

**Weekly News
8/21/09**

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Surprise Announcement—Here's the answer to last week's mystery

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GOVERNOR CULVER ANNOUNCES GRANT WOOD TO BE 'IOWA AWARD' HONOREE

State's highest civilian honor in memory of famous Iowa artist

IOWA CITY –At a morning ceremony at the historic Grant Wood home in Iowa City, Governor Chet Culver announced [that](#) the 2009 “Iowa Award” will be presented in memory of Anamosa-born legendary artist Grant Wood. Wood, who died in 1942 at the age of 50, is best known for his representations of rural Midwestern life. [His](#) masterpiece “American Gothic” is one of the most-viewed works of art in the world.

“Grant Wood’s work continues to speak to countless Iowans and Americans,” said Governor Culver. “Grant Wood is an American icon who stayed true to his Iowa roots. It is my pleasure to announce the 2009 ‘Iowa Award’ in his memory.”

Governor Culver made the announcement of this year’s Iowa Award recipient in Iowa City, where Grant Wood spent much of his life. The award will be officially presented in honor of Grant Wood at a formal ceremony later this fall.

The Iowa Award represents the state’s highest citizen award. The Iowa Centennial Memorial Foundation, which was [established](#) in 1948, created the award to honor past and present Iowans who exemplify the virtues of citizens in our state. Each honoree is selected by the Iowa Centennial Memorial Foundation, which is [composed](#) of the Governor, Treasurer of State, Attorney General, President of the Board of Regents, former Governors who have remained residents [of Iowa](#), and citizen trustees.

Lt. Governor Continues Her Travels

Lt. Governor Patty Judge is traveling Iowa this summer. She has a really fun blog where you can read about and see pictures of her trips at www.traveliowa.blogspot.com. She's in southern Iowa next Wednesday. If you can, take time to stop in to meet her and express your support of arts, history and culture.

Wednesday, August 26

- 8:45 a.m. Hike at Red Haw State Park
24550 U.S. Hwy. 34
Chariton
www.iowadnr.gov/parks/state_park_list/red_haw.html
- 10:15 a.m. Prairie Trails Museum of Wayne County
515 E Jefferson St.
Corydon
www.prairietrilmuseum.org
- Noon Lunch at Continental Hotel
217 North 13th Street
Centerville
www.centerville-ia.com
- 2:30 p.m. Soda Fountain
On the square
Albia
albiachamber.org

IMLS Workshops

From the American Association of Museums (edited for brevity)

IMLS and Congressional Offices to Hold Grant Workshops for Museums and Libraries in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), in conjunction with members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, will hold workshops for potential applicants to its grant programs on **August 27** in Iowa.

Iowa City, Iowa

Hosts: U.S. Senator Tom Harkin and U.S. Representative Dave Loebsack

Place: Old Capitol Museum (Senate Chambers) 21 Old Capitol, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242

Date and Time: August 27, 2009, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

All of the sessions will feature a member of the IMLS staff to provide an overview of IMLS

programs and grant opportunities. Experienced IMLS grant applicants and peer reviewers will provide insights and advice on what makes a successful grant application. Representatives of the state agencies with responsibility for library services will also be on the panels.

All workshops are free of charge. RSVP by e-mailing koconnell@imls.gov or calling the local office of the appropriate member of Congress listed above. Eligible applicants for IMLS programs include not-for-profit, non-federal museums and libraries, and Native American tribes that are conducting museum or library activities.

[Click here](#) to find contact information for your Representatives and Senators.

For more information about AAM's field-wide advocacy for museums visit www.speakupformuseums.org.

Information from the Iowa Tourism Office

The next few items come from the Iowa Tourism Office's E-Traveler Newsletter

Applications for the Flora A. Schmidt Scholarship are now being accepted. This scholarship is available for up to three (3) conference registrations to the Iowa Tourism Conference. The scholarship is intended for people involved in the Iowa tourism industry for five years or less and/or college students majoring in a tourism or tourism-related field of study. Contact Lonie Mezera at lonie.mezera@iowalifechanging.com or 515.725.3087 to request the application form. Deadline is September 18.

REMINDER: Conference materials already online include registration, the silent auction donation form and tourism award nomination form. All can be found in the Partner Information section of www.traveliowa.com. The Conference is set for Wednesday, October 21, through Friday, October 23, at Meskwaki Bingo Casino Hotel in Tama. The room block is filling quickly so if you plan to stay onsite, make your room reservation soon.

REMINDER: Online registration [<http://www.traveliowa.com/travelindustryinformation.aspx>] for the Iowa Tourism Conference is available. Space is limited in some breakout sessions; slots will be reserved on a first come, first serve basis. The Conference is set for Wednesday, October 21, through Friday, October 23, at Meskawki Bingo Casino Hotel in Tama.

Fine Arts Insurance Seminar

This information comes to us through the IMA listserv

The Iowa Registrars Committee is hosting a seminar about fine arts insurance, October 23 at the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art (CRMA). Cost for the seminar is \$15 for museum folks and \$8 for students (cost includes all materials, lunch and refreshments). Two \$50 travel stipends are available. Sponsors include the Midwest Registrars Committee, CRMA, and Robertson

Taylor International Insurance Brokers. A pdf of the registration form is attached and it includes a detailed schedule of the day and information about how to apply for a travel stipend. Questions? Feel free to contact Jennifer Kovarik (jkovarik@vesterheim.org), or Teri Van Dorston (tvandorston@crma.org).

Registration form attached.

Our Growing Listserv!

You guys are doing a great job of signing up for our listserv! We are plugging along, slowly but surely following the Yahoo rules of inviting *only 50 people per day*. We'll get to your name eventually, or you can follow the simple directions below.

To join, please go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/> and search for Iowa_CHAT. You'll see our logo there☺ There is an easy sign in process. You are required to create a yahoo account (if you don't have one) but can then ***select your primary email account*** as the way you want to share information. Please consider joining.

Upcoming meetings

Please let deirdre.giesler@iowa.gov know if you've scheduled your next regional CHAT meeting. We'll announce it in the CHAT Weekly News!

Wow Moment

Wow. I have no wow moment this week. ☹ Please help me out by sending in your Wow moments as they occur, and I'll use them in the CHAT Weekly News.

Have a great week!

--Deirdre