

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MONTANA SKATEPARK ASSOCIATION RECEIVES \$100,000 GRANT

Monies to fund new skatepark construction and skateboard programming in the state of Montana.

The Montana Skatepark Association (MSA) (formerly the Missoula Skatepark Association) is the recipient of a \$100,000 grant from the Lennox Foundation. This is one of the largest awards given on an annual basis by the Foundation. Funding from this grant will allow the MSA to establish the Get Rollin' Matching Grant Program that will assist Montana communities with the construction of skatepark projects. In addition, a portion of the funding is earmarked to develop a pilot program in Missoula, which will provide skateboarding equipment and instruction to those eager to get involved with skateboarding, especially at-risk youth. Skatepark programming developed in Missoula will ultimately be made available to other communities statewide who apply for future programming grants through the MSA.

After the completion and success of the MOBASH (<u>http://www.missoulaskatepark.org</u>) Skatepark in Missoula, the MSA organizers felt that their knowledge and passion for the recreational opportunities that skateboarding provides would be well received in other Montana communities. The 100% volunteer-run organization decided to broaden its focus from Missoula to the entire state of Montana. Newly renamed, the MSA is offering their energy, expertise and unique fundraising ideas to other municipalities interested in constructing free, public skateparks.

The MSA's goal is to help communities establish skateboard parks and skatepark programming. Skateparks provide low cost, low maintenance recreational opportunities and positive alternatives for youth. Montana communities are increasingly in need of free recreational facilities that will help support and empower their residents.

For more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with a member of the MSA, please call 406-207-7558 or email info@montanaskatepark.org

Visit <u>http://www.montanaskatepark.org</u> to view a video testimonial from various Missoula community members and skateboarding legend Tony Hawk regarding the value that free, public skateparks bring to communities.

Montana Skatepark Association Video: http://www.montanaskatepark.org/video

Montana Skatepark Association Grant Application: <u>http://www.montanaskatepark.org/apply</u>