

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL PRODUCE IOWA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

# PRODUCE IOWA

STATE OFFICE OF MEDIA PRODUCTION



## Higher Education Summit

Last Friday, Produce Iowa convened department heads of Iowa colleges and universities that offer a media production program. Pictured above are some of the participants representing Des Moines Area Community College, Luther College, Morningside University, Waldorf University, Hawkeye Community College, University of Northern Iowa and Southeast Community College. The group **learned more about various educational opportunities around the state, shared best practices and brainstormed new ways to work together with our film office.** Stay tuned for more collaborations to help train and retain Iowa students to make our state's film and media industry more sustainable.

## Films & Festivals

### Latino Film Festival

The inaugural Des Moines Latino Film Festival launches June 18-20 in partnership with the Chicago Latino Film Festival. It celebrates the rich cultural diversity of the Des Moines community through food, art, music, and performances featuring films from Latin America and Spain and showcases the work of local Latin filmmakers.



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### High-Tech Art

"Sapient\_2.021" is an experimental short film that combines dance, robotics and visual art to explore labor, control, empathy and humanity in the tech-saturated world. With support from Des Moines Performing Arts, **Iowa Artist Fellow Amenda Tate's sci-fi-inspired production** features her motion-controlled painting robot "Manibus," which translates dance into paintings that represent life in the wake of 2020. The film premieres June 23 at the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater in West Des Moines.



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### Festival Within a Festival

Held June 25-27 in conjunction with the Des Moines Arts Festival, the **Interrobang Film Festival is three days of films and engagements with filmmakers.** Cinema enthusiasts or curious newcomers alike can enjoy curated screenings from films around the globe.



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### Spotlight on the News

A new documentary called "Storm Lake" tells the story of a small-town newspaper, The Storm Lake Times, and the family who keeps it running. The film crew followed Art Cullen, the Pulitzer Prize-winning editor, and his colleagues from the run-up to Iowa caucuses through the first weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic. **After a sold-out premiere at the prestigious Full Frame Documentary Film Festival last week, the film is screening at more festivals across the country.**



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## Greenlight Grants

Thank you to everyone who submitted applications for the 2022 Greenlight Grants. **These grants are a major milestone for our office, and we thank**



**Iowa lawmakers for supporting Iowa's film industry.** This program elevates stories that are important to Iowans and creates jobs that contribute to a more robust and sustainable industry. **Stay tuned for an announcement in July to see which projects will be funded next.**

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## Crime Scene Investigation

Director **Deran Serafian** (“CSI,” “House”) visited **Des Moines last month** to help film a local mystery movie “Winterset,” which stars MJ Gazali (pictured here) and was written and directed by Brent Roske. Although the police cars, props and an authentic-looking crime scene drew some attention along Easter Lake, we’re told that no one was harmed during the making of this film. You can check out what they are up to and we wish the Iowa cast and crew good luck.



[WATCH THE ROUGH CUT](#)

## Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- June 18-20: **First Des Moines Latino Film Festival**
- June 23: **Sapient\_2.021 premiere in West Des Moines**
- June 25-27: **Interrobang Film Festival**
- July 30-Aug. 1: **Des Moines 48 Hour Film Project - Filming Weekend**
- Aug. 5-8: **Snake Alley Festival of Film**
- Aug. 12: **New York Yankees vs Chicago White Sox at the Field of Dreams**

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6/9/2021

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