



Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Agenda

Monday, April 1, 2024 - 1:00 PM

City Offices (Building 18, Legacy Plaza) - Large Conference Room
403 W 4th St N, Suite 501
Newton, IA 50208

- I. Roll Call
- II. Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting: 3-4-2024
- III. Certification of Iowa Open Meetings Law
- IV. Items from City Staff
 - 1. State of Iowa Mobile Museum
 - 2. Smithsonian Institute Traveling Exhibit
- V. Items from Commissioners
- VI. Items from Citizens
- VII. Communications from the State Historic Preservation Office, IEDA, the Department of Cultural Affairs, or other entity with information relating to historic preservation
- VIII. Adjourn

Chair: Larry Hurto; **Members:** Tanya Michener, Rita Reinheimer, Toni Peska, Kelly Bennett

Meeting Minutes

NEWTON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Community Development/Community Services/Public Works
Large Conference Room
303 West 4th Street North, 5th Floor
Newton, IA 50208

Date: March 4, 2024

Time: 1:00 pm

Meeting called to order by: Larry Hurto, Chair

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:	Hurto, Reinheimer, Bennett
Board Members Absent:	Michener, Peska
Staff and Others Present:	Craig Armstrong, Development Specialist Randy Ervin, Council Member

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Chair Larry Hurto questioned if there was anyone present that may require special assistance in being able to participate in this public meeting. There was no response.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motioned by Reinheimer; seconded by Bennett. Approved 3-0.

CERTIFICATION OF IOWA OPEN MEETINGS LAW

Armstrong confirmed compliance.

ITEMS FROM CITY STAFF

Armstrong.

- CLG Annual Report has been submitted to the state, following Hurto's presentation to City Council on Feb. 19 and ahead of the Feb. 29 deadline. Councilperson Ervin would like a digital copy of the CLG Annual Report.
- The State of Iowa Mobile Museum is being rebuilt and scheduled for completion on June 1. Newton is on the schedule to have the mobile museum for Newton Fest on June 7-8. Hurto suggested that either Maytag Park or Legacy Plaza would be good sites for the mobile museum, with Ervin reminding the commissioners that the annual All-Class Reunion would take place at Legacy Plaza on June 7. Hurto added that hours of staffing would need to be specified.
- Smithsonian Institute Traveling Exhibit . . . as of the Feb. 9 email exchange with Associate Director for Museum on Main Street & Community Engagement, Carol Harsh, and Community Development Director, Erin Chambers, they were looking into preparing a virtual meeting/information session

about the program for interested communities. Hurto stated that the State Historical Society made arrangements to have the exhibit brought to Iowa, but is not certain if the additional costs are to be borne by the cities where the exhibit is displayed. Hurto requested that more information be provided by the next HPC meeting.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Reinheimer.

- While reviewing a “History 101” State Historical Society lecture program, “Quilts of the New Deal”, Reinheimer discovered the work of a nationally renowned Farm Services Association (FSA) photographer, John Vachon. She was certain she had seen his work previously in historic photos of downtown Newton. When she checked online, she discovered that Mr. Vachon had taken several photos of downtown Newton buildings in the late 1930’s, which were published on Jan. 1, 1940 and are currently on the Library of Congress website. (Examples of Vachon’s photos are included as attachments to these Minutes).
- Reinheimer works with the Genealogy Library, attempting to place the year with the month and day dates on incomplete obituaries. One of the more interesting examples was that of Dr. Anna Joy, who practiced dentistry early in the 20th century in the building that was later home to Dr. Brun’s dental office at 112 1st Avenue E. Her husband was also a dentist, but practiced only for a short time in that office due to severe arthritis. Dr. Joy’s information was located on the “Find-A-Grave” website and a photo of her working on a patient is attached to these Minutes.
- Reinheimer read about a 2-foot in diameter granite ball on a granite pedestal in a Harrisonville, Missouri cemetery revealed that the ball had turned 1/64 of a revolution since placement. Further research about this phenomenon turned up a 1917 article in the Newton Record that two gravestones in Newton Union Cemetery had 500 lb. granite balls that had revolved 6 degrees and 13 degrees respectively. Interesting cemetery footnote: According to the article, the sexton of the cemetery (D.H. Kuhn) alleged that 35 more people were buried in Newton Union Cemetery (5,200) than were actually living in Newton at the time.
- Upon Reinheimer’s request, Councilperson Ervin updated the status of the former “Apples of Gold” building demolition project, indicating that further legal challenges would need to be resolved prior to proceeding with taking down the building.

Hurto.

- On February 19, Hurto gave HPC’s annual report to the Newton City Council. Councilperson Hallam publicly commended HPC and Hurto received other “thumbs ups” from members of the audience.
- On February 22nd, KCCI Reporter Marcus McIntosh filed a report on owner Sam Summers’ \$15 million renovation of the Val Air, an iconic West Des Moines ballroom and concert hall since the 1930’s. <https://www.kcci.com/article/val-air-ballroom-west-des-moines-renovation-live-music-concerts/46903368>. Three days later, the ballroom reopened to the public, and a local musician set

a new world record there for playing his guitar through the most amplifiers (81) simultaneously. Herewith is KCCI Reporter Ophelie Jacobson's report: <https://www.kcci.com/article/val-air-ballroom-reopening-guinness-world-record-bassist-amps-jon-locker/46962384#:~:text=DES%20MOINES%2C%20Iowa%E2%80%94,A%20local%20bassist%20is%20now%20the%20world%20record%20holder%20for,on%20his%20guitar%20Sunday%20aftermppm>.

