



MONTANA MASONIC FOUNDATION, INC.

(406) 442-2323 P.O. BOX 1692 HELENA, MT 59624-1692 USA

August 27, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

The Montana Masonic Foundation's Educational Grant Program provides teachers, student aides, and/or principals in Montana's public schools an opportunity to apply for a grant to assist under-funded programs in the following areas: Music; Drama; Science; and Library; or, areas of student enhancement or learning that have suffered cut-backs, or are experiencing start-up concerns.

Proudly supporting public education in communities all over the great state of Montana is a primary purpose of the Montana Masonic Foundation.

Since 2015, the Montana Masonic Foundation has distributed over \$600,000 to public schools – over \$100k in 2023 alone!

Other meaningful projects that the MMF has sponsored in the past include donating \$9k to an "all-abilities playground" in Missoula. We encourage educators to apply for grants during our grant cycle, which opens Oct. 1, and closes Dec. 31. Those who submit grant requests will be notified as to whether their request has been funded or not in the following January. Arrangement for checks to be distributed occurs in February and March.

Established in 1960, the Montana Masonic Foundation (MMF) is a 501(c)(3) that dispenses charity (public and private); encourages and promotes free public education and schools through endowments, grants, scholarships; as well as hosts a Masonic Library & Museum.

About other programs that the MMF sponsors:

The MMF's "Kindles for Kids" Reading Achievement Program encourages grade school children to learn to enjoy reading. The Montana Masonic Foundation purchases Kindles, and outside donors (such as Masonic lodges) receive them at a matching half price (up to the program designated funding limit). These are then awarded to students at the end of the program as a reward and encouragement for reading.

The MMF's Museum houses a collection of artifacts mostly related to Freemasonry (one of the Marquis de Lafayette's Masonic jewels, for instance) and from territorial development through statehood of Montana - such as the trowel that laid the cornerstone for the capitol building. It is especially known, however, for displaying an object with a significant Montana legacy: the Masonic apron of Meriwether Lewis.

If the grant request is selected, you will be notified and asked to arrange having one of the Directors of the Montana Masonic Foundation, and/or a member of a local Masonic Lodge available to present the grant award. You will also receive a notification if your request was not selected.

Your school giving publicity to the MMF is not a condition/pre-requisite to be selected for funding. If funded, however, the Montana Masonic Foundation may include information regarding its grant awards, including the amount and purpose of the grant, any photographs, your logo or trademark, or other information or materials about the school and this project, in the Montana Masonic Foundation's periodic public reports, newsletters, and news releases.

Send completed applications or inquires to the following address:

Montana Masonic Foundation
Educational Grant Program
PO Box 1692
Helena, MT 59624-1692

Or send by e-mail to: grants@grandlodgemontana.org

Phone: (406) 442-2323

Additional forms are available at this website:

www.grandlodgemontana.org



Submission Criteria

For the 2024 year, applications must be received *prior to* December 31, 2024.

The request made of the Montana Masonic Foundation's Educational Grant Program for public schools will be based on the following information and criteria:

(1) Basic Applicant Information:

School Name: _____

School Address: _____ City: _____

Telephone: _____

Principal Name and email address: _____

Teacher or Organization/ Class to be benefited: _____

Contact Person and email address: _____

- Please give COMPLETE address information.

(2) Project Description and Grant Information

(Grant areas for consideration are School Music, Science, Drama and Library programs)

Which program area does your grant request fall under? _____

What is the specific amount of your request? _____

Please describe your proposed expenditure, including a budget and personal/program goals, including a method of reporting expenditure.

Briefly, outline who benefits from the requested donation. _____

Will this donation be matched with other funds or donation, and if so, how? _____

If you plan on recognizing the Montana Masonic Foundation for its support, where can we find a copy (such as school newsletter, Facebook, local paper, tv coverage, etc)?

(3) Award Presentation Information

Please provide information for the payment of grant funds (who is authorized agent to rec. checks):

Name: _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

(4) Certification of Grant Expenditure

Recipient will provide documentation verifying the grant expenditures (receipts, photos of items, etc):

(5) Verification/ Signature Information

Signature of person in charge of received funds: _____

Signature of building principal: _____

Application completion date: _____

* NOTIFICATION: of your grant request as funded or not funded will take place in Feb-March (2025).

* CHECKS: are delivered typically April-May (2025).

The Montana Masonic Foundation Educational Grant Program reserves the right to not fund/deny a request, or honor a partial amount of the request, without stating any reasons.

Please send completed application to:

Montana Masonic Foundation
Educational Grant Program
PO Box 1692
Helena, MT 59624-1692

grants@grandlodgmontana.org

Office Phone 406-442-2323 (or 442-7774)