

MediaMasters series is back

Grab your spot now – only a few spots remain! Through **three interactive virtual workshops**, you'll learn step-by-step how to develop your story and business plan and submit a top-notch application for a **Greenlight Grant** next spring. It's the perfect way to kick-start your project and, ultimately, increase its chances for success. This series is complimentary for members of our [Media Production Directory](#).



Register now for the first class, which is scheduled for Oct. 22.

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](#)

'48 Hour Film Horror Project'



Put on your spooky-pants and walk 'em over to the **Copper Creek Cinema in Pleasant Hill on Friday** for the premiere screenings of the "48 Hour Film Horror Project." You can catch more than **20 films**, all of which incorporate several required elements: a Dr. Fred or Fran Mixer, a pumpkin, and the line "Maybe you should wash that." Then, head to the State Historical Building on Oct. 28 for the "Best of the '48 Hour Film Horror Project."

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Muscatine Music & Film Independent Festival

After a hiatus, the Muscatine Independent Film Festival is back – and now includes music! **Join the fun Nov. 4-5 for film watching, networking, learning and musical acts.** Filmmakers and musicians alike may find their next collaboration project when they find each other here. Tickets can be purchased on the [Muscatine Music and Independent Film Festival website](#).

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By George! It's Arts & Humanities Month

Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg joined the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs recently to jump-start **Arts & Humanities Month in Iowa**. Gregg read a proclamation from **Gov. Kim Reynolds** before helping to [unveil a historic plaque](#) at the boyhood home of **George Stout**, who joined the U.S. Army and led the so-called "Monuments Men" in rescuing thousands of precious artworks and antiquities during World War II. Stout, who was born 125 years ago on Oct. 5, was a world-class art preservationist. You may remember he was the inspiration behind a character (Frank Stokes) that actor **George Clooney** portrayed in the feature film based on the true story.



*Pictured from left: Gregg with two of Stout's granddaughters, **Lauren Parker** and **Leslie Marks**, and a cut-out of Stout himself.*

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'Standing Strong: Elizabeth Catlett'



Iowa City filmmaker **Kevin Kelley** has produced a documentary about George Stout as well as other award-winning feature films. The **2021 Greenlight Grant** recipient's next work focuses on **Elizabeth Catlett**, the **first Black woman to earn a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Iowa** and one of the most important sculptors and printmakers of the 20th century. [Learn more](#) about Kelley and his storytelling style.

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NASAA Conference

Iowa film was the topic at the recent **National Assembly of State Arts Agencies** conference in Kansas City last month. Produce Iowa Executive Producer **Liz Gilman** and Iowa filmmaker **Bruce James Bales** joined the panel to discuss providing support for independent filmmaking. **Greenlight Grants** were a major topic as other states look to emulate our success.

Pictured, from left: Michelle Davidson, filmmaker and president of the Missouri Motion Media Association; Bruce James Bales, Iowa filmmaker; Jordan Young, media arts & design manager, South Arts; Liz Gilman, Produce Iowa.



LEARN MORE ABOUT GREENLIGHT GRANTS

Directing Workshop



You have another educational opportunity this month from the **Iowa Motion Picture Association**. Internationally known **L.A. filmmaker Aditya Patwardhan**, pictured, will share directing secrets and answer your filmmaking questions live. Interested? **Plug in 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Oct. 29**. Find more information and register through [IMPA.TV](https://www.impa.tv)

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Fast Forward

Save **Nov. 4** for the upcoming [Fast Forward Digital Media Workshop](#) at the University of Northern Iowa. There will be a full schedule of morning sessions on topics such as **covering the news, producing live sports, improving on-air skills** and making **long-format media** such as films, documentaries and episodic television. Film producers from the recent



Greenlight Grant project "**Kinnick: The Documentary**" will be the keynote speakers.