- The day after the Val Air reopening (February 26), a fire damaged the historic Dexfield Diner & Pub in Redfield, in Dallas County. The restaurant is located in the city's 1901 Odd Fellows Hall building. KCCI's Todd Magel was there. <https://www.kcci.com/article/dexfield-diner-and-pub-fire-redfield-iowa-dallas-county-fire/46975683>.
- Newton Public Works Director Joe Grife emailed Hurto on Thursday reminding him that the City is preparing to reconstruct W 4th Street S this spring and summer. He had heard Hurto speak about old cast iron street signs build into the curbs before 1911. (Residents traveled on horseback or in horse-drawn conveyances in those days and so would have to look down to see where the were.) Joe wondered if there is still one on what was formerly Race Street. Hurto told him he didn't know, that the only one he knew of that may still be extant was for South Street in the 300 block of S 3rd Avenue W (and that was 40 years ago!). Joe replied that he'd let Hurto know if they locate any. See Jasper County Writers, Inc., *Heritage Tour of Jasper County*, Vol. II (Newton, IA: News Printing Company, Publishers, 1982), p. 118, for examples of the signs in the collections of the Jasper County Historical Society including two made of aluminum. Those were probably used as patterns by the Skow Foundry to make the molds into which the molten iron was poured to make the street signs. Seven examples can be seen on display on the upper level of the Jasper County Historical Museum.

ITEMS FROM CITIZENS

No Reports.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE AND/OR DEPT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

No Reports.

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Bennett; seconded by Reinheimer. Approved 3-0 at 1:57 pm.

From: [Erin Chambers](#)
To: [Danielle Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Iowa Historian
Date: Thursday, March 28, 2024 1:43:58 PM

From: Larry Hurto [mailto:larrythekid@ymail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2024 9:44 AM
To: Tanya Michener; Rita Reinheimer; Toni Peska; Kelly Bennett
Cc: Erin Chambers
Subject: Fw: Iowa Historian

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

FYI.

Larry Ray Hurto
Chair
Newton Historic Preservation Commission

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: State Historical Society of Iowa <iowa.culture@iowa.gov>
To: "larrythekid@ymail.com" <larrythekid@ymail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 09:35:58 AM CST
Subject: Iowa Historian



Museum Survey: Make your voice heard

We want to know how we can support and engage you in 2024 and beyond. Will you please share your thoughts by [taking our survey](#)?

We at the State Historical Museum of Iowa care deeply that the artifacts, programs and activities we share are meaningful to you, our community, and our visitors.

To learn more about how we can do this, we are



The survey **only takes about 9 minutes to complete**, but in those 9 minutes you will help our team make better decisions for our future. And, as a thank you, there will be an opportunity for you to win one of 10 **\$100 Visa gift cards!**

participating in a **national survey of museum-goers, sponsored by the American Alliance of Museums**. This survey will provide us with data from our visitors as well as nationwide results for context, helping us be more effective in the coming months and in the communities we serve.

Thank you in advance for your time and thoughts!

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

Note: Participation in this survey is voluntary and no questions are required. All responses to this survey will be kept confidential. Your response will not be used for any future solicitation. Participant information [can be found here](#). If you have any problems with the survey itself, please contact the survey administrator, Jessica Strube, at jessica@wilkeningconsulting.com.



Iowa History Month continues

Iowa History Month continues through March with a wide variety of in-person and online programs that celebrate our state's rich past.

The month features a full schedule of in-person and online programs, including guided tours at the State Historical Museum of Iowa, presentations at the Iowa History Research Centers in Des Moines and Iowa City and activities designed for families with children. Iowans and others can also discover materials in the Iowa History Collection Catalog, and much more.

[See the schedule online at history.iowa.gov.](#)

Iowans are encouraged to post their own #IowaHistory stories, discoveries and events throughout the month on social media.

[LEARN MORE](#)



History on the Rocks: Trivia Night March 27, 6:30 p.m.

State Historical Building

This Iowa History Month, shake or stir things up with a few drinks and a peek into the past at [History on the Rocks](#). Join Des Moines trivia master **Anthony Taylor** for a night of Iowa-themed trivia. Prizes for the top-scoring teams include a **guided tour of the museum's vault** for each team member and a guest or **State Historical Museum merchandise**.

Feel free to toast your victory (or numb your loss) with a **complimentary beverage** provided with your ticket purchase (while supplies last). **Cash bar and pizza and snacks** from Baratta's available for purchase.

Admission is complimentary for SHSI members; \$5 for non-members.

Cafe Baratta's Buffet Lunch

March 13 and 27

11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Starting during spring break, Cafe Baratta's will offer a **new lunch buffet** for visitors and families every other Wednesday. The meal on **March 13** will feature a **pasta buffet with homemade bread, salad and dessert.**

Pre-orders: \$12/person

Walk-ins: \$15/person while supplies last

Pre-order your lunch by emailing

michelle@barattas.com.

