

Resources for Civics Educators

Montana History Portal

1972 Constitutional Convention

<https://www.mtmemory.org/nodes/view/91422>

**Montana State Library resource with images and links to historical documents*

“This and Future Generations” 2002 Video

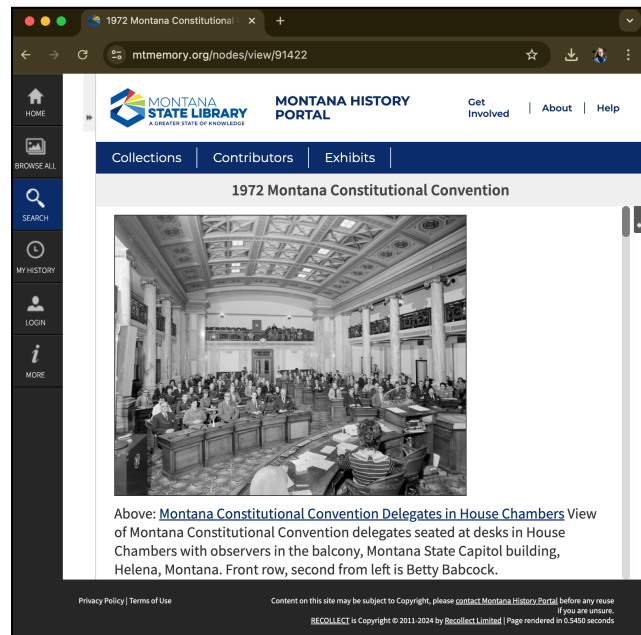
<https://youtu.be/RcpBkPqzkzo?feature=shared>

One-hour video directed by Gus Chambers

“In 1972, 100 grassroots delegates gathered in Helena, Montana for what many would recall as the proudest time of their lives. Their task: to re-write the lumbering, old state constitution.

This is the story of those delegates and the tumultuous times that ignited their fervor.”

Produced for KUFM-TV/MontanaPBS.



Civics and Geography Lessons from the Montana Historical Society

<https://mhs.mt.gov/education/civicsandgeo>

The Montana 1972 Constitutional Convention (Designed for grades 11-12) This intensive dive into Montana’s constitutional convention asks students to analyze and compare the preambles of both the 1889 and 1972 Montana Constitutions before exploring how the 1972 constitution came to be, researching some of the major people and events of the 1972 Constitutional Convention, and

presenting their findings in a digital “yearbook.” While the full lesson takes eight to eleven 50-minute class periods, parts can be used independently

**This is a 31 page lesson plan that can be downloaded as a PDF*



Resources for Teaching about the Montana Constitution. For the fiftieth anniversary of Montana's 1972 constitution, we put together a list of resources for teaching about this foundational document. These include videos, lesson plans, readings, and a [link to the document itself](#).

**This is a web page containing many different resources to use including presentations of the 50th Anniversary Speakers Series <https://mhs.mt.gov/education/MTCon50thAnniv>*

The Montana Constitution Collection from the University of Montana

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/montanaconstitution/>

The Montana Constitution Collection is a project of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center and the Blewett School of Law. It contains a record of Montana's constitutional history leading through the 1972 Constitutional Convention.



Last Best Constitution - Montana's 1972 Constitutional Convention & Constitution: a Video Retrospective

<https://www.mtmemory.org/nodes/view/110606>

A 2022 Video Series Created by Orphan Girl Productions and Helena Civic Television
22 Episodes, each 1-hour long, moderated by Evan Barrett

**MONTANA STATE LIBRARY**
A GREATER STATE OF KNOWLEDGE

MONTANA HISTORY PORTAL

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Last Best Constitution - Montana's 1972 Constitutional Convention & Constitution: a Video Retrospective

Collection Summary

Historical changes in political culture and public policy occurring in the 1965-80 period shaped the Montana of today. That is especially true as a result of the passage of a new Montana Constitution in 1972. Because of the passage of time since the enactment of the Constitution, many of today's Montana citizens are unaware of the changes that took place at that time, unaware of the nature of Montana politics before the change period, and unaware of the changes in our state under the 1972 Constitution. It is the broad objective of the "Last Best Constitution" series to make Montanans more aware of all of these things in order to have a more informed citizenry.

Contributing Institution
[Orphan Girl Productions, Inc.](#)

Related Exhibit
[1972 Montana Constitutional Convention](#)



Handout prepared by the Friends of the Montana Constitution



The Friends of the Montana Constitution inspires appreciation of the Montana Constitution and celebrates the legacy of the 1972 Constitutional Convention.

Learn more at MontanaConstitution.org
or email coordinator@montanaconstitution.org.