**Sample Press Release**

{*Print your press release on your sponsoring organization's letterhead*

*or include name, address, and phone number of organization at top of release*}

**For Immediate Release**

**THE [SPONSORING ORGANIZATION] HOSTS MONTANA CONVERSATION “LUCY MEREWETHER LEWIS MARKS” WITH MARY JANE BRADBURY**

[City–date]

The [sponsoring organization] hosts Montana Conversation program “Lucy Merewether Lewis Marks” with Mary Jane Bradbury on [date of program]. The program is at [location and time of program]. The presentation is free and open to the public. Funding for the Montana Conversations program is provided by Humanities Montana through grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Montana’s Cultural Trust, and private donations. We are funded in part by coal severance taxes paid based upon coal mined in Montana and deposited in Montana’s cultural and aesthetic projects trust fund.

The story of Thomas Jefferson’s Corps of Discovery is engrained in the history of our nation and essential to our understanding of the past. The story of Lucy Meriwether Lewis Marks—the mother of Meriwether Lewis—remains unknown, yet it offers critical insight into our understanding of the intrepid explorer. A woman both of her times and ahead of her times, Lucy was determined to fulfill the role expected of upper-class women at the turn of the 19th century while remaining independent and dedicated to her own pursuits. She managed a large plantation household, which included dozens of enslaved people, and followed her passion for healing and the natural world, all while remaining fiercely devoted to her son. Historic interpreter Mary Jane Bradbury unveils the story of this remarkable woman and the indelible impact she had on one of the key players in the formation of the United States.

Mary Jane Bradbury is a historic interpreter and scholar who brings history to life for audiences of all ages. She is an artist in residence for the CM Russell Museum in Great Falls and the Montana Historical Society in Helena.

For more information, please call [sponsoring organization] at [phone number].

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Contact person: [project organizer and phone number]