



\$ Dollars for Historic Preservation \$

This document identifies grant funders that Montana Historical Society recommends. This is not meant to be a comprehensive list, but rather a starting point. Depending on the details of your project, there may be other grant opportunities available that are not found here. Feel free to give our office a call with any questions.

Thanks and good luck!

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Primary Funders

Montana History Foundation: www.mthistory.org

- Grants for historic preservation, oral histories, artifact conservation, document digitization, museum exhibits, and more. Applicant must have nonprofit status or have a nonprofit fiscal sponsor to be funded.

Montana Arts Council: http://art.mt.gov/grants_awards_comm_home

- Grants for cultural and aesthetic projects including, but not limited to, the visual, performing, literary and media arts, history, archaeology, folklore, archives, collections, research, historic preservation and the construction or renovation of cultural facilities. Grant funds are derived from the interest earned on the Cultural Trust which comes from Montana's coal tax.

Montana Department of Commerce, Tourism Grants Program: <http://tourism.mt.gov/grants>

- Grants for projects that strengthen Montana's economy through the development and enhancement of the state's tourism industry. The grant program offers funding in three categories: tourism digital development, tourism infrastructure, and tourism event paid media advertising.

Montana Department of Transportation, Community Transportation Enhancement Program: <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/business/grants.shtml>

- Grant funding for pedestrian and bike paths, scenic easements, historic and archaeological sites, historic highway programs, landscaping and community beautification projects.

Montana Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office: <http://mhs.mt.gov/Shpo>

- Annual grant allocations for certified local governments (CLGs) in 16 Montana communities. Programs and projects are administered by local preservation offices. Funds are used to support historic preservation.
- When funding is available, SHPO may sub grant federal dollars to nonprofit organizations on a competitive basis for allowable preservation activities.

Montana Main Street Program: <http://comdev.mt.gov/Programs/MainStreet>

- Grants to help Montana Main Street communities strengthen and preserve their historic downtown commercial districts by focusing on economic development, urban revitalization, and historic preservation through long-range planning, organization, design, and promotion.

Montana Preservation Alliance: <http://www.preservemontana.org/>

- Provides assistance to nonprofits who work to save and protect Montana's historic places, traditional landscapes, and cultural heritage. MPA is a statewide, not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing Montanans with the resources necessary to preserve our state's unique history and culture. MPA may act as a fiscal sponsor in situations where one is needed.

Butte Citizens for Preservation and Revitalization, Inc.:

<http://www.buttecpr.org/services/grants.php>

- Grant funding for preservation of historic buildings and façade improvements in Butte, Montana. Butte CPR defines historic buildings as structures built during or before 1950.

Humanities Montana: <http://www.humanitiesmontana.org/>

- Humanities Montana is an independent nonprofit organization that provides grants and programs on history, literature, Native American cultures, and more all over the state of Montana.

Jerry Metcalf Foundation: <http://www.jerrymetcalfmontana.org/grantguidelines.html>

- Montana specific grants for the visual, performing, and literary arts, historical research and preservation, environmental research and conservation, and education and community health. Each spring, the Foundation awards around \$50,000 to selected individuals and organizations. Most grants that have been awarded are between \$1,000 to \$15,000.

Other Grant Funders

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation <http://www.achp.gov/funding-cultural.html>

- An online resource to help identify funding for a wide range of topics that include: historic properties, the arts, humanities, and museum development.

American Association of State and Local History: <http://www.aaslh.org/>

- National association that provides grants and funding for continuing education/training for state and local historians.

Big Sky Economic Development Trust Fund Planning Grant: www.bstf.mt.gov

- Grants or loans to assist with planning efforts to expand the economy or create jobs. Grants are funded through Montana Department of Commerce.

The Foster Foundation: http://thefosterfoundation.org/Grants_Guide.asp

- Grants for nonprofit organizations whose programs address one of our four priority issues—human welfare, education, medical research, treatment & care and arts & culture.

Grants.gov: <http://www.grants.gov/>

- The primary resource for all federal grant listings.

Institute for Museum and Library Services: <https://www.imls.gov/>

- National source of grant funding for a wide range of projects that may include museums, libraries, the arts, education, history, dance, design, literature, conservation, etc.