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Coming in 2023

Bettendorf natives **Scott Beck and Bryan Woods** of "**A Quiet Place**" fame have announced they are building their own movie theater in the Quad Cities. Pictured is the architect's drawing for **The Last Picture House**, which is a \$3.7 million dollar project that will transform a vacant building at 325 E. Second Street in downtown Davenport. The site will feature a **two-screen theater with a rooftop bar** and will be open by June 2023. We applaud these Iowa filmmakers who want to enlighten, entertain and engage new audiences and bring cinema and community together.



A rendering of the planned Last Picture House at 2nd and Iowa streets in downtown Davenport. ourquadcities.com

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Success Stories

If you have a success story, [share it](#) with us so we can help you celebrate. Here are four that recently came across our desk:



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New Chamber Member

Congratulations to the [Sioux City International Film Festival](#) for becoming a new member of the **Siouxland Chamber of Commerce**. Since 2005, the film festival has showcased a variety of independent short films from around the world. Now it is officially part of the business community in Sioux City and continues to make a difference in its community.

Worldwide Attention

The Iowa feature film "**Little Johnny Jewel**" was the star of the recent **Berlin Independent Film Festival**, which showcases new filmmakers achieving great things with tiny budgets. **Jude Rawlins of Marshalltown** won best directing and best editing while **Cheyenne Goode of Indianola** won best actress.

"Little Johnny Jewel" had the lowest budget of any feature in the festival and more wins than any other film. It also has been **nominated for awards in Venice and Rome** where it was singled out for special attention by the **Roberto Rossellini Institute**. The film is having its theatrical release on Oct. 14 in Marshalltown and in the United Kingdom in January.



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'When Jack Came Back'

Last weekend, the feature film "[When Jack Came Back](#)" held a thank-you screening in Iowa Falls, where it was partially filmed. The town is also home to Iowa filmmaker **Annette Duffy**, who conceived the story idea and collaborated with writer, director and editor **Thor Moreno** to get it to the big screen. The film stars **Lindsay Wagner** (aka "Bionic Woman") and **Lance Henriksen**, who plays a burned-out soap star who returns to his Midwestern hometown.



Lindsay Wagner in "When Jack Came Back."

[WATCH THE TRAILER](#)



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Successful Kickoff

FilmScene in Iowa City launched its inaugural [Refocus Film Festival](#) last week. Congratulations to the filmmakers, show runners and networkers who took part in the four-day festival celebrating the art of adaptations, held in conjunction with the **Iowa City Book Festival**. Seen here left to right: author **Camille DeAngelis**, screenwriter/producer **David Kajganich**, and FilmScene's **Ben Delgado** and **Andrew Sherburne** at the opening night screening of "**Bones and All**."

Behind the scenes

Produce Iowa recently visited these two feature film sets in the Greater Des Moines area. If you plan to be in production, let us know by [registering your Iowa project](#) with our office.



'Knee High'

Director: Marissa Vonn

Location: Madrid farmhouse

In 2018, Marissa Vonn produced "Knee High" as a short film that screened at more than 40 festivals worldwide. Now she and her team are expanding the story into a feature film to shine a light on how patriarchal structures impact all and how they can deeply hinder the grieving process by stigmatizing emotional and mental health.



'Peck'

Director and 2022 Greenlight Grant recipient: Antoinette Lavalle

Location: Rollins Mansion

Logline: Sophia is a young woman addressing her mental health in the late 19th century. When her mother and father urge her to see someone who may help, she begins a journey toward independence and love.

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

Oct. 14: [Premiere screenings for Des Moines 48 Hour Film Horror Project](#)

Oct. 22: [MediaMasters Part One: Story Development](#)

Oct. 23: [Music University presented by the Des Moines Music Coalition](#)

Oct. 29: [IMPA Directing Workshop](#)

Nov. 3-5: [Muscatine Music & Film Independent Film Festival](#)

Nov. 4: [UNI Fast Forward Digital Media Workshop](#)

Nov. 12: [MediaMasters Part Two: Business Development](#)

Next Spring: [MediaMasters Part Three: Applying for a Greenlight Grant](#)

VISIT OUR CALENDAR

SEND US YOUR EVENTS



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