**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 “LOCAL LITERARY CULTURE” WITH TAMI HAALAND**

[City–date]

The [sponsoring organization] hosts Montana Conversation “Local Literary Culture” with Tami Haaland on [date of program]. The program is at [location and time of program]. The presentation is free and open to the public. Funding for Montana Conversations 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.

As a poet raised on the Hi-Line and as a professor of creative writing, Haaland knows the benefit of bringing cultural activities to rural and urban environments. In this program, Haaland leads a writing workshop and discussion tailored to the needs of each community. From facilitating a discussion of short works by Montana authors to exploring multi-genre writing through prompts and activities, these presentations inspire people to new writing and reading frontiers. Included in these programs are practical conversations about the challenges of building and sustaining writing groups and literary programs, and innovative ways to succeed in cultivating local talent and creating a series of guest artists to nourish literary communities across the state.

Tami Haaland is the author of three poetry collections, *What Does Not Return*, *When We Wake in the Night*, and *Breath in Every Room*, winner of the Nicholas Roerich First Book Award. Haaland’s poems have appeared in *High Desert Journal, Consequence, Ascent, The Ecopoetry Anthology*and many other periodicals and anthologies.  Her work has also been featured on *The Writer’s Almanac, Verse Daily*, and *American Life in Poetry*. She has received an Artist Innovation Award from Montana Arts Council and a Governor’s Humanities Award through Humanities Montana. From 2013 to 2015 Haaland served as Montana's Poet Laureate, and she is a professor of English at Montana State University Billings.

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

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Contact person: [project organizer and phone number]