



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday – Nov 18, 2015

For additional information contact:
Mary Holmes
Destination Missoula
406-532-3250

Grant Funds Support the Missoula Community

The Missoula Tourism Business Improvement District announces events awarded grant funding

November 18, 2015 —Missoula, MT— Destination Missoula (DM) and the Missoula Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID) are honored to announce the October 2015 TBID grant recipients. After much deliberation and thorough review of each applicant, the Grant Selection Committee awarded funds to the 2017 Big Sky Documentary Film Festival, 2016 Montana Bicycle Celebration hosted by Adventure Cycling, and the Missoula Mavericks' 2016 AA State Legion Baseball Tournament.

"The community is so fortunate to have access to grant funds provided through the Missoula Tourism Business Improvement District. These funds allow us to support local, regional and national events that in turn support our local businesses and economy," said Barbara Neilan, executive director of DM and the Missoula TBID. "The goal of this funding is to help expand and grow existing events and to bring new events to Missoula." TBID funds are generated by the assessment of a \$2 per room night fee charged by participating hotels. The funds are overseen locally and help to market Missoula and support great events such as the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival.

"With this grant, the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival will be able to showcase Missoula and the festival on a national stage, and continue to bring more visitors into our charming town in February when a boost is needed," said Gita Saedi Kiely, executive director of the Big Sky Film Institute.

In addition to bringing in and supporting events that draw in spectators on a national level, the Missoula TBID supports a range of events that showcase the diverse culture of Missoula and generate community involvement.

"In anticipation of our 40th anniversary celebration in 2016, Adventure Cycling Association appreciates the support of the Missoula TBID and Destination Missoula. Events like the Montana Bicycle Celebration, July 15 - 17, take a huge investment of time and resources. We wouldn't be able to pull off this inaugural event without the support of our generous community," said Eva Dunn-Froebig, events & outreach coordinator.

For more information about Destination Missoula or the Missoula TBID, visit www.destinationmissoula.org. For more information on how to apply for a TBID grant by the

next application deadline of March 1, 2016, please visit

www.destinationmissoula.org/tbid/grant-opportunities.

#