

CINNABAR

FOUNDATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – October 16, 2014

Contact: Steve Thompson, (406) 250-9810
steve@cinnabarfoundation.org

MONTE DOLACK AND MARY BETH PERCIVAL HONORED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO CONSERVATION

More than 100 people turned out this week in Missoula to thank artists Monte Dolack and Mary Beth Percival for their long-time contributions to conservation in Montana.

The Cinnabar Foundation, Montana's conservation fund, honored the couple with its 16th Sargent Stewardship Award, which recognizes outstanding environmental achievement within Montana.

Presenting the award, Cinnabar chair Robin Tawney Nichols told the artists, "for more than 30 years, you have thoughtfully rendered the intangible tangible, sometimes poking fun to make us think, sometimes subtly reminding of our precious natural heritage through beautiful landscapes and wildlife, sometimes not so subtly laying bare the consequences of our First World lifestyle, always nudging our consciences."

Nichols said Dolack and Percival's commitment to preserving Montana's environment is matched by their generosity, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for conservation nonprofits through the sale of commissioned prints, posters, postcards and license plates.

Accepting the award on behalf of Percival and himself, Dolack said, "As artists, we have worked with many preservation and conservation organizations on commissioned artworks to help people understand and become aware of their missions."

Dolack cited his recent collaboration with Wilderness Watch that resulted in the official poster for the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act: "The poster has gone all over the country spreading the message of wilderness and its importance to wildlife as well as to humans."

The Sargent Stewardship Award includes a \$5,000 grant, which recipients direct to nonprofit conservation groups doing work in Montana. Among celebrants attending the Oct. 13 event at the Montana Natural History Center were previous award winners Gary Wolfe (2000), Ellen Knight (2001), and Tom Roy (2007) of Missoula; Melanie Parker (2011) of Condon; and Gayle Joslin (2013) of Helena.

The Cinnabar Foundation was founded in 1983 by Len and Sandy Sargent to provide matching grants to nonprofit organizations for conservation advocacy, education, and land and water preservation. Since that time, scores of other donors have partnered with the Foundation to ensure its work continues in perpetuity. In 2014, the Foundation awarded 84 grants totaling \$368,000. To contribute to the Foundation's mission, or for more information, visit www.cinnabarfoundation.org.

###