

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 6, 2021

Contact:
Melissa Jensen
Community Outreach Coordinator
(406) 449-3770
melissa@mthistory.org

MF

THE MONTANA HISTORY
FOUNDATION

History Foundation Announces \$128,000 in Funding for 2021 Preservation Projects

The [Montana History Foundation](http://mthistory.org) announces 21 projects across the state will receive a total of \$128,700 in grants for preservation in 2021. This year marks the 10th year of the History Foundation's grants program. Since 2012, the Foundation has invested more than \$1 million in over 260 community-based history projects across the state.

"Ten years of making grants is an incredible milestone in preserving Montana history – but it's one that could not be reached without those who are doing the work," says History Foundation President/CEO Charlene Porsild. "All across the state, those who share a love of Montana and its past are working hard to make sure this legacy lasts well into the future."

The History Foundation makes grants up to \$10,000. This year, four of the 21 projects to receive funding are:

- **Gardiner Community Center, Gardiner, \$10,000:** The Greater Gardiner Community Council (GGCC) will repair the exterior masonry of the 1910 Gardiner Opera House, for use now as the community center.
- **Fort Assinniboine Officers' Amusement Hall, Havre, \$10,000:** Fort Assinniboine Preservation Association, Inc. will make repairs to the roof of the Officer's Amusement Hall, which was built in 1886 to host dances and social activities at the fort. They will also reconstruct a previously existing stage structure.

-cont-



THE MONTANA HISTORY FOUNDATION

- **The Story of Us: A History of the Women Who Shaped Montana, Bozeman, \$8,000:** The Extreme History Project will create a six-minute vignette on Sarah Bickford, a freed slave who rose to prominence in Virginia City by becoming the first woman to own a public utility.

- **Historic Bluestone House Cupola Repair, Helena, \$8,000:** The Montana Wilderness Association will restore the corner turret on the 1889 Bluestone House, one of the most recognizable buildings on Helena's skyline.

"We are excited to announce our support of a tremendous range of projects in 2021," says Heritage Projects and Grants Manager Kate McCourt. "From preserving the rare adobe buildings at Fort Owen, to helping highlight Miss Montana's (WWII C-47 aircraft) historic flight back to Normandy, and even helping create a heritage orchard in Ekalaka, this year's projects continue the Foundation's efforts to bring Montana's past well into the future."

The Montana History Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity raising money to provide funding for history and preservation projects across Montana. You can see a [complete list of our 2021 grants here](#). For more information, or for help in contacting any of our 2021 grantees, please contact Melissa Jensen at melissa@mthistory.org.

####

