

Staff & Board						
Comments	Criteria #1 - Eligibility & Compliance	Criteria #2 - Significance	Criteria #3 - Strategic Alignment	Criteria #4 - Quality	Criteria #5 - Feasibility	Overall Assessment & Follow-up Questions
Community Project Grant - The Montana Anthology - Working Quiet						
Megan	This is Working Quiet's first funding request to HM. Staff met with the applicant via Zoom on two separate occasions to discuss the project and exchanged several emails and phone calls during the application process. Working Quiet is a registered 501c3 with a UEI and EIN and is eligible to receive a subaward from HM. They included a commitment letter from one of their authors. The applicant and organization are in good standing with HM.	This project is significant for several reasons and the application includes evidence of interest in the proposed anthology. Between 1984 and 1988, Humanities Montana, known then as the Montana Committee for the Humanities, played a crucial role in the creation of "The Last Best Place: A Montana Anthology." In the preface, William Kittredge writes, "We hope the next generation of anthropologists will take up where we have left off...The Last Best Place is the first anthology of Montana writing, and it will not be the last." A lot has changed since 1988 and the co-editors and contributing authors seem dedicated to writing about Montana and the West in response to a changing cultural landscape in 2023. Knowing that the publication has undergone peer review and is under contract with the University of Oklahoma press, I am confident the authors and content have been vetted appropriately and that the content will be representative of Montana experiences, authors, and audiences.	This project aligns well with HM's mission to "nurture imagination and ideas by speaking to Montanans' diverse history, literature, and philosophy." The co-editors intend to offer a collection of stories related to Montana history and literature to preserve a sense of place and the tenets of Montana culture in a changing environment. Scholarship for this project centers on the contributions of the co-editors and commissioned authors. Authors include past and current poet laureates, a world-famous musician, prominent Indigenous scholars, and writers, all of whom HM has engaged with either through programs or previous grant projects. Distribution of the final publication to Montana libraries will be important for reaching a broad public audience and it would be helpful to promote any public readings. The content seems representative of multiple perspectives and includes a notable focus on diversity and inclusion.	The intended outcomes are specific and relevant. It will be easy to confirm the completion and quality of the publication and the engagement of the writers, but it may be more difficult to measure reach and readership. This may be something the publisher can analyze. The goals are broad and subjective but again it is hard to provide evidence of changes to attitudes, opinions, and understanding without a formal evaluation plan. Also, publications of this nature are not typically evaluated for success through formal processes. Their plan to assess the best way to distribute the final publication is sufficient. The timeline seems feasible however project activities after September 2024 are less clear and the actual publication date is yet to be determined. There are no concerns regarding outreach, co-branding, or long-term benefits of the project at this time.	The co-editors are well-qualified to lead this project and the support of a contracted publisher will contribute to the success of the project. The budget is appropriate and the expenses are allowable. Working Quiet is not requesting funds to support their staff, but instead requesting funds for contracted services of the co-editors. Co-editors can be viewed as program directors/coordinators or contractors/consultants. Honoraria for Beety Quammen is reasonable. The applicant had originally requested funds to commission authors to write pieces for the anthology. Although some of the work will be non-fiction to maintain the distinction between funding humanities vs. the creation of art, it seemed better to request funds for direct personal expenses.	This project has the potential to contribute to a larger body of anthology work specific to Montana. As a serious supporter of the 1989 anthology, HM would continue efforts toward the preservation of Montana literature and history through support of this publication. I would be interested to see the full list of confirmed authors before awarding funding.
Jill	As a first-time applicant, Working Quiet is both eligible and compliant. Their application is complete and included a letter of commitment.	This is a significant project for Montana. It has been 30 years since the last anthology was published and with HM's support. The applicants have clearly outlined a gap in knowledge about Montana culture, especially as it relates to the rural gentrification of the West. They are well organized and have already secured a publisher. Their list of contributors is impressive.	This project would include multicultural perspectives, including rural and Native American collaborators. It aligns well with HM's mission, vision and strategic goals.	The project work plan is complete and clearly defined. I appreciate their outreach efforts with Montana Libraries.	This project has a high level of commitment and the necessary skills and expertise to successfully bring the anthology to completion.	Awarding this project will continue the tradition of HM supporting Montanan anthologies.
