

# HELPING MONTANA'S CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE THRIVE

# 77%

of Montana's cultural organizations reported they risked closure due to the pandemic.\*



Since May 2020, Humanities Montana has awarded **\$419,580 in emergency CARES Act grants** to 95 cultural institutions across the state to retain employees, pay operational costs, and continue programming.

\*Data gathered from a survey administered by Humanities Montana in April 2020.

## ENCOURAGING COMMUNITY ACROSS DISTANCE

**Social distancing** has led to growing isolation and the **loss of community bonds**.\*

Starting in April 2020, Humanities Montana has produced **49 online humanities programs** Montanans can access from the safety of their homes.



# 3,290 MONTANANS

have connected virtually to learn about topics like veterans' experiences, our shifting political landscape, poetry in difficult times, and the role of journalism in a democracy.

\*K. Sikali (2020). "The dangers of social distancing: How COVID-19 can reshape our social experience." Journal of Community Psychology

## CONNECTING MONTANANS THROUGH THE HUMANITIES

# 90%

of Americans believe the humanities help people understand others whose lives are different from their own.\*



\*American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Exploring the Humanities in American Life

Since March 2020, Humanities Montana has produced 46 issues of Digital and DIY Humanities, circulated to over 5,000 people weekly. Each issue offers resources to engage Montanans looking for new perspectives.

## STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY

Humanities Montana hosts **Why It Matters: Conversations on Civic and Electoral Engagement**.



# 53%

of Americans say **discussing politics** with people they disagree with is **stressful and frustrating**.\*

\*Pew Research Center, U.S. Politics and Policy

Why It Matters is a series of statewide virtual panels about how citizens engage in electoral and democratic processes in our state—from tribal communities to young people, in rural areas and urban centers, using protests and legislation to create government for the people, by the people. The first two panels attracted over 400 participants from around the state.

# Humanities MONTANA

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