

## CULTURAL AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF

*Douglas Larche, director*

600 E. Locust St., Des Moines 50319

515/281-7471

*www.state.ia.us/government/dca*

The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs is devoted to improving the cultural life in Iowa through the arts, history and cultural matters affecting Iowans and our visitors. Improving Iowa's cultural life enhances the lives of all Iowans, while creating a stronger, more diversified economy, increased tourism, and more employment opportunities.

The department consists of the State Historical Society of Iowa and the Iowa Arts Council. The department was created in 1986 by the 71st General Assembly as part of a comprehensive reorganization of government.

The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs offers two grants programs for direct support to communities to enhance culture. The Iowa Community Cultural Grants (ICCG) provide matching funds to cities and nonprofit, tax-exempt community groups for projects that create jobs for Iowans while enhancing local cultural, ethnic, and historical resources. The Cultural Enrichment Grant (CEG) program offers financial support for general operating expenses of Iowa's major, multi-disciplined cultural institutions such as museums, art and performance centers, and zoo, science and botanical centers.

**Arts Council, Iowa** - *Douglas Larche, administrator; 600 E. Locust St., Des Moines 50319; 515/281-4451*

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The mission of the Iowa Arts Council is to "advance the arts for the benefit of all." The Iowa Arts Council works to ensure access to the arts for all Iowans, removing barriers to give all Iowans the opportunity to participate. The Iowa Arts Council seeks to foster excellence in the arts and arts education, to develop public support and recognition of the value of the arts and to further the ability of all artist and arts organizations to practice their art.

Through the Artist-in-Schools and Communities program, the Iowa Arts Council has placed hundreds of Iowa artists in schools to support arts education in Iowa, enriching our children's education. The Iowa Arts Council provides technical assistance and grants to support the development of Iowa's arts councils, symphonies, theaters, dance troupes, individual artists and other cultural entities. The Council also provides professional development for arts educators.

Iowa Arts Council issue grants and administer programs to improve Iowa's cultural landscape not only to enhance the lives of Iowans but also to assist in keeping a talented workforce and young Iowans in Iowa. The Iowa Arts Council Board of Directors is a citizen advisory panel of 15 Iowans who advise the director on the programs and priorities of the agency.

**Historical Society of Iowa, State** - *Tom Morain, administrator, 600 E. Locust, Des Moines 50319; 515/281-8837*

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Entrusted to preserve Iowa's historical legacy, the State Historical Society of Iowa identifies, records, collects, preserves, manages, and provides access to Iowa's historical resources. As an advocate of understanding Iowa's past. The State Historical Society of Iowa educates Iowans of all ages, conducts and encourages research, disseminates information, and supports historic preservation and education throughout the state.

The State Historical Society was established in 1857 in Iowa City as a private organization. Today, it is a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.

The Society's museum, located within the Iowa Historical Building in Des Moines, is guardian of some 85,000 artifacts, ranging from rare quilts to military armaments, from Native American beadwork to airplanes. Permanent and temporary exhibits offer visitors a personal, hands-on journey through time. Educational programs are offered for children, families and adults throughout the year. Each year, thousands of school children discover the excitement of history through our guided museum tours.

The society maintains a unified library and archives programs with extraordinary collections at the Iowa Historical Building in Des Moines and the Centennial Building in Iowa city. You may uncover your roots through research on Iowa topics as varied as agriculture, labor, politics and women's suffrage. Collections include books, maps, manuscripts, newspapers, census records, oral history interviews and photographs. The State Archives in Des Moines is a central repository for preserving state records. The library and archives offer many public and technical services, from assisting genealogical and other researchers to advising on appropriate care of personal documents.

Another dimension of Iowa's history is preserved through the Society's eight historic sites; Montauk (Clermont), Matthew Edell Blacksmith Shop (Haverhill), Abbie Gardner Cabin (Arnolds Park), American Gothic House (Eldon), Plum Grove (Iowa City), Blood Run National Historic Landmark (Lyon County), Toolesboro Indian Mounds National Historic Site (Wapello), and Western Historic Trails Center (Council Bluffs).

The State Historical Society of Iowa produces four award-winning publications including the *Goldfinch*, a children's magazine; the *Iowa Heritage Illustrated*, a general history magazine; *The Annals of Iowa*, a scholarly history journal; and *The Historian*, a newsletter for Society members.

The Society works to preserve Iowa's architectural, historical and archeological character, which in turn promotes business, tourism and economic development. Among its services, the Society facilitates nominations of properties to the national Register of Historic Places, helps property owners qualify for federal and state tax and economic incentives to rehabilitate and reuse historic structures, and protects significant properties, districts and archeological sites.

Society staff is available to assist all Iowans in researching, preserving and interpreting the history of their communities. In addition, the Society offers grants that enable local communities and individuals to organize local preservation programs and to preserve the state's historical resources.

### Grant Programs

**Certified Local Governments Grant Program** - Kerry McGrath, 600 E. Locust Street, Des Moines 50319; 515/281-6826

Local governments that have Certified Local Government (CLG) status may apply for funds to complete projects to identify, evaluate and nominate historical buildings, sites or structures, comprehensive historic preservation planning and public education projects. The annual grant deadline is in December.

**Historical Resource Development Program** - Lavon Wickett, 600 E. Locust Street, Des Moines 50319; 515/242-6194

Historical Resource Development Program (HRDP) grants are designed to help individuals, businesses, nonprofit organizations, Indian tribes, state and local government agencies and CLGs in identifying, preserving and interpreting their historical resources. The annual grant deadline is in January.

For additional information write: State Historical Society of Iowa, Capitol Complex, 600 E. Locust St., Des Moines 50319, or call 515/281-6412.