

William B. Pratt Endowment Guidelines Indigenous, Folk, and Traditional Arts in Montana

About the Donor: This fund was established by William B. Pratt who has a life-long interest in Indigenous, Folk and Traditional 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 and to learn about the traditional art forms and cultures of this unique state. **The Indigenous, Folk, and Traditional Arts Program provides support to build awareness, involvement and the preservation of Indigenous, Folk, and Traditional Arts in Montana.**

Indigenous, Traditional Arts and Folk Arts include arts original 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 include:

- Fine handcraft
- Decorative arts
- Dance
- Poetry
- Instrumental and vocal music
- Storytelling and oral literature
- Foodways
- 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.

Eligibility:

- Eligible Project:
 - 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.
 - Eligible costs include 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.
 - 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.

- Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) Organizations and governments including local, state, and tribal governments. Individual artists 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 artists may submit multiple applications, including an application for the organization's own programmatic purposes
- Applications are encouraged that involve professional artists who are women, tribal members, rurally-based, or are from populations that can be considered underserved.

Ineligible Project

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

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

- For projects involving Indigenous traditional artists applicants must attach documentation that they are enrolled members of a federally recognized tribe in Montana, i.e. those represented on the seven Indian reservations in the state or the Little Shell Chippewa Tribe.
- If a project conducted by non-Indigenous organizations involves Indigenous artist/organizations/communities or cultures, the applicant must describe how those community representatives 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.

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 for additional information.

Review Process: The William B Pratt Endowment Indigenous, Traditional Arts and Folk 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.