

The list of 2016 HRDP and Country School grants announced today follows:

### **Cedar Rapids**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Documentary Collections

**Applicant Name:** National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

**Project Title:** Transcribing Oral History Interviews of Iowans of Czech Descent

**Grant:** \$5,000

**Project Summary:** The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library (NCSML) will transcribe 70 oral history interviews from two oral history projects featuring 89 Iowans of Czech descent in nine historically Czech Iowa communities. As the transcripts are made available, NCSML staff will analyze them for their content and will regularly comment about them on the NCSML's blog. Summaries of each interview will be added to the NCSML's Omeka online content management system, which is specifically designed to host digital collections. NCSML will make the project known to local media and organizations within each of the nine historically Czech communities in which the interviews took place.

### **Clarinda**

**Program/Category:** Country Schools/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Nodaway Valley Historical Museum

**Project Title:** Goldenrod Schoolhouse Preservation Project

**Grant:** \$2,875

**Project Summary:** Funding will be used for the restoration and preservation of the Page County Goldenrod Schoolhouse. The schoolhouse is a beloved historic landmark to the entire Southwest Iowa community. The building is used throughout the year as an educational resource for area students and visitors to learn about the days of the country school. This building is fundamental for telling Page County's story. The impact of the funding of this grant would reach all who visit – the schoolhouse educates over 5,000 visitors each year and, without preservation of this resource, many will miss out on this important part of history. Each day the schoolhouse shares its history with all who enter, telling the story of its past.

### **Davenport**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Sacred Heart Cathedral

**Project Title:** Preserving and Restoring Sacred Heart Cathedral

**Grant:** \$50,000

**Project Summary:** Sacred Heart Cathedral sits on one of Davenport's highest hills, a landmark in the Cork Hill neighborhood since 1856. The bell tower stands 165-feet tall, visible throughout Davenport's Mississippi River Valley. Time has eroded the stone, brick and mortar with subsequent water damage emerging on the interior. Patches have prevented more widespread damage, but the need for a more extensive renovation has arrived. The greatest concern exists in the bell tower, the Cathedral's hallmark, whose open-air design has allowed deterioration to the point that it could soon become dangerous. As part of a long-term preservation project, this project will tuck-point stonework, reroof the bell level and repair the wooden gothic fretwork of the bell level.

### **Decorah**

**Program/Category:** Country Schools/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Winneshiek County Historic Preservation Commission

**Project Title:** Highlandville School Interior Plaster/Paint Renovation

**Grant:** \$3,000

**Project Summary:** The Highlandville Schoolhouse Project involves renovation of the interior wall and ceiling surfaces of the building. In its current state the plaster is delaminating in several areas, and severely cracked, chipped, stained and peeling paint is visible over approximately 70 percent of the

surfaces. The requested funds are required for materials (primarily "mud" and paint, and for labor expenses to hire both a carpenter/drywall professional and a professional painting contractor to execute the work). The contractors will provide their own scaffolding and other equipment needed to access the 15-foot-tall walls and ceilings. The community and visitors from across the state continue to acknowledge their appreciation for this National Register site.

### **Denison**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Documentary Collections

**Applicant Name:** The Donna Reed Foundation for the Performing Arts

**Project Title:** Donna Reed Heritage Museum/Archive Storage Upgrade and Collection Survey

**Grant:** \$1,333

**Project Summary:** This grant will enable the Donna Reed Museum/Archive to properly store and organize the vast collection of Donna Reed's personal artifacts and provide proper storage for a growing collection of items relating to the history of her hometown, Denison. The goal is to continue organizing and providing proper archival storage of these collections following established archival procedures. The project will reduce the chance of damage during handling, create and update finding aids for better access by the public, and suggest future exhibits to interpret the collection on the local level through partnerships with other HRDP/Museums and the foundation's website and social media.

