

## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL    PRODUCE IOWA    STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

## CREATING CULTURALLY **VIBRANT** COMMUNITIES



### Greetings,

Our agency is working hard to find additional state and federal resources to address your needs, especially in the cultural sector – arts, film, history and historic preservation – and we're pleased to connect you with more new opportunities.

The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs has recently received several major federal grants to redistribute to Iowans for Covid-19 and derecho relief (see below), and we will continue to provide [emergency resources](#) to help Iowa's creative businesses and cultural organizations.

We have also expanded and enhanced our roster of [online educational resources](#) to help students, teachers and lifelong learners as they continue to adapt to this challenging new school year.

Keep up the good work and, as always, let us know how you're doing and how we can further help you.

Take care,  
Chris

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Kramer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chris Kramer  
Director, Iowa Department of Cultural  
Affairs

## Apprenticeships for Pandemic Relief

Gov. Kim Reynolds recently announced two new grant programs totaling \$10 million to help Iowans build new job skills during



and after the Covid-19 pandemic. The grants for apprenticeships are overseen by Iowa Workforce Development and are available for employers – including small businesses, nonprofits, high schools, post-secondary institutions and healthcare organizations – that need to purchase equipment, tools, simulators, instructional materials or other necessities to expand or create registered apprenticeships that provide online as well as hands-on learning for their employees.

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### Grants for Rural Revitalization



*Pictured: The Hitchcock House in Lewis, Iowa, was a stop on the Underground Railroad.*

The State Historic Preservation Office, a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, recently received \$600,000 in federal funds for rural Iowa communities that are working to revitalize historic properties in order to preserve their heritage and foster economic development. Local governments and nonprofits that own properties on the National Register of Historic Places are eligible for grants ranging from \$75,000 to \$125,000. This opportunity is part of the newly announced Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants, a \$4.8 million program of the National Park Service.

[LEARN MORE](#)

### Grants for Derecho Relief



Iowa museums, historic sites and other cultural organizations affected by the derecho storm may be eligible for funding from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs. Newly announced grants of up to \$5,000 are intended to support Iowa humanities organizations impacted by the August windstorm, including museums, historic properties, preservation and historical organizations, and community and cultural organizations located in the 16 counties designated as disaster relief areas, according to criteria from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Funding is made possible through a Chairman's Grant for Disaster Mitigation from the National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency.

## Three BIG Wins

There are lots of bright spots amid this year's challenges. Please tell us about your successes, big or small, and we'll spread the word.

River Music Experience's [Music Lab](#) in the Quad Cities offers daily local music programming and lessons for local youth. The online lab is reaching more than 4,000 participants each month through Facebook and the local Mediacom channel, filling a need during limited opportunities for in-person music programs.



The Youth Art Team in Waterloo recently teamed up with the local public library to organize a ["hunt" for banned books](#). The project encouraged the public to search for seven posters featuring seven banned books in seven downtown storefronts. Three artists from the Youth Art Team also created [artwork for Beethoven's Emperor Concerto](#), recently performed by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony.

The Des Moines Art Center recently projected photos of artworks from its collection onto the center's exterior as part of its [2020 virtual gala](#). Thousands of people enjoyed the images and live outdoor music from the local Parranderos Latin Combo, all from a safe distance.

