

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL PRODUCE IOWA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA



## New Grant Awards Announced

Iowa cultural organizations and individuals working in arts and culture, film and media, and history and historic preservation received a boost from \$2.3 million in grant awards [announced today](#) by the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.

In all, the department made 244 grant awards for community initiatives and creative projects across the state, benefiting arts and cultural organizations, individual artists and filmmakers and historic preservation efforts in at least 46 counties and 71 communities.

Learn more about the following Iowa Arts Council grants and recipients:

IOWA ARTS & CULTURE RESILIENCE GRANTS FOR ARTISTS

IOWA ARTS & CULTURE RESILIENCE GRANTS FOR NONPROFITS

CULTURAL LEADERSHIP PARTNERS

IOWA ARTIST FELLOWSHIPS

*Pictured: The Chanticleer Community Theater performs at the Hoff Family Arts & Culture Center, which is overseen by Pottawattamie Arts, Culture & Entertainments, a Cultural Leadership Partner in Council Bluffs.*

## Welcome, Sarah Florian!

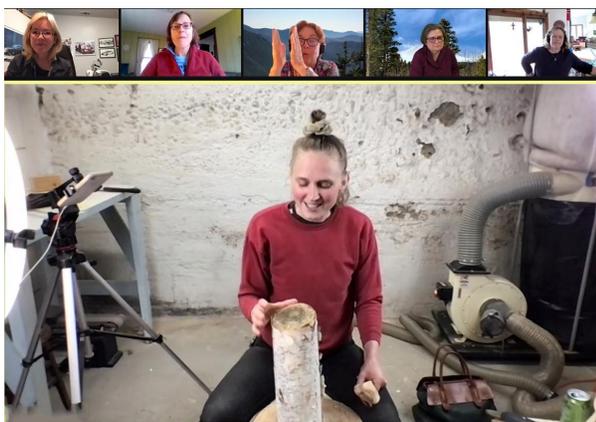


The Iowa Arts Council welcomes Sarah Florian as our new Arts Program and Operations Coordinator. Sarah joins us from Des Moines Performing Arts, where she planned and implemented community engagement programs with statewide impact, including the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards. Sarah has also been involved with the Des Moines Symphony

Academy, Civic Music Association and Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre. You can contact her at [sarah.florian@iowa.gov](mailto:sarah.florian@iowa.gov).

## Folk Artists Go High-Tech

With support from the National Endowment for the Arts, nearly two dozen folk artists from Iowa and neighboring states are learning how to teach and market their art practice online. They recently participated in the first of two workshops co-hosted by the Iowa Arts Council and the Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum and Folk Art School. The workshop is designed to help artists use high-tech tools, such as iPads and ring lights, to demonstrate old traditions and techniques.



Jess Hirsch of Minneapolis discussed her studio set up for hosting virtual classes during the folk-arts workshop on June 26.

[READ THE BLOG](#)

# DAYS OF LEARNING



ART

FILM

HISTORY

A new collection of online resources was unveiled this week as part of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs' ongoing [Days of Learning](#), an initiative that connects educators, students, parents and lifelong learners with a showcase of Iowa art, history,

humanities, film and culture. The multimedia collection, "[Celebrate Moments & Cultures](#)," features a few high points from Iowa's past and present – a mix of milestones, memorable stories and points of view – specially curated by the department staff and other experts from cultural organizations across the state.

Check out video tours from the Sioux City Art Center, an egg-decorating demonstration from the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, performances from recent Iowa Scholarship for the Arts recipients . . . and so much more. Enjoy!

#### BROWSE THE NEW COLLECTION



## Grantee Spotlight: Brunnier Art Museum

To mark the 25th anniversary of a landmark exhibition that explored the ecology and culture of Iowa's Loess Hills, Iowa State University Museums has organized a new exhibition, "Compelling Ground: Landscapes, Environments and People of Iowa," that honors the original exhibit's vision and examines changes that have taken place over the last quarter century. As with the original exhibit, artists were asked to create art inspired by Iowa, but this time, the entire state was open for interpretation. Nineteen artists contributed works to the exhibit, supported in part by an Iowa Arts Council Arts Project grant. The exhibition closes July 23, with a reception and talk set for 2-4 p.m. July 11.

#### LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

*Pictured above: "Iowa Road Creek," 2017, by Fred Easker*



## Federal & Regional Resources

### American Rescue Plan Act Funding Opportunities

The National Endowment for the Arts will award competitive [direct grants](#) of \$50,000-150,000 to eligible arts and culture organizations. **Apply by Aug. 12.**

[VIEW THE WEBINAR SLIDES](#)

Through the NEA's [Local Arts Agency Subgranting program](#), eligible local arts agencies may apply for grant funding that can be sub-granted in your community or region. **Apply by July 22.**

[LEARN MORE](#)

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) allocated \$350 billion to state and local governments. A new [special report](#) from the National Council of Nonprofits is designed to guide governments through the process of seeking and allocating these funds, including to nonprofit organizations.

[LEARN MORE](#)



### Arts Midwest GIG Fund

Arts Midwest relaunched its [Grow, Invest, Gather \(GIG\) Fund grants](#) to help organizations grow their capacity and to bring touring artists into their community.

Congratulations to the five Iowa arts organizations awarded funds in Round One: the George Daily Auditorium, Oskaloosa; Levitt AMP Earlham Music Series, Earlham; Fairfield

Arts & Convention Center, Fairfield; Golden Hills Resource Conservation and Development Area, Oakland; Legacy Learning Boone River Valley, Webster City.

During [Round Two](#), organizations must present performing or visual artists via at least two public events, which can be in-person or virtual. Projects must occur between January and June 2022.

[Register](#) for the informational webinar at 11 a.m. Aug. 10. **Apply by Oct. 5.**

## National Recognition for ArtForce Iowa



**Congratulations to Christine Her**, executive director of ArtForce Iowa in Des Moines, on receiving the Americans for the Arts' 2021 [American Express Emerging Leader Award](#). The national award is given annually to an arts leader who has impacted their community.

Founded in 2012, [ArtForce Iowa](#) has a mission to transform youth in need, with a focus on serving youth with court involvement, immigrants and refugees through art and music.

## Virtual Visit from a Disney Animator