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### Butte woman recognized for service to UM

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Feb. 24, 1998

**Contact:** James Kriley, dean, School of Fine Arts, (406) 243-4970.

### **BUTTE WOMAN RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE TO UM**

#### **MISSOULA --**

The University of Montana-Missoula celebrated its 105th birthday last week by presenting Helen Guthrie "Gus" Miller of **Butte** one of its highest honors -- The Robert T. Pantzer Award.

Named for UM's president from 1966 to 1974, the Pantzer award recognizes an individual who has helped make the University a more open and humane environment. Miller was singled out for her years of service to UM as a volunteer and adviser.

"If Gus Miller says she'll do it, trust me, it's done," said School of Fine Arts Dean James Kriley.

Miller served on the fund-raising committee for UM's recently completed \$71.4 million Capital Campaign and chaired the Butte community campaign drive for the University from 1984 to 1986. She also served on the University Theatre renovation committee and the Montana Repertory Theatre Advisory Council. She currently is on the School of Fine Arts Advisory Council and volunteers for KUFM's signal extension project, which will bring public radio to more western Montana communities.

The award was presented during UM's Charter Day ceremony Feb. 19. Miller's daughter, Eden Atwood, a professional jazz singer, sang at the ceremony as a tribute to her mother. Atwood starred in the Montana Rep's performance of "Swingtime Canteen" at UM last week.

Miller's award is one of five presented annually on the day set aside to commemorate UM's charter by the Legislature on Feb. 17, 1893.

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A Montana native and UM alumna, Miller worked in publishing, public relations and the media, including stints with Wendt Advertising and KFBB-TV in **Great Falls**. Since retiring from full-time employment in 1979, she has helped her husband, Shag, operate two Butte radio stations and Muzak Communications. She has volunteered in her local community by serving as vice president of the Butte Center for the Performing Arts and raising money for the YMCA's annual campaign. Miller also was the 1997 recipient of the Butte Rotary Club Good Citizen Award.

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RM  
Montana Standard, Great Falls Tribune, Choteau Acantha  
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