Ray Ekness		Wide variety of writers similar to Last Best Place. Seems to be a great idea with variety of writers.	It would be great for the writers to present their stories publicly following the publication.	Good timeline. Good leadership. Good idea.	Match met. Grant covers honorarium and salaries.	I think HM should be involved in this project.
Carla Hornstad		This proposal does a good job of identifying the need for a book like this. As Montana changes, we risk losing the stories that make the state a singular place. Collaboration with the University of Oklahoma Press already shows successful partnerships.	I'm glad that the proposal identifies some of the writers that will be writing essays for this book. I'm a little concerned that it's already the end of January and their March deadline to get essays to the publisher looms.	Most of the outreach and marketing will rely on the publisher.	It's important to note private donors have contributed \$30,000 to cover the costs of paying writers for their pieces.	The goal of correcting stereotypes about Montana (given the popularity of a show like "Yellowstone") is an important one. Montana is changing and if this anthology can help us see ourselves more clearly in the mirror, it seems eminently worthwhile.
Jeanette Fregulia		I am struck by the use of the word "true." By their very nature, stories are subjective, that is their value, their importance. Maybe this is really picky.	The humanities are all about the stories we tell, so this project aligns well with our mission. I like the inclusion of the writers!	Organizing a large group of writers can be tricky. Since the applicant already has a publisher, I am optimistic that they can maintain the timeline. I would have liked a more detailed evaluation plan.		
Jennifer Corning		The applicants have provided an extensive list of participating writers but there are few specifics regarding partnerships or collaborations with organizations and communities post publication.	Content related to the humanities in Montana is deep and wide. History, politics, and literature appear to be priorities for this project. The engagement with communities will depend upon marketing and extensive outreach to organizations across the state. The book will feature a variety of perspectives. The project leaders are accomplished authors.	The goals and timeline are very clear. Details about the measurement of outcomes and evaluation of the book are not cited and the marketing is largely left to the publisher.	The budget is complete and appropriate, but without specifics on time spent.	The project is in accordance with the mission and goals of Humanities Montana. The inclusion of a variety of perspectives and locations in Montana is worthy of support according to the HM guidelines. This is a unique project that will share essays on the state with multigenerational and new Montanans.
Lathie Poole						While speaking to the "avoidance" of stereotypical points of view, I suspect that there will be a predictable amount contained therein. There is popular "mythology" among all contributing parties—such as the notion that present day tribes have been in Montana for millennia. A recent speaker I heard said that most emigrated from eastern north america around the year 1700. Prehistoric bones reveal some primitive examples but the larger tribal activity he explained was "easily researched" and notably absent before that date, which postdates my family's arrival on the continent. So how do I unpack that? And to say that "gender diversity" has historic roots in Montana when the topic only recently appeared as a headline makes me a skeptic. Still first person recollections are worthy and of interest to me as long as they are not filtered through the lens of the opinions of the editors.
David Cates						Hey, more stories, more stories!
W. Clark Whitehorn		I didn't get a full sense of collaboration or partnerships b/c I couldn't find a full list of authors who are participating.	If the U. of OK Press has offered a contract, there must be a table of contents available to review so that we can get a better sense of who's participating and how they're reinterpreting Montana's stories. I'd also like to get a sense of which anthology they're hoping to replace/update: The Last Best Place: A Montana Anthology or The Montana Heritage: An Anthology of Historical Essays	If the project is going to be submitted to Oklahoma on March 1, 2024, we should be able to view the table of contents and contributing authors.		If the editors can share a table of contents and a complete list of contributing authors, I would be more supportive of this project. Right now, without those items, the timeline doesn't seem feasible, but the project's goals are certainly laudable and I support possible funding once we get a bit more information. It would also be helpful to get a sense of which of the anthologies I mentioned above they intend on updating. The Last Best Place is a literary anthology, so if their plan is to only include 20 authors, this project is going to fall short of supplanting that legendary work.
Karen Reiff		This project is well aligned with the mission of HM. It includes a wide variety of collaborators and has a clear work plan. It's been more than 35 years since the last anthology was published.	The list of authors is varied and includes both rural and native perspectives. The project will also work with Montana libraries. They intend to have a series of conversations about the book throughout the state.	They have a publisher, editors, and authors. They are working with MT libraries, as well. The goals are clear as is their work plan and timeline.	The costs seem reasonable and clear.	This project will allow for multiple perspectives on Montana and its communities and history.
