

**News Release  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT**

Tricia Burkhardt  
319.610.5215  
[tricia.burkhardt@mochf.org](mailto:tricia.burkhardt@mochf.org)

## **MoNASP 2023 State Tournament Returns March 15-18 in Branson**

*Missouri National Archery in Schools Program has grown to more than 800 participating schools and more than 200,000 Missouri students in grades 4 – 12.*

**BRANSON, Mo.** – The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation (MCHF) invite the public to attend and support Missouri student archers at the 2023 Missouri National Archery in Schools Program (MoNASP) State Tournament March 15-18 at the Branson Convention Center in Branson. MDC and MCHF will be hosting the 15<sup>th</sup> annual event.

The MoNASP State Tournament has seen tremendous growth and is the second largest state archery tournament in the nation. More than 4,500 student archers from throughout Missouri are scheduled to compete in the state tournament after shooting qualifying scores through various local MoNASP tournaments over the past year. These and other MoNASP student archers will be eligible to participate in the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) national tournament. Learn more at [nasptournaments.org](https://nasptournaments.org).

Supporters are invited to attend the state tournament for a fee. In addition to the tournament competition, the event will include a variety of family-friendly activities for attendees such as Bass Pro Shops' air rifle ranges, archery games, the MDC Canine Unit, a special event for archers and families at Titanic, Pink Jeep Tours in Branson, a scavenger hunt, a tradeshow with vendors from many different industries, and more.

**For details on activities, admission fees, hotels, volunteering, and more, visit MCHF online at [mochf.org/event/missouri-national-archery-in-the-schools/](https://mochf.org/event/missouri-national-archery-in-the-schools/).**

MoNASP is coordinated through MDC, MCHF, and the Conservation Federation of Missouri in partnership with more than 800 participating schools and numerous supporting organizations throughout the state. More than 200,000 Missouri students participate in the program. MoNASP is an affiliate of NASP (National Archery in the Schools Program) and is an in-school program for grades 4 through 12 that teaches the basics of archery, along with the confidence, self-control, patience and discipline necessary to success both behind the bow and in school and life. It provides an engaging activity that's inclusive of nearly all children, regardless of age, size, or physical ability. Statistics show that school archery programs improve participants' school attendance, increase their self-esteem and physical activity, and help get kids outside. Learn more about MoNASP at [education.mdc.mo.gov/monasp](https://education.mdc.mo.gov/monasp).

For more information on state tournament activities, contact Tricia Burkhardt of MCHF at 573-634-2080 or [tricia.burkhardt@mochf.org](mailto:tricia.burkhardt@mochf.org).

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**CAPTION:** Join MDC and MCHF to support Missouri student archers at the 2023 Missouri National Archery in Schools Program State Tournament March 15-18 at the Branson Convention Center in Branson.