Registration available at the door.

This is a 21+ event.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Spring Break at the State Historical Museum

Adventure into the past with special programs and events with the State Historical Museum of Iowa.

Join the museum and **Goldie's Kids Club** for a variety of fun **programs and activities for all ages** to learn about Iowa history during spring break, **March 12-16.**

Historians of all ages can explore the **museum exhibits**, register to join a **guided tour**, participate in a **day camp**, get up close while examining **artifacts** and learn about Iowa's fascinating past.



[LEARN MORE](#)



Join the Annals of Iowa Editor Andrew Klumpp to explore Iowa's past. Each quarter a book related to a different aspect of Iowa history will be selected and at the online book club meeting Klumpp will be joined by the book's author or a current Iowa historian to discuss it. Book Club attendees are encouraged to submit questions during the meeting or at registration.

Participants are encouraged but not required to read the book prior to our meeting. Most books can be found from online booksellers or libraries. Registration is required for each event. [View past programs](#).

Thursday, March 7, 7 p.m.

"A New History of Iowa" by Jeff Bremer

This new story of Iowa provides a brisk, readable narrative written for a broad audience, from high school and college students to teachers and scholars to general readers. It tells the story of ordinary and extraordinary people of all backgrounds and greatly improves our knowledge of a state whose history has been neglected.

REGISTER

Thursday, May 23, 7 p.m.

"Tending Iowa's Land" by Cornelia Mutel

In the last 200 years, Iowa's prairies and other wildlands have been transformed into vast agricultural fields. This massive conversion has provided food, fiber and fuel in abundance. But it has also robbed Iowa's land of its native resilience and created the environmental problems that today challenge our everyday lives.

REGISTER

New Iowa History 101 programs

Be sure to register for the upcoming Iowa History 101 programs. Each one is recorded and made [available online](#). Visit [Iowa History 101](#) for more information.

Respect for the Fallen

March 7, Noon

Join Jerome Thompson as he relates the work of Des Moines native Robert Smith during and after World War II in the Graves Registration branch of the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps.

REGISTER

Victorian Woman Sarah Rousseau

March 21, Noon

Join Janelle Molony as she dives into the immigration experiences of the refined lady musician from Newcastle upon Tyne to Michigan, Kentucky, Iowa and the Wild West!

[REGISTER](#)

Nine Decades of Tulip Time in Pella

April 11, Noon

Jessi Galligan will share the history and legacy of Pella's Tulip Festival. First organized in 1935, Tulip Time is a celebration of the community's history and Dutch heritage.

[REGISTER](#)

The Story of the Herbert Hoover Family

April 25, Noon

Join Craig Wright to learn about Herbert and Lou Hoover through photos and film clips that illustrate their years of adventure as world travelers, philanthropists, President and First Lady, and service after the Presidency.

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Iowa's African American Civil War Heritage

May 9, Noon

David Brodnax will discuss Iowa's black Civil War veterans, their families and communities, wartime black migration, 60th U.S. Colored Infantry regiment, and postwar civil rights efforts.

[REGISTER](#)

Iowa's Latinas/os: Forging Latinidad from Field to Campus

May 23, Noon

Join Emiliano Aguilar in a talk outlining the rich history of Iowa's Latina/o community. Once dubbed "Invisible Iowans," this talk invites attendees to learn about the rich history of Iowa's Latina/o community from their journeys to the Hawkeye State, to form various organizations, and how they continue to reshape the state today.

[REGISTER](#)

Volunteer to judge a National History Day contest

We're looking for a few more volunteers to be a judge at National History Day in Iowa district contests this month.

Never judged before? No worries! You'll receive training materials ahead of time and you'll attend an orientation the morning of the contest. Most contests run 8 a.m.-3 p.m., and breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Judges work in teams of two or three to review projects and interview students, select the strongest projects to advance to the next level of competition and provide written feedback about each project they view. It's a great opportunity to **support young historians in your community** (and learn a thing or two along the way)!

Check the district contest calendar below and contact NHD in Iowa's program coordinator Hanna Howard at NHD.iowa@iowa.gov to get involved.



Monday, March 11

Western Trails District Contest
Iowa Western Community College
Council Bluffs

Tuesday, March 12

Sergeant Floyd District Contest
Northwestern College
Orange City

Tuesday, March 19

Montauk District Contest
Northeast Iowa Community College
Calmar

Wednesday, March 20

Grant Wood District Contest
Kirkwood Community College
Cedar Rapids

Monday, March 25

Sullivan Brothers District Contest
Central Rivers AEA Building
Cedar Falls

Wednesday, March 27

Historic Highways District Contest
Central College
Pella

[LEARN MORE AND VOLUNTEER](#)

"Outside In" books available for purchase

In 2001, the State Historical Society of Iowa published, "**Outside In: African-American History in Iowa, 1838-2000**," an in-depth study of the black experience



[SUBMIT QUESTIONS](#)

in Iowa. The State Historical Society of Iowa has a **limited number of original, unopened hardcopies for sale** at our Research Centers in Iowa City and Des Moines for \$25 each, between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Tuesday - Friday while supplies last.



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Image: "Lady of the Fall" by Sadagat Aliyeva.

[LEARN MORE AND APPLY](#)

Get to know the collection

This photo shows a taxidermy workshop, likely in the University of Iowa Department of Zoology and Taxidermy. The department was founded in 1858 and received state funding to perform and teach taxidermy. Professors traveled throughout the state collecting representative specimens to assist in teaching students about Iowa wildlife. Note the man dressed in an apron and long sleeve protectors seated at the desk assembling a skeleton. Location is Iowa City, Iowa, around 1890.

Image: Taxidermy workshop interior, Iowa City, Iowa, around 1890. Paul C. Juhl Collection, State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City.



[LEARN MORE](#)

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[VISIT OUR CALENDAR](#)

[VOLUNTEER](#)



State Historical Society of Iowa | history.iowa.gov . .



State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust St., Des Moines, IA 50319

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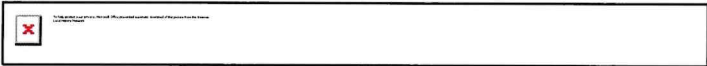
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Erin Chambers

From: State Historical Society of Iowa <iowa.culture@iowa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 12:59 PM
To: Erin Chambers
Subject: Local History Network

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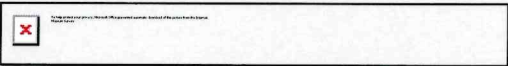
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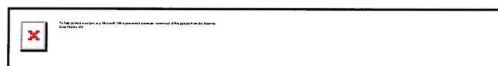


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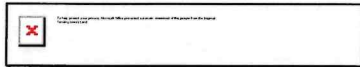
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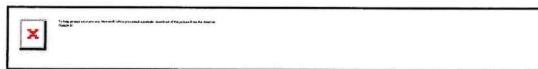
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Research grant for authors



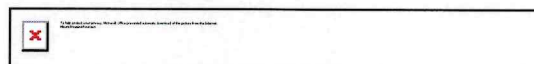
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Image: "Lady of the Fall" by Sadagat Aliyeva.

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2024 Preserve Iowa Summit set for June 6-8

The Iowa Economic Development Authority/State Historic Preservation Office, the Mount Pleasant Historic Preservation Commission, and the City of Mount Pleasant will present the annual Preserve Iowa Summit June 6-8, 2024, in Mount Pleasant.



LEARN MORE

The summit is the **state's premier conference for professionals and volunteers involved in historic preservation in Iowa**. The 2024 conference will highlight Mount Pleasant's historic preservation successes.

General sessions, concurrent breakout sessions, and hands-on educational training will occur throughout the two-and-a-half-day conference – as well as mobile workshops, networking opportunities and an exhibit hall.

Image: The Edd King Fountain in Central Park in Mount Pleasant. Mount Pleasant Area Chamber of Commerce.

Coming Up

Grant Deadlines

March 20: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, Institute of Museum and Library Services

May 8: Major Collaborative Archival Initiatives, National Archives

May 8: Archives Collaboratives, National Archives

May 8: Publishing Historical Records in Collaborative Digital Editions, National Archives

June 1: Al Larvick National Grant for the Preservation of Audiovisual Materials, Al Larvick Conservation Fund

Ongoing: Collections Assessment for Preservation, American Institute for Conservation

Ongoing: Various Opportunities, Iowa West Foundation

Ongoing: Strong Communities Grants, Principal Foundation

Ongoing: Archival Workers Emergency Fund, Society of American Archivists

Ongoing: Barn Preservation Grants, Iowa Barn Foundation

Ongoing: The Peter H. Brink Leadership Fund, National Trust for Historic Preservation

Ongoing: National Fund for Sacred Places, National Trust for Historic Preservation

Ongoing: The Iowa Grants Guide, The Larned A. Waterman Iowa Nonprofit Resource Center

Webinars, Education, and Professional Development

Now - April 12: Introduction to Museum Endowments, American Association for State and Local History (\$175 members/\$275 Nonmembers)

Now - April 12: Introduction to Financial Management, American Association for State and Local History (\$175 members/\$275 Nonmembers)

Now - April 12: Caring for Museum Collections, American Association for State and Local History (\$215 members/\$315 Nonmembers)

Now - April 12: Developing Exhibitions: Planning & Design, American Association for State and Local History (\$215 members/\$315 Nonmembers)

March 20: Video Killed the Radio Star: Making Effective Collections Care Videos, Connecting to Collections Care (Free)

April 25: OSHA's On-Site Consultation Program, Connecting to Collections Care (Free)

Various, Multiple Dates: Current Training Programs, Northeast Document Conservation Center

On Demand: IMA Plugged-In, Iowa Museum Association

On Demand: [Recorded Webinars](#), Wisconsin Historical Society
On Demand: [Museum Worker Well-Being Series](#), Association of Midwest Museums
On Demand: [Oral History at a Distance: Conducting Remote Interviews](#), Oral History Association (free)
On Demand: [Recorded Webinars \(various topics\)](#), American Association for State and Local History
On Demand: [StEPs \(Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations\)](#), American Association for State and Local History (AASLH membership plus \$175)
On Demand: [Historic House Call Webinar Series](#), American Association for State and Local History (AASLH membership)

Events and Conferences

May 16-19: [Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo](#), Baltimore, MD. American Alliance of Museums

