

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

2012

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

A For the 2012 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01/01, 2012, and ending 12/31, 20 12

B Check if applicable:
 Address change
 Name change
 Initial return
 Terminated
 Amended return
 Application pending

C Name of organization **BIG SKY INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF NONPROFITS**
 Doing Business As
 Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
Post Office Box 1514
 City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code
Helena, MT 59624-1514

D Employer identification number
81-0529716

E Telephone number
406-443-5860

F Name and address of principal officer: Michael Schechtman
PO Box 1514, Helena, MT 59624

G Gross receipts \$ 320,081

H(a) Is this a group return for affiliates? Yes No
H(b) Are all affiliates included? Yes No
 If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)

I Tax-exempt status: 501(c)(3) 501(c) () ◀ (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527

J Website: ▶ www.bigskyinstitute.org

K Form of organization: Corporation Trust Association Other ▶

L Year of formation: 1999

M State of legal domicile: MT

H(c) Group exemption number ▶

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance	1	Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: <u>The mission of Big Sky Institute for the Advancement of Nonprofits (BSI) is to build rural communities by strengthening nonprofits and expanding philanthropy.</u>		
	2	Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.		
	3	Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	7
	4	Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	5
	5	Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2012 (Part V, line 2a)	5	3
	6	Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	2
	7a	Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0
	b	Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	0
Revenue	8	Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	Prior Year 107,460	Current Year 41,624
	9	Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	6,508	277,915
	10	Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	6	4
	11	Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	500	538
	12	Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	114,474	320,081
Expenses	13	Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	17,500	24,500
	14	Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	0	0
	15	Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	88,075	134,228
	16a	Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0	0
	b	Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ 882		
	17	Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	52,065	186,239
	18	Total expenses. Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	157,640	344,967
	19	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	-43,166	-24,886
Net Assets or Fund Balances	20	Total assets (Part X, line 16)	Beginning of Current Year 8,407	End of Year 63,330
	21	Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	51,182	118,224
	22	Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	-42,775	-54,894

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here

Signature of officer: Michael Schechtman, Executive Director Date: _____
 Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer Use Only

Print/Type preparer's name: _____ Preparer's signature: _____ Date: _____ Check if self-employed PTIN: _____
 Firm's name ▶: _____ Firm's EIN ▶: _____
 Firm's address ▶: _____ Phone no.: _____

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions) Yes No

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part III

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission:

The mission of Big Sky Institute for the Advancement of Nonprofits (BSI) is to build rural communities by strengthening nonprofits and expanding philanthropy.

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O.

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O.

4 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code:) (Expenses \$ 318,609 including grants of \$ 24,500) (Revenue \$ 271,919)

Montana Nonprofit Sector Development. Through BSI's Montana Nonprofit Connections Program, BSI awarded grants for capacity building projects with the following early childhood organizations: Bozeman Children's Museum (a comprehensive board development project); Butte 4-Cs (strategic plan development); Families First (strategic plan development); The Parenting Place (comprehensive fundraising plan and messaging development); and Thrive, Inc. (outreach, marketing and communications plan development and training). All projects were completed in 2012. BSI worked with the Missoula Community Foundation and three other foundations to begin designing a pilot project for a place-based approach to nonprofit capacity building. The pilot, to be launched in 2013, will engage other Missoula area funders, local consultants and other community resource programs to coalesce efforts for a strong, sustainable capacity building program for Missoula-area nonprofits. BSI published and disseminated "Opening the Window of Opportunity: A Report on the Montana Early Care and Education Survey of Funders," a report of the findings from BSI's survey of 190 Montana and regional foundations' work and interest in early childhood development. We conducted a funders briefing on opportunities for strategic investment in early childhood development for 20 funders in Billings, MT and community (Continued on Schedule O, Statement 2)

4b (Code:) (Expenses \$ 7,507 including grants of \$ 0) (Revenue \$ 4,170)

Institute Activities. During 2011, BSI worked with the Ravalli County Nonprofit Partnership to explore options for developing capacity building services for the county's growing nonprofit sector. BSI researched the county's nonprofit sector, and conducted an on-line survey regarding capacity building interests and priority needs of a representative sampling of the county's nonprofits. During 2012, BSI completed and published the project's report, "A New Day for the Bitterroot: Stronger Communities Through Stronger Nonprofits". The report provides guidance to the nonprofit partnership for formulating and implementing programs in board training, staff development, and organizational capacity building. During 2012, the nonprofit partnership engaged organizations about the report's findings, built consensus for moving forward, and began implementing a series of training sessions with a particular focus on fundraising knowledge and skill development.

