



## 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.

---

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 Media Arts Program will support projects that encourage the production or education of Media Arts in Montana.**

Media arts refers to creative practices that use digital, electronic, or multimedia tools to produce works in areas like video, photography, sound, and multimedia. The Media Arts Program will provide grants to support the production, education, distribution, and presentation of Media Arts in Montana

**The media arts include:**

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

**Documentary Media Production** is defined as 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.

**Eligibility:**

- Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) organizations and governments including local, state, and tribal governments. Individual artist and other entities may apply under a fiscal sponsorship.
- Each organization may submit one application per year. However, 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.

- Applications are encouraged that involve professional media artists who are women, tribal members, rurally based, or are from populations that can be considered underserved.
- Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact MCF staff to discuss their project prior to applying.

### Eligible Project:

- Media Arts applications may be made in one of the following three major categories: **Pre-production, production, or post-production costs; Festivals or public programs; or Media Arts Education programs.**
  - **Pre-production, production, or post-production costs** for well-researched and -thought out original documentaries about Montana's arts, culture and history, including those produced by Montana public radio, public television or public access or tribal stations; Montana nonprofit organizations with a media arts-related mission; and professional media artists working under the fiscal sponsorship of a nonprofit organization that has a mission to support media and other artists. Support for animation, graphics and film, video or audio restoration may be requested but only for the documentary being produced.
    - The Media Arts program will support projects that are in the early stages of pre-production, including research, script development, and identification of production resources and personnel.
  - **Festivals or public programs**, which, in whole or part, present documentaries about Montana's arts, culture and history, and which request support to defray the cost of media productions to be presented, the involvement of professional media artists, and related program costs.
  - **Media Arts Education programs**, which involve professional media artists, may be: In-school (K-12) Artist in Residence programs, After-school and community-based programs, which include media history, aesthetics and the crafts of production and enable participants to create mini-documentaries that focus on the arts, culture and history of their communities, or Programs at tribal colleges in Montana.
- Eligible costs include fees, honoraria, and associated program costs for the involvement of professional media artists.
- Cooperative projects or initiatives that are within the intent of the programs purpose and aim to improve the field of Media Arts, may be considered on a case-by-case basis. These projects or initiatives may include the creation of local, regional or statewide Media arts associations, offering technical or business assistance for media artists, or encouraging arts organizations to offer media arts programming.

### Ineligible Projects

- General Operating Support
- Public service announcements
- Instructional productions
- Purchase or rental of non-Montana public television or radio and public access programming
- News programming
- Student media productions with no professional media artist directing the project.
- Fictional media or dramatic productions
- Media festivals or public presentations not related to Montana.
- College or university courses, except for tribal colleges
- Docudramas, re-enactments or projects that can be perceived as celebratory, marketing, advocacy, public service announcements or fundraising for a particular organization.
- Talk or interview shows.

**Indigenous Involvement:** The Fund has a goal of making a minimum of 25% of the grant distribution to benefit Montana Indigenous artists or organizations, Montana tribes and/or urban Indian communities in Montana.

- For projects involving Indigenous professional media artists, applicants must attach documentation that they are enrolled members of federally or state recognized tribes.
- If a project conducted by non-Indigenous organizations involves Indigenous artist/organizations/communities or cultures, the applicant must describe how representatives of those communities are being consulted and involved and, when possible, document involvement through letters of support; or address why they are not involved.

**Grant Amounts:** Grants will range from \$500 to \$2,000. Small grants requests less than \$750 can apply using a simplified application form. Partial funding may be awarded.

**Matching requirements:** All grants must be matched dollar-for-dollar in cash or a combination of cash and in-kind contributions. Applicants are encouraged to seek multiple funding sources.

A waiver of the dollar-for-dollar match requirement is available for applicants where the match requirement is a barrier to apply. Please contact Elisa Fiaschetti at [elisa@mtcf.org](mailto:elisa@mtcf.org) for additional information.

### **Application Process**

- Qualified applicants can apply online at MTCF.org.
- Only online applications will be accepted. Please contact us if you have accessibility challenges with an online application process.

**Review Process:** The William B Pratt Endowment Media Arts program awards grants on a competitive basis. Funding is limited. A grant review committee will score and evaluate each application and make award recommendations.

**Reporting:** A project report will be due within one year of receiving funds. Project reports must be received before additional grants are made.

---