

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL PRODUCE IOWA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

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STATE OFFICE OF MEDIA PRODUCTION



Storming the State

A newspaper. A family. A community. Now is your chance to see what everyone's talking about with the Iowa premiere of "Storm Lake," an Iowa film produced and directed by Buffalo Center, Iowa, native **Jerry Risius** and award-winning producer **Beth Levison**. It's the story of Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist **Art Cullen** and his family's fight to unite and inform their Iowa farming community through their biweekly newspaper, The Storm Lake Times.

After premiering to a sold-out audience this summer at the Full Frame Documentary Film Festival in North Carolina and winning the Audience Award at AFI-DOCS in Washington, D.C., an Iowa tour kicks off **Sept. 16 in Storm Lake**. You can also catch the film in **Iowa City, Des Moines, Winterset, Algona and Marshalltown** before it continues throughout the Midwest and on to the coasts.

The film will premiere Nov. 15 on PBS's "Independent Lens." [Find a screening near you](#) and join the important discussion about local news, civility and democracy.

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Iowa Independent Film Festival



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The Iowa Independent Film Festival is so big it takes two cities to host it. Join the festival **Sept. 9-11 in Mason City and Clear Lake**. The festival kicks off tomorrow (Thursday) with a local film night and concludes Saturday with an awards ceremony and after-party. Time is ticking to [save money with a weekend pass](#), or you can purchase tickets at the door. See you up north!

Sioux City International Film Festival

Launched in 2005, the **Sioux City International Film Festival** is the longest, continually running shorts festival in Iowa. Join filmmakers **Oct. 1-3** at the festival's downtown headquarters at the Promenade Cinema, complete with state-of-the-art projection and reclining seats. All festival activities take place in the heart of **Sioux City's Fourth Street Historic District**, with the



best lodging, restaurants and bars all within walking distance. And did we mention films? You'll see great short stories, educational panels and workshops. Come be part of the festival!

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Heaven to Filmmakers

Did you catch that amazing baseball game between the New York Yankees and the Chicago White Sox last month at the **Field of Dreams** Movie Site in Dyersville? It was a truly magical experience and a priceless promotion for our state. And to think that it all started with the arts. Iowa has fertile ground for more than our famous corn; **we're building an ecosystem for Iowa filmmakers** to tell more stories that impact us economically and culturally. [Check out our blog](#) to learn more about Iowa's growing film industry.

Photo courtesy of Major League Baseball

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Sticking to It

Did you get a letter in the mail from us last month? If you did, you received a fun Iowa filmmaker sticker as a **thank-you for your work and dedication to the industry in our state**. If you didn't, that might mean you're not currently listed in our [Media Production Directory](#) -- or you need to update your profile. (Yep, it's just like grade school all over again: Do good work, and you get a sticker.) Stay tuned for more exciting updates to come and please reach out to [EJ Philby](#) in our office if you need help updating your listing or have any questions.



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Truth First Film Alliance, Inc.



Congratulations to the Quad-Cities' newest non-profit organization, **Truth First Film Alliance, Inc.**, which was funded in part by a grant from The Moline Foundation, with **Kelly and Tammy Rundle** serving as the co-executive directors. TFFA focuses on bringing films and filmmakers to local screens in special, free programs featuring curated documentary and narrative films based on true stories, along with

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moderated Q&A, to emphasize the filmmaking craft. For more information about its mission and events, please visit its [website](#).

Humanities Project Grant

We're very excited to announce a new funding opportunity for Iowa filmmakers! The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs has opened an annual funding cycle of Humanities Project grants up to \$20,000. The funding is available through a National Endowment for the Humanities state partnership award to the department, as Iowa's interim humanities council. **Deadline: Nov. 1.**



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Register for a webinar to learn more:

[Humanities Project Grant Webinar](#)

2 p.m. Sept. 15

MediaMakers: Dan Bolsem



[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

This month we decided to turn the tables -- or in this case, camera -- on the person who produces our MediaMakers segments. **Dan Bolsem** is the Digital Content Producer for the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs. He's the person bringing all the inspiring cultural stories across the state to a screen near you. His background is in photojournalism, and he lives with his family in Johnston. Find out more about the man behind the lens.

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

Sept. 9-11: Iowa Independent Film Festival

Sept. 16: "[Storm Lake](#)" Iowa premiere with filmmaker discussion, Fridley Theatres in Storm Lake

Sept. 17: "[Storm Lake](#)" opens with filmmaker discussion, FilmScene in Iowa City

Sept. 18: "[Storm Lake](#)" special screening with filmmaker discussion, Varsity Pop-up Outdoor Cinema in Des Moines

Sept. 19: "[Storm Lake](#)" special screening with filmmaker discussion, Iowa Theater in Winterset

Sept. 21: "[Storm Lake](#)" special screening with filmmaker discussion, Fridley Theatres in Algona

Sept. 22: "[Storm Lake](#)" special screening, Fridley Theatres in Marshalltown

Oct. 1-3: [Sioux City International Film Festival](#)

Oct. 8-9: [Halloweenapalooza](#)

Dec. 10: [Celebrate Iowa Gala](#)

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IOWA DEPARTMENT OF **CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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