4c (Code:) (Expenses \$ 2,810 including grants of \$ 0) (Revenue \$ 1,828)

Promotion of Philanthropy in Montana. Promotion of Philanthropy in Montana. BSI began a contract with the Missoula Community Foundation in late 2011 that continued into 2012 to assist with developing and expanding their fundraising program. This included coaching and assistance to their full-time Executive Director. BSI's assistance culminated in the development of a multi-year, comprehensive fund development plan which emphasized the development of sustainable sources of unrestricted revenues to help support core staff expenses and annual operating costs. During 2012, BSI staff served as informal advisors to provide suggestions, and comment on drafts of planning documents for developing the Community Foundations of Montana Advisory Council, which was founded in late 2011. The Council conducted its 2012 annual convening of LCFs for training and skill development in Helena for over 60 staff and trustees of LCFs. BSI participated in a panel presentation on staffing for LCFs, and conducted a brief training on strategies for funding staff and associated operating costs.

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O.)
(Expenses \$ 0 including grants of \$ 0) (Revenue \$ 0)

4e Total program service expenses ▶ 328,926

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

	Yes	No
1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule A</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 Is the organization required to complete <i>Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors</i> (see instructions)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5 Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability; serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X; or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11 If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable.		
a Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule E</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or assistance to any organization or entity located outside the United States? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or assistance to individuals located outside the United States? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules *(continued)*

	Yes	No
21 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants and other assistance to any government or organization in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</i>	21	✓
22 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i>	22	✓
23 Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i>	23	✓
24a Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25</i>	24a	✓
b Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?	24b	
c Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?	24c	
d Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?	24d	
25a Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25a	✓
b Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25b	✓
26 Was a loan to or by a current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, highest compensated employee, or disqualified person outstanding as of the end of the organization's tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II</i>	26	✓
27 Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III</i>	27	✓
28 Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions):		
a A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28a	✓
b A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28b	✓
c An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28c	✓
29 Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	29	✓
30 Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	30	✓
31 Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i>	31	✓
32 Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II</i>	32	✓
33 Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I</i>	33	✓
34 Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1</i>	34	✓
35a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	35a	✓
b If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	35b	
36 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	36	✓
37 Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI</i>	37	✓
38 Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? Note. All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O	38	✓

Part V **Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance**

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part V

		Yes	No		
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable	1a	7		
b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable	1b	0		
c	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?	1c	✓		
2a	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return	2a	3		
b	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file (see instructions)	2b	✓		
3a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?	3a		✓	
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	3b			
4a	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?	4a		✓	
b	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____ See instructions for filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.				
5a	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?	5a		✓	
b	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?	5b		✓	
c	If "Yes" to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?	5c			
6a	Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions?	6a		✓	
b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?	6b			
7	Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).				
a	Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?	7a		✓	
b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?	7b			
c	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?	7c		✓	
d	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year	7d			
e	Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?	7e		✓	
f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?	7f		✓	
g	If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?	7g		✓	
h	If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?	7h		✓	
8	Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations. Did the supporting organization, or a donor advised fund maintained by a sponsoring organization, have excess business holdings at any time during the year?	8			
9	Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.				
a	Did the organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?	9a			
b	Did the organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?	9b			
10	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:				
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12	10a			
b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities	10b			
11	Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter:				
a	Gross income from members or shareholders	11a			
b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them.)	11b			
12a	Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?	12a			
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year	12b			
13	Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.				
a	Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state? Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.	13a			
b	Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans	13b			
c	Enter the amount of reserves on hand	13c			
14a	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?	14a		✓	
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	14b			

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to line 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions. Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part VI

Section A. Governing Body and Management

		Yes	No
1a	Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year		
	If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O.		
1b	Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent		
2	Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors, or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Did the organization have members or stockholders?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7a	Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7b	Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following:		
a	The governing body?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b	Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9	Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

		Yes	No
10a	Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10b	If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes?		
11a	Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11b	Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990.		
12a	Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
12b	Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
12c	Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
13	Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
14	Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
15	Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision?		
15a	The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15b	Other officers or key employees of the organization		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process in Schedule O (see instructions).		
16a	Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16b	If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?		

