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# MAS 2026 Annual Meeting

## April 10-12 in Missoula

From the Montana Archaeological Society

Layers of Time: Explore, Educate & Engage



2025 Meeting at the Depot Center in Livingston

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We're Excited to see you in Missoula!

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

**Oral presentations:** Oral presentations (20 minutes maximum) are invited on all aspects of Montana archaeology. Please submit less than 200-word abstracts in MS Word format to [jarmon@hrassoc.com](mailto:jarmon@hrassoc.com). Please include paper title, author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s), author(s) mailing address, email address and telephone number, and designation as an oral presentation. Abstracts will be accepted through Monday, March 2, 2026.

Authors who have had articles published in *Archaeology in Montana* are encouraged to present their research. Presenters are also encouraged to submit their research as an article to *Archaeology in Montana*. Remember to renew your membership or become a member when submitting your abstract and registration.

**Poster Presentations:** Poster presentations will also be accepted this year. While authors will not be expected to give formal presentations, they should be present and available to discuss their work when presented on Friday evening. Anyone wanting to do a poster presentation should contact Jeannie Larmon at [jarmon@hrassoc.com](mailto:jarmon@hrassoc.com)

### STUDENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

**1) Education Committee Paper and Poster Award:** a conference stipend is available for students presenting their research at the Montana Archaeological Society conference. Two students who present papers will each receive a \$275 stipend, and two students who present posters will each receive \$225. Together, these opportunities help reduce financial barriers while encouraging fieldwork, research, and professional engagement within the archaeological community. Applications can be found on the MAS website and the **deadline for all scholarships is March 15, 2026**. Student presenters who receive a stipend will also receive a Saturday evening banquet ticket. You must be an MAS member with active registration to apply. If you are a student and interested in presenting a paper, [please download the student reimbursement form](#).

**2) Ruthann Knudsen Scholarship:** Established in honor of Ruthann Knudson, the scholarship provides **TWO** \$800 awards to female students planning to participate in an archaeological field school. This scholarship reflects Ruthann's own request to uplift women in archaeology and honors her legacy as an accomplished author, dedicated teacher, and leader for women in the field. Her career spanned academia, cultural resource management, public service, and policy development. [Ruthann](#)

**[Knudsen Scholarship Application](#). The deadline for the Ruthann Knudsen Scholarship application is March 15, 2026.**

**3) Travel Stipend:** MAS is offering 6 travel stipends of \$300 for early career archaeologists and students. To receive a stipend, please fill out the attached application. If you receive a travel stipend, we request that you plan to present at the 2026 conference (a poster or paper), submit a paper to Archaeology in Montana, or contribute a section to the MAS Newsletter. Upon the receipt of your application, we will reach out to discuss these options. Please reach out Jeannie (jlarmon@hrassoc.com) with questions. **[Travel Stipend Application](#). The deadline for the Travel Stipend application is March 15, 2026.**

**4) Student Awards:** Thanks to many generous donors, this year MAS is offering all student presenters (poster or paper) a \$100 Presenter's Scholarship. This scholarship can help to offset the cost of the conference and can be added to the student's CV or resume as an official award.

**5) Conservation Fund Award:** The Montana Archaeology Society's Committee on Conservation Archaeology wants to support your research efforts. We offer funding to help scholarly research, stewardship programs, laboratory analysis, stabilization efforts, and more. Funding can range from \$500-2,000 and is meant to support existing efforts. Examples of successful past projects include funding for C-14 dates, pole-assisted aerial photography services, and GPR testing. Recipients of funds are required to share their results by publishing a paper in the Archaeology in Montana Journal or presenting at a MAS annual meeting. **Applications are due March 15th, 2026.**

**[Download the Conservation Fund App Here.](#)**

If you have any questions contact one of the Conservation Committee Co-Chairs:

Patrick Rennie – prennie@mt.gov

Laura Evilsizer – levilsizer@mt.gov

## **WORKSHOPS / TOURS:**

### **Rock Art Site Recording Workshop**

The Montana Archaeological Society (MAS), in collaboration with Sacred Sites Research (SSR), will sponsor a hands-on workshop on rock art site recording at the upcoming MAS annual meeting in Missoula on April 10, 2026. Participants will be guided through the ten steps for recording a pictograph or petroglyph site. The workshop includes three hours of illustrated classroom lectures, followed by two

hours of practical field instruction at a rock art site east of Missoula. ([MORE INFORMATION HERE!](#))

### **Unseen Missoula Tour**

While most in Missoula are familiar with the name Mary Gleim or the brief history of Front Street, many of the district's stories remain untold including Gleim's and her businesses. Since its existence along the historic Mullan Road, Front Street has been dubbed with the title of Missoula's 'red light district' implicating that district remained a place of vice, sin, and corruption influenced by the radical reformist religious movements of the late 19th century. However, violence and addiction found throughout the entirety of the American West remain only a sliver of the true story. Please sign up for the tour when you register.

