



# THE MONTANA HISTORY FOUNDATION

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For Immediate Release

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## **Montana History Foundation Announces \$117,000 in Statewide Grants**

Today, 29 projects and organizations that preserve Montana's history are collectively \$117,000 richer, and the money comes from a grant program most people don't even know exists.

Wednesday, the Montana History Foundation announced the recipients of this year's statewide grants. Since 2012, the MHF has awarded annual grants to projects and organizations that work to preserve and protect the historic legacy of Montana. This year, the Foundation gave away the largest amount ever at \$117,180.

"Our grant recipients are new and unique every year," MHF President and CEO Charlene Porsild says. "We are so proud to support projects from Libby to Ekalaka and all points in between this year ranging from interpretive signage of outdoor exhibits to curation of dinosaur fossils to restoration work on a log cabin or an historic hotel."

The money will be disbursed to projects in 20 counties across the state ranging in value from \$750 to \$5,000. Big Horn, Carter, Golden Valley, Lake, and Meagher Counties will receive MHF grant funding for the first time.

"It is our mission to support projects small and large," Porsild said. "And this year's winners really reflect the quality of preservation work being accomplished across the state."

Private sources support the awards through gifts, grants, and other contributions. As statewide knowledge of the program increases, the MHF hopes to spread even more wealth to preservation projects next year.

Please see below for a list of funded grant projects near your community. The statewide list is attached. For additional information about specific projects, please contact MHF Programs Director Gena Ashmore.

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The Montana History Foundation started in 1985. It's an independent, non-profit corporation preserving the rich legacy of Montana's past one story, one community, and one project at a time. With the help of donors, the MHF has put nearly \$3 million into history projects in Montana communities. For more information on the MHF, including how to donate and apply for grants, visit [www.mthistory.org](http://www.mthistory.org).



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## 2017 Montana History Foundation grants:

### Great Falls

#### Historic Buildings & Structures:

Belt Theater Company

Belt, Cascade County

\$5000

Replace the rear pedestrian bridge to Butte St. in the 1916 Knights of Pythias Building (Belt Theater Building). Serves as a second floor fire escape.

C.M. Russell Museum

Great Falls, Cascade County

\$5,000

Charles M. Russell House Conservation Project

Lewistown Historic Resources Commission

Lewistown, Fergus County

\$3,000

Lewistown cemeteries, mausoleum & gravestone preservation

North Central Montana Retired Educators Association

Great Falls, Cascade County

\$5,000

Zion School paint and restoration project

Sun River Valley Historical Society

Fort Shaw, Cascade County

\$5,000

Adobe Wall repair

#### Collections & Artifacts:

Upper Musselshell Museum

Harlowton, Wheatland

\$1080

Military clothing protection and photo media supplies

Montana State University Library

White Sulphur Springs, Meagher County

\$5,000

“The History of Weather in Doig Country: Tying Regional Interviews to Place-based Literature”

### Helena

#### Historic Buildings & Structures:

Friends of the Elkhorn Water Tank



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Elkhorn, Jefferson County  
\$5,000  
Elkhorn Water Tank Restoration

Helmville Community Club  
Helmville, Powell County  
\$5,000  
Helmville Grandstand restoration

The Original Montana Club  
Helena, Lewis and Clark County  
\$5,000  
Stained glass window restoration

**Collections & Artifacts:**

Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives  
Butte, Silver Bow County  
\$1,000  
“A Walk Through Butte’s History in 100 Objects”

City of Helena  
Helena, Lewis and Clark County  
\$750  
Helena City Council minute books preservation project

Montana Heritage Commission  
Nevada City, Madison County  
\$5,000  
Nevada City music machine restoration

Upper Musselshell Museum  
Harlowton, Wheatland  
\$1080  
Military clothing protection and photo media supplies

**Research, Education, Outreach & Oral Histories:**

Montana State University Library  
White Sulfur Springs, Meagher County  
\$5,000  
“The History of Weather in Doig Country: Tying Regional Interviews to Place-based Literature”

**Billings**

**Historic Buildings & Structures:**

Friends of the Historic Adams Hotel  
Lavina, Golden Valley County  
\$5,000  
Foundation/Basement repair/Structural engineer as part of a rehabilitation service proposal.

