

The background of the slide is a blue-tinted photograph of a mountain range. In the foreground, there is a field with a small barn. The mountains in the background are covered in snow and have a jagged, rocky appearance. The sky is a deep blue with some clouds.

Program Report

September 2023

Humanities
MONTANA

Programs

June – September 2023



- ✓ **Activities**
- ✓ **Program Committee Update**
- ✓ **Program Report Update**
- ✓ **Program Updates**

Activities & Outcomes – Strategic Work Plan

Process Strategy 1: Evaluate and refine current programs:

Action Step: Evaluate current programs	Target Date: Ongoing	Status Update: Ongoing with onboarding of Jill Baker
Action Step: Identify 3-4 core programs	Target Date: 09/30/2023	Status Update: Ongoing with internal staff review

Process Strategy 2: Increase Program effectiveness, assessment, and evaluation:

Action Step: Speaker contracts and guidelines updated.	Target Date: 07/01/2023	Status Update: Complete
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IDEA Strategy: Boost program access and outreach to underserved Montana Communities

Action Step: Rural, indigenous & youth audience prioritization	Target Date: Ongoing	Status Update: Ongoing audience growth in rural Montana
Action Step: IDEA training for speakers	Target Date: 08/31/2023	Status Update: Complete
Action Step: Think and Drink program Guidance	Target Date: 06/31/2023	Status Update: Complete

Program Committee

Updates



1. The Program Committee will be renamed the Community Engagement Committee
2. Proposed specific duties will include:
 - Provide oversight of Humanities Montana programming.
 - Serve in an advisory capacity for any new programming.
 - Provide support with special events, including the Governor's Humanities Awards.
 - Provide support with donor outreach and communications with stakeholders.

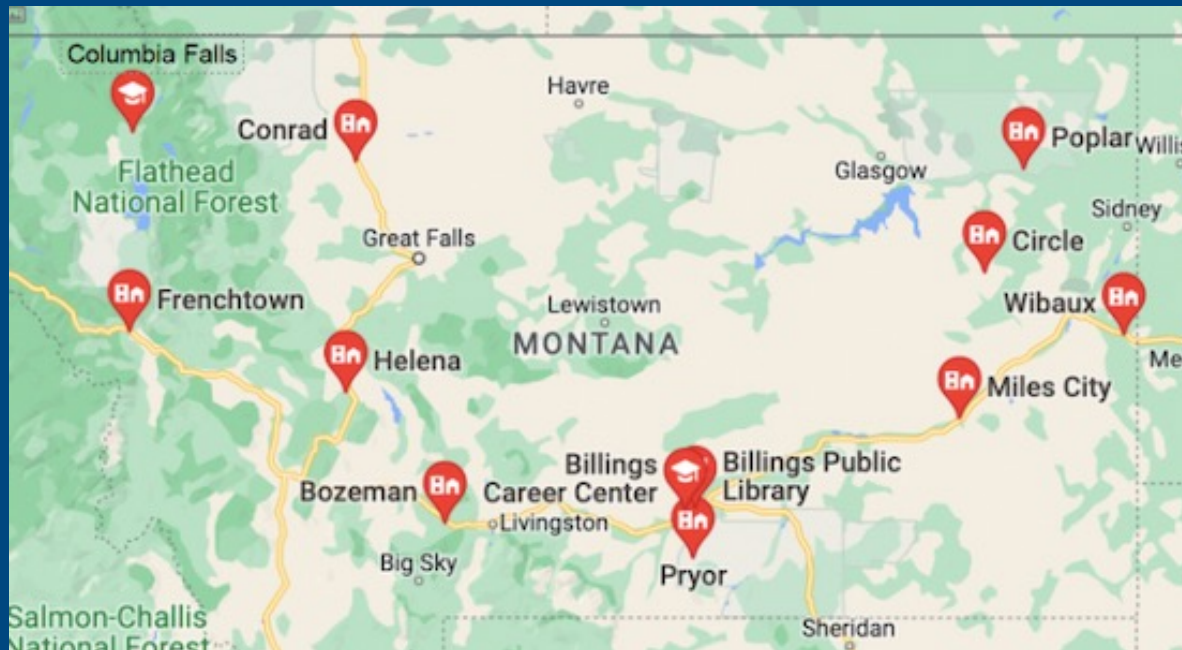
Programs

Updates



1. The Democracy Project.
2. The Montana Center for the Book.
3. Humanities Montana Speaker's Bureau.
 - Montana Conversations.
 - United We Stand.
 - Speakers in the Schools.
 - National History Day.

The Democracy Project



The Democracy Project



Our Impact:

What was the most impactful thing about participating with The Democracy Project?

"The nonjudgmental environment where I felt comfortable asking questions about my government and our community."

"Teamwork and getting to see people coming together to change something instead of just sitting back and complaining."

From a Montana Librarian:

"In my many years of being a librarian, working with the Democracy Project and its group of dedicated, caring, teens who have been meeting all year long and using their time to write a House Bill and developing a website dedicated to Teen Mental Health has been the highlight of my career. It has been an honor to work with this group of forward thinking young people. They give me hope."

The Montana Center for the Book



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Humanities Montana is excited to congratulate Chris La Tray, who has been named the 2023-2025 Montana Poet Laureate! Selected by Montana Governor Greg Gianforte, La Tray follows Missoula-based poet and Humanities Montana speaker Mark Gibbons to serve a two-year term in the position.

We invite you to get involved with La Tray by promoting his current program-- *The Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians: Métis Buffalo Hunters of the Northern Plains*. Be on the lookout for his Montana Poet Laureate specific program this fall!

