM	destinationyellowstone.com	Free
		Music in the Park - Tail-Hooked	August 2	7:00 PM	destinationyellowstone.com	Free
		Music in the Park - The Waiting	August 3	12:00 PM	destinationyellowstone.com	Free
		Music in the Park - Slamabama	August 10	7:00 PM	destinationyellowstone.com	Free
		Music in the Park - Austin English + Band	August 24	6:00 PM	destinationyellowstone.com	Free
Whitefish						
For Fine Art		Denise Gilroy	August 1	Daily	forfineart.com/events	Free
		Ken Yarus	September 5	Daily	forfineart.com/events	Free
Big Mountain Ranch		Under the Big Sky Music and Arts Festival	July 12-14	Daily	underthebigskyfest.com	\$125+
North Valley Music School		Mini Music Camp	July 15-18	12:30 PM	northvalleymusicschool.org	\$145
		Flathead Valley Youth Symphony	Sept 16-Dec 9	7:00 PM	northvalleymusicschool.org	\$75
Stillwater Landing		The Montana Music Event	August 11	6:00 PM	northvalleymusicschool.org	\$5+
Whitefish Performing Arts		Broadway Concert Series	August 1-4	8:00 PM	atpwhitefish.org/shows	\$10+
Various Galleries		Whitefish Gallery Nights	July-Aug 1, Sept 5	5:00 PM	whitefishgallerynights.org	Free
Whitehall						
Copper K Barn		Copper K Fibre Festival	July 20-21	9:00 AM	copperkfiberfestival.com	\$85+
White Sulphur Springs						
Jackson Ranch		Red Ants Pants	July 25-28	Daily	redantspantsmusicfestival.com	\$70+

SAVE THE DATE!

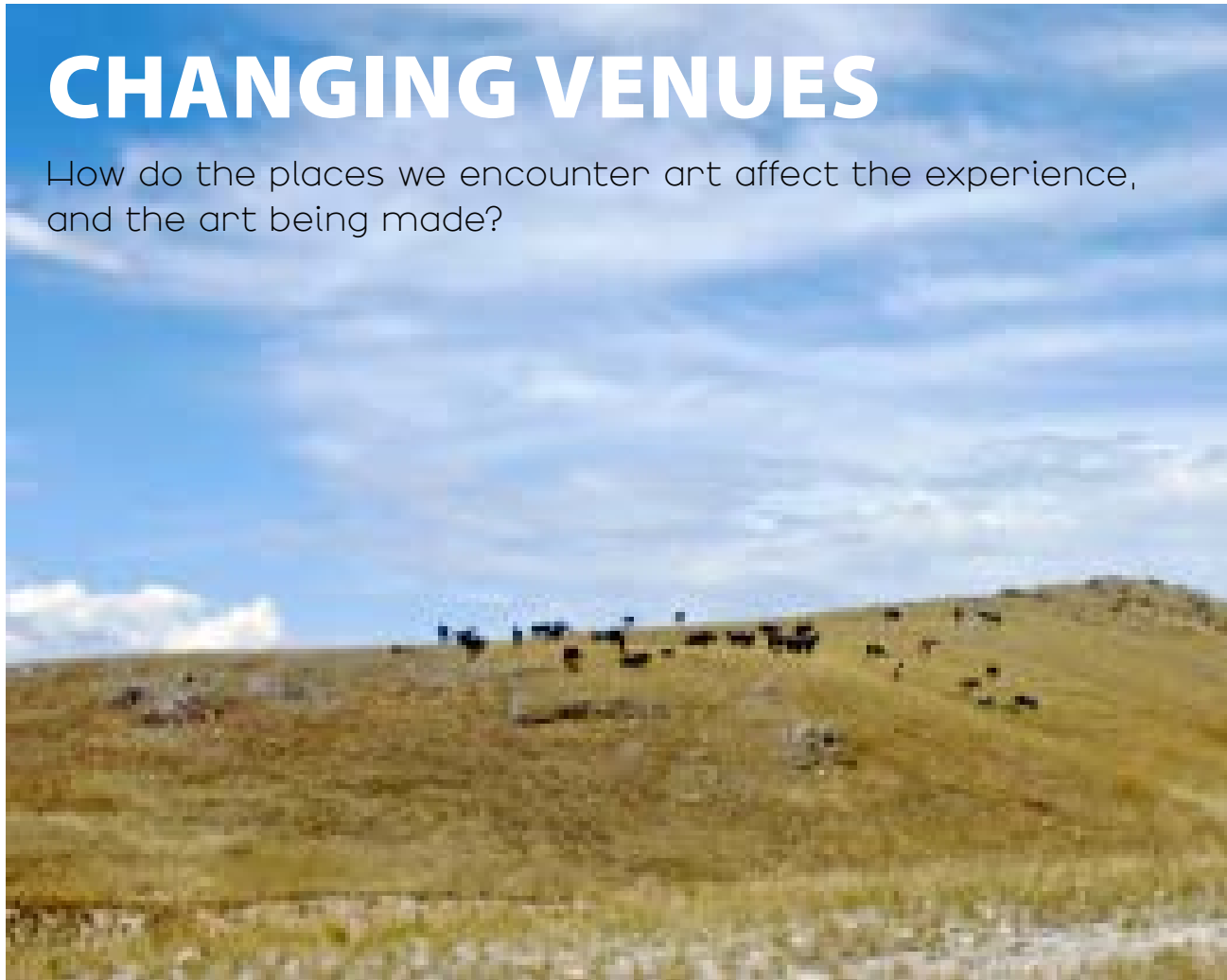
Montana Antiques Appraisal Fair in Kalispell - September 14th

