

#NotToBrag

But Iowa is on a roll right now.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

2016: A Year In Review

Our mission at the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs is to help Iowans build culturally vibrant communities by connecting them to the people, places and points of pride that define our state.

And let me tell you: Iowans are doing that every day. Every department program – every Iowa Arts Council grant, every listing on Produce Iowa's media production directory, every State Historical Society of Iowa exhibit or research project or preservation tax credit – every single one of these investments helps Iowans boost our collective quality of life by fostering creativity and sharing our rich heritage with current generations and the ones to come.

We recently launched a social media campaign that invites Iowans to complete the phrase "Not to brag, but _____" with their favorite examples of homegrown art, history, film and culture. You'll find a few highlights in the following pages, but it's just a sampling. #NotToBrag, but there are plenty more.

Mary Cownie
Director, Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs



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But **13 communities** across the state were registered in 2016 for about **\$40 million in historic tax credits**, leveraging an additional **\$165 million** in community investment.



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But more than **12,500 lifelong learners** are currently using our **Iowa Culture mobile app**, which maps more than 3,500 historic sites, public artworks and other landmarks statewide.



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But **1 custom-built Winnebago** will take the “Iowa History 101” exhibit to all 99 counties over the next three years. Two complementary exhibits opened recently at the State Historical Museum: one that displays dozens of artifacts and another “hands-on” gallery designed especially for children.



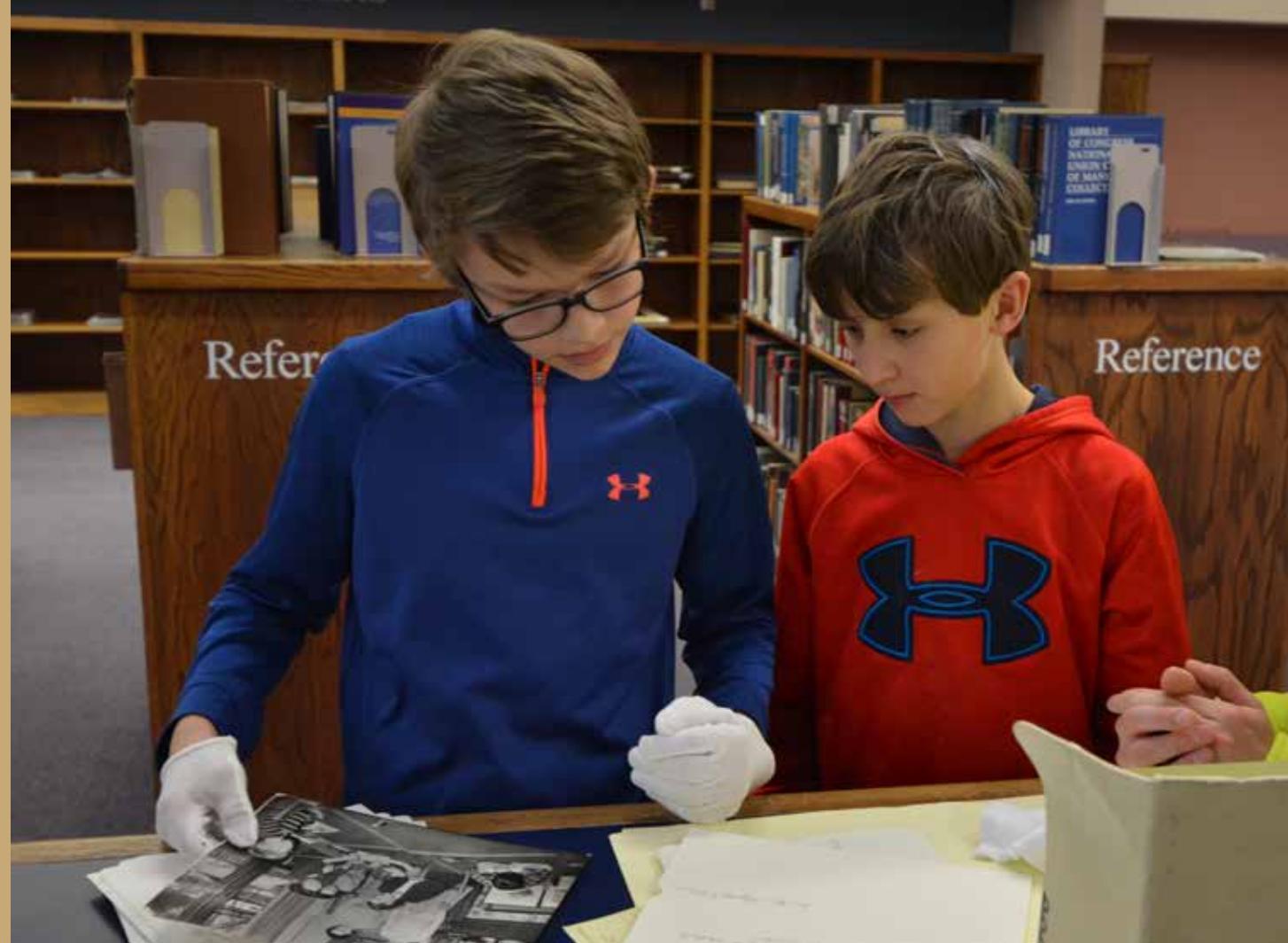
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But **13 short films by Iowa filmmakers** were chosen for the first episodes of a **new TV series called "The Film Lounge,"** a co-production of Produce Iowa, the Iowa Arts Council and Iowa Public Television.