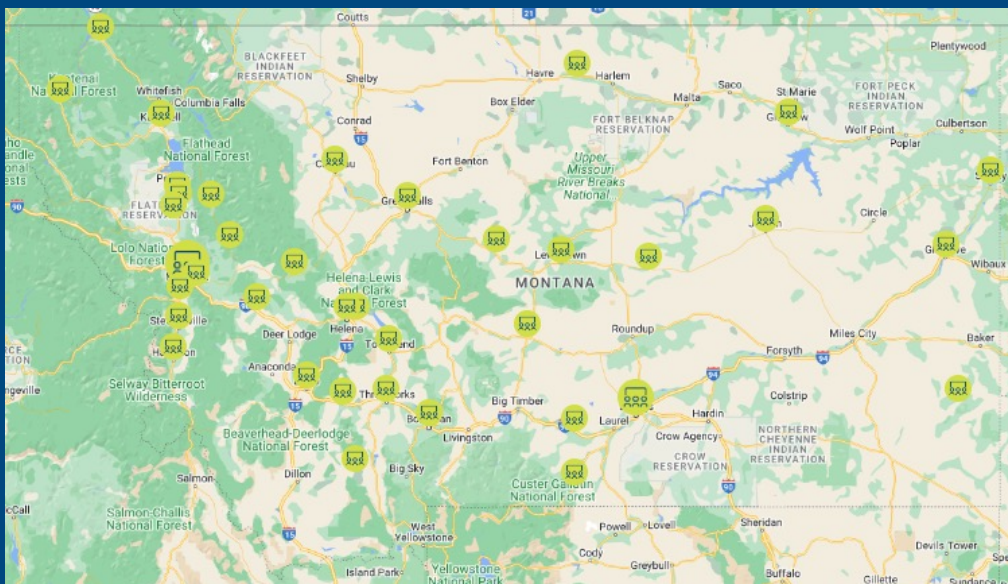


Montana Conversations

New Speakers:

- **Mark Johnson**, *Montana's Historic Chinese Communities.*
- **Winona Bateman**, *Climate Conversations Across Differences.*
- **Candi Zion**, *Preserving Montana's Oral Histories and Traditions.*





Our Impact:

- 64% of 129 Montana Conversations programs took place in rural communities.
- 37% of 129 Montana Conversations programs took place in urban communities.
- 7% of 129 Montana Conversations programs occurred statewide for virtual audiences.
- 2484 Montana's attended a Montana Conversations program.



Montana Conversations



Petroleum County Community Center will host Mary Jane Bradbury's *Nancy Cooper Russell* Program on September 30th!

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United We Stand



Updates:

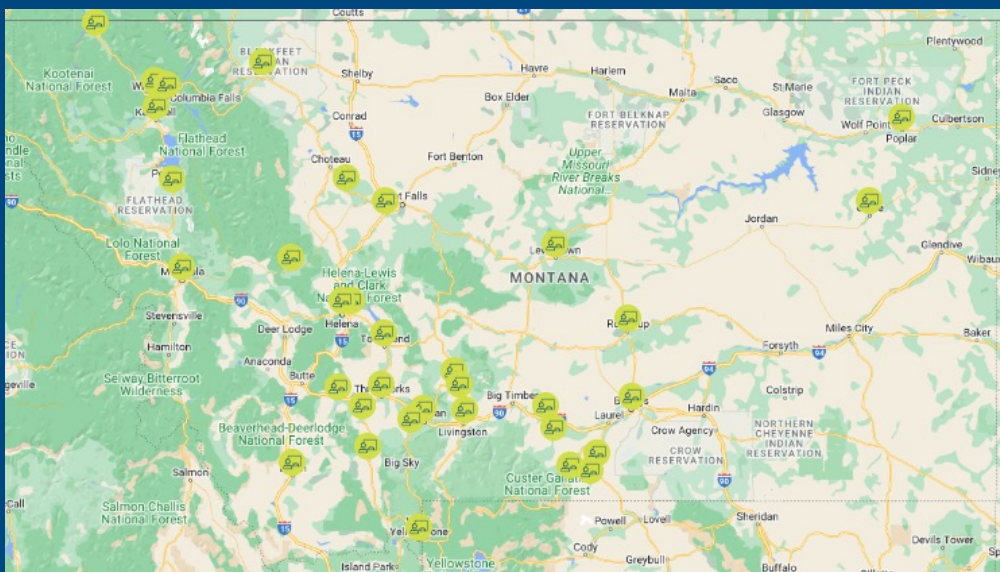
- NEH confirmed that all 56 state humanities councils who applied for funding will be awarded the United We Stand initiative grant.
- The speaker's bureau will have between 5-10 new/current HM programs.
- New programs focused on multi-cultural perspectives.



Speakers in the Schools

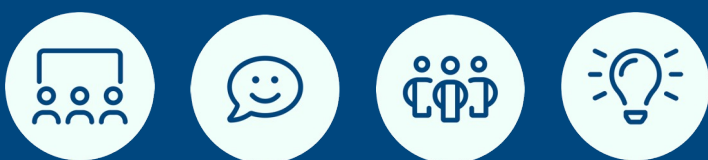


Mary Jane Bradbury at Malta Middle School, Spring 2023



Our Impact:

- 472 total Speakers in the Schools programs took place.
- 5766 students were served.
- 49% of Speakers in the Schools programs were in rural communities.
- 15% of Speakers in the Schools programs were in Tribal Nation communities.



National History Day



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Thank You!

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