J.J. Kaplan Fund: <http://www.jmkfund.org/>

- Grants for historic preservation. The J.M. Kaplan Fund, a New York City–based family foundation, champions inventive giving that supports transformative social, national, environmental, and cultural causes.

Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation: Community Partners:

http://www.lowes.com/cd_The+Lowe's+Charitable+and+Educational+Foundation_474741445

- Grants for improving the communities we serve through support of public education and community improvement projects.

MDU Resources Foundation: <http://www.mdu.com/integrity/foundation>

- Grants supporting art and culture, education, health, and community development. MDU was founded in 1924 as a small electric utility serving a handful of farm communities on the border of Montana and North Dakota. Today it is a multibillion-dollar corporation with most of its offices headquartered in Bismarck, North Dakota.

MJ Murdock Charitable Trust: www.murdock-trust.org/

- Grants for nonprofit organizations that seek to strengthen the region's educational, spiritual, and cultural base in creative and sustainable ways.

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Montana Community Foundation: www.mtcf.org

- Grants that benefit Montana communities. By using income generated through permanently endowed funds, Montana Community Foundation funds other nonprofit organizations to help them establish stable incomes and to support their efforts.

Montana Conservation Corps: <http://mtcorps.org/>

- Montana Conservation Corps is a nonprofit organization that empowers youth and young adults through hands-on conservation service and education. Volunteers complete conservation projects in local communities, national forests, state and national parks, wildlife refuges and federally designated wilderness areas.

Montana Department of Commerce, Community Development Block Grants:

<http://comdev.mt.gov/Programs/CDBG>

- Grants for housing and neighborhood renewal, public facilities, planning grants, and economic development projects for communities with a population fewer than 50,000 residents.

Montana State University: <http://www.msucommunityresources.org/grantopps.asp>

- Grants for community friendly projects in small, underserved, struggling rural communities.

National Endowment for the Arts: <https://www.arts.gov/grants>

- Grants for organizations, individuals, and partnership agreements that include a number of eligible categories. The NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities.

National Endowment for the Humanities: <http://www.neh.gov/grants>

- Grants for individuals and organizations that cover multiple eligible categories. The National Endowment for the Humanities is one of the largest funders of humanities programs in the United States.

National Historic Publications and Records Commission: <http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/>

- Grants for projects that promote the preservation and use of historical records collections to broaden understanding of our democracy, history, and culture. This grant program is designed to support archival repositories in preserving and processing primary source materials. The program emphasizes the creation of online tools that facilitate the public discovery of historical records.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation: <http://forum.savingplaces.org/build/find-funding/grant-seekers>

- Grants for protecting significant places representing our diverse cultural experience. NTHP grants are primarily for planning preservation projects, though some special programs focus on preservation planning in particular fields or geographic regions, or allow for the funding of physical preservation work.

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Northwester Energy Charitable Giving Program:

https://app.trueimpact.com/app/proposal_submit.php?id=150

- Grants for education, health and human services, civic and community projects, culture and art projects, and resource conservation.

Preserve America Grants (National Park Service): <http://www.preserveamerica.gov/>

- Currently not funded

Steele Reese Foundation: http://steele-reese.org/idaho_montana_grant_program

- Grants for rural education, rural human and social services, rural conservation and preservation, rural health, rural arts and humanities. The Steele-Reese Foundation makes grants only to entities operating in the states of Idaho and Montana. For its 2016 funding cycle, the Foundation will be strengthening its focus on those programs operating in the more rural parts of the two states in its service area.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration: <https://www.eda.gov/>

- Grants that work to fulfill regional economic development strategies designed to accelerate innovation and entrepreneurship and create private sector jobs.

U.S. Department of the Interior: <https://www.doi.gov/>

- Grants for National Historic Landmarks, National Parks, Native American projects, etc. The Department of the Interior protects and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage; provides scientific and other information about those resources; and honors its trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/>

- Grants that support essential services such as housing, economic development, health care, first responder services and equipment, and water, electric and communications infrastructure for rural communities. Projects may include historic preservation.

Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation: <http://www.dpwfoundation.org/grants/>

- Grants for nonprofit organizations and programs that provide a direct service to economically and socially disadvantaged individuals and families, at-risk or troubled youth, and individuals with special needs.

3 Rivers Communications: <http://3rivers.net/grants%20%2526%20sponsorships>

- Grant funding for rural community events in Montana.