Tim Wilson						I get a little nervous when two people are the sole arbiters of what the contributors are to be in an anthology like this...especially when I see multiple shots at "cowboys, big hats and cattle." I do think the subject of gentrification and the growing unaffordability of housing to native Montanans is very pertinent.

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Community Project Grant - 2024 Dillon Community Story Stroll - Dillon Public Library						
Megan	The Dillon Public Library remains in good standing with HM. They have received minor awards in the past through the Big Sky Reads program and an opportunity grant, but nothing significant and nothing related to this project. The applicant consulted with staff before applying and the application includes several support letters from the community.	The proposal does not offer a solid explanation of how the Story Stroll is responding to a gap in knowledge per se, but does mention that the program intended to "enrich quality family time by strolling, reading, and listening to a story created by our children in the K-8 schools." However, the project has other strong qualities as evidenced by the letters of support from participating college students/teachers/administrators, the recognition of program quality by the Montana Library Association, and the invitation to apply for a national literacy award. The project staff have notable expertise in education and the project employs innovative collaboration between educational institutions and the community library. The value to the community includes providing opportunities for interdisciplinary learning and the development of storytelling skills. The Story Stroll also creates opportunities for the general public to experience the outcomes of a collaborative literacy program for youth.	In terms of strategic alignment, this project seems to check all the boxes. The project seeks to develop literacy skills among K-8 students, engage aspiring educators in collaborative work with the community library and local schools, and increase the awareness of ongoing literacy programming among community members. The scholarship is sound, the public will be meaningfully engaged, and the content is innovative and specific to youth participation. My only question is whether the makerspace activities align with the scope of work for a humanities project. Finding connections between humanities and technology is very important as we navigate new educational landscapes, but the request for materials is very specific and seems outside of the humanities realm. This is a small component of the project but should be addressed in the budget.	The work plan is clear and the goals and outcomes are realistic and achievable. They could provide more information about the intended number of student participants at all levels and the estimated number of community participants in the Story Stroll. They should have included participation totals from last year's event. It will be difficult for them to measure reach without a baseline for participation or goals for audience reach. The budget is appropriate but if considered for funding I advise asking additional questions about how the program materials (stuffedies and circuitry) will be used. Also, there is no mention of funding from any other source. It seems that this type of community project would have additional monetary support from the community and I'm not seeing that in their narrative or budget table. The evaluation plan is underdeveloped and would be stronger if it included follow-up with students and described how feedback will be used and shared.	Project leadership and all supporting organizations (library, UM Western, local schools) seem invested and qualified to implement the program. It would be helpful to have more specific dates for project activities.	Funding this project would demonstrate HM's support of interdisciplinary youth literacy programs and expand our reach into new areas such as applied humanities within community makerspace programs. The project offers a chance for the community to physically experience the outcomes of youth literacy programming. I would ask the applicant to share event details, anecdotal stories, and photos with HM during, and after the grant term
Jill	The Dillon Library is eligible and compliant with NEH and HM. They have received funding before, so they received a four for eligibility. Their application is complete.	The proposed Story Stroll would engage youth throughout the project including elementary, middle and college through literacy and music. The audience would include a wide range of Montanans, especially with the partnership with Western.	This proposal is well aligned with HM's mission and vision as well as our strategic priority of reaching youth. The story stroll is an enriching project for the community and ties well with the humanities.	The project workplan is achievable and realistic. The evaluation could be stronger, but I don't have any major concerns.	The organization's commitment is strong and with the community support they have a high capacity for achieving success with this project. They have a team of experts to ensure manage their proposed activities.	Story Strolls are a great project to engage the community, especially young children, in literacy. Awarding this grant would highlight HM's commitment to serving youth, especially in rural communities.
Ray Ekness		The proposal really puts together a wide variety of folks from the library to the school district to the local university.	Mostly rural and community audience. Will love to see report following the event to see how they feel it went.	Well thought out proposal. Good leaders from each of the entities.	They meet the match. It looks like they have researched the cost of each of the elements they hope to complete. I'm on board with this proposal. Nice work Dillon.	I fully support this proposal. I love that it brings together the entire community and really breaks down activities for all age groups involved. Nice work.