June 6-8: [Preserve Iowa Summit](#), Mount Pleasant, IA. Iowa Economic Development/State Historic Preservation Office

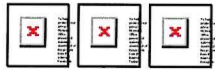
July 31-Aug 3: [AMM 2024 Conference](#), Columbus, OH. Association of Midwest Museums

Sept 11-14: [AASLH 2024 Annual Conference](#), Mobile, AL. American Association for State and Local History

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VOLUNTEER



State Historical Society of Iowa | history.iowa.gov



State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust St., Des Moines, IA 50319

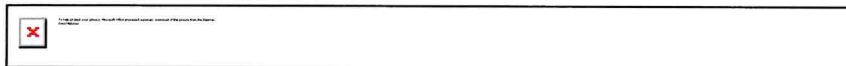
Update Newsletter Preferences

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Erin Chambers

From: State Historical Society of Iowa <iowa.culture@iowa.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:30 PM
To: Erin Chambers
Subject: Iowa Historian

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MUSEUM SURVEY: Make your voice heard!

We want to know how we can support and engage you in 2024 and beyond. **Will you please share your thoughts by [taking our survey](#)?**

Why this survey?

We at the State Historical Museum of Iowa care deeply that the artifacts, programs and activities we share are meaningful to you and all our visitors.

But we need your help. We want to better understand our visitors' different needs and values so we can best serve you. Museums (like ours!) strive to encourage and expand learning while also addressing the challenges facing our society, and we need to hear your thoughts.

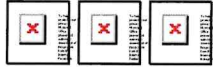
To do this, we are participating in a **national survey of museum-goers, sponsored by the [American Alliance of Museums](#)**. This survey will provide us with data from our visitors, as well as from visitors to museums nationwide, helping us be more effective in the coming months and in the communities we serve.

The survey **only takes about 9 minutes to complete**, but in those 9 minutes you will help our team make better decisions for our future. **And as a thank you there will be an opportunity for you to win one of ten \$100 Visa gift cards!**

Thank you in advance for your time and thoughts!

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

Note: Participation in this survey is voluntary and no questions are required. All responses to this survey will be kept confidential. Your response will not be used for any future solicitation. Participant information [can be found here](#). If you have any problems with the survey itself, please contact the survey administrator, Jessica Strube, at jessica@wilkeningconsulting.com.



State Historical Society of Iowa | history.iowa.gov



State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust St., Des Moines, IA 50319

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Erin Chambers

From: Iowa Economic Development Authority <communications@iowaeda.email>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2024 9:08 AM
To: Erin Chambers
Subject: Iowa Arts & Culture Newsletter - March 2024

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ARTS

Regional Arts Forums

The Iowa Arts Council kicked off a series of Regional Arts Forums with well-attended events at Arthaus in Decorah and at Theatre Cedar Rapids.

Five more Regional Arts Forums are planned across the state this spring. Each in-person event features a discussion among local arts and civic leaders about issues facing their communities and the opportunities available to address these challenges through the arts. Each forum is followed by a grants workshop with Iowa Arts Council staff, where attendees will learn about current grant offerings and learn best practices for building a successful grant application.

Locations and Dates

- **Fairfield ([Agenda](#))**: Fairfield Arts & Convention Center | March 19, 2024
- **Des Moines ([Agenda](#))**: Iowa Economic Development Authority | March 22, 2024
- **Council Bluffs ([Agenda](#))**: Iowa Western Community College | March 28, 2024
- **Sioux City ([Agenda](#))**: Sioux City Art Center | April 4, 2024
- **Grinnell College ([Agenda](#))**: Grinnell College | April 11, 2024

Registration for the Forums is Free



Pictured above, from left to right: Cusmano, Wilder, and Oleson with their trophies.

Poetry Out Loud

Andrew Cusmano from Waterloo West High School took first place in the 2024 Poetry Out Loud in Iowa state finals on March 3, earning a chance to represent Iowa at the national finals.

Cusmano won this year's state competition with recitations of "Windigo" by Louise Erdrich, "I Remember, I Remember" by Thomas Hood and "Blackberry-Picking" by Seamus Heaney. Izaiah Wilder of Marshalltown High School placed second and Emma Oleson of North High School in Sioux City finished third.

In late April, Cusmano will travel to Washington D.C. to compete against students from all 50 states and several U.S. territories in the national competition. Cusmano will also receive a \$200 cash prize and Waterloo West High will receive \$500 to purchase poetry books, courtesy of the Poetry Foundation.

[Learn More](#)

Iowa Scholarship for the Arts

The [Iowa Scholarship for the Arts](#) supports the development of outstanding high school seniors who excel in the arts and are enrolled in accredited educational programs leading to careers in the arts. Scholarships in the amount of \$3,000 are awarded to support 2024-2025 academic year tuition expenses at Iowa colleges or universities.

Application Deadline: April 1, 2024

Grant Opportunities

The Iowa Arts Council has new grant opportunities now open for the spring! Keep an eye on our [grants](#) page for details on all of our programs, and check out our [calendar](#) to see upcoming deadlines.

