**NEA Big Read Launch Party - *The Cold Millions***

**Date/Time/Location:** Fri., Sept. 8, 6-8PM on Level 1

Missoula Public Library is excited to launch our 2023 National Endowment for the Arts Big Read program exploring *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter with a launch party on Friday, September 8 from 5-7PM. As part of Montana Book Festival activities, get your copy of *The Cold Millions* and join us for refreshments and entertainment including live music and an old-time photo booth. The NEA Big Read in Missoula is presented in partnership with the Missoula Public Library Foundation, the Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation, and the Friends of the Missoula Public Library, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts. You can view a full calendar of events for the NEA Big Read in Missoula at <https://www.readmissoula.org/>.

**2nd Wednesday Book Group**

**Date/Time/Location:** Wed. Sept. 13, 6:30-7:30PM in the Blackfoot Boardroom and on Zoom

This group meets in the library and online for discussion. To join, email chrish@missoulapubliclibrary.org with "2nd Wednesday Book Group" in the subject line.

**Potomac Library Book Club: *The Cold Millions***

**Date/Time/Location:** Wed., Sept. 13, 6:30PM, Potomac School/Public Library, 29750 Potomac Rd. in

Potomac

Join us for the inaugural meeting of the Potomac Library Book Club. We will be reading the NEA Big Read book of 2023: *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter. Free copies of *The Cold Millions* will be available for pick up at the Potomac Library. We will be deciding future titles for the book group at this first meeting.

**Lolo Book Discussion: *The Cold Millions*  
Date/Time/Location:** Thur. Sept. 14, 6PM Lolo School, 11395 Highway 93 S. in Lolo  
Missoula Public Library continues its National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read exploration of *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter with this public book discussion on September 14 from 6PM at the Lolo Branch Library, located in the Lolo School at 11395 Highway 93 S. An initiative of the NEA in partnership with Arts Midwest, the NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the power of a shared reading experience. You can view a full calendar of events for the NEA Big Read in Missoula at <https://www.readmissoula.org/>.

**It All Began in Missoula. Frank Little, Father of the Western Free Speech Fight.  
Date/Time/Location:** Sat., Sept. 16, 2-3PM in Cooper A/B

Jane Little Botkin, author of the award-winning biography *Frank Little and the IWW: The Blood That Stained an American Family*, will discuss details of the first recognized western free speech fight, held in Missoula, September 28, 1909, through October 8, 1909. Frank Little, the author's great-granduncle, went on to perfect free speech fights throughout the West before being murdered--for his words--in Butte, Montana, on August 1, 1917.

**Campus Book Discussion: *The Cold Millions***

**Date/Time/Location:** Tues., Sept. 19, 12:30-1:30 in the Mansfield Commons (Level 3)

Missoula Public Library continues its National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read exploration of *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter with this public book discussion on September 19, from 12:30-1:30PM in Mansfield Library’s Commons (Level 3). Please RSVP for this discussion with this short survey <https://umt.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_73DaCxpRD0Fuq8e>. The first 10 people to RSVP get a free copy of *The Cold Millions*. This NEA Big Read program is presented in partnership with Mansfield Library and UM’s Office of Organizational Learning and Development, with support from the NEA.

***The Cold Millions* Author Event with Jess Walter**

**Date/Time/Location:** Wed., Sept. 20, 5:30-7:30PM in Cooper A/B

Join Missoula County Commissioner Josh Slotnick in welcoming author Jess Walter for this lively presentation and discussion of his book and our 2023 National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read title, *The Cold Millions*. Mr. Walter will discuss his process and influences for the book with time for questions. This NEA Big Read program is presented in partnership with the County Commissioners’ Office and Fact & Fiction Bookstore, with support from the NEA.

***The Cold Millions*: An Evening with Author Jess Walter in Seeley Lake**

**Date/Time/Location:** Thur. Sept. 21, 5:30-7:30PM in the West Wing of the Seeley Lake Community Foundation Building, 3150 MT Hwy 83 N. in Seeley Lake

Join Missoula County Commissioner Juanita Vero in welcoming author Jess Walter for this lively presentation and discussion of his book and our 2023 National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read title, *The Cold Millions*. Mr. Walter will discuss his process and influences for the book with time for questions. This NEA Big Read program is presented in partnership with the County Commissioners’ Office and the Seeley Lake Community Foundation, with support from the NEA.

**Frenchtown Book Discussion: *The Cold Millions***

**Date/Time/Location:** Thur. Sept. 21, 5:30 Frenchtown High School, 17620 Frontage Rd. in Frenchtown

Missoula Public Library continues its National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read exploration of *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter with this public book discussion on September 21, from 5:30PM at the Frenchtown School/Community Library, located in the Frenchtown High School at 17620 Frontage Rd. in Frenchtown. An initiative of the NEA in partnership with Arts Midwest, the NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the power of a shared reading experience. You can view a full calendar of events for the NEA Big Read in Missoula at <https://www.readmissoula.org/>.

**Story Time - Special NEA Big Read Edition**

**Date/Time/Location:** Fri. Sept. 22, 10:30AM

Join us for a special Story Time related to the themes of this year's NEA Big Read book, *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter.

Story Time is for children ages 3 and older and their caregivers. Join us on Fridays and Saturdays at 10:30 AM for stories and fun in the Art Box on Level Two.

**Story Time - Special NEA Big Read Edition**

**Date/Time/Location:** Sat. Sept. 23, 10:30AM

Join us for a special Story Time related to the themes of this year's NEA Big Read book, *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter.

Story Time is for children ages 3 and older and their caregivers. Join us on Fridays and Saturdays at 10:30 AM for stories and fun in the Art Box on Level Two.

**NEA Big Read Walk-in Hours: Lasered Leather**

**Date/Time/Location:** Sat., Sept. 23, 2:30–5:30PM in the Makerspace

An NEA Big Read activity. Drop in and use the Makerspace's laser cutter to cut and engrave your own free piece of leather with a design to commemorate this year's NEA Big Read title, *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter. Regular Makerspace use is also available during this time. The NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

**A History of Organized Labor in Montana with State Archivist Rich Aarstad**

**Date/Time/Location:** Mon., Sept. 25, 6-7:30PM in Cooper A/B

As part of MPL’s National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read of the novel *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter, join Rich Aarstad, State Archivist at the Montana Historical Society, for this presentation and discussion of the long and robust organized labor union history in Montana. Rich’s BA and MA in History from the University of Montana, long-time Union membership, and knowledge of local lore make him an expert on the topic. This NEA Big Read event is presented in partnership with the Montana Historical Society, with support from the NEA.

**Saturday Matinee: Disney’s *Newsies***

**Date/Time/Location:** Sat. Sept. 30, 2PM in Cooper A/B

**Literature & Libations Podcast Book Discussion**

**Date/Time/Location:** Prerecorded and posts online on Tues., Oct. 3

**Seeley Lake Book Discussion: *The Cold Millions***  
**Date/Time/Location:** Thur. Oct. 5, 11AM Seeley-Swan High School, 456 Airport Rd. in Seeley Lake

Missoula Public Library continues its National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read exploration of *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter with this public book discussion on October 5 from 11AM at the Seeley Lake Branch Library, located in the Seeley-Swan High School at 456 Airport Rd. in Seeley Lake. An initiative of the NEA in partnership with Arts Midwest, the NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the power of a shared reading experience. You can view a full calendar of events for the NEA Big Read in Missoula at <https://www.readmissoula.org/>.

**Big Read Closing Party with *Death in the West* Podcast**

**Date/Time/Location:** Wed. Oct. 11, 6-8PM in Cooper A/B