



National History Day Moves Online

We're happy to report there won't be an asterisk next to this year's [National History Day](#) program. Both the state and national contests will proceed online thanks to the hard work and ingenuity of the students, families, teachers, volunteers and staff. This year, young historians from across Iowa will submit their research papers, documentaries, websites, exhibits and video-recorded presentations for adjudication at the state contest May 4-8 and the national contest in June.

More than 7,000 middle and high school students participated at schools across Iowa, and approximately 2,000 competed at a dozen recent district contests, including seven that moved online. The state contest usually draws 600 competitors to the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines but this year shifted to a virtual format for public health reasons.



Preserve Iowa Summit Moves Online

Our annual statewide conference for historic-preservation professionals and volunteers will take place June 4-6 online with a mix of live and pre-recorded sessions, virtual tours of Dubuque (this year's original host city) and an awards ceremony to celebrate the finest preservation projects across the state. So [check out the schedule and register today](#).

Pictured: Dubuque County Courthouse



Women of Woodland Cemetery

They're quiet now, but some of the [suffragists, social reformers and firebrands](#) who are buried in Des Moines' oldest cemetery changed Iowa and the country for years to come. Local historian Kate Levasseur will share a few of their stories during a [free webinar](#) at noon Thursday, as part of our ongoing [19th Amendment Centennial Celebration](#).

Pictured: activist Annie Savery, circa 1870.



Goldie at Home

Iowa's longest-serving public servant, appointed as the state bird in 1933, can help teach your brood while you're all nesting these days. The "[Goldie at Home](#)" program offers Iowa history resources for toddlers and K-12 students, including lessons that tie in with the Iowa Core Curriculum and a fun hands-on activity posted every Wednesday.



National Volunteer Week

This week, April 19-25, we'd like to thank the volunteers who offer their time and talents to [welcome visitors](#), lead tours, transcribe historic documents and do so much more at our museum, research centers and historic sites across the state. Let us know if you'd like to [join the cause](#).

Pictured: volunteer docent Frank Hanna



A Glimpse at the Past

Sharp-eyed friends of the State Historical Society of Iowa recently [spotted a rare historic photograph](#) on eBay, collected funds to buy it and then donated it last month to our collection in Iowa City. The photo, in an early format called an ambrotype, shows a bank in downtown Iowa City between 1857 and 1860.



History at Your Fingertips

The next time you walk around the block, see your neighborhood in a whole new way with the [Iowa Culture](#) app. Download it for free to your smartphone via the Apple Store or Google Play and discover more than 3,500 cultural landmarks across all 99 counties.



Extended Grant Deadlines

Do you have an idea to save the past for the future? Good news: The State Historical Society of Iowa offers [several kinds of grants](#) to help Iowans preserve history and make it more accessible. We've extended the usual deadline to June 1 for most grants and to June 15 for the [Iowa Great Places](#) and [Iowa Cultural & Entertainment District](#) designation programs.



New Love Letter to Iowa

The publishers of [ia magazine](#) recently teamed up with the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs to launch a bimonthly, digital newsletter about Iowa culture, food and road-trip destinations. What's not to love? (And it's free.) [Subscribe today](#).

Upcoming Events & Programs

Programs & Events

Please note: All public programs at the State Historical Museum of Iowa, Research Centers and state-owned Historic Sites are canceled, postponed or moved to a virtual format in an effort to slow the spread of the coronavirus. For the latest updates about upcoming events – online and in person – please check our [online calendar](#).

Grants & Designations

June 1: [Capacity Building Grants](#)

June 1: [Country School Grants](#)

June 1: [Cultural Heritage Project Grants](#)

June 1: [Historical Resource Development Program Grants](#)

June 15: [Iowa Great Places designation](#)

June 15: [Iowa Cultural & Entertainment District designation](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

Ongoing: [Visitor Experience Volunteer](#)

Ongoing: [Archives Special Projects Volunteer](#)

Ongoing: [Museum Special Projects Volunteer](#)

State Historical Society of Iowa | iowaculture.gov/history

Continue your support for Iowa history and the State Historical Society by [making a donation](#) or [becoming a volunteer](#) today!