

## Suggested Script for Memory Booth

1. Tell the storyteller what the Memory Booth is and why they are here; explain that the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula is collecting these stories in order to archive the oral history of Missoula county. Tell them that their story will be an important part of history for generations to come.
2. Secure a release form signed by the narrator which transfers his/her ownership of the interview to the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula and gives HMFM the right to use it for historical preservation.
3. Both parties should agree to the approximate length of the interview in advance. (On average, this should be around 3 to 5 minutes per interview, but the storyteller can ultimately talk for as much or as little as they wish).

4. The interviewer should record a "lead" at the beginning of each session. The "lead" should consist of, at least, the names of narrator and interviewer, day and year of session, interview's location, and proposed subject of the recording.

"This is *Interviewer's Name* at *the event* on *date*. I am talking to *Interviewee's Name* about his/her memories and experiences at \_\_\_\_\_. Please say your name and spell it for us."

*"My name is John Doe. J-O-H-N D-O-E"*

"Do you have a memory you'd like to share?"

5. The interviewer should refrain from talking while the narrator is speaking. Instead of saying "uh huh" or "oh really?," encourage the narrator by leaning in, nodding, looking interested, and smiling.

6. If the interviewee seems to get stuck and need some encouragement, feel free to ask some leading questions to get them talking. Avoid questions that will be answered "yes" or "no." Instead use questions like "I'd like to know more about that" or "how did that make you feel?"

7. Interview starters if the interviewee needs some encouragement.

- What is your connection to this event?
- When did this connection start?
- What memories do you have of this location or event?
- What do you like most about this location/event? What do you like the least?
- What led to your first experience with this event/location?
- What experiences have you had here? What do you like best - or least - about coming here?

8. Take a photo of the interviewee. If they prefer not to have their photo taken, that is okay.