Carla Hornstad		I note the especially collaborative nature of this project.	I note that the stories themselves will not necessarily deal with humanities topics. The suggested topics are "Dillon-based mammals, birds, insects, and reptiles." This is my only concern about this otherwise exceptional project.	The measurement plan seems a little inchoate.		While this is a worthwhile project in many respects and its collaborative nature is highly commendable, I don't see a lot of humanities content per se in the stories to be produced and celebrated in the community stroll.
Jeanette Fregulla		I particularly commend the collaboration across multiple levels of educational institutions.		I would have liked to see a more clear explanation of evaluation.		I think this is a terrific project - a really inspiring application to read.
Jennifer Corning		As the second year running for this stroll, the applicants have a clear idea of who in the community is served and who will be participating. The multi-faceted project has a variety of stakeholders	The project is largely focused on and created by youth (a priority audience for HM). The scholarship satisfies the HM guidelines.	The measurement and evaluation piece to this project appears to be missing and there is no information on the outcomes from the previous project. The timeline is solid. The booklet will be of value to those involved.	The project management of writing project and the Stroll is solid. The in-kind contributions are valuable. Are the participating organizations investing in the project other than the in-kind salaries?	This is a large request for an ongoing project. Partial support is recommended such as support for the printing of the booklets.
Lathie Poole						This idea is innovative and sounds like fun for children and their families. Since it is so original (to me) we don't know how it will work out but I think it's worth a try.
David Cates						I love the way this brings the whole community together. Eighth graders with first graders-- It sounds fun and active and people who don't know each now will know each other when this is over.
W. Clark Whitehorn		I love the mix of Dillon's famous Carnegie library (the first in the state), the local college, and the K-12 schools. These seem like the sort of partnerships we should be supporting.		If we can in any way support kids' involvement in the humanities, we should do so.		Getting kids involved in the humanities is the perfect goal for any HM grant application.
Karen Reiff		I appreciate the collaboration between the public schools and UM Western on this project, as well as, creating a story stroll for the community.	The audience is broad. Engaging multiple ages through literacy and music.	Timeline and marketing seems appropriate. I am a little unclear how the success of the project is measured and evaluated.	The budget seems appropriate. I am unclear whether there is any cost sharing from my review of the application.	I think this project engages the community through the public schools, the college, the library and the community of Dillon. The collaborators have demonstrated a clear commitment to the project.
Tim Wilson		The audience is rather narrow (Dillon) but the project rapport with that audience will be strong. The concept of multiple grades working on a given storyline is wonderful collaboration. The mentor concept will bring great benefit to both the younger students and the older students providing the mentoring.				The benefits of supporting this project include: "this project will result in a tangible product the students and community can experience." "this project will get children outside and interacting with wildlife (both of which we need more)." "this project will provide both the mentors and mentees (?) an experience that will benefit them their entire lives.

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Community Project Grant - The Centering Indigenous Knowledge Webinar Series - University of Montana (MT Campus Compact)						
Megan	HM received a proposal for the same project during the August 2023 cycle but staff felt that because the applicant learned of the opportunity the week applications were due, the proposal was rushed and did not adequately represent the high quality of the program. After providing feedback to the applicant and meeting in person the applicant was encouraged to return with a second proposal for the December 2023 cycle. The University of Montana remains in good standing with HM and this is the first request we have received from Montana Campus Compact, an affiliate of the university. The best way to understand this program is to watch a few of the recorded sessions from the previous series on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLAUgtiQblG7mcazbtRW_SuW_C3W_DIBnyz).	This project is unique in that it builds on strong collaborations between higher education institutions and Native scholars to bring cultural awareness of Indigenous knowledge and worldviews to the general public. It is significant because it is led by Indigenous community members, has a statewide reach, and involves youth and rural audiences.	This project aligns with HM's mission by offering a way for the public to learn about the historical and contemporary contributions of Montana's diverse Indigenous communities to society. Although they are still working to confirm scholars for the next series, the project will most definitely involve notable scholarship evidenced by the 2023 series (see the YouTube recordings for more information). This next series will focus on 'Indigenous People and Place' which is very relevant as many non-Native Montanans are currently struggling with their relationship to place as the cultural landscape of Montana changes. This is an opportunity to develop cross-cultural awareness, understanding, and learning.	