### **Des Moines**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Edmundson Art Foundation, Inc.

**Project Title:** Des Moines Art Center I. M. Pei Building – Levitt Auditorium Renovation

**Grant:** \$50,000

**Project Summary:** The Des Moines Art Center will use its funds to renovate Levitt Auditorium in the part of the museum that architect I.M. Pei completed in 1968. Funds will be used to replace worn, unsafe carpet with the same brand/color used in 1968. The primary goal is to maintain the historical integrity of the building. The Art Center will also upgrade lighting and install a new HD projector. The impact will be a vastly improved visitor experience for thousands of attendees, users and presenters, including enhanced safety, better viewing and a more environmentally conscious space. With the majority of educational programs held in Levitt Auditorium, this needed renovation will ensure the Art Center is equipped to serve the community and preserve a historic space.

### **Des Moines**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Museums

**Applicant Name:** Science Center of Iowa

**Project Title:** What On Earth Renovation

**Grant:** \$27,607

**Project Summary:** In the Science Center of Iowa's (SCI) What on Earth (WOE) gallery, visitors have the opportunity to explore the natural history, habitats and animals of Iowa. In this gallery visitors are encouraged to notice changes in nature over time, such as natural life and growth cycles, seasonal changes, and long-term evolutionary and geological change. More than three million people have visited WOE since SCI since opened its downtown Des Moines location in 2005 and the exhibit is showing wear accumulated over the last decade. SCI is working to improve the visitor experience in WOE so that it will make a better contribution to the organization's mission and engage and inspire Iowans along their journey of lifelong learning.

### **Dubuque**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Documentary Collections

**Applicant Name:** Dubuque Community YMCA/YWCA

**Project Title:** Preservation and Archiving of Dubuque YMCA/YWCA Historical Documents and Items

**Grant:** \$920

**Project Summary:** This year, the Dubuque Community YMCA/YWCA will be celebrating its 150th year serving the Dubuque area. It has begun to assemble thousands of historical documents, photos, records and other items that provide a history of this organization, the city and area in general. It will begin to protect these artifacts and create an archive that will be useful to anybody researching the area, organization or people of the community. Requested funds will enable it to organize, secure and properly archive these materials. The items are currently stored in plastic bins and tubs. While they are protected from the elements, they cannot be sorted, and any access risks damage to the artifacts.

### **Dubuque**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Dubuque County Historical Society

**Project Title:** Restoration and Preservation of 2nd Deck of Steamboat William M. Black, Phase 2

**Grant:** \$48,500

**Project Summary:** This project continues ongoing efforts to restore and protect the wooden walkway that encircles the second deck of the National Historic Landmark steamboat William M. Black. Funds will be used to secure the necessary materials and labor to fully restore and preserve the second deck walkway. This proposal is Phase 2 of a multi-phase restoration and preservation project that addresses the removal of deteriorated wood, lead paint assessment and management, floor structure restoration, stabilization and application of a synthetic canvas sealant.

### **Dubuque**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Museums

**Applicant Name:** Dubuque Museum of Art

**Project Title:** Eagle Point Park Designs Preservation and Exhibition

**Grant:** \$14,500

**Project Summary:** The Dubuque Museum of Art will conserve and exhibit a set of historic architectural drawings for Eagle Point Park in Dubuque. The drawings were created by renowned landscape architect Alfred Caldwell. The goals of the project are to: (1) preserve a collection of artifacts that have significance to local and Iowa history; (2) archive and exhibit a substantial number of the drawings for the first time; and (3) tell the story of Alfred Caldwell's unique role in Iowa history and his impact on the field of landscape architecture. The completed project will serve to connect Iowans to the history of a popular cultural and recreational attraction and preserve a piece of Iowa's heritage for future generations.

### **Dubuque**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Steeple Square

**Project Title:** Steeple Square Stained Glass Restoration

**Grant:** \$50,000

**Project Summary:** Steeple Square will continue the complete restoration of the former St. Mary's parish campus through an HRDP-funded stained glass restoration project. This critical restoration will preserve the historical/culture significance of the windows and integrity of the entire historic structure while providing opportunities for local restoration professionals to gain work experience on an important project. The project will advance Steeple Square's mission to transition the deteriorating former church campus into a vibrant downtown hub; strengthen identity and pride in the vulnerable surrounding neighborhoods; and serve as an inclusive model of revitalization for communities across Iowa.