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But a **\$100,000 grant** from the Library of Congress is helping our staff develop a statewide Iowa history curriculum using primary resources from the State Historical Society collection. This project is a partnership with the Iowa Department of Education.



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But **232 grants** were distributed last year to Iowa arts and culture projects in 545 locations statewide. Plus, \$1.6 million of those grants leveraged **an extra \$2.3 million** in local matching and in-kind support.



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But almost **400 architects, historians and others** gathered at the **Preserve Iowa Summit** in Davenport last summer to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act and build its legacy for future generations.



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But a **\$275,000 grant** from the National Endowment for the Humanities is helping our staff **digitize historic newspapers** in the State Historical Society's collection. This is our third installment of the highly competitive grant.



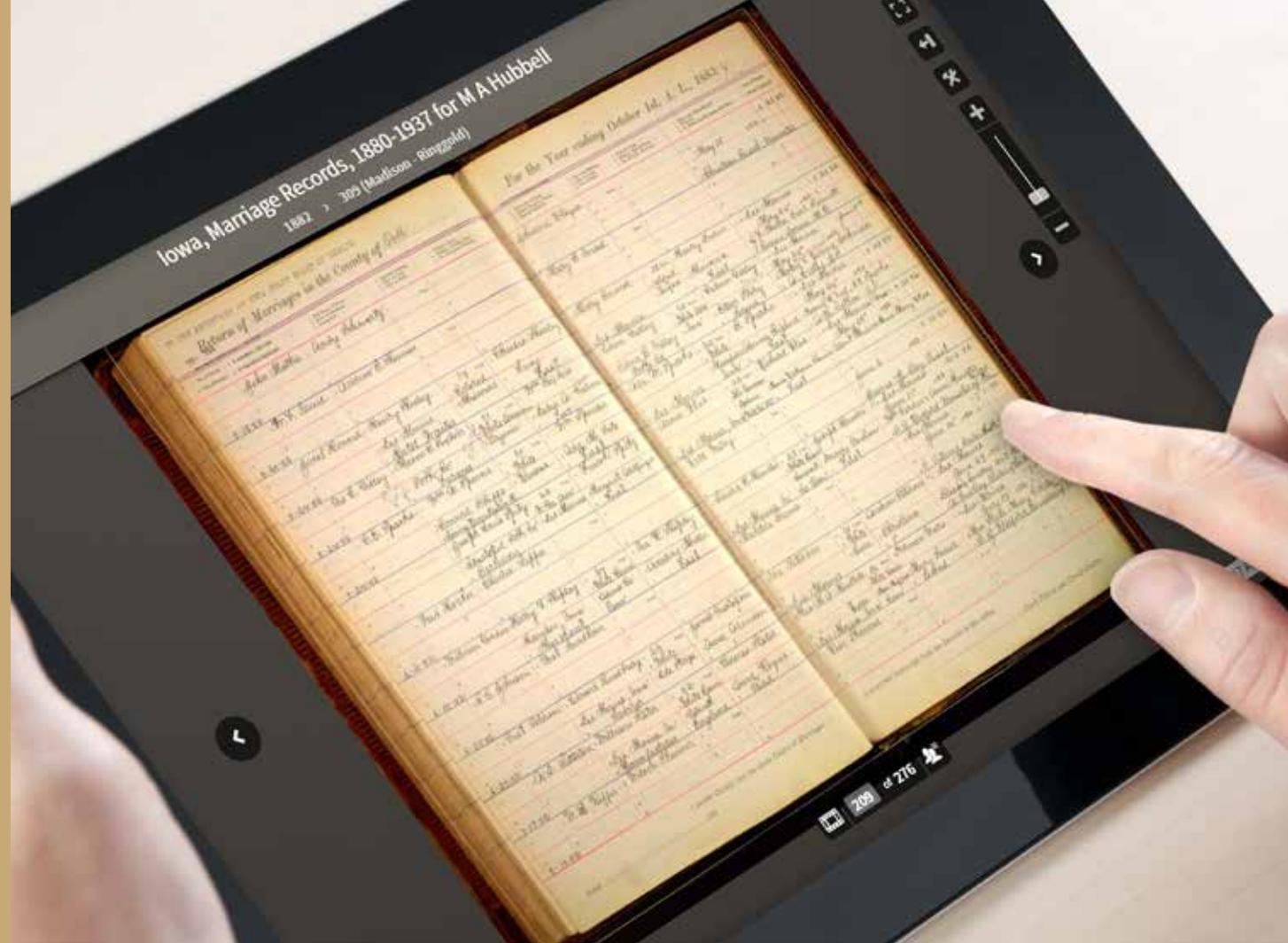
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But **14 annual film festivals** attract thousands of filmmakers and film fans to communities across the state.



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But **1 million of Iowa's vital records** (births, marriages, deaths) are now **available online** through FamilySearch.com and at the State Historical Society of Iowa Research Centers.



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But **5 Iowa artists** received 2016 **Iowa Artist Fellowships**, which support an additional **42 jobs**. And the news is spreading: This year we received 60 percent more fellowship applications than the year before.



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But **10,000 to 14,000** articles are downloaded each month from the freshly digitized archives of *The Annals of Iowa*, our flagship publication.