The goals and outcomes are clear and with their well-developed evaluation plan, I am confident they will be able to measure success towards their outcomes. The timeline is feasible. The outreach plan is robust and collaborative. They provided more details in their project descriptions about outreach through partnering colleges and community organizations. They are doing a great job of utilizing their evaluation findings to further develop new iterations of the program. This increases confidence in the effectiveness of their evaluation plan. In terms of sustainability, the recorded sessions are available to the general public on YouTube as on-demand opportunities to learn and benefit from the series.	Leadership and project management for this project are excellent. MT Campus Compact has a long and successful history of community programming. The budget is appropriate and will be monitored by the Office of Sponsored Programs at UM to ensure compliance with HM and all federal regulations. The only adjustment would be to reduce the amount by \$1,000 proposed for commissioning artwork for a promotional logo because it is an unallowable expense. The reduced award total will alter the F&A totals with UM and HM and OSP can work to balance the budget.	The benefits of funding this project include supporting an Indigenous-led program with a wide reach to HM's priority communities and opening doors for HM to partner with TCUs in the future. This project would benefit the community by raising awareness of Indigenous cultures across the state and would increase HM's visibility across several tribal communities. One request to the applicant would include a list of confirmed scholars/presenters before the grants committee meeting in January.
Jill	The project is eligible and compliant. The applicant has been in conversation with Megan. This is the first time that Montana Campus Compact has applied for a grant as an affiliate of UM.	This project has impressive significance for Montanans. As a Native-led webinar series with statewide reach including youth and rural communities, it fits many of HM's strategic priorities.	This project is well aligned with the mission, vision and strategic goals of HM. I like that it is a virtual humanities program that has already been established and has an audience of diverse Montanans. There is much demand for Indigenous education in our state and this project makes it accessible to the public on a large scale.	The work plan is well thought out and detailed. I appreciate that they have a comprehensive outreach plan. They have an established evaluation process as well.	Based on the success of their previous series of webinars, they have a high capacity of success. They have a demonstrated expertise in putting together this educational series.	This project fits well with the strategic priorities of HM. With statewide reach through the webinar, it is likely to have a continued high impact with audiences in rural and tribal areas. It is an exciting opportunity for HM to be involved with a Native-led virtual humanities program.
Ray Ekness		Second year of their program. Good collaborations with tribal colleges and MT Campus Compact along with UM.	Reaches out to tribal schools and communities. This year's topic is a bit off of the humanities track.	Good timeline. Already have met and organized. Program moving forward next month.	Good group with good goals. The budget is a bit steep for 300 people especially since it's online. F&A costs are normal but high.	My only reservation is in the topic for this year's webinar. It moves a bit away from humanities in my point of view.
Carla Homstad			Without knowing who the scholars will be in this series and without knowing what topics will specifically be covered, it's difficult to assess the humanities content of the project. The broad term, "Indigenous People and Place" would seem to indicate a focus on history and geography from a native perspective, so in that sense this series is humanities-based.	The proposal does a good job outlining outcomes, marketing, and evaluation.	We'll need to clarify if HM funds can be used for commissioned artwork. That MTCC did an earlier version of this series is a good sign they can do this project as well.	I'd unreservedly support this project if we knew who the scholars/presenters will be and what specific topics will be covered.
Jeanette Fregulia			While a webinar is less personal than in person programs, given the nature and scope of this project it seems appropriate to offer both formats (webinar and in person).	2,000 participants is an ambitious goal, and I really like that! I am curious about how the applicant is going to measure an increase in knowledge. Are they going to get a baseline of what the participants know? This is just a little vague for me.		In all, this seems like the kind of project HMT should support
Jennifer Corning		Important project that is of value to participating scholars and non academic viewers. Collaboration is strong.	The project engages a HM priority audience. The scholarship, content, and public engagement are complete for the guidelines.	Marketing via social media and other media channels are appropriate. The applicants have a clear plan on evaluation of the sessions. The timeline is clear as are the goals.		Full support for this project is recommended for all areas eligible within the HM guidelines.