Section C. Disclosure

- 17** List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed ► None
- 18** Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (Section 501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply.
 Own website Another's website Upon request Other (explain in Schedule O)
- 19** Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how), the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year.
- 20** State the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the books and records of the organization: ► **Big Sky Institute for the Advancement of Nonprofits, (406)443-5860**

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part VIII.

				(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512, 513, or 514	
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a Federated campaigns	1a	0					
	b Membership dues	1b	0					
	c Fundraising events	1c	0					
	d Related organizations	1d	0					
	e Government grants (contributions)	1e	0					
	f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f	41,624					
	g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f: \$		250					
	h Total. Add lines 1a-1f			41,624				
Program Service Revenue	Business Code							
	2a <u>Montana Nonprofit Sector Developmen</u>		900099	271,918	271,918	0	0	
	b <u>Institute Activities</u>		900099	4,170	4,170	0	0	
	c <u>Promotion of Philanthropy in Montana</u>		900099	1,827	1,827	0	0	
	d -----							
	e -----							
	f All other program service revenue .			0	0	0	0	
g Total. Add lines 2a-2f			277,915					
Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)			4	4	0	0	
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds			0	0	0	0	
	5 Royalties			0	0	0	0	
	6a Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal					
		0	0					
		b Less: rental expenses		0	0			
		c Rental income or (loss)		0	0			
	d Net rental income or (loss)			0	0	0	0	
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other					
		0	0					
		b Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses		0	0			
		c Gain or (loss)		0	0			
	d Net gain or (loss)			0	0	0	0	
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 0 of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18	a		0				
		b Less: direct expenses	b	0				
		c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events .		0	0	0	0	
	9a Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19	a		0				
		b Less: direct expenses	b	0				
		c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities . .		0	0	0	0	
10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	a		0					
	b Less: cost of goods sold	b	0					
	c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . .		0	0	0	0		
Miscellaneous Revenue			Business Code					
11a -----								
b -----								
c -----								
d All other revenue			538	538	0	0		
e Total. Add lines 11a-11d			538					
12 Total revenue. See instructions.			320,081	278,457	0	0		

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part IX

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.

	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the United States. See Part IV, line 21	24,500	24,500		
2 Grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States. See Part IV, line 22	0	0		
3 Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the United States. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16	0	0		
4 Benefits paid to or for members	0	0		
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	82,715	82,715	0	0
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)	0	0	0	0
7 Other salaries and wages	44,925	34,735	9,650	540
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	0	0	0	0
9 Other employee benefits	0	0	0	0
10 Payroll taxes	6,588	5,772	772	44
11 Fees for services (non-employees):				
a Management	0	0	0	0
b Legal	0	0	0	0
c Accounting	0	0	0	0
d Lobbying	0	0	0	0
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17	0			0
f Investment management fees	0	0	0	0
g Other. (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O.)	141,152	141,152	0	0
12 Advertising and promotion	0	0	0	0
13 Office expenses	12,188	11,334	692	162
14 Information technology	1,031	830	198	3
15 Royalties	0	0	0	0
16 Occupancy	7,080	6,069	958	53
17 Travel	19,512	19,250	262	0
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials	0	0	0	0
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	883	413	470	0
20 Interest	1,575	0	1,575	0
21 Payments to affiliates	0	0	0	0
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	21	0	21	0
23 Insurance	1,826	1,758	64	4
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a <u>membership dues</u>	125	0	125	0
b <u>Equipment Maintenance</u>	591	378	209	4
c <u>Subscriptions, Awards, Annual filing fee</u>	255	20	163	72
d _____				
e All other expenses				
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	344,967	328,926	15,159	882
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part X

