



MONTANA MASONIC FOUNDATION, INC.

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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. These past five years the MMF gave out over \$300,000.00 to public schools – over \$100k this year 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 next grant cycle, which opens Oct. 1, 2022, and closes Dec. 31, 2022. 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 of 2022.

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.