Lathie Poole						I gave this project fair marks because I don't think they need our money. They have huge fundraising capabilities and history and while I know this project will sail through our board without support from me, I'm just questioning whether they need our funds.
David Cates				I don't know much about evaluation of outcomes.		It is a good thing to increase awareness of the many ways of seeing and being.
W. Clark Whitehorn		Involvement of the tribal colleges is a significant move forward in understanding Indigenous communities.				The goal of improving understanding of indigenous communities is worthy of HM's full support.
Karen Reiff		This virtual series has a wide reach. It involves all seven tribal colleges and there is a demonstrated commitment from UM and the Montana Campus Compact to the project.	This project focuses on native led webinar focusing on cultural awareness of indigenous knowledge. It's virtual and will reach many individuals.	They have an evaluation process and intend to seek feedback from participants. The project seems feasible and realistic.		This project aligns with HM mission. They have a clear plan and evaluation process. They have commitment from a variety of partners.
Tim Wilson						Not much detail on who the panelists will be. Since this is year two, perhaps the project deserves benefit of doubt on who the panelists will be.

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Community Project Grant - Bringing the World to Eastern Montana and Eastern Montana to the World - Montana World Affairs Council						
Megan	MWAC has a long history with HM. They have been an excellent partner in promoting civic engagement among Montana's youth and they continue to expand their programs to reach more students and community members across the state. Since 2011 MWAC has received a total of \$38,000 in award funds from HM. Most recently they received a \$5,000 regular grant in support of their 2023 Distinguished Speakers Program. They share details of the program throughout the year and it seems the program was very successful. They will need to submit their final report for this past year's grant before 3/1/2024 if an award is granted for this project. I encourage all reviewers to watch at least one recording from the 2023 Distinguished Speakers program supported by HM before reviewing this application: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVwYHdDdpl - and/or https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=60QV1EMMBw .	This variation of the program seeks to expand MWAC's reach into eastern Montana through an exciting partnership/collaboration with MSU Billings and several community colleges. The potential benefit to the community includes greater access for students and community members in rural and tribal communities to international civic engagement opportunities. The proposed topics seem relevant and timely for an Eastern Montana audience and I have more confidence that topics have been determined in partnership with an advisory committee of teachers and the locations in partnership with MSU Billings.	MWAC does an amazing job of bringing local, regional, national, and international scholars and experts to their distinguished speakers program. Expanding the program into Eastern Montana is a notable innovation from previously funded versions of this program and will complement HM's efforts to involve more youth in civics and increase youth programming in Eastern Montana. With the help of MSU Billings and partnering colleges and community organizations in the proposed locations, MWAC will be better positioned to reach the intended audience.	The work plan is detailed and complete. Outcome 3 is a bit lofty stating that "All Montanans benefit" because that will be hard to measure. However, it is excellent that the programs will be available as on-demand videos. They did not include a timeline for the program outside of the proposed April 2024 - March 2025 grant term and mentioned programs in April and September. This might mean that they are still early in the planning phase. MWAC does a great job with outreach and evaluation and the planned activities for this project align with past activities.	The project will be managed by three very capable staff of MWAC and based on the success of past programs and their commitment to effective communication with HM, there are no concerns about MWAC's dedication and capacity for successful program implementation. The budget is reasonable and includes travel-related expenses for 1 staff person and 1 scholar/speaker to implement 2 programs (1 in April and 1 in September), both are allowable. Per the administrator note, the cost-share allocated to ED salary should be reduced to \$500, and the cost-share total to \$7,700. This does not impact eligibility because the cost-share total will remain greater than the required 1:1 match amount.	Continued support for MWAC's programming compliments HM's strategic priority of serving youth across Montana. It would be interesting to explore opportunities for engaging Democracy Project sites in MWAC's programming moving forward. There are no significant challenges to funding this project but it is worth noting that MWAC has begun to "count on" HM's support of their annual programs. This program has innovation that justifies requesting the same amount as in 2023 and it would be helpful to know from the BOD what type of projects would continue to be eligible in the future.
