



## William B. Pratt Endowment Guidelines

### Media Arts

*Do you have a true story to tell about the arts, culture, or history in Montana?  
The William B Pratt Endowment Fund Media Arts Program may be able to help you share your story.*

**About the Donor:** This fund was established by William B. Pratt who has a life-long interest in Traditional and Folk arts, with experience as a musician working in the folk tradition and as a living history and production artisan in forged iron. This fund also honors his work in documentary and industrial film/video production, fostering community video efforts, and his extensive experience in grants administration, the development of arts and nonprofit organizations, and fostering philanthropy in the state.

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### PURPOSE

The William B. Pratt Endowment Fund is a legacy gift to the people of Montana to help them tell and share stories – especially the untold ones – about Montana's arts, culture, and history. The Fund's Media Arts Program will provide small grants (up to \$2,000) to support the production, education, distribution, or presentation of Media Arts in Montana.

#### Media arts include:

- Photography
- Film
- Video
- Audio
- Multimedia
- Digitally generated and distributed media

### WHAT WE FUND

**Projects must focus on Montana's arts, culture, or history and may fall into one of these categories:**

#### 1. Documentary Media Production

Pre-production, production, or post-production of original documentary work about Montana. This includes research, scripting, recording, editing, or restoration for the documentary being created.

**Defining Documentary Media:** A practice of media making that deals with actual and factual (historical and contemporary) issues (ideally, from multiple points of view), institutions, and people; whose purpose is to educate, inform, communicate, persuade, raise consciousness, or satisfy curiosity; in which the viewer is commonly addressed as a citizen of a public sphere; whose materials are selected and arranged from what already exists (rather than being made up); and whose methods involve recording 'real people' as themselves in actual locations, using natural light and ambient sound.

#### 2. Media Arts Education

Programs involving professional media artists: K-12 artist residencies, after-school or community workshops, or tribal college-level media arts programs, that help participants produce their own media about their communities.

### **3. Festivals/Public Programs**

Events or programs that present documentaries related to Montana's arts, culture, or history, including costs related to presenting the work and participating artists.

**Eligible costs:** Artist fees and honoraria, production costs, program delivery expenses.

#### **WHO MAY APPLY:**

- 501(c)(3) nonprofits, local/state/tribal governments, or individuals applying through a fiscal sponsor.
- One application per organization per year, except organizations serving as fiscal sponsors for one or more media artists may submit multiple applications, including an application for the organization's own programmatic purposes.
- We encourage applications led by or involving professional:
  - Women media artists
  - Tribal media artists
  - Rural media artists
  - Artists from underserved communities
- Collaborative projects that advance Media Arts—such as forming local, regional, or statewide associations, providing technical or business support for media artists, or expanding media arts programming—may be considered case-by-case.

**Indigenous Involvement:** The Fund aims for at least 25% of annual grants to benefit Montana Indigenous artists, organizations, tribes and/or urban Indian communities.

- If the project includes Indigenous professional media artists, please submit documentation confirming tribal enrollment of a federally recognized tribe.
- If your project represents Indigenous communities but is not Indigenous led, describe how the community is involved in the project, including consultation or letters of support when possible.

#### **WHAT WE DO NOT FUND**

- General operating support
- News programming, public service announcements, instructional productions
- Purchase or rental of non-Montana public television or radio and public access programming
- Student media productions without a professional media artist leading
- Fictional productions or reenactments presented as factual
- Projects not related to Montana
- College or university courses are not eligible, except those offered through a tribal college.
- Projects that function as marketing, advocacy, public relations, or fundraising for a particular organization
- Talk or interview shows

#### **GRANT AMOUNTS**

- Grants range from \$500 to \$2,000.
- Small grants requests less than \$750 can apply using a simplified application form.
- Partial funding may be awarded.
- A dollar-for dollar match is encouraged but may be waived if it is a barrier.

#### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

- Applicants are encouraged to contact MCF staff to discuss their proposed project.
- Apply online at [MTCF.org](http://MTCF.org).

- Reporting consists of a short reflection (written) within 12 months.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

Grants are awarded through a competitive review process. A committee evaluates and scores all applications and makes funding recommendations based on available funds.