

Montana History Portal



The Montana History Portal is a free online hub for Montana cultural institutions to share their collections with the public.

Jennifer Birnel and Dave Colamaria
February 16, 2025

Five Focal Points of our Work

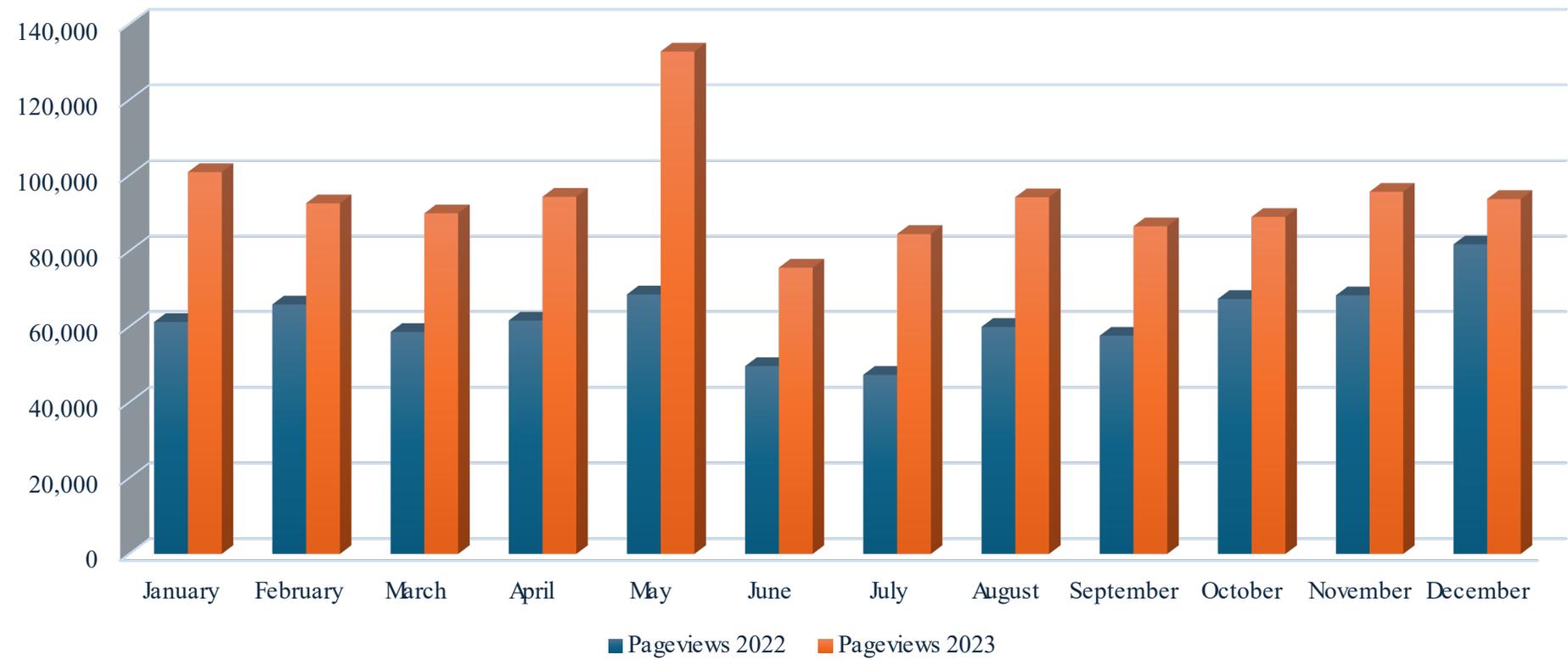
- Content
- Outreach
- Education and Engagement
- Data Collection and Reporting
- Technical Support