Currently Open:

[FY25 Cultural Capacity Building Grant](#) | **Deadline: May 15, 2024**

[FY25 Art Project Grant for Individuals and for Organizations](#) | **Deadline: May 15, 2024**

Opening Soon:

[FY25 Iowa Screenwriters Grant](#)

[FY25 Greenlight Grant](#)

[Iowa Cultural and Entertainment District Certifications](#)

Call for Grant Panelists

Are you interested in supporting the arts in Iowa and improving your knowledge around grant writing? Volunteer and share your expertise by participating in Iowa Arts Council

grant review panels. Panelists with professional experience in an arts discipline, arts education, nonprofit organization management, and community-based arts projects are encouraged to apply. [Volunteer to be a panelist](#).

2024 Iowa Arts Summit

Register today Tuesday, June 18, 2024

at the FFA Enrichment Center, Ankeny

The biennial [Iowa Arts Summit](#) brings together artists, non-profit professionals, and community leaders for dynamic breakout sessions featuring leading state and national voices in the arts, and networking opportunities, and demonstrations by Iowa artists.

[Summit Registration is now open!](#)

Register Here

FILM

Greenlight Grants are Back

Do you have a script you've been polishing but need that extra spark to take it to screen? Consider applying for a Greenlight Grant for funding up to \$50,000. It's up to you to decide the level of funding that you can afford with the 50% cash match requirement. Our mission is to help you get to the next level in your career while you contribute to the creation of jobs to grow Iowa's film and television industry. Keep an eye on [this space](#) for new guidelines and due dates coming soon!

Donna Reed Center

The team from Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) met in Denison recently with the [Donna Reed Foundation for the Performing Arts](#) and city officials to discuss opportunities with their



Pictured: On the set of the Greenlight Grant feature film "Peck" which will be screening Sunday at [The Varsity Cinema](#) followed by Q&A with Antoinette Lavalle and her Iowa filmmaking team.



Pictured: Donna Reed's Best Supporting Actress Oscar statue; John Fujii, Donna Reed Foundation President; Debi Durham, Director of IEDA and Iowa Finance Authority; Heather Gibb, IEDA State Historic Preservation Officer; Stephanie Nepl, IEDA Tourism Liaison; and Jim Thompson, IEDA Downtown Resource Center.

historic building on main street and brand assets for the community. The center recently received an emergency Catalyst Grant to repair the building that is dedicated to preserving the legacy of Iowa's famous actress.

Latino Films at the Fleur

Mark your calendars for the Des Moines Latino Film Festival on April 16-19. It's a free four-day celebration of the Latino culture through movies, arts and good music. This year the films will be headquartered in the Fleur Cinema & Cafe.

ScreenIowa Network

If you have an Iowa film and want to screen it in an Iowa theater, we can help connect you. And, if you're an Iowa theater looking for local films with filmmakers available to make appearances, we can help with that too! Our office launched the ScreenIowa Network last year to connect independent filmmakers and theaters together to support the creative economy.



COMMUNITIES

Art in Conservation Webinar recording now available

In January, the Iowa Arts Council collaborated with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to feature projects that incorporate Artists into natural resource spaces. This webinar includes examples of how County Conservation Boards are using art in programming and in their spaces, how to engage with Iowa Artists and funding avenues to help incorporate more art into spaces. [Watch the webinar recording.](#)

Beyond Labels: Cultural Exchange

The town of Hampton recently hosted a unique event to celebrate diversity, difference and culture. Together with community members and foreign exchange students, students from

Hampton-Dumont High School and a neighboring school gathered for a community-wide event focused on cultural exchange and heritage. The event was organized by La Luz Centro Cultural and made possible by funding from Arts Midwest.

[Read More](#)

New Resources

[NASAA Arts In Transportation – State Infrastructure Partnerships](#)

OTHER

Success Stories

We love to celebrate the successes of Arts & Culture in Iowa communities! Check out the stories below and cheer along with us. Have a success story that you want to share?

[Send it to our team!](#)

The **2024 Oneota Film Festival** had a full house at its kick-off event on February 29 for the screening of *SHIFT: A RAGBRAI Documentary*. After the film, the producers Kelsey Kremer and Courtney Crowder joined the crowd and spoke about their experience as first-time filmmakers. The documentary film went on to win the Walter Ordway Best of Fest Documentary Feature award at the festival. Congratulations!



Pictured: Director of the Oneota Film Festival Elise Skellenger introduces the filmmakers Kremer and Crowder before the screening of their film.

The **Val Air Ballroom** is a historic live music venue in West Des Moines that was first built in the 1940's as an outdoor dance hall. The space was eventually enclosed to serve as a destination for live music, school dances, and the like. The Val Air recently underwent a \$15 million renovation and is now open again to host a diverse range of artists. The first concert post-renovation was on Leap Day, February 29. Congrats on bringing back the neon!



Collier Wilmes of Des Moines recently won the Grand Prize in Stan Winston's 2024 Creature



Making Contest for his creation of Bob the Mutant. "Collier, we enjoyed everything about Bob: the design, the sculpture, the paint job, the finishing work, and, of course, all those teeth. :) Congratulations! We can't wait to see the new masks you make with your prize package!" said The Stan Winston School of Character Arts. This is yet another wonderful example of an Iowan showing their art skills on a national level.

