



Parent/Family Association

WHAT IS IT?

The PFA is a group consisting of all parents and families of current students. The organization is governed by a Board made up entirely of parent volunteers. The Board determines the allocation of funds and the goals and priorities for the group. A list of current board members, meeting minutes and agendas, as well as the constitution and by-laws is online at www.montana.edu/pfa.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PFA?

- To inform the families of enrolled students about MSU's mission, programs and services.
- To serve as a liaison and develop a good rapport between families and the university community.
- To invite families to become better acquainted with MSU.
- To help publicize and stimulate enthusiasm for MSU.
- To encourage qualified students to attend MSU.
- To support career development opportunities for MSU graduates.
- To support legislation for the growth and improvement of higher education in Montana and at MSU.
- To support services for students as they make the transition from home to MSU.

PHONATHON – Goal \$60,000

This phonathon is the primary fundraiser for the PFA. All donations are used to support the above listed purposes, as well as to support the success of our students. The Association distributes the funds based on current priorities and goals. Over the past several years, student scholarships and support of student organizations have been the primary targets.

WHAT DOES THE PFA DO FOR YOU?

The PFA, along with the First Year Initiative, created the *Parent and Family Web destination*, www.montana.edu/parents as a way to assist parents in finding the information they need, when it's needed. The site is regularly updated and brings together resources from all over campus into one easy place. The PFA also publishes the monthly *Family Newsletter*. This is a comprehensive document containing important deadlines, campus activities, feature stories, program information and more. It combines resources already available around campus into one document, delivered directly to you, so that you have access to information in a timely manner. To subscribe, visit www.montana.edu/parents and input your email address, or call the office 406.994.4571. The PFA has created a *Facebook* page called *Montana State University Family* to engage parents on a more regular basis and to give families a forum for communicating directly with one another. This page is in its infancy so please stop in and add your thoughts. You are the key to making this effort successful!

In addition, the PFA hosts the annual *Parent/Family Weekend*. Typically held during October, this is a terrific time to reconnect with your student, meet people around campus and explore the campus and community. The PFA also hosts Family Receptions during summer orientations.

CONTACT

The PFA hub on campus is located in the Office of Communications and Public Affairs. Staff is available anytime you have a question, concern, idea or just need someone to hear you and help you find a solution or resource. Please contact Jodie DeLay, PFA Campus Coordinator, with any questions, comments, ideas or concerns – or to volunteer to serve on the Board. Parents like you are responsible for recent improved communications and are vital to continuing to develop and enhance the connection between MSU and families of our students. Please consider getting involved.

MSU PFA, PO Box 172630, 106 Montana Hall, Bozeman, MT 59717-2630, ph. 406.994.4571,
jdelay@montana.edu. Families are ALWAYS welcome.

THANK YOU for contributing to the success of our students. Your donation makes a difference!

- ❖ *Last semester and this semester I helped middle school students build robots and compete in the state-wide tournament. As an electrical engineer, I hope to focus my attentions on solving many of the problems concerning society, especially our biggest question, energy. I plan to maintain some capacity to reach out to others and assist them with a helping hand. I truly appreciate the consideration you have given me. This scholarship will help immensely. ~ Zach*
- ❖ *I would like to extend my gratitude for the academic scholarship that I have received from the Parent/Family Association. With my senior film approaching, I could not have imagined a more pleasant surprise. I will work to the best of my abilities to create a senior project reflecting the great education I have received from the School of Film and Photography and MSU. Thank you for the help – I am honored to have been selected. ~ Sarah*
- ❖ *This scholarship will significantly help me financially as I enter my senior year. I am very satisfied with the education I have received at Montana State University and feel as though upon graduation I will be ready to take on any challenges the business world will bring me. ~ Makenzie*
- ❖ *The Parent/Family Association Scholarship is not only a gift financially, but emotionally as well. This gift exhibits that the committee feels I will be an asset to the College of Education at MSU, and I am genuinely willing to work hard to achieve my goals. Thank you for having confidence in me as a student. ~ Jessica*
- ❖ *I am extremely grateful for receiving the Parent/Family Association Scholarship. Education is a long and strenuous path towards making a difference in our society, and when someone makes it through the challenge, it is often assumed that they did it themselves. But in truth, people ranging from teachers, to associations, to parents supported them along the way. With this scholarship, the Parent/Family Association has become a part of my journey, and I am very thankful for the support. ~ Jacob*
- ❖ *Wow! How very generous! We accept this gift with tremendous glee and will acknowledge the PFA donation on our website as well as on a plaque in the garden recognizing families for their generous support. ~ Jill Davis, faculty advisor for Project Iris Garden, Danforth Park Renovation*
- ❖ *Just a short note to thank you for the wonderful Parents Weekend. We always look forward to this time of the year when we see and enjoy more of the campus and the surrounding area. How fantastic to see students so excited about their studies that they create new areas of study for others to follow. ~ parent following Parent/Family Weekend*

The **Parent/Family Association** invites YOU to share your talents and interests with the organization. The PFA is managed by families, just like yours, from all over the country. Our president is from California, while our newsletter editor is from Virginia. We have parents who like to help with specific tasks such as organizing the silent auction and others who wish to participate by providing ideas or stories for the newsletter. Whatever your special interest, we would like to have your involvement. The impact the organization has on student success is significant, and current and former members who have become active indicate that it greatly enhances their MSU experience as well. Please contact Jodie DeLay for more information or if you would like to visit with a current member about opportunities.