For Immediate Release

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The Montana History Foundation and Big Timber Carnegie Public Library
Announce Book Launch Event

The Montana History Foundation and Big Timber Carnegie Public Library are celebrating the release of The Best Gift: Montana’s Carnegie Libraries with a book launch event September 7th.

The Best Gift: Montana’s Carnegie Libraries profiles each of Montana’s 17 Carnegie libraries. Built between 1901 and 1922, Andrew Carnegie, the era’s richest man, provided funding to help communities build their libraries. Today, fifteen of those libraries are still standing. Nine still serve their communities as libraries.

Author Kate Hampton provides background on how the libraries came to be and how they changed through the decades. Photographer Tom Ferris captures in stunning detail what makes each building architecturally unique. Historical photographs and original architectural drawings enhance the storytelling. New York Times bestselling author Jamie Ford delivers the forward.

“We are proud to share this book with the people of Montana,” says Montana History Foundation President/CEO Charlene Porsild. “It is a tribute to the many Montanans who made free, public libraries a reality in their communities.”
The book launch celebration will take place September 7th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Carnegie Public Library in Big Timber at 315 McLeod St. It will include a short program and book signing with author Kate Hampton and photographer Tom Ferris. The event also includes a first look at the traveling exhibit that will make its way to many of the communities with existing Carnegie libraries over the course of the next year.

*The Best Gift: Montana’s Carnegie Libraries* is available now at local bookstores or online at Amazon.com. For wholesale inquiries contact Farcountry Press at 1-800-821-3874.

For more information on *The Best Gift: Montana’s Carnegie Libraries*, or the book launch, please contact The Montana History Foundation at 406-449-3770 or the Big Timber Library at 406-932-5608.

This event is made possible through support from the Sweet Grass Community Foundation, the Friends of the Big Timber Carnegie Library and Tom & Barbi Donnelley (The Donnelley Foundation).

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