### **Eldridge**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Documentary Collections

**Applicant Name:** Scott County Library System

**Project Title:** North Scott Press Newspaper Preservation and Digitization

**Grant:** \$9,802

**Project Summary:** The North Scott Press has been the newspaper of record for rural and small-town Scott County for the past 48 years. The Scott County Library System intends to preserve and provide access to this valuable resource. These goals will be accomplished by microfilming and creating digital copies of the newspaper beginning in 1968. At the end of the project, the public will be able to access the full run on film and from a searchable website that includes full page scans. The history and vital records of schools, businesses, non-profit organizations and citizens in Iowa's third-most populous county is critical to students and researchers trying to understand the state's history and their own place in the world.

### **Garnavillo**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Documentary Collections

**Applicant Name:** Garnavillo Historical Society

**Project Title:** Completion of Area Historic Newspaper Preservation & Digitization Project

**Grant:** \$690

**Project Summary:** Grant funds will help complete the microfilm and digitization project started in 2014 with selected issues of historic Garnavillo area newspapers that were not available and included in the span of issues previously microfilmed or digitized: selected issues of The Garnavillo Tribune (1916-1932), The Garnavillo Observer (1964-65), The Garnavillo Independent (1907) and Clayton County Journal (1861-1866). The primary goal is to preserve the additional issues and make them widely accessible to users via the internet. The impact of this project for history and genealogy research is considered far-reaching, beyond Garnavillo and Iowa, as the content of the issues will be available on the Internet.

### **Homestead**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Office of the State Archaeologist/University of Iowa

**Project Title:** Investigating the Condition of the Amana Indian Fish Weir

**Grant:** \$18,039

**Project Summary:** The Amana Indian Fish Weir is a well-known historical and cultural landmark. The stone weir is V-shaped and spanned the Iowa River, funneling fish to traps. Mapped in the 1840s, it was likely built by Meskwaki Indians. The weir is significant to the residents of the Amana Colonies, who own the site and used it for recreation. The weir is a symbol of Amana-Meskwaki friendship and is a heritage tourism destination. The V-shaped portion of the weir was last seen in 1988 and no portion of it has been seen since 1999. A 2012 study concluded that the Iowa River drifted away from the weir and it is either buried under silt or destroyed. This project will probe the site to determine if the weir survives and share this information.

### **Iowa City**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** City of Iowa City

**Project Title:** Roof Rehabilitation of Old Settlers' Association of Johnson County Cabins

**Grant:** \$25,000

**Project Summary:** This project is one part of the preservation and rehabilitation of two historic log cabin structures (c. 1889 and 1913) located on a bluff overlooking the Iowa River in Iowa City's City Park. The grant will support rehabilitation of the cabins' roofs, one of the most important and immediately imperative needs for their structural maintenance. The grant will allow the project to maintain a material integrity that is otherwise difficult to achieve by replacing destroyed structural elements with hand-hewn rafters and by using wood shake shingles reminiscent of the original materials. The City Park Cabins will continue to be seen and enjoyed by the community as a visual reminder of a pioneering past.

### **Iowa City**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Documentary Collections

Applicant Name: Office of the State Archaeologist/University of Iowa  
Project Title: Preservation of the Documents Pertaining to Iowa's Archaeological Sites  
**Grant:** \$36,588

**Project Summary:** This project proposes the preservation of 466,361 pages of documents pertaining to archaeological research conducted at 22,232 archaeological sites within the state of Iowa. The documents were produced by numerous researchers beginning in 1955 and are currently housed at the Office State Archaeologist (OSA), University of Iowa (UI). Preservation will be through: (1) digital scanning with the production of a text-searchable ISO-standardized version of the Portable Document Format (PDF/A) specialized for the digital preservation of electronic documents, and (2) microfilm copies in triplicate. All documents will be made readily available to qualified researchers through OSA's I-Sites Pro™ website.