For more information, visit www.mthistory.org/appraisalfair

Montana Shakespeare in the Park

Anaconda - Washoe Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	August 31	5:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Big Sky - Town Center Plaza		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 27	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Billings - North Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	July 20	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Billings - North Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 21	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Birney - Poker Jim Butte		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 11	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Boulder - Jefferson County Fairgrounds		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	September 4	5:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Bozeman - Grant Chamberlain Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	September 10	5:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Butte - Stodden Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	September 2	5:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Charlo - Palmer Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 22	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Chico - Chico Main Lawn		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 25	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Choteau - Weatherbeater/TASGA Grounds		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	August 10	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Colstrip - Rye Park Pavillion		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	July 10	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Columbus - Heritage Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 23	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Conrad - Swimming Pool Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 9	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Cut Bank - Cut Bank City Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 11	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Deer Lodge - Old Prison Yard		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	August 3	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Dillon - Montana Western Legacy Plaza		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 2	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Eureka - Tobacco Valley Historical Village		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	August 14	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Fishtail - Fishtail Family Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	July 22	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Fort Benton - Fort Benton City Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 8	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Gardiner - Arch Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	July 24	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Great Falls - Gibson Park Bandshell		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	August 7	3:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Hamilton - Sapphire Lutheran Homes		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	August 24	5:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Hamilton - Sapphire Lutheran Homes		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 25	5:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Hardin - South Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 19	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Helena - Anchor Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	August 5	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Helena - Anchor Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 6	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Kalispell - Woodland Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	August 12	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Lewistown - Utica Women's Clubhouse		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 5	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Libby - Libby Elementary School Amphitheater		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 15	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Livingston - The Blake Pavilion at the Shane Center		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	September 6	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Malta - Trafton Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 3	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Miles City - Riverside Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 7	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Missoula - The Oval		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 27	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Missoula - The Oval		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	August 29	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Philipsburg - Winninghoff Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 30	5:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Plains - Sanders County Fairgrounds		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 19	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Polson - Boettcher Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	August 20	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Pony - Pony Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	September 7	5:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Red Lodge - Lions Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 14	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Roundup - Roundup City Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	July 9	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Seeley Lake - Double Arrow Lodge		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 26	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Sidney - Veterans Memorial Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 1	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Silver Gate - Silver Gate Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	July 15	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Superior - Mineral County Fairgrounds		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	August 23	6:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Townsend - Heritage Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	September 1	5:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Trout Creek - Trout Creek Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	August 18	5:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Twin Bridges - Soccer Field at Riverside Park/Fairgrounds		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	September 9	5:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Utica - Creekside Marketplace & Pavillion		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	July 4	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
White Sulphur Springs - Castle Museum Lawn		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	September 5	5:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Whitehall - Star Theatre - Main Street Green		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	September 8	5:00 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Wolf Point - Faith Nursing Home Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	July 2	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Worland - Sanders Park		Shakespeare in the Park - Winter's Tale	July 13	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free
Zortman - Antelope Creek Campground		Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet	July 6	6:30 PM	https://shakespeareintheparks.org/shakespeare-in-the-parks/	Free

This issue...



Bleu Horses by Jim Dolan

CHANGING VENUES

How do the places we encounter art affect the experience, and the art being made?

FEATURING

STATEWIDE SECTION

- 2 Art News
- 3 In Memory...

PERFORMING ARTS SECTION

- 4-8 Music
- 9 Theatre

NATIVE ARTS SECTION

- 10-13 Art News

LITERARY ARTS SECTION

- 14-15 Book Reviews

VISUAL ARTS SECTION

- 16 Adrian Arleo
- 17 Hidden Treasures
- 18 Fiber Artists
- 19 Sharon Knauth
- 20-21 Miracle of America Museum

ARTS LEARNING SECTION

- 21-23 Art News

SUMMER ARTS CALENDAR

- 24-29 Montana Summer Events

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