([MORE INFORMATION HERE!](#))

### **Education Committee Ethnobotany Workshop with Scott Dersam and Sari Dersam:**

Sunday, April 12th between 10-12. This workshop will discuss the methods and practices for identifying Indigenous conservation and landscape-tending behaviors in the archaeological record. We provide an overview of how these methods enable archaeologists to observe the physical manifestation of these practices, providing multiple methodologies anthropologists can rely on to present the long, diverse histories of the landscape, particularly when surficial expressions of 'artifacts' are not present on a landform.

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## **Hotel Reservations**

**If you are planning to stay at the conference hotel and use the designated room block, you must reserve your room by March 10th –**

- **HOTEL INFORMATION** The host facility is the Holiday Inn Downtown, Missoula, Montana (200 S Pattee St, 406-721-8550)
- As the conference hotel, the Holiday Inn has reserved a block of rooms at the conference rate (\$151 per night). The cutoff date for booking a room at the conference rate is March 10, 2026. Book early to ensure the widest room selection.
- **Online Reservations Booking Link:** [BOOK ONLINE!](#)
- **Reservations via phone:** You may also contact the front desk 24/7 at 406-721-8550 to make a reservation or ask questions.

• **Group Name:** MAS 2026 Conference Group Booking Code: MAS

## Paleoamerican Odyssey 2026

Dear Montana Archaeological Society,

The Center for the Study of the First Americans is organizing a three-day conference on the first Indigenous people to enter the Americas during the end of the last Ice Age. The PaleoAmerican Odyssey Conference, will be held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, from October 14–17, 2026. In 2013, we held the first Paleoamerican Odyssey conference and we had 1200 people attend which included professional archaeologists, avocational archaeologists, and interested members of the public.

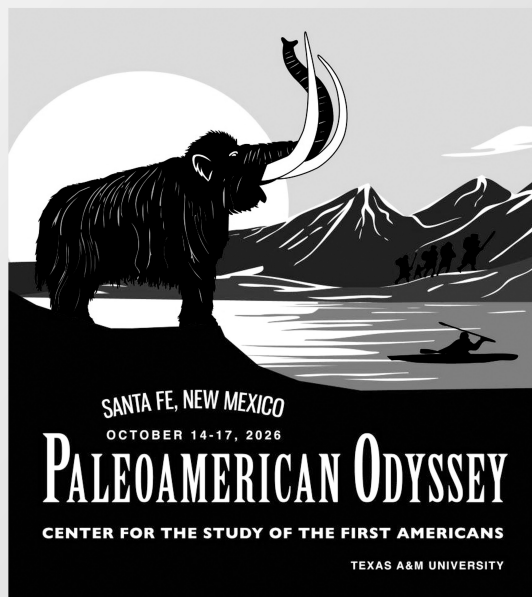
Please visit the CSFA website ([www.centerfirstamericans.com](http://www.centerfirstamericans.com)) for more information on Paleoamerican Odyssey 2026!

### Mark the date on your calendar!

The Center for the Study of the First Americans invites you to participate in a three-day examination of the first people to explore and settle the Americas at the end of the last Ice Age. This conference is for everyone—archaeologists, avocational archaeologists, Quaternary scientists, students, and anyone interested in archaeology.

Much new information generated about the peopling of the Americas since the 2013 Paleoamerican Odyssey conference is changing how we view the First Americans. The archaeological genetic revolution took place after 2013, with genomic analysis of human individuals and their dogs creating a biological outline of the ancestry of the First Americans and estimates for their arrival south of the Ice Sheets. New information generated about the coastal and inland corridors more clearly defines the timing of their opening and viability. The Western Stemmed Tradition of the Intermountain West now appears to be coeval with Clovis. Many new archaeological sites excavated in the Americas place the arrival of humans between 23,000 and 16,000 years ago. New dating and other studies tell us much about the timing and cause of the extinction of megafauna at the end of the Pleistocene and the role of humans in this event.

Hear 35 lectures given by preeminent scholars on all aspects of the study of the First Americans. Examine 400 poster presentations on a variety of topics and view artifact casts from important sites. Enjoy the opportunity to ask questions, meet, and discuss the First Americans with the speakers, poster presenters, and others throughout the day and during our evening meet-and-greet sessions.



Visit the CSFA website ([www.centerfirstamericans.com](http://www.centerfirstamericans.com)) for more information on Paleoamerican Odyssey 2026!

**We'll see you there!**

[www.mtarchaeologicalsociety.org](http://www.mtarchaeologicalsociety.org)



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