

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

# PERFORMANCE REPORT

Performance Results Achieved  
for Fiscal Year 2012

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# INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the Department of Cultural Affairs and its boards, I am pleased to present the agency performance report for Fiscal Year 2012. This report is intended to satisfy the requirements of Iowa Code sections 8E.210, 303.1(6b) and 303.2(3b).

It never ceases to amaze me how many diverse programs and services are provided by the Department of Cultural Affairs. Yet, I am continually surprised by how few Iowans truly know what our department provides to the state.

With a budget that is less than one-half of one percent of the overall state budget, the DCA provides a long-term return on investment for Iowans by helping lay the foundation for cultural vitality, historic preservation and thriving creative economy. This investment sees results in more sustainable communities, workforce retention and a sense of vitality that will position Iowa to be more competitive in the future.

SHSI fulfilled its dual mission of education and preservation through its eight historic sites, two historic libraries, museum, preservation office, records and archives, serving nearly 250,000 visitors and receiving nearly 400,000 visits to its Web site. Major museum exhibit openings included: *Iowa and the Civil War: Nothing But Victory* (opened April 2012) and *Saving Our Stuff* (opened August 2012).

Nearly 23,000 people visited historic sites, and 18,819 people participated in education and outreach programs. The

Museum had 74,788 users, including 994 special tour participants.

The State Historic Preservation Office adopted new administrative rules for the Historic Preservation and Cultural and Entertainment Tax Credit program, and continued to serve federal agencies and local constituents involved with disaster recovery plans and historic preservation.

IAC continued its support and promotion of the arts in Iowa through grant allocations and by presenting and supporting educational outreach activities, including: public art and artist education conferences and curriculum-based programs for Iowa's teaching artists. IAC grant programs impacted more than 500,000 Iowans.

We are eager to serve Iowans across the state and look forward to the work ahead of us. On behalf of the DCA, I am pleased to say that we are beginning a journey toward a more culturally vibrant Iowa.

Lastly, DCA's service to Iowans can only be accomplished with the leadership it has received from Governor Terry Branstad and Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds, the Iowa Legislature and our partners. We are grateful for their support.

Sincerely,

Mary Cownie, Director

## AGENCY OVERVIEW

**Vision:** The vision of the Department of Cultural Affairs is that Iowa will be distinguished as a national leader in culture with support for an environment that allows the arts and history to thrive.

**Mission:** The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs provides leadership and direction to the Iowa Arts Council, the State Historical Society of Iowa and their constituents. The Department encourages collaborative partnerships between cultural organizations for the benefit of all Iowans.

The State Historical Society of Iowa has a dual mission of preservation and education. As a trustee of Iowa's historical legacy, the Historical Society identifies, records, collects, preserves, manages and provides access to Iowa's historical resources. As an advocate for understanding Iowa's past, the Historical Society educates Iowans of all ages, conducts and stimulates research, disseminates information and encourages and supports historical preservation and education efforts of others throughout the state.

The mission of the Iowa Arts Council is to enrich the quality of life for Iowans through support of the arts.

**Guiding Principles:** Iowa is a place where cultural diversity is recognized, understood and appreciated. The Department's initiatives will be managed according to the principles of accountability which include data-based decisions, results orientation, continuous improvement, constituent participation, customer focus, long-range thinking and collaborative leadership.

**Major Services and Products:** The DCA Performance Plan for FY12 details DCA services in four core areas:

*Community Coordination and Development:* DCA strives to enhance the ability of Iowa's communities, cultural workers and cultural organizations to produce sustainable development and enrichment opportunities.

*Conservation, Preservation and Stewardship:* In an effort to preserve and protect Iowa's cultural resources. DCA provides advice and training to assist Iowans in management of cultural resources and the department enhances public understanding of cultural resources through interpretive programming.

*Economic Growth and Expansion:* DCA works to develop opportunities for cultural creatives to secure employment in Iowa in arts, history and cultural organizations.

*Education:* DCA works to increase awareness of Iowans and others to the rich cultural environment of the state.

**Organizational Structure:** DCA is a department within the Executive Branch of Iowa State Government. It was established in 1986 by Iowa Code Chapter 303. DCA

includes the State Historical Society of Iowa, the Iowa Arts Council and an administrative division. DCA works closely with a nonprofit organization, the Iowa Historical Foundation. IHF's mission is to raise funds to support the work of the State Historical Society.