		(A)		(B)	
		Beginning of year		End of year	
Assets	1 Cash—non-interest-bearing	3,170	1	3,379	
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	290	2	23,972	
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net	0	3	0	
	4 Accounts receivable, net	4,666	4	35,718	
	5 Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L				
		1	5	2	
	6 Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions). Complete Part II of Schedule L				
		0	6	0	
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net	0	7	0	
	8 Inventories for sale or use	0	8	0	
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	0	9	0	
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	1,592			
		10a			
	b Less: accumulated depreciation	1,333	280	10c	259
		10b			
	11 Investments—publicly traded securities	0	11	0	
12 Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11	0	12	0		
13 Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11	0	13	0		
14 Intangible assets	0	14	0		
15 Other assets. See Part IV, line 11	0	15	0		
16 Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)	8,407	16	63,330		
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	4,046	17	30,896	
	18 Grants payable	0	18	0	
	19 Deferred revenue	0	19	47,470	
	20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities	0	20	0	
	21 Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D	0	21	0	
	22 Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L				
		0	22	0	
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties	0	23	0	
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties	18,504	24	24,399	
	25 Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24). Complete Part X of Schedule D	28,632		15,459	
		25			
26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	51,182	26	118,224		
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.				
	27 Unrestricted net assets	-83,528	27	-56,634	
	28 Temporarily restricted net assets	40,753	28	1,740	
	29 Permanently restricted net assets	0	29	0	
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34.				
	30 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds		30		
	31 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund		31		
	32 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds		32		
	33 Total net assets or fund balances	-42,775	33	-54,894	
34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	8,407	34	63,330		

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part XI

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	320,081
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	344,967
3	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	-24,886
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	-42,775
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	0
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	0
7	Investment expenses	7	0
8	Prior period adjustments	8	0
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	12,767
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	-54,894

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part XII

	Yes	No
1 Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O.		
2a Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? . . . If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		✓
b Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		✓
c If "Yes" to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O.		
3a As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?		✓
b If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits		

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support

OMB No. 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

Name of the organization BIG SKY INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF NONPROFITS	Employer identification number 81-0529716
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Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box.)

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E.)
- 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state: _____
- 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 8 A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 9 An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III.)
- 10 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2). See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h.
 - a Type I b Type II c Type III—Functionally integrated d Type III—Non-functionally integrated
- e By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2).
- f If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box
- g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?

	Yes	No
(i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization?	11g(i)	
(ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above?	11g(ii)	
(iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?	11g(iii)	
- h Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1-9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col. (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col. (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col. (i) organized in the U.S.?		(vii) Amount of monetary support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
(A)									
(B)									
(C)									
(D)									
(E)									
Total									

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3						
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4.						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4						
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)					12	
13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here						<input type="checkbox"/>

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2012 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	%
15 Public support percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	%
16a 33 1/3% support test—2012. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input type="checkbox"/>
b 33 1/3% support test—2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input type="checkbox"/>
17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2012. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input type="checkbox"/>
b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input type="checkbox"/>
18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions		<input type="checkbox"/>

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	284,241	205,776	179,295	107,470	41,624	818,406
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose	20,439	11,316	2,775	6,508	277,914	318,952
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5	304,680	217,092	182,070	113,978	319,538	1,137,358
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons	1,350	1,350	600	1,300	500	5,100
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year	15,223	6,316	0	336	500	22,375
c Add lines 7a and 7b	16,573	7,666	600	1,636	1,000	27,475
8 Public support (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)						1,109,883

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6	304,680	217,092	182,070	113,978	319,538	1,137,358
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	2,029	202	17	6	4	2,258
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975	0	0	0	0	0	0
c Add lines 10a and 10b	2,029	202	17	6	4	2,258
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)	449	1,013	4,412	500	538	6,912
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)	307,158	218,307	186,499	114,484	320,080	1,146,528
14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here						<input type="checkbox"/>

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public support percentage for 2012 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	96.8 %
16 Public support percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	94.8 %

