Fulfilling Two Dreams

Building a “Nobel Prize” in Iowa

Hosting the Most Significant Observance of World Food Day Anywhere Around the Globe

President’s Report 2000 - 2006
What World Leaders Say About The World Food Prize

“The World Food Prize... the international recognition that is known as ‘The Nobel Prize for Food.’”

- H.E. Ernesto Zedillo
  President of Mexico
  Mexico City, 2000

“The World Food Prize Youth Institute provides young people a chance to prove themselves through internships in Asia, Africa and Latin America.”

- H.E. Mikhail Gorbachev
  Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
  Moscow, 2002

“It is with humility that I accept the invitation to serve as a member of The World Food Prize Council of Advisors.”

- H.E. Corazon C. Aquino
  Former President of the Philippines
  Manila, 2004

“My appreciation to the organizers of The World Food Prize International Symposium for their collective efforts in eradicating world hunger and poverty.”

- H.E. Dr. Manmohan Singh
  Prime Minister of India
  New Delhi, 2005
“The World Food Prize is The Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture.”

- H.E. Johannes Rau
President, Federal Republic of Germany
Bonn, 2001
When I came home to Des Moines in 2000 to assume the leadership of the World Food Prize Foundation, our Chairman, John Ruan III, told me that my challenge would be to fulfill two dreams:

Norman Borlaug’s vision that the World Food Prize could become recognized globally as the “Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture;” and

John Ruan’s idea for a prize that would promote Iowa as the “Food and Agricultural Capital of the World.”

This report is intended to tell you how, over the last six years, my staff and I have worked to bring the dreams of those two men closer to reality. We have done so in two basic ways.

First, by holding or participating in events around the globe to honor Dr. Borlaug’s legacy and increase awareness of “The Prize” as the highest international honor in the struggle against world hunger; and

Second, by endeavoring to make our annual World Food Prize events—held on or around October 16, World Food Day—into an international celebration that turns the eyes of the world to Des Moines.

In doing so, we have worked closely with many civic and business leaders, educational institutions and cultural organizations to make The World Food Prize a valuable asset for Iowa. Indeed we have designed our programs each October so that they: promote economic development; provide exceptional educational opportunities for Iowa youth; and integrate the arts, education, and tourism with Iowa’s historic legacy of feeding the world.

In each section of this report there are specific actions or events marked with our logo 📰 that the World Food Prize Foundation has initiated, supported or publicized to fulfill these objectives. These are divided into six color-coded sections outlining the World Food Prize:

- 📰 Worldwide events held throughout the year to build global awareness of our $250,000 award;
- 📰 Hall of Laureates and special events recognizing and honoring Iowa’s historic legacy in feeding the world;
- 📰 Laureate Award Ceremony - presenting The World Food Prize with splendor that emulates the Nobel Prize;
- 📰 International Symposium - a “Davos-type” forum addressing cutting edge topics in global food security;
- 📰 Youth Institute and Borlaug-Ruan Internships - the Crown Jewel of the Iowa high school experience;
- 📰 Harvest Festival - a statewide celebration integrating the arts and tourism with science and education.
INTRODUCTION

Dr. Borlaug, Council of Advisors Member Senator Elizabeth Dole, John Ruan and John Ruan III present the 1999 World Food Prize to Dr. Walter Plowright of Great Britain at the Hoyt Sherman Place in Des Moines.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the support of the John Ruan Trust, the State of Iowa, our Congressional delegation in Washington and the many companies, foundations, and friends who have assisted us with sponsorships and collaborative efforts. You will find their names throughout this publication, and all have my very special thanks for their support and encouragement.

I hope you look through this brochure and see the ways in which, over the past six years, we have endeavored to fulfill the dreams of those two remarkable Iowans by making the World Food Prize celebration each October “the most significant observance of World Food Day anywhere around the globe” as we present the “Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture.”

Kenneth M. Quinn
President
Ambassador (ret.)

The Most Significant Observance of World Food Day Anywhere Around the Globe
World Food Prize Events
Around the Globe

Mexico City, 2000 - Dr. Evangelina Villegas was presented with Mexico’s Woman of the Year Award by President Ernesto Zedillo as the first woman World Food Prize Laureate.

Bonn, 2001 - Dr. Robert Havener, Council of Advisors Member, announced the 2001 World Food Prize Laureate at the International Food Policy Research Institute conference.

