

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

IOWA HISTORIAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA



Celebrate Iowa History Month

As we celebrate Iowa History Month in March, we're encouraging Iowans of all ages to **learn more about our state's past**. Every year, the State Historical Society of Iowa offers programs and activities that showcase the people, places and points of pride that continue to define our communities, our state and our country. **See below for a wide variety of in-person and online programs** that you can enjoy while celebrating our state's rich past.

Above: Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs Director Chris Kramer (second from left) joined State Historical Society of Iowa staff as they gathered in the newly renovated Iowa History Research Center to kick off Iowa History Month. The society is a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.

Right: Gov. Kim Reynolds issued a proclamation this week declaring March as Iowa History Month.



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Visit the State Historical Museum of Iowa

The **State Historical Museum of Iowa** offers visitors numerous opportunities to explore exhibits, including **"Iowa and the Civil War," "Hollywood in the Heartland"** and **"Hands on History."** If you can't visit in person, tour the museum's **"Iowa's People & Places"** virtual exhibit from your home.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Spring Break in person

Drop-in Activity Stations

March 10, 13-17

9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Family Exhibit Tour of "Iowa's People and Places"

March 14, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

(Register in advance)

Goldie's Family Day Camp

March 15, 9:30 a.m.



Goldie's Kids Club online

Participate in Goldie's Kids Club online to introduce Iowa history to children ages 12 and under – starting with Goldie the eastern goldfinch, the state bird.

History Mystery Live

March 4, 10 a.m.

Learn about objects related to Women's History Month.

Innovative Iowans

(Register in advance)

Family Museum Collection Tour

March 16, 10 a.m.

(Register in advance)

Adult Museum Collection Tour

March 16, 2 p.m.

(Register in advance)

[LEARN MORE](#)

March 4, 10 a.m.

Learn about the Great State Seal of Iowa.

Storytime

March 15, open hours

Read "Ten Beautiful Things" by Molly Beth Griffin.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Iowa History 101

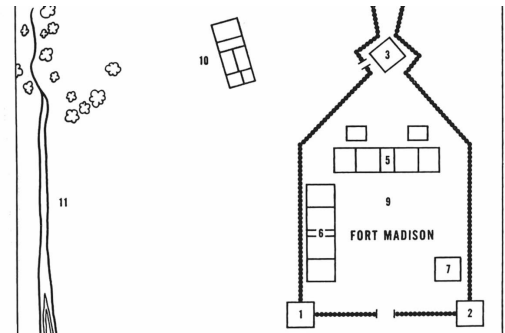
Be sure to register for the Iowa History 101 programs that take place in March, and throughout the rest of the year. Each program is recorded and made **available online**. More information is available at **Iowa History 101**.



Uncommon Ground: Grant Wood and Russell Lee's Divergent View of Iowa
Noon March 9

Image: Lee Mike Maloney and his wife on a farm near Denison, Iowa. Library of Congress.

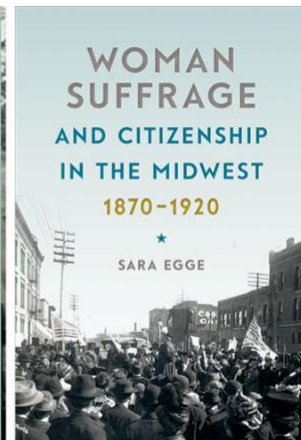
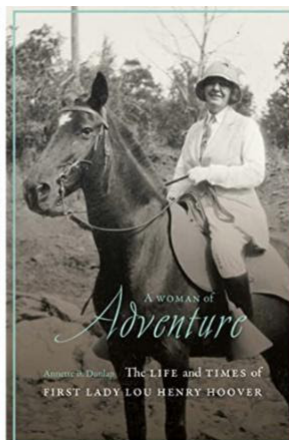
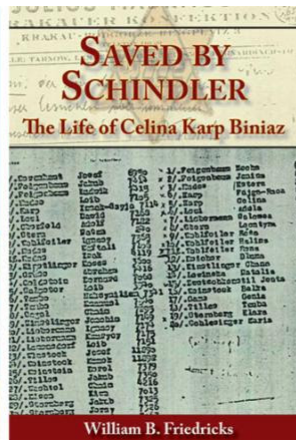
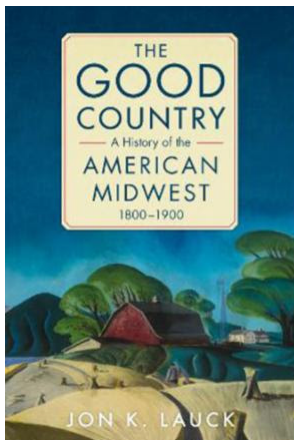
[REGISTER](#)



Fort Madison in Pre-Statehood Iowa: The U.S. Army as a Predecessor to Anglo-American Settlement
Noon March 23

Image: Ft. Madison, 1810. State Historical Society of Iowa

[REGISTER](#)



Iowa History Book Club

Our 2023 [Iowa History Book Club](#) programs explore a number of books related to Iowa history, from the formative years of the **American Midwest** and an Iowan's ties to **Oskar Schindler** to **First Lady Lou Henry Hoover** and the **suffrage movement**.

"The Good Country" by Jon Lauck*

7 p.m. March 30

The first-ever chronicle of the Midwest's formative century, "The Good Country" describes a rich civic culture that prized education, literature, libraries and the arts. ***Iowa History Month Program**

[REGISTER](#)

"Saved by Schindler: The Life of Celina Karp Biniarz" by William B. Friedrichs

7 p.m. May 11

Celina Karp Biniarz was 8 years old when Germans invaded her homeland of Poland in 1939. She landed on Schindler's list and escaped to Iowa.

[REGISTER](#)

"A Woman of Adventure: The Life and Times of First Lady Lou Henry Hoover" by Annette Dunlap

7 p.m. Sept. 7

When World War I began, life changed for Iowan-native Lou Henry Hoover. Her husband, Herbert Hoover, began a political career while she devoted her time to domestic causes and issues.

[REGISTER](#)

"Woman Suffrage and Citizenship in the Midwest, 1870-1920" by Sara Egge

7 p.m. Nov. 30

Uncover the ways midwestern suffragists understood citizenship as an obligation. The suffragists – primarily Yankees from the Northeast – settled in the region and founded libraries, schools, churches and parks.

[REGISTER](#)

More opportunities to learn about Iowa history

Iowa History Research Center

Explore the newly renovated [State Historical Library & Archives Iowa History Research Center](#) at the State Historical Building in Des Moines, now open **9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Wednesday - Friday**. Visitors will find numerous upgrades and improvements and can dive into collections filled with state government records, books and periodicals, newspapers, county records, manuscripts, photographs and more.

Iowa History Collections Catalog

Iowans can also access the **Iowa History Collections Catalog**, a unified, user-friendly online catalog that provides greater access to the state's collection of **more than 200 million pieces of Iowa history**, available to anyone with an internet connection, anywhere in the world.