### **Iowa Falls**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Museums  
**Applicant Name:** Hardin County Conservation  
**Project Title:** Calkins Nature Area Museum Displays  
**Grant:** \$40,000

**Project Summary:** Grant funds will be used to purchase and install museum standard protective display cases for a newly donated archaeological collection of Native American artifacts and natural history specimens. The goal is to display, protect, honor and preserve the collection. The project will expand Calkins Nature Area's ability to serve as a regional educational resource and a local tourist destination. This project will improve the educational experience for museum visitors by expanding the knowledge of the cultural and ecological prehistory of Iowa, increase the number of visitors, and enhance tourism choices and dollars to the community.

### **Kalona**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Museums  
**Applicant Name:** Kalona Historical Society  
**Project Title:** Cultural History Using Projectile Points  
**Grant:** \$975

**Project Summary:** The project will consist of a pair of panels interpreting the cultural history of the area. A large wall panel documenting the current understanding of Iowa's Prehistoric Past beginning roughly 13,500 years ago and running up to the mid-1800s. This timeline is a product of the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA). A second part of the display will consist of a smaller case running the length of the larger panel containing projectile points representing each of the prehistoric culture periods defined on the wall panel. The projectile points are from the Kalona area. This interpretive display gives the public an opportunity to gain a more profound appreciation of the depth of human occupation not only in Kalona but eastern Iowa.

### **Keokuk**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Historic Preservation  
**Applicant Name:** Keokuk Union Depot Foundation  
**Project Title:** Keokuk Union Depot Apex Project  
**Grant:** \$43,400

**Project Summary:** The Keokuk Union Depot Foundation will restore the central tower roof apex of the 1891 Burnham & Root-designed Keokuk Union Depot. The upper half of the tall hip roof (apex) was removed c.1960. Other architectural features, including the dormers, corner turrets, copper finials and original clay tiles, were presumably removed at the same time. The apex will be reconstructed on grade and hoisted into place. The work includes reinforcing the superstructure of the original base hip roof and installing improved attic access to facilitate maintenance, new fire separation to isolate the baggage-bunk

attic from the adjacent attics of the waiting room and freight rooms, and the copper ridge, finials and new lightning protection.

### **Marengo**

**Program/Category:** Country Schools/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Rona Wyant

**Project Title:** External Preservation of Maple Grove Schoolhouse in Iowa County, Iowa

**Grant:** \$4,616

**Project Summary:** Over the years, Maple Grove has deteriorated to the point of “do we save it or do we not?” and saving it is the right thing to do. Replacing the existing shingles, repairing damaged boards, and caulking will be done before the structure is sanded, primed and repainted with Sherwin Williams paint. The current windows will be kept but work is needed to put them back into working order. Some hardware will be replaced and a transom above the entrance will be fixed. The final project will bring electricity back to the school house with current electrical standards. A plaque will then be placed on the exterior of the building for anyone to see at any time.

### **Mason City**

**Program/Category:** Country Schools/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** North Iowa Fair Association

**Project Title:** Owen No. 3 Roofing Project

**Grant:** \$5,000

**Project Summary:** The Owen No. 3 Roofing Project funds will replace the school house roof, which currently has a two-foot by two-foot area where moisture is leaking in and the shingles have deteriorated, resulting in structural damage and rotting, exterior to interior. All funding obtained will be used for restoration and preservation by replacing the roof’s wooden shingles and to repair all structural damages. This will enable the schoolhouse to remain a safe, open and enjoyable community attraction. The project aims to continue teaching youth and adults about the educational heritage of this region's country schools. In addition, the schoolhouse serves as an anchor to the popular, interactive Little Farmers Exhibit where children explore agricultural life.