Toronto, 2002 - Amb. Quinn announced the recipient of the 2002 World Food Prize before 3,000 people at the 26th Annual International Horticultural Congress.

Rome, 2002 - World Food Prize Laureate Dr. M.S. Swaminathan of India delivered the World Food Prize Laureates’ Statement at the UN World Food Summit.

Kampala, 2004 - World Food Prize Council of Advisors Member Emeritus Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, witnessed the introduction of the 2004 World Food Prize Laureate at a conference in Uganda.
Secretary of State Colin Powell Presides at the 2004 World Food Prize Laureate Announcement

Washington, D.C., 2005 - USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios keynoted the Laureate Announcement Ceremony, which was attended by more than 160 members of the Greater Des Moines Partnership thanks to collaboration with Partnership CEO Martha Willits.

World Food Prize
Announcements and Programs

Chicago, 2003 - Former Chicago resident Catherine Bertini was announced as the recipient of the 2003 World Food Prize before an audience of 1,000 at the quadrennial International Food Technologists Congress.

Boston, 2004 - Dr. Norman Borlaug celebrated his 90th birthday in Boston by throwing out the first pitch at a Red Sox game and speaking at WorldBoston and Harvard Medical School through World Food Prize arrangements.

Ithaca, 2004 - Laureates Nevin Scrimshaw, Per Pinstrup-Andersen, Pedro Sanchez, Catherine Bertini and Monty Jones headlined a “World Food Prize Conference” at Cornell University.

New Orleans, 2005 - The 2005 Laureate Announcement was made before 5,000 people at the Institute of Food Technologists annual convention, with the support of World Food Prize Council of Advisors member A.S. Clausi.

London, 2005 - Sir Gordon Conway, past president of the Rockefeller Foundation, joined Jonathan Taylor, Chair of the Booker Prize, as members of the World Food Prize Council of Advisors.
World Food Prize Co-Sponsored International Symposium in Beijing

“The World Food Prize Foundation has dedicated itself to hunger eradication and poverty reduction. The Foundation has . . . received the universal recognition of the international community.”

- H.E. Du Qinglin
Minister of Agriculture, China
Norman Ernest Borlaug was born on a small farm in Cresco, Iowa on March 25, 1914.

Dr. Borlaug’s “Green Revolution” saved one billion people from starvation.

He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 as the “Father of the Green Revolution.”

He founded The World Food Prize in 1986 to inspire “Nobel-like” achievements in food and agriculture into the 21st Century.

“Dr. Borlaug’s life story is an inspiration for all. He was born on an Iowa farm and he never forgot his roots. Dr. Borlaug is an American hero and a world icon.”

- Former President George Bush
  Member, World Food Prize Council of Advisors
New York, 1999 - Time Magazine named Dr. Borlaug one of the “Twenty Greatest Scientists & Thinkers” and most influential people of the 20th century.

Oslo, 2001 - Dr. Borlaug was recognized for his achievements at the 100th Anniversary of the Nobel Peace Prize, with World Food Prize participation.

Barcelona, 2002 - Nominated by the Des Moines Rotary Clubs, Dr. Borlaug received the Rotary Award for World Understanding and Peace, which had previously been awarded to Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa.

Washington, D.C., 2006 - President George W. Bush presented Dr. Borlaug the National Medal of Science, America’s highest scientific honor.

“The Man Who Has Saved More Lives Than Any Other Person Who Has Ever Lived”
The World Food Prize
Millennium Celebration

New York, 2000 - The Millennium World Food Prize Laureates were presented to UN General Assembly President H.E. Harri Holkeri, senior US officials and ambassadors and representatives of over 150 UN member-nations at Rockefeller Center.

US Ambassador to the United Nations Richard Holbrooke and US Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman addressed the gathering on issues related to alleviating world hunger.

Des Moines, 2000 - Eleven World Food Prize Laureates gathered with Norman Borlaug and John Ruan for the Millennium Celebration and International Symposium.

“The World Food Prize is an important recognition of those who have dedicated their professional lives to narrowing the gap between the world’s nutritional haves and have-nots.”

- Former US Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman
World Food Prize Luncheon Welcomes UN Officials in New York

US Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, World Food Prize President Kenneth Quinn, UN General Assembly President Harri Holkeri, Dr. Norman Borlaug, Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, Mr. John Ruan, and Millennium Laureates Dr. Evangelina Villegas and Dr. Surinder Vasal.

Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg was a special guest at the Millennium Luncheon.

More than 300 guests attended the luncheon at the Rainbow Room in Rockefeller Center.
Preserving the Legacy of Iowa’s Global Legend

Cooperated with the governor and leadership of the Iowa State Legislature to have October 16 declared “Dr. Norman Borlaug/World Food Prize Day” in the state.

Collaborated with World Food Prize Council of Advisors member Dr. Gregory Geoffreyn, President of Iowa State University, to establish an annual Norman Borlaug Lecture each October in Ames.

Joined with US Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman in announcing the USDA Norman Borlaug International Fellows, to commemorate Dr. Borlaug’s 90th birthday in 2004.

Supported Iowa Public Television and executive director Dan Miller in producing “Out of Iowa: Borlaug and the Green Revolution.”

Encouraged the United States Senate to declare October 16 as “World Food Prize Day” in America in honor of Dr. Borlaug.

“Because of Dr. Borlaug’s vision and tireless work, upwards of one billion lives have been saved. Not bad for a farm boy from Cresco, Iowa.”

- Senator Tom Harkin
HONORING IOWA’S HUMANITARIAN LEGACY

The World Food Prize/Norman E. Borlaug Hall of Laureates

World Food Prize Chairman John Ruan III announced a $5 million pledge to restore the 100-year-old Des Moines Public Library Building in honor of Dr. Borlaug.

With a matching contribution from Polk County, federal funding and anticipated private support, the $29 million restoration will be a centerpiece of the new Principal Riverwalk.

It will also recognize the achievements of the World Food Prize Laureates and Iowans such as President Herbert Hoover, Vice President Henry Wallace, scientist George Washington Carver, and 4-H founder Jessie Field Shambaugh.
THE ANNUAL HOOVER-WALLACE DINNER
Honoring Iowa’s Humanitarian Heritage

Ambassador Kenneth Quinn conceived of an annual bipartisan event where Iowans can come together above political differences to celebrate Iowa’s legacy of feeding the world. All proceeds support the World Food Prize Borlaug-Ruan International Internship program for Iowa high school students.

Cedar Rapids, 2004 - In partnership with Rotary Clubs of Cedar Rapids and Iowa City, the first Hoover-Wallace Dinner celebrated the 90th Birthday of Dr. Norman Borlaug.

Des Moines, 2005 - With Rotary Clubs of Des Moines and the Greater Des Moines Partnership, the World Food Prize recognized former Vice President Walter Mondale, former Iowa Governor Robert Ray and the Governor’s Iowa SHARES campaign for their efforts on behalf of hundreds of thousands of refugees from Indochina.

Cedar Falls, 2006 - Rotary and the Cedar Valley Planning Committee celebrated the legacy of John Deere and his namesake Deere & Company for their role in making the American Midwest the world’s most productive agricultural area in history.
To honor former Republican President Herbert Hoover, who saved hundreds of millions of people in Europe during World War I while working as head of the US Food Administration.

To honor former Democratic Vice President Henry A. Wallace, who through his agricultural innovations and leadership spread American agricultural technology to millions around the world.

“Herbert Hoover and Henry Wallace were great champions for using our country’s agricultural bounty to feed hungry people around the world.”

- Senator Charles Grassley
The World Food Prize Laureate Award Ceremony

With the support of the Governor and the State Legislature, in 2000 Ambassador Quinn moved the presentation of the annual $250,000 World Food Prize to the magnificent Iowa State Capitol.

Renowned international experts, policy makers, and government officials from over 63 countries attend the Laureate Award Ceremony in the House Chamber.

Distinguished guests from government, business and education enjoy the Laureate Dinner in the Capitol Rotunda following the Ceremony.

“The World Food Prize Laureate Award Ceremony surpasses the ceremony at which I received the Nobel Peace Prize.”

- Dr. Norman E. Borlaug
1970 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
The annual Laureate Award Ceremony is held in one of North America’s most beautiful buildings.

A delegation of African Ambassadors, Ministers and senior officials were among the international guests at the 2005 Laureate Award Ceremony.

The Most Significant Observance Of World Food Day Anywhere Around the Globe
In 2003 Hon. Catherine Bertini of the United Nations became the second woman named World Food Prize Laureate.

In 2000 Dr. Evangelina Villegas of Mexico was honored as the first female World Food Prize Laureate.

The 2002 World Food Prize bestowed upon Cuban-American Dr. Pedro Sanchez was the highest scientific honor ever awarded to a native of Cuba.

“I am very pleased that the 2002 World Food Prize has been awarded to Dr. Pedro A. Sanchez, a distinguished soil scientist and the Chair of the United Nations Millennium Project Task Force on World Hunger.”

- H.E. Kofi Annan
  Secretary General of the United Nations
The above presentation of The World Food Prize to Dr. Monty Jones of Sierra Leone in 2004 represents the highest scientific award ever given to an African scientist from south of the Sahara.

The World Food Prize has been presented to Laureates from:

- Bangladesh  - Brazil  - China  - Cuba  - Denmark  - India  - Mexico
- Sierra Leone  - Switzerland  - United Kingdom  - United States  - United Nations
Featuring Exclusive Performances By International and Iowa Artists

Ambassador Quinn commissioned the creation of “Symphony to the Prairie Farm,” by Emmy-winner Steven Heitzeg, to honor Dr. Borlaug in 2001.

Held two special performances of the Des Moines Symphony under the direction of Joseph Giunta, attended free of charge by over 5,000 people, as part of the 2001 and 2002 World Food Prize Celebrations.

The Laureate Award Ceremony is broadcast across the state each year on Iowa Public Television.

Performances by superb young Iowa musicians are showcased at World Food Prize ceremonies, coordinated by Mark Thomson.

Carol Stewart directed the Des Moines Choral Society and the Simon Estes Singers from Africa at the 2003 World Food Prize Laureate Award Ceremony.
“Ladies and Gentleman: Ray Charles!”

Grammy-winner Ray Charles was the featured performer at the 2002 Laureate Award Ceremony thanks to the support of Powerball and Iowa Lottery Director Ed Stanek.

A wide variety of international entertainers have performed including opera prodigy Alex Prior from London, Kathak Gunjan from India, and African performers Madou Dembele and Euphrasie Johoun.
The World Food Prize
International Symposium

With the support of Iowa Department of Economic Development Directors Mike Blouin and Mary Lawyer, welcomed leaders of the public and private sector as speakers, including:

H.E. Karl Heinz-Funke
Minister of Agriculture
Germany

Heinz Imhoff
Chairman, Syngenta AG
Geneva

Warren Staley
Chairman and CEO
Cargill

Hon. Ann Veneman
US Secretary of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

Featured over 200 internationally acclaimed speakers, including:

Dr. Chen Zhiang-liang
Director, Chinese Center for Genetic Engineering

Dr. Jeffrey D. Sachs
Director, Earth Institute
Columbia University

Isatou Jallow
Director, National Nutrition Agency
The Gambia

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan
World Food Prize Laureate
India

“The World Food Prize brings more acclaimed international speakers to Iowa than any other organization.”

- An Iowa Agricultural Journalist
Dr. Ingo Potrykus of the Swiss Institute of Technology addressed the 2000 World Food Prize International Symposium on the benefits of “Golden Rice.”

The first conference anywhere on the threat of “Agroterrorism,” held one month after the tragedies of 9/11 but put on the agenda four months earlier.

One of the first symposia anywhere to focus on the potential of biotechnology to feed the poorest countries.

The first ever conference to simultaneously consider “The Dual Global Challenges of Obesity and Malnutrition.”

A conference to consider the role of water security in the search for peace in the Middle East, with participants from Israel, Egypt, The West Bank, Syria and the U.A.E.

“The ideas that came out of the World Food Prize International Symposium helped shape the US response to bioterrorism immediately after the events of 9/11.”

- Dr. Bernard A. Schwetz
Acting Commissioner, US Food and Drug Administration
The World Food Prize International Symposium is held annually at the Des Moines Marriott Downtown. Renowned experts from around the world discuss issues relating to global food security in front of large audiences of policy leaders, scientists and World Food Prize Laureates.

Welcoming Participants From Over 60 Countries and 40 States

“The idea for the $100 million US-India Agricultural Knowledge Initiative, announced by Prime Minister Singh and President Bush in 2006, sprang from an idea discussed at a World Food Prize luncheon.”