DCA has four advisory boards: The State Historical Society Board of Trustees, the Iowa Arts Council Board, the Iowa Historical Records Advisory Board, and the Great Places Citizen Advisory Board; one policy board: the Iowa Cultural Trust Board; and one Commission, the State Records Commission. Board and Commission members in Fiscal Year 12 were as follows:

State Historical Society of Iowa Board of Trustees:

- Michael Vogt, (Chair), Johnston
- Jeffrey Stein (Vice-Chair), Denver
- Jacky Adams, Red Oak
- William Bartine, Des Moines
- John Brown, Johnston
- John Liepa, Indianola
- John Mickelson, West Des Moines
- Maura Pilcher, Cedar Rapids
- William Sherman, Des Moines
- Richard Thomas, Cedar Rapids
- Jacqueline Thompson, Ottumwa
- Jo Ann Zimmerman, West Des Moines

Iowa Arts Council

- Steven Hansen (Chair), Sioux City
- Patricia Abild, Indianola
- Colleen Armstrong, West Des Moines
- Carmen Darland, Eldridge
- Paul Dennison, Mount Pleasant
- Kerry Finley, Iowa City
- Ruth Gaines, Des Moines
- Robert Gillespie, Sioux City
- James Hayes, Iowa City
- Molly Kotval, Des Moines
- Randall Lengeling, Dubuque
- Sean O'Harrow, Davenport
- Chawne Paige, Waterloo
- Vicki Sukup, Clear Lake
- Ann Wilkinson, Pella

#### Iowa Historical Records Advisory Board

- Jerome Thompson, Interim State Archivist, *ex officio*
- Mary Cownie, DCA Director, *ex officio*
- Daniel Daily, Orange City
- Michael Gibson, Dubuque
- Amy Groskopf, Davenport
- Karen Mason, Iowa City
- Larry Murphy, Ankeny
- Daniel Rittel, Stuart
- Rachel Vagts, Decorah
- Timothy Walch, Iowa City
- Tanya Zanish-Belcher, Ames

#### Great Places Citizen Advisory Board:

- Theresa Lynch (Chair), Marion
- Quentin Hart (Vice Chair), Waterloo
- Robin Anderson, Mason City
- Scott Brennan, West Des Moines
- Dustin Embree, Anamosa
- Sam Erickson, Pleasant Hill
- Adam Feiges, Hinton
- Mark Ginsberg, Iowa City
- Nick Glew, Marion
- Gerald Schnepf, Johnston
- Ruth Smith, Lamoni
- Rita Vargas, Davenport

#### Iowa Cultural Trust Board

- Carey Downs Gibson, Cedar Rapids
- Georgia Helmick, Norwalk
- Alyse Hunter, Chariton
- Mary Kelly, Des Moines
- Mary Ellen Kimball, Osceola
- Henry Neuman, LeClaire
- Connie Schmett, Clive
- Lori Shields, Council Bluffs
- Chad Umland, Sioux City
- Stefanie Devin, Des Moines, Designee of the State Treasurer, *ex officio*
- Michael Vogt, Johnston, State Historical Society of Iowa chair, *ex officio*
- Steven Hansen, Sioux City, Iowa Arts Council chair, *ex officio*
- Mary Cownie, Des Moines, Department Director, *ex officio*

#### State Records Commission:

- Barbara Corson (Chair), Designee of State Librarian
- Karen Austin, Designee of Treasurer of State
- Sarabeth Anderson, Designee of Director, Department of Cultural Affairs

- Vacant, Designee of Secretary of State
- Megan Hogan, Designee of Auditor of State
- Stu Voss, Designee of Director, Department of Revenue
- Mike Carroll, Director, Department of Administrative Services
- Carla Seeman, Designee of Director, Department of Management

DCA's executive director is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Iowa Senate. The agency has approximately 70 employees in 10 facilities, including the State Historical Building in Des Moines, the Centennial Building in Iowa City and eight historical sites:

- Abbie Gardner Sharp Cabin, Arnolds Park
- American Gothic House, Eldon
- Blood Run National Historic Landmark, Lyon County
- Edel Blacksmith Shop, Haverhill
- Montauk Historic Site, Clermont
- Plum Grove Historic Site, Iowa City
- Toolesboro Mounds National Historic Landmark, Toolesboro
- Western Historic Trails Center, Council Bluffs

The agency also engages numerous volunteers in carrying out its mission.

DCA customers access information about agency programs and activities at

[www.culturalaffairs.org](http://www.culturalaffairs.org)  
[www.iowahistory.org](http://www.iowahistory.org)  
[www.iowaartscouncil.org](http://www.iowaartscouncil.org)  
[www.iowagreatplaces.gov](http://www.iowagreatplaces.gov)

Agency constituents also interact with agency programs via:

Live the Arts in Iowa (Iowa Arts Council) on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/LiveTheArtsInIowa](https://www.facebook.com/LiveTheArtsInIowa)

Iowa Arts Council on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/iowaartscouncil>

Western Historic Trails Center on [Facebook](#)

Western Historic Trails Center on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/spothors>

Western Historic Trails Center on [YouTube](#)

Iowa Great Places on [Facebook](#)