



Join us as we celebrate Iowa arts, history, culture and film!

Friday, December 10

6-7 p.m. VIP Reception

7-11 p.m. Celebrate Iowa Gala
Historic Scottish Rite Consistory
519 Park Street, Des Moines

There's still time to buy tickets for Friday night's **10th annual Celebrate Iowa Gala**, which features the best cuisine and entertainment from across our great state. Here are a just few reasons to attend:

– Watch **Jorge Chávez Colorado** paint an Iowa landscape during the event. The Malvern artist's "Iowa Field" (pictured) was featured in the latest edition of *The Annals of Iowa*, along with work by 16 other artists from across the state. Two of them, **Amee Ellis** of Des Moines and **Tonja Ihlenfeldt** of Mason City, discuss their work in a short new [video](#).



- Commemorate [Iowa's 175th statehood anniversary](#), coming right up on Dec. 28.
- Feast on Iowa specialties, including **sliders** from Bambino's in Ossian, **kolaches** from the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, a special "[1846 Corn Lager](#)" from Court Avenue Brewing Co. and "[The Iowa 175](#)," a signature cocktail from the Mississippi River Distilling Co.



- Enjoy live music by **Awful Purdies**, **Dirty Rotten Scoundrels**, **Prairie Strings Quartet** and jazz pianist **Phineas Pope**.
- Support a great cause. All proceeds from the event support the State Historical Society of Iowa's **statewide exhibitions and programs**.

BUY TICKETS ONLINE TODAY OR TOMORROW AT THE DOOR



The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs' campaign to encourage Iowans to "[Re-Imagine, Re-Engage and Reconnect](#)" with local arts and culture is catching on. Use the [the campaign toolkit](#) to enhance your messages in print and online with images, samples posts, tweets and templates for co-branded advertising, emails and press releases. (Tag us [@IowaArtsCouncil](#) so we can share your posts!)

[LEARN MORE](#)

[CAMPAIGN TOOLKIT](#)

Register for Poetry Out Loud by Jan. 21

The **Poetry Out Loud** program encourages high school students to study great poetry and compete in a recitation competition at local, state and national levels. Students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence and learn about their literary heritage. The program was created by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation in collaboration with state arts agencies in all 50 states and U.S. territories.



Here in Iowa, lead **teachers** will receive a \$200 stipend for implementing the program at their school. Teachers who would like their students to participate in the 2021-2022 program should [register online by Jan. 21](#).

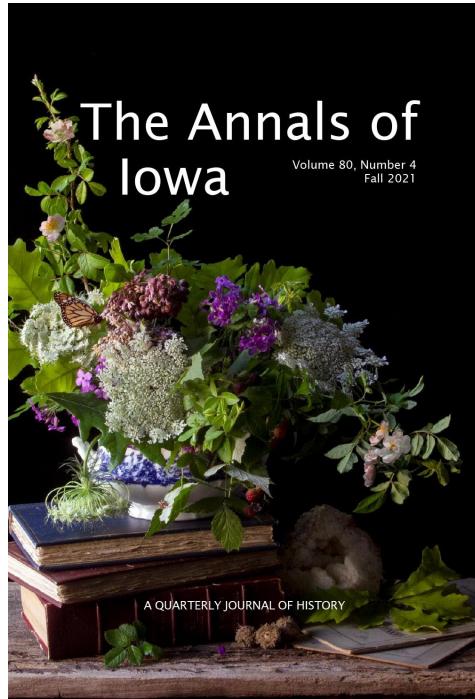
[REGISTER YOUR SCHOOL](#)

Call for Art: The Annals of Iowa

Apply to have your artwork featured on the cover of **The Annals of Iowa**, the State Historical Society of Iowa's quarterly journal. It first rolled off the press in 1863 and is now distributed quarterly to hundreds of subscribers throughout the United States and Canada, with digital footprint of **more than 1.6 million downloads worldwide**.

Application deadline: 11:59 p.m. Jan. 17 for the 2022 spring, summer and fall covers.

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Iowa Artist Fellow Spotlight: Emma Murray



Iowa Artist Fellow **Emma Murray** is preparing to launch a podcast to tell the "where are they now?" stories from radio host Casey Kasem's long-distance dedications from the 1970s through the early 2000s. It's the latest project in the artist's **roundabout career as a newspaper reporter, creative writer, poet and graphic designer**. She also teaches at Iowa State University, showing biology students how to use stories to present scientific research, and recently co-founded an arts collective called [Ilk Haus](#), which hosts backyard events at the Des Moines home she shares with her "hausmates."