- Hon. M. Peter McPherson
  Founding Co-Chair, Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa
Encouraging Agribusiness Groups and Officials To Meet in Des Moines

Welcomed, with Craig Floss and the Iowa Corn Promotion Board and the US Grains Council, over 300 foreign government officials dealing with biotechnology from more than 50 countries over the past three years.

Welcomed DuPont/Pioneer Hi-Bred International’s BioTechnology Advisory Council through cooperation with J. Erik Fyrwald and Dean Oestreich.

Hosted a meeting of the national senior staff of the USDA Agricultural Research Service, in coordination with ARS Administrator Ed Knipling in 2005.

Cooperated with the American Soybean Association, John Becherer of the United Soybean Board, The World Initiative for Soy in Human Health and Iowa Soybean Association to welcome soy organizations from the United States and Africa.

In coordination with Vice President of Global Plant Breeding Ted Crosbie, welcomed Monsanto senior officials and research scientists.

The 2005 International Symposium’s session on “The Role of Agribusiness in Enhanced Nutrition” featured Dr. Robert Fraley, Monsanto Executive Vice President and CTO; Dr. Chris Nelson, President of Kemin Industries; J. Erik Frywald, DuPont Agriculture and Nutrition Vice President; Dean Cynthia Milligan, College of Business Administration, University of Nebraska - Lincoln and member of the World Food Prize Council of Advisors; and Warren Staley, Chairman and CEO of Cargill.

While Attending The World Food Prize International Symposium

“During the past 45 years, I have never participated in a symposium, conference or seminar that could match your organization and the quality of the presentations.”

- Dr. Saul Arlosoroff
Chairman, Israeli Water Engineers
Building Alliances In The Struggle Against Hunger

With the leadership of Council of Advisors member M. Peter McPherson, the annual USAID/Board for International Food and Agricultural Development meeting was moved to Des Moines and held in conjunction with the International Symposium.

The World Food Prize welcomed to Des Moines a delegation of African Ambassadors with the US Grains Council and The Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa.

The United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition and the UN Hunger Task Force met in Des Moines.

Laureates participate in the World Food Day Global Satellite Telecast live from Des Moines each October 16.

The Millennium Declaration to End Hunger in America was launched at the 2003 World Food Prize Symposium with America’s Second Harvest, Bread for the World and MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger.

“The World Food Prize International Symposium was the single most influential event in my intellectual life.”

- Dr. D.J. Chandler
University of South Florida
The Des Moines Declaration, issued in 2004, articulated the positions of the World Food Prize Laureates, Founders and Council of Advisors and was circulated to international policy makers and world leaders, thus promoting Iowa’s role in the forefront of the battle against world hunger.

Promoting enhanced nutrition at home and abroad
Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee gave a stirring keynote address to over 600 people on the urgent need to improve health in America at the 2005 World Food Prize Symposium.

Partnered with Iowa Public Health Director Mary Mincer Hansen to hold a month-long campaign to promote healthy lifestyles.

Dr. James Levine of the Mayo Clinic gave an ICN lecture on combatting obesity to a dozen Iowa high schools.

The Annual Youth Institute Hunger Banquet highlights the reality of the disparities between the hungry and the well-fed.

“The work and success of the World Food Prize Foundation is an inspiration to other such organizations throughout the world. It has championed the cause of good nutrition around the globe...”

- Dr. Julie Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H.
  Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Dr. William Dietz of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Walter Willett of Harvard School of Public Health and Dr. David Ludwig of Children’s Hospital Boston offer insights into the struggle against obesity.

The World Food Prize has partnered with the Des Moines Area Hunger Hike, Crop Walk and the Food Resource Bank to fight hunger, and has co-sponsored Walk the World with Kemin Industries.

A Month-Long Campaign Promoting Healthy Lifestyles and Healthy Youth at Home
John Ruan and Norman Borlaug created the Youth Institute in 1994 to increase awareness of global food security issues among high school students.

Only 14 students attended the Institute in its first year, but since 2000 the number of Iowa schools participating has increased dramatically.

Approximately 100 students and 100 teachers now attend the International Symposium and Global Youth Institute each October.

Students and teachers interact in small discussion groups with World Food Prize Laureates, research scientists and policy makers.

