

About the Evening Gala

Each year, the BSI hosts an Evening Gala in order to celebrate with the community and raise funds for future work. This year's Gala will be held on August 2, 2008, and will be an elegant event that includes:

- An unparalleled setting in Gallatin Canyon, under the stars in an exquisitely decorated transparent tent
- A wine and olive oil tasting featuring award-winning B.R. Cohn offerings
- A catered gourmet dinner by the professionals of By Word of Mouth
- An exciting live auction featuring one-of-a-kind lots
- Live music and dancing
- Ample opportunity to visit with special guests from the University and the community.

Past Gala events have raised an average of \$150,000 each, making possible the establishment of a Big Sky office and increased community science education and outreach events. Money raised at the events also supports the establishment of cutting edge scientific programs like the 45th Parallel Climate and Ecology study—an integration of ongoing paleoclimate research, state-of-the-art weather monitoring sensors, and the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON).



About the Big Sky Institute

The Big Sky Institute (BSI) is an interdisciplinary science, education, and outreach institute that was created by Montana State University and like-minded members of the community to better understand large ecosystems and their response to change.

The BSI's geographical focus is the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE), a multi-state expanse of private and public lands surrounding and including Yellowstone National Park. Expansive, near pristine, and becoming increasingly developed, the GYE is arguably one of the most significant natural laboratories on Earth—one that provides the opportunity for scientific research of not just regional, but global importance.

The BSI is strategically located within the GYE, both on the Bozeman campus of Montana State University and in the heart of the growing resort town of Big Sky. These locations provide access to university resources, innovative researchers, vibrant communities, and pristine ecosystems. BSI is the only university-based institute in the world that is entirely focused on the GYE, and is well positioned to become the leader in understanding large ecosystem dynamics, especially in the context of human development.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BIG SKY INSTITUTE OR THE EVENING GALA,
PLEASE VISIT BSI.MONTANA.EDU.



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