Lewistown Historic Resources Commission



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Lewistown, Fergus County  
\$3,000  
Lewistown cemeteries, mausoleum & gravestone preservation

**Collections & Artifacts:**

Carter County Museum  
Ekalaka, Carter County  
\$5,000  
Collections rehousing at Carter County Museum

Upper Musselshell Museum  
Harlowton, Wheatland  
\$1080  
Military clothing protection and photo media supplies

Western Heritage Center  
Billings, Yellowstone County  
\$850  
Photograph collections

**Research, Education, Outreach & Oral Histories:**

Billings Preservation Society, Inc./Moss Mansion Museum  
Billings, Yellowstone County  
\$5,000  
Moss Mansion Museum research and development for new self-guided tours

Crow Language Consortium  
Hardin, Big Horn County  
\$5,000  
Crow Dictionary project

**Bozeman**

**Historic Buildings & Structures:**

City of Livingston  
Livingston, Park County  
\$5,000  
Phase II of the Livingston Commercial Historic District Survey Project

Friends of the Elkhorn Water Tank  
Elkhorn, Jefferson County  
\$5,000  
Elkhorn Water Tank Restoration

Lincoln School Foundation  
Livingston, Park County  
\$5,000  
Phased window replacement project

**Collections & Artifacts:**



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Montana Heritage Commission  
Nevada City, Madison County  
\$5,000  
Nevada City music machine restoration

Yellowstone Gateway Museum of Park County  
Livingston, Park County  
\$5,000  
Railroad collection: cataloging and archival storage

**Research, Education, Outreach & Oral Histories:**

Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives  
Butte, Silver Bow County  
\$1,000  
“A Walk Through Butte’s History in 100 Objects”

**Kalispell papers**

**Historic Buildings & Structures:**

Hockaday Museum of Art  
Kalispell, Flathead County  
\$1,750  
Trim and architrave restoration part II

Ninepipes Museum of Early Montana  
Charlo, Lake County  
\$5,000  
Jocko Valley Cabin project

**Research, Education, Outreach & Oral Histories:**

The Heritage Museum  
Libby, Lincoln County  
\$5,000  
Outdoor signs and interpretive displays at the Heritage Museum

**Missoula/Kalispell TV**

**Historic Buildings & Structures:**

Hockaday Museum of Art  
Kalispell, Flathead County  
\$1,750  
Trim and architrave restoration part II

Helmville Community Club  
Helmville, Powell County  
\$5,000  
Helmville Grandstand restoration

Ninepipes Museum of Early Montana  
Charlo, Lake County



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\$5,000  
Jocko Valley Cabin project

Plains Woman's Club  
Plains, Sanders County  
\$4,000  
Old Log Schoolhouse roof replacement and building stabilization

**Collections & Artifacts:**

Paradise Elementary School Preservation Committee  
Paradise, Sanders County  
\$5,000  
"When the Whistle Blew: A Company Town"

Ravalli County Museum & Historical Society  
Hamilton, Ravalli County  
\$4,000  
Collections care project

**Research, Education, Outreach & Oral Histories:**

Sanders County Community Development Corp.  
Thompson Falls, Sanders County  
\$750  
Thompson Falls Community Trail interpretive sign/The Historic Lower Clark Fork Corridor

The Heritage Museum  
Libby, Lincoln County  
\$5,000  
Outdoor signs and interpretive displays at the Heritage Museum

**Hamilton Papers**

**Collections & Artifacts:**

Ravalli County Museum & Historical Society  
Hamilton, Ravalli County  
\$4,000  
Collections care project

**Polson papers**

**Historic Buildings & Structures:**

Hockaday Museum of Art  
Kalispell, Flathead County  
\$1,750  
Trim and architrave restoration part II

Ninepipes Museum of Early Montana  
Charlo, Lake County  
\$5,000



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Jocko Valley Cabin project

**Collections & Artifacts:**

Paradise Elementary School Preservation Committee

Paradise, Sanders County

\$5,000

“When the Whistle Blew: A Company Town”

Plains Woman’s Club

Plains, Sanders County

\$4,000

Old Log Schoolhouse roof replacement and building stabilization

**Research, Education, Outreach & Oral Histories:**

Sanders County Community Development Corp.

Thompson Falls, Sanders County

\$750

Thompson Falls Community Trail interpretive sign/The Historic Lower Clark Fork Corridor

**Sanders County papers**

**Historic Buildings & Structures:**

Plains Woman’s Club

Plains, Sanders County

\$4,000

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