NEA and Arts Midwest Resources and News

Program Application Deadlines:

Challenge America: New Deadline: April 30

Grants for Arts Projects: Deadlines: February 15 and July 11

Research Grants in the Arts Awards: Deadline: March 25

Creativity News Desk: Open Call for Midwestern Road Trip Stories: Deadline March 25

Other Resources

Creative Capital Awards

The national foundation, Creative Capital, is accepting applications from artists seeking funding for innovative new projects in visual arts, performing arts, literature, film and more. Creative Capital Awards are unrestricted project grants that can be used over a multi-year period. Letters of inquiry are due April 4

[Learn More](#)

Carrie Chapman Catt Film Screening and Discussion

Join the State Historical Society of Iowa and Iowa PBS at 1 p.m. on March 16 at the State Historical Museum of Iowa for a showing of "Carrie Chapman Catt: Warrior for Women." The documentary tells the compelling story of Iowa suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt and her role in the women's suffrage movement. Historian Ricki King and Karen Kredowski, professor and director of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women in Politics, will hold a panel discussion following the hour-long documentary to discuss the legacy of Catt, the history of women's suffrage in Iowa and look to the future for women in politics.

March 16 at 1 p.m.

[Register in Advance](#)

Des Moines Arts Festival Survey

In partnership with the University of Georgia, the Des Moines Arts Festival is conducting a survey to learn more about local community interests surrounding arts festivals. The survey is comprised of 15 questions and should only take 10 minutes to complete.

Please consider filling it out

Events and Opportunities

Be sure to [check out our calendar](#) for upcoming Iowa Arts Council and Produce Iowa related events, as well as deadlines for our grants and programs!

- Are you one of our **grantees** and have an event to share? Submit it through [our form](#).
- Want to advertise a **public event**? Submit it to [Travel Iowa's Calendar](#).
- Have a **call for artists**? Post is on ARTSwork's [Iowa Artist Directory](#).
- **Looking for gigs or wanting to list your artistic services**? Check out ARTSwork's new resource, the [Iowa Artist Directory](#).
- Are you a **filmmaker**? List your services on Produce Iowa's [Production Database](#).
- Know of a **location** that would be great for filmmaking? Speak to the owner and submit it to Produce Iowa's [Locations Database](#).

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1963 Bell Avenue, Suite 200 | Des Moines, IA 50315 US

This email was sent to erinc@newtongov.org.

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.



From: [Erin Chambers](#)
To: [Danielle Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Iowa Historian
Date: Thursday, March 28, 2024 1:44:29 PM

From: Larry Hurto [mailto:larrythekid@ymail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2024 10:06 AM
To: Tanya Michener; Rita Reinheimer; Toni Peska; Kelly Bennett
Cc: Erin Chambers
Subject: Fw: Iowa Historian

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FYI. Trivia Night sounds interesting!

Larry Ray Hurto
Chair
Newton Historic Preservation Commission

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: State Historical Society of Iowa <iowa.culture@iowa.gov>
To: "larrythekid@ymail.com" <larrythekid@ymail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 10:04:18 AM CDT
Subject: Iowa Historian



History on the Rocks: Trivia Night

March is Iowa History Month, so shake or stir things up with a few beverages and a peek into the past at [History on the Rocks](#).

Join Des Moines trivia master **Anthony Taylor** for a night of Iowa-themed trivia. Prizes for the top-scoring teams include a **guided tour of the museum's vault** for each team member and a guest or **State Historical Museum merchandise**.

Feel free to toast your victory (or numb your loss) with a **complimentary beverage** provided with your ticket purchase (while



History on the Rocks: Trivia Night
March 27, 6:30 p.m.

State Historical Building of Iowa
[Register in advance](#) or at the door

Free for members
\$5 for non-members
This is a 21+ event.

supplies last). **Cash bar and pizza and snacks** from Baratta's available for purchase.

[REGISTER](#)

Baratta's Pizza

Pizza-by-the-slice will be available at the event. If you would like to pre-order a full pizza, email michelle@barattas.com to place your order. See the list of pizzas [online](#).

[PIZZA](#)

Become a member

Visit us [online](#) for more information about our membership levels and to purchase a membership.

[MEMBERSHIP](#)



Iowa History Month continues

Iowa History Month continues through March with a **wide variety of presentations** at the Iowa History Research Centers in Des Moines and Iowa City. [See the schedule online](#), and please note the **additional hours of 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, March 23.**

Iowans are encouraged to post their own **#IowaHistory** stories, discoveries and events throughout the month on social media.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Members-only Collections Tours March 23, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

[Register](#) to join State Historical Society of Iowa Curator, Leo Landis, for a special members-only vault tour of the State Historical Museum of Iowa's collection storage vault. **This 45-minute curator-led tour** offers a



Cafe Baratta's Buffet Lunch March 27, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. State Historical Building

Cafe Baratta's is offering a lunch buffet **every other Wednesday** at the State Historical Building. The **March 27 menu** will feature **Italian grinders (or a vegetable sandwich), chips and dessert**. Vegetarian meals must be pre-ordered.

Pre-orders: \$12/person

Walk-ins: \$15/person while supplies last

Children: Half price

Pre-order lunch by emailing michelle@barattas.com.

behind-the-scenes look at the State Historical Museum's **collections storage facility and a sample of the museum's 80,000 objects** from Iowa's past.

