

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL PRODUCE IOWA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

PRODUCE IOWA

STATE OFFICE OF MEDIA PRODUCTION

Ready? Set? . . . Greenlight!

Do you have a big idea for an Iowa film or movie project? Well, make it even *bigger* and apply for a Greenlight Grant!

We're now accepting applications for the third annual round of Greenlight Grants, which are **designed to encourage entrepreneurship** by building the capacity of our Iowa's media industry. The grants help Iowans take their projects "from script to screen," create jobs, encourage collaboration with other in-state filmmakers and benefit all kinds of small businesses that support productions. The grants are administered by the Iowa Arts Council, on behalf of Produce Iowa, and range from \$10,000 to \$50,000.



If you're interested, please apply by May 3. Also, be sure to check out the new **Iowa Arts Culture & Resilience Grant - Artists** to help offset the costs of submitting films to festivals.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

'The Lounge' is Open



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Pictured: Des Moines artist hip-hop artist Teller Bank\$ stars in "The Call," a music video from director Lucius Pham. It airs this weekend in "The Film Lounge."

The fifth season of the "**The Film Lounge**" is underway on Iowa PBS. The first episode premiered statewide this past weekend, and the second is coming right up, at 11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, and Sunday, Feb. 14 – perfect for you and your Valentine. Otherwise, you can catch **all the selected shorts online** shortly after they air on TV.

Survey: As we mark our fifth year, we want to take a moment to reflect on this project and make sure we are keeping it relevant to Iowa filmmakers. Please give us your opinions in this **one-minute survey**.

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

Donna Reed Day

Exactly 100 years after a girl named Donnabelle Mullenger was born in Denison, the Governor of Iowa proclaimed **a day in her honor**. The Oscar-winning actress, better known as Donna Reed, passed away in 1986, but we celebrated her enduring legacy on the centennial of her birthday, Jan. 27, with a series of festivities that started a Facebook Live event featuring the governor's proclamation and a series of video tributes from Reed's friends, family and fans. Turner Classic Movies aired a marathon of Reed's early movies and we thank TCM host Alicia Malone for recording **this special greeting** for us. Plus, you can still get this **Raygun T-shirt** honoring the "mom, mogul and movie star."



But wait! There's more: The State Historical Museum of Iowa plans to host an online "**Iowa History 101**" **presentation** on March 25, when Reed's daughter, Mary Owen of Iowa City, will share rarely seen family photos from her mother's early days in Iowa. Other events are in the works for December, when Reed's most popular movie, "It's a Wonderful Life," will mark its 75th anniversary.

REGISTER FOR THE MARCH 25 PRESENTATION



Farewell, Cloris

After the one and only Cloris Leachman passed away on Jan. 27, at age 94, we joined fans here in her native Iowa and around the world in applauding the fearless sense of humor and feisty spirit she brought to every role she played -- on stage, on screen and in her extraordinary life.

We were honored to host the Oscar winner for a "Hollywood Backstories" event in 2016 at the State Historical Museum of Iowa, where she added her handprints to the Produce Iowa Wall of Fame and shared some colorful stories from her looong career. (We posted **a few highlights** from that event on Facebook.) She was a legend!

Old 'Cold Turkey'

February 19 marks the 50th anniversary of the theatrical release of "Cold Turkey," the hit comedy that was filmed in Greenfield, Iowa. The movie about a small town that tries to suddenly quit smoking – cold turkey – was the first and only feature film directed by Norman Lear, who often proclaims that his experience in Iowa helped launch his success in



television, starting with “All in the Family.” We welcomed

Lear back to Iowa five years ago, when the Warren Cultural Center in Greenfield renamed its theater in his honor, and we’ll be rooting for him when he accepts the Carol Burnett Award during the Golden Globes ceremony on Feb. 28.

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Join the Varsity Team!

The Des Moines Film Society is moving forward with a \$3 million renovation of the historic Varsity Cinema near Drake University. If you’d like to help, consider donating to the nonprofit to become a “founding member” of the Varsity team or get a seat named in your honor. You can find all the details on their website.

A Date With Julien

Are you free at 7 p.m. on Feb. 27? We’re asking for a friend. The Julien Dubuque International Film Festival hopes you can attend the Virtual JDIFF Gala, complete with a preview of the 2021 festival films, plus an auction, raffle and swag bags customized for 1-8 guests. Proceeds from the gala will benefit the 10th annual festival itself, which is scheduled for April 18-25 in downtown Dubuque.



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Operators are Standing By

The Iowa Motion Picture Association has lined up a day full of Iowa movies, plus visits from Iowa celebrities and entertainers, for a fundraising telethon from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 28 at the KDSM-TV (Fox 17) studios where they will be livestreaming on



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Facebook. Find all the details online – and don't forget: The deadline for this year's **IMPA awards is March 15.**

What's Your Story?

Iowa PBS and “American Portrait” are rounding up stories to include in their documentary series. If you have one to share, record yourself finishing one of their 25 prompts – including “The tradition I carry on is ...” and “I took a risk when ...” – and **submit it online** for a chance to have your story shared in the program. Everybody has a story, so what's yours?



[SUBMIT ONLINE](#)

Upcoming Events

Feb. 13-14: **The Film Lounge Episode 502 premieres on Iowa PBS**

Feb. 27: **JDIFF Gala**

March 25: **Iowa History 101: 100 Years of Donna Reed**

March 25: