

To whom it may concern,

My name is Phillip R. Burton, I am on the Board of Directors of the Great Falls Municipal Band, currently serving as board President. I have been a musician and Trombonist in that band for the past 25 years. In addition, I also play in the Great Falls Community Jazz Band, The Great Falls Community Band, and the New Harold Nicholls Big Band. I am also a substitute Trombone player for the Great Falls Symphony. The purpose of this letter is to recommend approval of a grant to Mr. James F. Rickley.

In my musical experience I find Mr. James F. Rickley extremely worthy of a grant from the Montana Arts Council. Mr. Rickley has the discipline and ability to accomplish his goals and follow through with his request for said grant. As an accomplished Musician, including Organ, Piano, Percussion, and recently studying Cello with the Principal Cellist in the Great Falls Symphony, I believe he has the creative musical abilities, and artistic discipline of an individual artist to contribute to the community. He has recently joined the percussion section of Great Falls Community Band, which operates under the auspices of the Great Falls Municipal Band.

He has established a commendable and professional track record through original pieces composed for small ensembles at his church, including pieces for Organ and Trombone Quartet, in addition to a full concert band piece just last year for the Great Falls Municipal Band.

Yours Truly,

Phillip R Burton