Jill	MWAC is eligible and compliant. They have a long history with HM and have been an excellent partner. Their application is complete and well written.	The Distinguished Speakers program provides a unique opportunity for Montana students to learn about world affairs and its local impact. While this organization is based in Missoula, they will be reaching youth in rural and Eastern Montana through a partnership with MSU-Billings. I appreciate that the presentations will be recorded in order to reach a larger audience.	The Distinguished Speakers program aligns well with HM's strategic priorities of reaching youth in rural and tribal communities. The educational sessions for students will provide a depth of knowledge about global issues and their impact on Montanans. It is a relevant and timely topic for discussion.	While the workplan could be more specific in areas, overall MWAC has a clear and proven strategy to market and provide their programs in Montana. They have a clear evaluation plan.	The MWAC is well positioned to achieve their project outcomes. They have a strong team with a proven track record of success. Megan has identified a compliance issue with the cost share for the budget, but as she mentioned it won't impact their 1:1 match requirement.	The Distinguished Speakers program in Eastern Montana is well aligned with HM's mission and strategic priorities of reaching youth, rural and tribal communities. This is a repeat proposal to support this program, but it has enough innovation to consider funding it again. MWAC has been an excellent partner and is quite supportive of HM as well.
Ray Ekness		Program reaches out to a variety of small towns and native communities in eastern Montana. Good collaborations with MSU-Billings and tribal colleges. Group has a good and long history of bringing international and national figures to speak about world events to Montana schools.	Proven track record of bringing good people to a variety of small towns including native communities.	Timeline seems reasonable. Survey evaluations by students and teachers involved.	Good leadership in organization. Budget is for travel primarily. Realistic budget.	I think this is an outstanding way to bring discussions of world events to students in small town Montana schools.
Carla Homstad			While I applaud the intent of this proposal to reach communities in Eastern Montana and to increase awareness of global issues, the proposal does not delineate its humanities content with any specificity.	The proposal is a bit unclear about its proposed timeline. It is not clear when the additional speakers will be confirmed and brought on board.	As noted in the administrator comments, we will need to seek a change in the budget's allocation of the executive director's salary. The requested funds from HM will be used for travel-related expenses.	The proposal needed to have more sharply defined its humanities content. "Global dynamics" --the term most often used in the proposal--can refer to a host of topics. But, in general, I support bringing distinguished speakers to Eastern Montana audiences.
Jeanette Fregulia		I have done a small amount of work with MWAC, helping them with a couple of programs they brought to Carroll College. I don't think this is a conflict of interest, but I want to be transparent. I do like their focus on eastern Montana.		The information on evaluation could be more detailed. For example, what kinds of questions would be on the "annual survey"?		I think this is a great project.
Jennifer Corning		As a non-partisan international education service Montana World Affairs Council brings discussion of international issues across the state. This is innovative, educational, and a service to our far-flung communities. The collaboration with colleges is significant and bolsters the application.	The application is absolutely inline with HM's call for innovation, humanities content, multiple perspectives, and audience engagement. Previous presentations referenced the importance of understanding the relevance of world topics to Montana communities.			Full and unreserved support for this project.
Lathie Poole						I wish I knew some of the topics of the proposed lectures or some of the lectures that have been given as part of the groups long history.
David Cates						This is a good organization that brings people involved in world affairs to small communities. It opens doors and windows to the world.
W. Clark Whitehorn						The number of proposed speakers felt a little thin, but I support the notion of raising global awareness in rural eastern Montana. I didn't, however, see an explicit discussion of the types of humanities that this project would be engaging with. Right now, this proposal feels like political/geographic science.
Karen Reiff		They have a demonstrated history with HM and have put together similar programs in the past.	It seems that they're still working on obtaining speakers. They will have YouTube recordings, and they're reaching out to youth, rural, and tribal communities.	They seem to have a system for evaluation. They have experience with outreach and marketing and success with similar programming.	They have good project management as demonstrated in past projects.	This organization has a demonstrated history with HM. The expense into Eastern MT will reach youth and community members in both rural and tribal areas.
Tim Wilson		Discussing "why does this matter to me" as opposed to just "what happened" is a great concept. Recording the Speaker Programs and providing the recording on YouTube is a good way to expand reach.	Seems a good cross section of speakers. Why not Lame Deer/Dull Knife Community College? Why only Eastern Montana? If we actually awarded more than they requested, could they expand their reach?	Outcomes on Projects like this are hard to measure but that shouldn't stop funding.		A worthwhile project.