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2012 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	0.2 %
18 Investment income percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	0.46 %
19a 33 1/3% support tests—2012. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here . The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b 33 1/3% support tests—2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here . The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	
20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions	<input type="checkbox"/>	

SCHEDULE D (Form 990)

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Financial Statements

Complete if the organization answered "Yes," to Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b. Attach to Form 990. See separate instructions.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization: BIG SKY INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF NONPROFITS; Employer identification number: 81-0529716

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

Table with 2 columns: (a) Donor advised funds, (b) Funds and other accounts. Rows include: Total number at end of year, Aggregate contributions to (during year), Aggregate grants from (during year), Aggregate value at end of year, and two questions about donor advisement.

Part II Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

Form for Part II Conservation Easements. Includes questions about purpose of easements, acreage restricted, and monitoring. Includes a table for 'Held at the End of the Tax Year' with rows 2a, 2b, 2c, and 2d.

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

Form for Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets. Includes questions about reporting works of art and assets for financial gain.

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets *(continued)*

3 Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply):

- a** Public exhibition
- b** Scholarly research
- c** Preservation for future generations
- d** Loan or exchange programs
- e** Other

4 Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII.

5 During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection? **Yes** **No**

Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X? **Yes** **No**

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table:

	Amount
1c Beginning balance	
1d Additions during the year	
1e Distributions during the year	
1f Ending balance	

2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21? **Yes** **No**

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII. Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII

Part V Endowment Funds. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance					
b Contributions					
c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses					
d Grants or scholarships					
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs					
f Administrative expenses					
g End of year balance					

2 Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as:

- a** Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶%
- b** Permanent endowment ▶%
- c** Temporarily restricted endowment ▶%

The percentages in lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%.

3a Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:

- (i)** unrelated organizations
- (ii)** related organizations

	Yes	No
3a(i)		
3a(ii)		
3b		

b If "Yes" to 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?

4 Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds.

Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of property	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
1a Land	0	0		0
b Buildings	0	0	0	0
c Leasehold improvements	0	0	0	0
d Equipment	1,592	0	1,333	259
e Other	0	0	0	0

Total. Add lines 1a through 1e. (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).) ▶ **259**

Part VII Investments—Other Securities. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) Financial derivatives		
(2) Closely-held equity interests		
(3) Other -----		
(A) -----		
(B) -----		
(C) -----		
(D) -----		
(E) -----		
(F) -----		
(G) -----		
(H) -----		
(I) -----		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 12.) ▶		

Part VIII Investments—Program Related. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment type	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
(10)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 13.) ▶		

Part IX Other Assets. See Form 990, Part X, line 15.

(a) Description	(b) Book value
(1)	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
(10)	
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 15.) ▶	

Part X Other Liabilities. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

1. (a) Description of liability	(b) Book value	
(1) Federal income taxes	0	
(2) Discover business card	414	
(3) payroll tax	1,361	
(4) Employee accrued PTO	13,684	
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
(10)		
(11)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 25.) ▶	15,459	

2. FIN 48 (ASC 740) Footnote. In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization’s financial statements that reports the organization’s liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740). Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII

**SCHEDULE L
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Transactions With Interested Persons

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a, 25b, 26, 27, 28a, 28b, or 28c, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a or 40b.**
▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.**

OMB No. 1545-0047

2012

Open To Public Inspection

Name of the organization

Employer identification number

BIG SKY INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF NONPROFITS

81-0529716

Part I Excess Benefit Transactions (section 501(c)(3) and section 501(c)(4) organizations only).

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a or 25b, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 40b.