The Youth Institute has welcomed students from Mexico, Brazil, Venezuela, Ukraine, Nigeria, Canada, the Washington International School and the United Nations International School in New York.
Since 1994, over 1,000 students and teachers from more than 135 Iowa high schools have participated in the Global Youth Institute.
Participants in the Youth Institute are eligible to apply for World Food Prize Borlaug-Ruan International Internships, eight-week, all expenses paid, "hands-on" experiences at international research centers in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Since 1998, the number of Borlaug-Ruan International Internships awarded each year has increased from 2 to 13.

“Through the Youth Institute, young people are offered a unique opportunity to shape their own futures and potentially to help shape the world.”

- Hon. Jimmy Carter
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Member, World Food Prize Council of Advisors
Nearly 100 Borlaug-Ruan Interns have been sent on “life-changing” internships in:

- Brazil  
- China  
- Costa Rica  
- Egypt  
- Ethiopia  
- India  
- Indonesia  
- Kenya  
- Malaysia  
- Mexico  
- Peru  
- Philippines  
- Taiwan  
- Thailand  
- Trinidad
Inspiring Exceptional Achievement Among Iowa Youth

The World Food Prize established the George Washington Carver Internship for college students for training in non-profit administration.

The Norman Borlaug/Jessie Field Shambaugh Award was created to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of 4-H and the Nobel Peace Prize.

The World Food Prize donated the book “Norman Borlaug on World Hunger” to every Iowa high school and college, with the support of First Lady Christie Vilsack.

All Iowa K-12 schools are provided a “Dr. Norman E. Borlaug-World Food Prize Day” poster each year, in cooperation with Heartland Area Education Agency 11.
Former World Food Prize Interns Include:

- An Intel Science Award National Finalist
- Four Harvard Students
- National Merit Scholars
- Science Scholars at Iowa and Iowa State
- A Grinnell Volunteer in Namibia
- A Peace Corps Volunteer in Kazakstan
- Volunteers in Ghana, Congo, Malawi, South Africa, Israel and The West Bank
- Students in Paris, Prague, Rabat, Hong Kong and at Oxford
The World Food Prize Harvest Festival

The Harvest Festival envisions that each October Iowa can have a celebration of its legacy in feeding the world. The Festival seeks to involve citizens all around the state and highlight the best aspects of Iowa for our international visitors.

Partnered with the Downtown Community Alliance and the Downtown Events Group to create the Wells Fargo World Food Festival in 2005.

Collaborated with Science Center of Iowa Director Mary Sellers to offer the IMAX film “Mystic India” in honor of 2005 World Food Prize Laureate Dr. Modadugu Gupta.

Scheduled events with Des Moines Area Community College President Rob Denson to celebrate DMACC’s Year of India.

Coordinated with Des Moines Marathon Director Chris Burch to hold the marathon annually in October as part of the World Food Prize Harvest Festival.

Co-sponsored the Smithsonian Exhibit “Listening to the Prairie” at the Des Moines Public Library with Director Kay Runge.
A week-long celebration in Iowa surrounding the presentation of the “Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture”

The World Food Prize Foundation and the Downtown Events Group created the World Food Festival as an annual community celebration in Des Moines’ East Village to be held in conjunction with the World Food Prize Harvest Festival each October. The Festival invites Iowans to explore a variety of diverse culinary traditions from around the world, including the communities in their own backyard. The event features ethnic cafes, folk artisans, a variety of entertainers, a global market and a special appearance by the World Food Prize Laureates.
Cultural and Educational Events Across the State

West Branch - Colloquium on “Four Who Fed the World” at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library in West Branch focused on Hoover, Henry Wallace, George Washington Carver and Norman Borlaug.

Coon Rapids - Ms. Le Son Quinn brought World Food Prize spouses to visit the Garst Farm, site of the historic visit by Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

Dubuque - World Food Prize experts lectured at the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium.

Perry - Dr. Norman Borlaug addressed 200 people at the Hotel Patee at the invitation of Roberta Ahmanson and Hometown Perry, Iowa.

World Food Prize Laureate Lectures at:

The University of Iowa
Iowa State University of Science and Technology
University of Northern Iowa
Grand View College
Grinnell College
Drake University
Central College
Waldorf College
AIB
DMACC
“The Borlaug Family Farm” by Decorah artist Douglas Eckheart depicts the World Food Prize Founder’s boyhood home in Cresco, Iowa.

