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Former Montanan establishes $1,000 award at U of Montana

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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A former Montanan who now lives in New York City has established a $1,000 annual scholarship fund within the University of Montana Foundation.

The benefactor is Sumner Gerard, a former state senator from Madison County (Mont.) who owns a large ranch several miles south of Ennis.

Thomas J. Collins, UM Foundation director, said the new scholarship, entitled "The Sumner Gerard Foundation Scholarship," will be awarded annually by the University Scholarship Committee to a Montana boy or girl.

In determining the awardee, the UM committee will, at Gerard's request, give preference to a student with a ranching background from Madison County, Beaverhead County or Yellowstone County, respectively.

"The scholarship may apply to any undergraduate or graduate school," said Gerard, "and may be retained by the recipient for more than one year."

Concerning the value of the award, Collins said, "It is very gratifying to see such a display of loyalty and generosity from a former Montanan. Not only is the University and its administration very pleased, but we know what the award will mean to students who receive such fine support."