1	(a) Name of disqualified person	(b) Relationship between disqualified person and organization	(c) Description of transaction	(d) Corrected?	
				Yes	No
(1)					
(2)					
(3)					
(4)					
(5)					
(6)					

- 2 Enter the amount of tax incurred by the organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under section 4958. ▶ \$ _____
- 3 Enter the amount of tax, if any, on line 2, above, reimbursed by the organization ▶ \$ _____

Part II Loans to and/or From Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a or Form 990, Part IV, line 26; or if the organization reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 5, 6, or 22.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship with organization	(c) Purpose of loan	(d) Loan to or from the organization?		(e) Original principal amount	(f) Balance due	(g) In default?		(h) Approved by board or committee?		(i) Written agreement?	
			To	From			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
			(1)									
(2)												
(3)												
(4)												
(5)												
(6)												
(7)												
(8)												
(9)												
(10)												
Total ▶						\$						

Part III Grants or Assistance Benefiting Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 27.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of assistance	(d) Type of assistance	(e) Purpose of assistance
(1)				
(2)				
(3)				
(4)				
(5)				
(6)				
(7)				
(8)				
(9)				
(10)				

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2012

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization

BIG SKY INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF NONPROFITS

Employer identification number

81-0529716

Form 990, Part III, Line 2 - Since 2009, BSI has been working to strengthen the early childhood development subsector of Montana's nonprofit sector through nonprofit development, expansion of non-governmental funding resources, and assistance to nonprofit infrastructure dedicated to this field. This arena of work experienced significant expansion in 2012 because the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) was awarded a federal grant of \$3.2 million annually for two years to administer the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Infrastructure Development Program (now commonly known as MIECHV ID). Funds were designated by DPHHS to be awarded to the 20 counties with the greatest levels of at-risk indicators for children and families, and the similarly challenged 7 Indian Reservations in Montana. The grant recipients were encouraged to hire consultants to assist them with carrying out their MIECHV ID funded responsibilities. In response to this rare and important opportunity, BSI developed the Montana Early Childhood Assessment Network (MECAN), a diverse group of very experienced nonprofit consultants and early childhood development specialists. Our MECAN consultants and BSI staff developed a broad suite of services to assist grant recipients to accomplish the desired MIECHV ID project outcomes. At the core of this work is coalition building at the community level to bring together key stakeholder audiences, agencies and community leaders to assess needs and existing services, and develop local systems of comprehensive early childhood services. BSI's approach to this work included developing expanded funding at the community level to underwrite improvement and expansion of services on a sustainable basis.

Form 990, Part VI, Section A, Line 9 - Board Member Dick Rule died in June of 2013.

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 11b - The BSI Board of Directors is statewide in composition, and meets in-person three to four times annually, in addition to regular meetings by conference call. The Board has delegated responsibility to the BSI Finance Committee for preparation, review and finalization of the annual Form 990. The Chair of the Finance Committee is a member of the BSI Board of Directors with extensive knowledge of BSI's program and activities. The Executive Director (also a Board member) serves on the Finance Committee, which also includes two non-Board members with extensive nonprofit accounting experience. One of the non-Board members is a CPA with extensive public accounting experience, including auditing of small and large nonprofits, and governmental entities. The Board of Directors is sent the completed form 990 prior to submission, and then it is reviewed at the next scheduled in-person meeting of the Board.

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 12c - Development of the conflict of interest policy, procedures and annual disclosure form went through several twists due to changes in Board composition. The policy is approved and in place, and going forward, will be a standing agenda item for the Annual Meeting of the Corporation, which is held in conjunction with the Board's first in-person meeting of the year.

Form 990, Part VI, Section C, Line 19 - BSI has utilized its website to make its key governance and financial documents available to the public. On the home page, the "About Us" tab has a pull down menu which includes "Governance Documents". The website was under construction during 2012, delaying the upload of some of the documents.

Form 990, Part IX, Line 11g - Consulting services for organizational assessments, capacity building and planning

Form 990, Part XI, Line 9 - Big Sky Institute accrued with its payroll expenses a liability for Unemployment Insurance for which Big Sky Institute is set up as "reimbursable" rather than paying into the fund quarterly. This liability was reversed and grants credited back the expense.

Reasonable Cause Explanations

Explanation

filed form 8868 April 16 2013

First Program Service Accomplishments Description

Description

foundations from adjacent counties. BSI conducted seminars in Billings, Helena and Missoula for local nonprofits on developing a state-wide fund for the early childhood development field that will be permanently endowed, and laid groundwork for establishing the fund. Additional information about program service accomplishments in the early childhood development arena can be found in the narrative response to Part III, line 2.