

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL PRODUCE IOWA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL



Iowa invests \$7 million in relief for arts and culture

It's been a tough year for Iowa artists, musicians, music venues, theaters and museums, but the creative industry got [a \\$7 million boost](#) on Tuesday from the Iowa Arts & Culture Recovery Program. In all, 267 organizations and 152 individual artists in more than 100 communities across the state received one-time grants funded by the CARES Act and administered by the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.

While the relief program was highly competitive, the IAC and department funded 75 percent of requests, demonstrating support for arts and culture statewide. Additionally:

- More than half of the grants were distributed to cultural organizations with annual budgets under \$250,000.
- The average grant for organizations and venues was just over \$25,000.
- Funding was prioritized for artists and organizations that serve rural areas, culturally diverse populations or under-represented groups.

So when it's safe to gather again – for concerts, plays, festivals and more – the people who present them will be in a better position to do so.

"I'm so proud and grateful that we could support artists, venues and organizations when they need it most and thankful to our team for how they responded to the challenge of reviewing so many applications in a short amount of time," Iowa Arts Council Administrator David Schmitz said. "It's remarkable how our field has continued to create, innovate and keep us connected throughout the pandemic, in spite of the personal and financial challenges so many have faced. This funding is an important morale boost, as well as a critical investment in our future."

FULL LIST OF RECIPIENTS

NEA Grants Webinar

Have a great idea that needs some funding? The NEA invites you to tune in at 2 p.m. Jan. 13 to a free webinar called "NEA Grants: The Programs, The Process and How to Pitch." The session will summarize various NEA grant programs, the application process and review criteria, with small-group sessions where you can pitch your idea and receive specific guidance from NEA staff.



LEARN MORE



How Has Arts Education Enriched Your Life?

The American Academy of Arts and Sciences is conducting research on arts education and its value for communities and individuals from all walks of life. If you have a moment, please submit a short

note, essay, or story to help amplify the benefits of arts education in the academy's forthcoming report and promotional campaign.

SHARE YOUR STORY

Call for Emerging Artists

Emerging artists, ages 16-25, with disabilities are invited to compete in the VSA Emerging Young Artist Program, which "amplifies the voices of visual artists with disabilities through career development and professional empowerment." A jury will choose 15

artists who will receive prizes ranging from \$2,000 to \$20,000 and an invitation to participate in professional development activities at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Applications are due April 28.



LEARN MORE & APPLY

IPR & xBk's Holiday Special

DMPA's #projectjoy



'Twas the night before the solstice when all through the state, Iowa Public Radio aired "The Holiday Special," which was pretty good – even great! If you missed the premiere, tune in at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 25, or stream it whenever you'd like at iowapublicradio.org. The story centers on "an evil villain who has stolen live holiday entertainment and a cast of characters who bring back the harmony," including Anne and David Ducharme-Jones, Elizabeth Moen, The Finesse, The Surf Zombies, Lily DeTaeye and others.

STREAM THE SHOW



While most stages were quiet this year, Des Moines Performing Arts has produced and curated all kinds of creative content online "to bring people together, create a sense of connection and share the joy of the arts while fostering a sense of community." Check out the latest #projectjoy updates or, better yet, submit a joyful spark of your own.

ENJOY THE PROJECT



ia News: Make the Most of 2021

Back in March, the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs teamed up with the publishers of ia magazine to launch a free, bimonthly, digital newsletter about art, culture, food and road-trip destinations across Iowa. Why not sign up today?

SUBSCRIBE

COMING UP

Grants

Open: [Coronavirus Relief Fund Registered Apprenticeship Expansion Grant Opportunities](#)

Student Opportunities

Through Dec. 31: [Teen Cineclub](#)

Jan. 27: [Poetry Out Loud registration deadline](#)

Open: [Freelancers Relief Fund: Theatre Designers](#)

Dec. 31: [Reel Change: The Fund for Diversity in Film Scoring](#)

Dec. 31: [Walmart Local Community Grants](#)

Jan. 29: [Community Catalyst Building Remediation Program](#)

Jan. 31: [Polk County Community Development Grant](#)

Feb. 28: [Polk County Community Betterment Grant](#)

March 30: [Build With Bags Grant](#)

March 30: [Paint Iowa Beautiful](#)

Professional Development

Through Feb. 24: [Rootwork | Grounding Community Arts Education Beyond the Pandemic](#)

Jan. 13: [NEA Grants: The Programs, The Process and How to Pitch](#)

Jan. 15: [Artist INC Des Moines](#)

Calls for Artists

Dec. 27: [The Body Language 2021](#)

Dec. 30: [LandEscape](#)

Dec. 31: [#CreateBecauseWeCare](#)

Dec. 31: [Culmination: \\$500 for a Prose, Poem, or Art Ending](#)

Dec. 31: ["How's the weather here there?"](#)

Dec. 31: [Sunspot Literary Journal](#)

Jan. 8: [Mount Vernon Area Arts Council's Pocket Park Art](#)

Jan. 8: [City of Sacramento Artist Roster](#)

Jan. 8: [City of Clive Public Safety Center](#)

Jan. 31: [Create! Magazine](#)

Jan. 31: [Pump House Regional Arts Center](#)

Jan. 31: [NEOTERIC ABSTRACT IX](#)

Jan. 31: [Student Memorial Competition, University of St. Thomas](#)

Feb. 1: [Muscatine Mural Projects](#)

March 1: [Muscatine Roundabout Project](#)

April 28: [Merge: Nation's Best Emerging Artists With Disabilities](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



[Iowa Arts Council](#) | [Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs](#) | 515-281-5111 | [iowaculture.gov/arts](#)

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