**Program Committee Meeting Agenda - May 2023**

<https://umontana.zoom.us/j/96593118603?pwd=TTR6enlndjdOSVZGRzFjNk04c2VCZz09>

Board Members: Jeanette Fregulia, Glory Blue Earth, Beth Sullivan, Arian Randall, Ramey Growing Thunder Humanities Montana Staff: Interim Director Kim Anderson, Programs Manager John Knight

1. **Call meeting to order**
2. **Montana Conversations and Speakers in the Schools**

i. Budget update for MC

ii. Budget update for SiS

iii. Speakers in the Schools programs ended for the 2023 School year

iv. New speaker contracts

v. Increased SiS and MC bookings in northern, eastern, and central Montana

1. Map of where SiS programs have been booked for the 2022-2023 Fiscal year
   1. Increased bookings in Petroleum and Garfield County
      1. Mary Jane Bradbury Tour
      2. Sabre Moore Presentations
2. **Hometown Humanities**

i. Update on Lewistown Hometown Humanities

1. Number of programs booked in Lewistown during 2022-2023 Fiscal year
2. Writers Institute update
3. Author’s Dinner update
4. Summer reading series

ii. John Knight spring trip to Lewistown and central Montana

1. Includes visits to: Harlowton Public Library, Lewistown Public Library, Petroleum County Community Center, Garfield County Museum, Circle Public Library, Miles City Public Library, Billings Public Library, Stillwater County Library
2. **The Democracy Project**

i. Project updates successful sites – PowerPoint Presentation

ii. Sites on hold until fall of 2023: Billings Public Library

iii. Sites not moving forward with 2023: Aaniiih Nakoda College Tribal Library

iii. Outreach efforts

1. March 18, IEFA presentation in Helena
2. Montana Library Association, Library Federation presentations, Sagebrush and Golden Plains
3. Browning High School Library presentation

iv. Toolkits developed for The Democracy project include curriculum on:

1. Environmental philosophy, developed by University of Montana Graduate Student Christian Bazzano as part of his thesis
2. Media misinformation and literacy, film documentary by The Getting Better Foundation
3. Mae Nan Ellingson Interview

v. Continued efforts by Humanities Montana staff to track information and data from The Democracy Project sites, to report back to funder

1. **Montana Center for the Book**

i. Great Reads from Great Places Selection

ii. Website updates

iii. National Book Festival, August 12, 2023

iv. John Knight met with the Wyoming Humanities / Wyoming Center for the Book programs manager to discuss differences, similarities and challenges

1. **United We Stand Grant from the NEH**
2. **National History Day Grant from the NEH**
3. **Strategic Plan for Programs, Action Steps Update – Timeline Shift**

i. Process Strategy 1: Evaluate and refine current programs

1. *Action Step:* Staff evaluate current and recent programs through strategy screen and 2019 evaluation tool to make recommendations on which programs to eliminate; put on pause and evaluate; or keep with improvements (Target date: 06/30/2023)
2. *Action Step:* Collaborate with The Democracy Project funder regarding the future of the program at Humanities Montana (Target Date: 03/31/2023)

ii. Process Strategy 2: Increase program effectiveness, assessment, and evaluation

1. *Action Step:* Update Montana Conversation and Speakers in the Schools speaker agreements to ensure programs are based on community needs and equitable distribution (Target Date: 07/01/2023)

iii. IDEA Strategy*:* Boost program access and outreach to underserved Montana Communities

1. *Action Step*: Provide IDEA training for Montana Conversations, Speakers in the Schools, and Informed Citizen speakers (08/31/2023)
2. *Action Step:* Develop guidance document for Think and Drink events with attention to IDEA considerations (06/31/2023)
3. **Program Committee Information Check-in** 
   1. What information would the Program Committee find useful for future meetings?