

Major Arts Grants Announced

The Department of Cultural Affairs announced nearly \$290,000 in arts grants that create jobs for artists, provide hands-on arts opportunities for children, and enrich the quality of life in communities across Iowa.

There were 34 major grants given to 16 Iowa communities for projects that emphasize service to Iowans, artistic excellence, and solid project planning, and implementation. The arts play a significant role in Iowa's communities by creating business opportunities for Iowans by bringing in tourists from across the country.

The major grants assist a range of programs and educational outreach. They are awarded to schools, individuals, arts organizations, and community organizations across Iowa. They are reviewed in five categories, including artists, arts in education, folk and traditional arts, organizations, and public art.

There were 120 eligible applications requesting just over \$1 million. Each applicant could request up to \$10,000 in matching funds but can receive no more than 50% of the project's total expenses.

Recipients include Ames: Iowa State Center and Reiman Gardens; Cedar Rapids: Opera Theatre, the Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra Association, and Iowa Art Works Inc.; Council Bluffs: Iowa Western Community College; Davenport: Figge Art Museum and the Quad City Symphony Orchestra; Des Moines: Civic Center, Gay Men's Chorus, Science Center of Iowa, and the Subjective Theater Company; Dubuque: Sympathy Orchestra; Indianola: Des Moines Metro Opera; Iowa City: Hancher Auditorium and Riverside Theatre; Marion: All Aboard for Art and the Red Cedar Chamber Music; Mason City: Charles H. MacNider Museum; Mount Vernon: Iowa Choral Directors Association; Pella: Squonk Opera; Sioux City: Symphony Orchestra; Story City: Greater Chamber Connection; and other local artists in Des Moines, Iowa City, and Waterloo.