January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

Content	Outreach	Education & Engagement	Data collection & Reporting	Technical Support
New collections - 28	Social media posts -365 x 3 (FB, X, Instagram)	Short story contest 140 entries	Migrated to Google Analytics 4	User support tickets – under reported at 135
New content added - 29 batches	Newsletters - 52	Meme contest 212 entries	Looker Studio dashboards created	Respond to Research questions
New items added – 6,700	Conference attendance - 7	LEGO (Pilot) contest – 41 entries and 135 attendees	Commission and NAC reports	Website maintenance
Exhibits - 4	Site visits - 16	Presentations - 22	LSTA report	Tickets to Recollect
Adventure Labs - 6	Partnerships		Use of data to inform new goals	

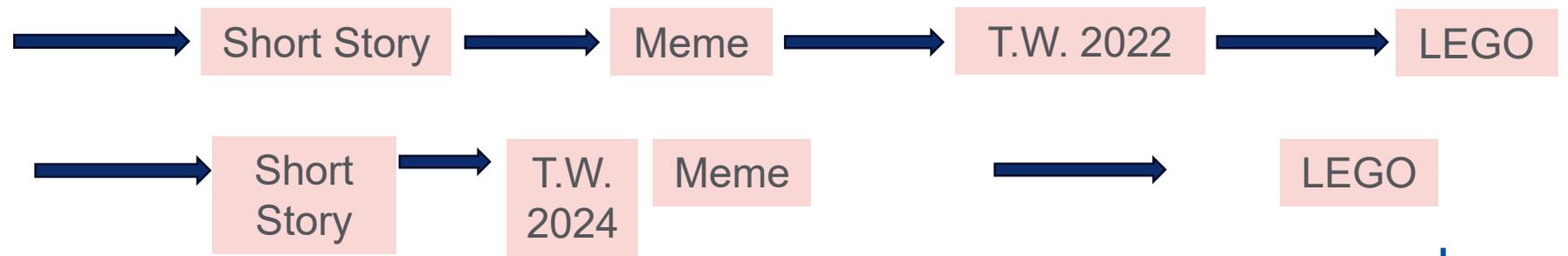
Outreach and Education & Engagement = Increased Pageviews

History Portal Monthly Pageviews - 2022 and 2023 Comparison



2023 Activity Timeline

2024 Activity Timeline



Citizen Impact

LEGO

Dear Mt. State Library – Today’s History Portal LEGO Challenge was one of the most wonderful and brilliant events we have participated in – for young kids to grandparents alike. My 8-year-old son is a big LEGO kid and participated in the build-at-home challenge. He researched the History Portal for an inspiring pic that he could build, and he was off and running, working on it for multiple days. He also researched his pic/scene to learn more about the historical event. Thank you for bringing this incredible event to our community. Ann McCanley

Teacher Workshop

Hi Jennifer, I have recommended this to a couple of other teachers. I really enjoyed attending this, and I hope I get chosen again. I have used the exhibit I wrote in my classes, but more than that, I have gotten them (my students) into the Montana History Portal and involved them in a contest. I hope to see you in April! Kim

Researcher

Good morning again,
Thank you so much for the technical assistance provided. I want to follow-up to offer my sincere appreciation of the Montana Memory Project, that I have utilized many times. Briefly, I am a retired educator, genealogist, and an enrolled member of the Blackfeet tribe. Specifically, I have used the “memory” site to access the files of Blackfeet tribal council minutes. That really is valuable information, in that it provides detailed testimony, actions, and some old photographs. Further, I have accessed some of the state prison records, as they relate to tribal members and relatives. Finally, I do enjoy perusing the old county memory books that are available on the site. I only hope the site continues to expand, offering even more valuable research material. Best wishes. ghirst

2024 Goals

Content	Outreach	Education & Engagement	Data collection & Reporting	Technical Support
New collections	Social media posts	Teacher Workshop	Maintain Google Analytics 4	Migrate to Service Now
New content	Newsletters	Short story contest	Maintain Looker Studio	User support & research tickets
Exhibits	Conference attendance	Meme Contest	Use data to inform Decisions	Website maintenance
Adventure Labs	Site visits	LEGO contest – Expand reach	Reports to Stakeholders	Tickets to Recollect
Story Maps	Partnerships	Presentations		Update Knowledge base