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University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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NEWS RELEASE

Nov. 5, 2009

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ALTERNATIVE WINTER BREAK TAKES UM STUDENTS TO HOLLYWOOD

MISSOULA—

The University of Montana Office for Civic Engagement currently is accepting applications for the Alternative Winter Break trip Jan. 9-17.

The trip, combined with three days of mandatory seminars, is worth two credits. Students will work in Hollywood, Calif., with the volunteer organization Discovering Opportunities for Outreach and Reflection.

Mandatory seminars will take place Wednesday through Friday, Jan. 6-8, and students will leave Missoula on Saturday, Jan. 9, and return Sunday, Jan. 17.

An information session will be held at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, in Davidson Honors College Room 118. Refreshments will be provided.

Alternative Winter Break applications are due by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1. They are available at the OCE office, located in Davidson Honors College Room 015.

In Hollywood, students will be assigned different work sites each day. Students will work in places such as soup kitchens, children's organizations and Habitat for Humanity projects. Jobs will be assigned based on what the city needs at the time of the trip.

Students also will have free time to explore the more glamorous side of Hollywood, exposing them to the striking contrasts that exist between poverty and prosperity.

The goal of alternative breaks, sponsored for more than 10 years by OCE, is to provide students with an opportunity to learn through volunteerism, to work in a group of peers and to become vitally connected with a new and different community.

OCE is a department of the Davidson Honors College and serves as UM's primary agent of community activism and civic responsibility.

For more information, call 406-243-5531 or go online to <http://www.umt.edu/oce>.

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