Cresco - Silos & Smokeystacks provided a bus tour for 60 international World Food Prize guests to Dr. Borlaug’s family farm.

Decorah - Amb. Quinn commissioned the painting above of Dr. Borlaug’s boyhood home by Douglas Eckhart in cooperation with the Norman Borlaug Heritage Foundation.

Involving World Food Prize Laureates and Distinguished International Guests
Creating a Diverse Cultural Experience Through World Food Prize Events and Grants

Representative Swati Dandekar recited Lucille Wilson’s poem “In Any Language” at the 2005 World Food Prize Laureate Award Ceremony.

Organized a World Food Prize ceremony at Living History Farms to honor the 25th Anniversary of Pope John Paul II’s call - “You are stewards of the Earth, with an obligation to feed all mankind.”

Partnered with Arthur Neis in the month-long exhibit of “A Bountiful Harvest,” an exhibition by the renowned photographic artist Ng Chee Wang of Malaysia in the atrium of Des Moines’ Capitol Square.

The World Food Prize commissioned a suite of poems in honor of Dr. Borlaug by “Iowa’s Farmer Poet,” Michael Carey of Farragut.

The John Ruan Trust has provided financial support to the IPTV documentary on Henry A. Wallace, as well as the Robert D. Ray Asian Garden, honoring the former Governor’s leadership in feeding refugees.
Commissioned 15 original paintings by Iowa artists, including the annual Laureate Montage by Grimes artist Nadine Hawbaker.

Integrating the Arts and Education with History and Science
World Food Prize Social Events

- Annual Laureate Welcome Dinner at the Salisbury House hosted by Janis and John Ruan III.

- Former Des Moines Art Center director Susan Talbott hosted the World Food Prize 15th Anniversary Reception, featuring the public unveiling of World Food Prize-commissioned art.

- The World Food Prize Youth Institute Recognition Dinner takes place at the Temple for the Performing Arts in Des Moines.

- The 2002 World Food Prize Laureate Award Ceremony was held at C.Y. Stephens Auditorium in Ames in cooperation with Iowa State University President Gregory Geoffroy.

- With the support of Department of Cultural Affairs Director Anita Walker, the World Food Prize held several receptions at the Iowa State Historical Museum.
The premiere of the World Food Prize-commissioned “Symphony to the Prairie Farm,” composed by Emmy-Winner Steven Heitzeg and conducted by Maestro Joseph Giunta, was enjoyed free of charge by over 2,300 people at the Civic Center of Des Moines.

In Iowa’s Most Distinguished Buildings
Council of Advisors

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Dean, College of Business Administration  
University of Nebraska

H.E. Corazon C. Aquino  
Former President, Philippines

Hon. George Bush  
Former President, United States

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Former President, United States

H.E. Olesgun Obasanjo  
Emeritus  
President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

Dr. Norman E. Borlaug  
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

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USDA - Agricultural Research Service

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Soyfoods Council • United Soybean Board • World Initiative for Soy in Human Health
Monsanto • Pioneer Hi-Bred International • Ruan Securities

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Roswell & Elizabeth Garst Foundation • Barbara and Michael Gartner • Alice and John Gordon • Gregory Aviation • Karen and Bill Hess
Barbara and G. David Hurd • Iowa Health Systems • International Traders of Iowa • Iowa Savings Bank Charitable Foundation
Iowa State Education Association • Sam and Delores Kalainov • Kruidenier Charitable Foundation • Life in Iowa Internship Program
Marabel and Harold C. Manders • Mercy Medical Center • Margaret and Tom Mehl • S. Ahmed Merchant • Mid-America Foundation
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Arnie and Diana M. Ripperger • Silos & Smokestacks • Stanley Foundation • Sukup Manufacturing Company • Stork Townsend, Inc.
Gregory R. and Stacey G. Tucker • US Grains Council • Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier • West Bancorporation Foundation • Craig Winters

World Food Prize Foundation Staff

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The World Food Prize in the News

The New York Times
Cuban-American Honored for Agriculture Innovations

Herald Tribune
World Food Prize Rewards Achievements

The Wall Street Journal.
Food for Thought By Norman Borlaug And Jimmy Carter
Modadugu Gupta of India, an expert in aquaculture, receives the World Food Prize

Helping feed the world

Fish-farming pioneer wins ‘Nobel of food’
Our Special Thanks to the Governor and The State Legislature of Iowa