[REGISTER](#)

Become a member

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[BECOME A MEMBER](#)

Museum Survey: Make your voice heard

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Iowa History 101 programs

Be sure to register for the upcoming Iowa History 101 programs. Each one is recorded and made [available online](#). Visit [Iowa History 101](#) for more information.

Victorian Woman Sarah Rousseau

March 21, Noon

Join Janelle Molony as she dives into the immigration experiences of the refined lady musician from Newcastle upon Tyne to Michigan, Kentucky, Iowa and the Wild West!



[REGISTER](#)

Nine Decades of Tulip Time in Pella

April 11, Noon

Jessi Galligan will share the history and legacy of Pella's Tulip Festival. First organized in 1935, Tulip Time is a celebration of the community's history and Dutch heritage.

[REGISTER](#)

The Story of the Herbert Hoover Family

April 25, Noon

Join Craig Wright to learn about Herbert and Lou Hoover and their adventures as world travelers, philanthropists, President and First Lady, and service after the Presidency.

[REGISTER](#)

Iowa's African American Civil War Heritage

May 9, Noon

David Brodnax will discuss Iowa's black Civil War veterans, their families and communities, wartime black migration, 60th U.S. Colored Infantry regiment, and postwar civil rights efforts.

Iowa's Latinas/os: Forging Latinidad from Field to Campus

May 23, Noon

Emiliano Aguilar will talk about the rich history of Iowa's Latina/o community. Once dubbed "Invisible Iowans," this talk invites attendees to learn about their journeys to the Hawkeye State.

[REGISTER](#)[REGISTER](#)

Research Grant for Authors

Apply for a 2024/2025 Research Grant for Authors. We will award up to **10 research stipends of \$1,500 each** to support original research related to the history of Iowa or Iowa and the Midwest, broadly conceived. Check out the guidelines on our website. Applications are due April 15.



Image: "Milky Way over Farm with Hay Bales" by Johnny Brian.

[LEARN MORE AND APPLY](#)

Subscribe to The Annals of Iowa

For cutting-edge research on Iowa history, subscribe to The Annals of Iowa, a thought-provoking history journal that will satisfy even the most serious explorer of Iowa's past. Published quarterly, The Annals of Iowa examines the deeds, misdeeds and accomplishments of our predecessors and shows you how those actions fit into the larger mosaic of Iowa's past.

[SUBSCRIBE](#)

'Tending Iowa's Land' by Cornelia Mutel Thursday, May 23, 7 p.m.

In the last 200 years, Iowa's prairies and other wildlands have been transformed into vast agricultural fields. This massive conversion has provided food, fiber and fuel in abundance. But

it has also robbed Iowa's land of its native resilience and created the environmental problems that today challenge our everyday lives.

[REGISTER](#)

Volunteer to judge a National History Day contest

We're looking for a few more volunteers to be a judge at National History Day in Iowa district contests this month.

Never judged before? No worries! You'll receive training materials ahead of time and you'll attend an orientation the morning of the contest. Most contests run 8 a.m.-3 p.m., and breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Judges work in teams of two or three to review projects and interview students, select the strongest projects to advance to the next level of competition and provide written feedback about each project they view. It's a great opportunity to **support young historians in your community** (and learn a thing or two along the way)!

Check the district contest calendar below and contact NHD in Iowa's program coordinator Hanna Howard at NHD.Iowa@iowa.gov to get involved.



Monday, March 25

Sullivan Brothers District Contest
Central Rivers AEA Building
Cedar Falls

Wednesday, March 27

Historic Highways District Contest
Central College
Pella

[LEARN MORE AND VOLUNTEER](#)

"Outside In" books available for purchase



[SUBMIT QUESTIONS](#)

In 2001, the State Historical Society of Iowa published, "**Outside In: African-American History in Iowa, 1838-2000**," an in-depth study of the black experience

in Iowa. The State Historical Society of Iowa has a **limited number of original, unopened hardcopies for sale** at our Research Centers in Iowa City and Des Moines for \$25 each, between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Tuesday - Friday while supplies last.

America250: 'America's Field Trip'

In 2026, the United States will **commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence** and the founding of the United States (A250).

The national A250 Committee is sponsoring "**America's Field Trip**," a contest that invites **students across the country in grades 3–12 to be part of America's 250th anniversary** by sharing their perspectives on what America means to them – and earning the opportunity to participate in unforgettable field trip experiences at some of the nation's most iconic historic and cultural landmarks. Learn more at america250.org/fieldtrip/.



[LEARN MORE](#)

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conference information.



Early Bird rates will apply Wednesday, April 3rd through Monday, June 3rd!

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Remember: NAPC Members receive discounts on FORUM registration so be sure to join or renew your membership today. If you are curious about your membership status, please email us at director@napcommissions.org.

Thank you to all of our sponsors and planning partners!

City of West Palm Beach, West Palm Beach CRA, The Flagler Museum, The Palm Beaches, Florida Trust, Dade Heritage Trust, REG Architects, GBX Group, NCSHPO, Austin Historical, Hull Millwork, The National Trust for Historic Preservation, Plusurbia, Community Planning Collaborative, Keys and Associates, HistoryMiami Museum, Zone Co, & Smith Architectural

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