### **Moravia**

**Program/Category:** Country Schools/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Moravia Historical Society

**Project Title:** Relocation of Fairview School

**Grant:** \$5,000

**Project Summary:** Relocation of Fairview School will be done in two stages: (1) Prepare the complex site for the relocation of the Fairview School. HRDP funds will be used for the preparation of the site: land preparation ensuring proper drainage and a foundation/basement (for work/storage area allowing unique building construction to be viewed); and (2) prepare the building for the move, restore floor joists and roof trusses (using local white oak timbers cut locally, ripped and sized at local saw mill to replicate replaced timbers), conduct repairs to ensure the school is structurally sound and safely move the school to the site. Relocation of the 143-year-old school will be a valuable historical addition to the state and community.

### **Mount Vernon**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Cornell College

**Project Title:** King Chapel Seth Thomas Tower Clock Preservation and Restoration Project

**Grant:** \$50,000

**Project Summary:** Cornell’s Seth Thomas Clock Company tower clock will be preserved and restored. The clock is a national treasure, being both the longest running and one of the last of its kind. Its hand-painted scrollwork, high-quality timekeeping features and nearly uninterrupted operation since its

installation in 1882 add to its cultural, historical and financial value. The clock is housed in Cornell's historic King Chapel, a focal point of the campus and the city of Mount Vernon for the past 134 years. Project components include professional cleaning and lubrication, replacing key motion components and refabricating the severely weathered wooden clock faces, hands and missing Roman numerals from the clock dials.

### **Palmyra**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Palmyra Township

**Project Title:** Palmyra Methodist Episcopal Church Assessment, Preservation, and Adaptive Reuse

**Grant:** \$45,522

**Project Summary:** The Palmyra Methodist Episcopal Church has stood as an icon of Warren County history for over 150 years. The primary purpose of this funding is to save this important structure for future generations. This project includes three goals: (1) Upon recommendation of the preservation architect, total and immediate replacement of the decaying roof and building exterior to avoid irreparable damage and complete loss of the building; (2) completion of an architectural evaluation of the structure to provide a comprehensive assessment of the building's condition and determine the infrastructure improvements necessary to render the building safe; and (3) assistance in determining the future steps to renovation and multi-functional, adaptive reuse.

### **Sioux City**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Museums

**Applicant Name:** Siouxland Historical Railroad Association

**Project Title:** RailWalk Heritage Education Trail – Milwaukee Railroad Shops Historic District

**Grant:** \$46,555

**Project Summary:** HRDP grant funds will partially support the costs associated with constructing the RailWalk Heritage Education Trail – a paved three-fourths mile long, 10-foot wide, ADA-compliant heritage education trail at the Milwaukee Railroad Shops Historic District in Sioux City. The RailWalk Heritage Education Trail will consist of 15 interpretive markers and kiosks, and four pullouts for storytelling benches. These trail amenities will support the educational programs of the museum and interpret the history of the site, the location and design of the original buildings and structures, and the work-life of railroad workers once employed at the site. The trail route will follow the original walking footpaths established by the railroad laborers.

### **West Union**

**Program/Category:** Country Schools/Historic Preservation

**Applicant Name:** Friends of Dover #4 School

**Project Title:** Restoration of Dover #4 One Room Country School

**Grant:** \$1,000

**Project Summary:** The funds received from this grant will be used to preserve and restore the interior of Dover #4, a historic one-room rural country school that is on its original site. The goal of this project is to have the school available for Iowa history classes for local schools. The school will also provide a community center for educational and social activities for Dover township. Historic buildings help people develop perceptions of culture and identity. People learn from the past and the accomplishments of ancestors. This historic building is a valuable resource that requires restoration and protection because it is important for the future.

### **Winterset**

**Program/Category:** HRDP/Documentary Collections

**Applicant Name:** Madison County Historical Society

**Project Title:** Research Library Archive Preservation Project

**Grant:** \$10,000

**Project Summary:** The Madison County Historical Society holds in public trust a "research library" of historic document collections, photographs and books. The grant will be used to purchase archival supplies and engage a professional archivist to advise staff and train volunteers. The Research Library Archive Preservation Project (RLAPP) will bring historically significant documents together into one location for safekeeping, where they will be easily accessible to researchers and preserved according to museum industry standards.