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But **3 Iowan celebrities** were recently honored in our **Hollywood Backstories** series: Oscar-winner Cloris Leachman, Emmy-winning writer Andrew Steele and the late icon Jean Seberg.



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But Iowa's **Certified Local Government** program is the **second largest in the country**. The State Historic Preservation Office helped distribute **\$90,000 in federal funds** last year for grants in a dozen Iowa communities, spurring an additional **\$134,000 in local and in-kind support**.



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But **1 massive assessment** was recently completed to help us set priorities for the State Historical Society's collection of more than **209 million artifacts, photos, books and documents.**



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But **348 artists** and arts advocates from **98 communities** attended the biennial **Iowa Arts Summit** last August.



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But 24 communities received more than **\$640,000 in Historic Resource Development Program grants** for documentary collections, museum projects and historic buildings, including country schools.



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But **1 cloud-based software program** called Salesforce helps the Iowa Arts Council manage all of its grant applications and reports without a single piece of paper, saving an estimated **40 hours of staff time** in a typical grant cycle.



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But the State Historic Preservation Office helped add **1,266 properties** in 41 communities to the **National Register of Historic Places** for a total of **17,145 listed properties** in Iowa.



So what's your brag?

What are the best examples of art, history, film and culture in your community?

Post a video, photo or simple note on social media with the hashtag #NotToBrag, and we'll help spread the word.

#NotToBrag, but this could go viral.



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