



## Grant Guidelines for the William B. Pratt Endowment Fund

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 and to learn about the traditional art forms and cultures of this unique state. Each year, the fund awards grants to benefit Montana Indigenous, Folk, Traditional, and Media Arts.

The William B. Pratt Fund will make grants:

- To build awareness, involvement, and preservation of Indigenous, Folk, and Traditional Arts in Montana,
- To encourage the education about, as well as the production and presentation of, the Media Arts in Montana, and
- For collaborative efforts that strengthen the fields of the Indigenous, Traditional, Folk or Media Arts in the state

**The 2021 grant cycle opens on January 18, 2021. Grant applications will be accepted until March 31 at 5 pm (MST).**

Applicants are eligible to apply in one of three funding areas:

- Strengthening the Fields of the Indigenous, Traditional and Folk or Media Arts
- Media Arts Education programs
- Montana's Indigenous, Traditional, and Folk Arts

Below is more information about requirements to apply for each funding area. If after reading guidelines, the grant program seems applicable to your project, MCF recommends that you contact the program director to discuss your proposed application. If you have any additional questions, contact Jessica Stewart-Kuntz at [jessica@mtcf.org](mailto:jessica@mtcf.org) or (406) 441-4950.

### **Strengthening the Fields of the Indigenous, Traditional and Folk or Media Arts**

Periodically, grants may be made for collaborative projects that systemically support the development and strengthening of the fields of the Indigenous, Traditional and Folk or Media Arts. This may be accomplished, for example, through needs assessments, facilitated visioning sessions or focus groups, convenings, workshops, conferences, and organizational development. Support may be requested for the involvement of professional facilitators, resource people with expertise in various aspects of organizational development, representatives of

organizations that have experience in strengthening the fields of the Indigenous, Traditional and Folk or Media Arts, as well as professional media artists.

**Ineligible purposes that apply to ALL applications:**

Fellowships, awards or scholarships to support study at institutions of higher learning,  
Equipment or other capital expenditures,  
Administration and general organizational expenses,  
Debt, liabilities, or expenses incurred before the beginning of the grant period,  
Fundraising expenses, Endowments, and applications from religious organizations or programs of a religious nature conducted by organizations whose primary mission is not religious.

**Eligible Applicants:** Montana 501(c)(3) organizations, local, state, and tribal governments are eligible to apply. Note: Media artists who are not staff of a 501(c)(3) organization may apply under the fiscal sponsorship of a 501(c)(3) organization that provides this service for media and other artists.

**Each organization may only 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 and recognized Indigenous traditional or folk artists who are women, tribal members, rurally-based, or are from populations that can be considered underserved.

For projects involving Native American professional media artists or Native American artists in the Traditional Indigenous or Folk Arts, must attach documentation that they are enrolled members of federally-or state-recognized tribes. **Note: All Native American artists in the Traditional Indigenous or Folk arts, must be enrolled in federally or state-recognized tribes in Montana, applicants must document this by providing a copy of their tribal ID, BIA Family Tree, tribal enrollment number, or a letter from the tribal administrator.**

For Non-Native Americans Working with Native American communities in Montana. The Fund has a goal of making 25% of the grant distribution for the benefit of residents of Indian reservations and/or in urban Indian communities in Montana. If a project conducted by Non-Native Americans involves Native American communities or cultures, the applicant must describe how those community representatives are being consulted and involved and, when possible, document

tribal involvement through letters of support; or address why they are not involved.

If the project serves tribal or rural communities or other underserved populations the applicant must describe how the community or population served is involved in its development and implementation, e.g., through planning sessions, and/or activities such as internships, apprentice, and other educational work-related endeavors.

**Grant Amounts:** Grants will range from \$500 to \$2,000.

**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.

### **Media Arts Education programs, which involve professional media artists**

This 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.

### **Documentary Media Production is defined as:**

A practice of media making (film, video, audio, and photography) 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.

### **Ineligible Projects**

Public service announcements.

Instructional productions.

Purchase or rental of non-Montana public television or radio and public access programming.

News programming.

Student media productions.

Theatrical productions.

Media festivals or public presentations of a general nature.

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.

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### **Montana's Indigenous, Traditional, and Folk Arts**

Indigenous, Traditional Arts, and Folk Arts include arts indigenous to an identifiable

group. This group can be any community defined by such qualities as its ethnicity, geography, language, religion, or occupation. In some instances, it can also include familial groups. The Indigenous, Traditional, and Folk arts contain arts such as fine handcraft, decorative arts, dance, music and poetry, instrumental music, storytelling, and oral literature, foodways, and local architecture. These arts are tied to identity, reflecting the aesthetics and values of that specific community from which they arise. They often become symbols of a group's identity or heritage, communicating the group's values to the outside world.

**Eligible Purposes:** Exhibits, performances, apprenticeships, festivals, community celebrations, in-school and after-school community learning programs, and print or audio/visual documentation, which involve recognized, Indigenous, Traditional artists and Folk Arts. Applications may be submitted to support fees, honoraria, and associated program costs for the involvement of recognized Montana Indigenous, Traditional, or Folk Artists. Projects must involve Living Traditional, Indigenous, or Folk Artists. Projects requesting funding for a Traditional, Indigenous, or Folk Arts festival must use that funding for the educational component of the festival (performance, lectures, demonstrations, etc.) as opposed to the marketing or commercial elements of the festival and specify when and where (community and venue) event will take place.

**A brief note on capital expenditures:** Funding the involvement of living Traditional, Indigenous, or Folk Artists is of primary interest. However, funding of temporary exhibit design or preparation costs, materials, stabilization, and construction may be considered, especially if it involved other costs such as insurance for exhibit objects or materials relating to the exhibit, e.g. signage, brochure, audio-video presentations, etc.

**Ineligible Purposes:** "Folkloric" or interpretive programs by artists not from the culture to be presented, historical and oral historical programs, or reenactments.

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