She calls it all a "mishmash" but describes herself first as a writer. "I love storytelling and the challenge of finding an angle or weaving together some sort of narrative," she said.

[READ THE BLOG](#)

State, Regional & Federal Resources

COVID EIDL Funds Available

Funding is available through the Small Business Administration's COVID Economic Injury Disaster Loan program.



U.S. Small Business
Administration

Application deadlines:

Dec. 10: Supplemental Advance Applications.

Dec. 31: EIDL Loan and Targeted Advance Applications.

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Future Ready Iowa Grant

The Future Ready Iowa Employer Innovation Fund is designed to expand opportunities for Iowans to **earn post-secondary credentials** that lead to high-demand jobs. It does this by encouraging Iowa employers, community leaders, and others to collaborate to support regional workforce talent development. **Application deadline: Dec. 17.**



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Creative Forces Community Engagement Grant

The NEA launched the Creative Forces program nearly a decade ago to **help service members and their families** cope with the unique experiences and challenges of military service. The Creative Forces Community Engagement Grant program supports non-clinical arts engagement programs in healthcare, community or virtual settings. The grants will be awarded in two tiers, emerging and advanced.

Application deadline: Dec. 15.

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2021 Performing Arts Discovery Program

Applications are open for Phase Two of the Performing Arts Discovery program, an international video showcase the NEA launched to promote U.S. artists to international programmers, festival directors and venue managers.

Application deadline: Jan. 7, 2022.

western arts alliance

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The Big Read

The Big Read program aims to inspire conversation and discovery. Annually, the program supports approximately **75 dynamic community reading programs**, each designed around a single NEA Big Read book. Arts Midwest is accepting proposals. **Application deadline: Jan. 26, 2022.**

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Grants for Arts Projects

The NEA's Grants for Arts Projects range from \$10,000 up to \$100,000 for projects that span a range of arts disciplines and begin on or after Jan. 1, 2023.

Application deadline: Feb. 10, 2022.

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Challenge America Grants

The NEA's Challenge America Grants offer support primarily to small organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations. Grants are \$10,000 for projects that begin on or after Jan. 1, 2023.

Application deadline: April 21, 2022.

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City of Dubuque Receives NEA Grant

Congratulations to the **city of Dubuque** for receiving a **\$500,000 American Rescue Plan grant** from the NEA. The funding will support sub-grants to local arts nonprofits to help with recovery and reopening from the COVID-19 pandemic. Dubuque is one of 66 local organizations that received ARP funding.

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Coming Up

Grants

Open: [Coronavirus Relief Fund Registered Apprenticeship Expansion Grant Opportunities](#)

Calls for Artists

Dec. 11: [Vestige Concept Gallery](#)

Dec. 10: [EIDL Supplemental Advance Applications](#)

Dec. 14: [Innovate Grant](#)

Dec. 15: [Creative Forces Community Engagement Project Grants](#)

Dec. 17: [Future Ready Iowa Grant](#)

Dec. 21: [New Music Creator Development Fund](#)

Dec. 31: [Classics for Kids Foundation](#)

Dec. 31: [EIDL Loan and Targeted Advance Applications](#)

Jan. 7: [Rauschenberg Dancer Emergency Grant](#)

Jan. 12: [Literature Fellowships - Translation Projects](#)

Jan. 26: [NEA Big Read](#)

Jan. 28: [Music Education Partnership Grants, Chorus America](#)

Feb. 1: [Creative Capital x Skoll Foundation Fund](#)

Feb. 10: [Grant for Arts Projects](#)

April 21: [Challenge America Grants](#)

Mar. 30: [USArtists International Grants Program, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation](#)

Dec. 13: [Double Exposure, Polk County Heritage Gallery](#)

Dec. 20: [Artwork for Cabarrus County Courthouse Expansion](#)

Dec. 31: [Ezra Jack Keats Foundation – New Writer, Illustrator Children's Book Awards](#)

Jan. 1: [Polk County Conservation](#)

Jan. 7: [Performing Arts Discovery Program, Western Arts Alliance](#)

Jan. 14: [Omaha Summer Arts Festival](#)

Jan. 15: [Choral Composition Competition](#)

Jan. 15: [Pottawattamie Arts, Culture & Entertainment inaugural exhibition 'New Masters'](#)

Jan. 15: [Iowa Lakeside Laboratory](#)

Jan. 17: [Cover Art, The Annals of Iowa](#)

Jan. 31: [Waldemar A. Schmidt Art Gallery, Wartburg College](#)

Feb. 15: [Ring Out For Art](#)

Professional Opportunities

Dec. 31: [Art-Train](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES