

voices • from • the
prairie

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**Mission
 Statement**

The mission of Humanities Iowa is to promote understanding and appreciation of the people, communities, cultures and stories of importance to Iowa and the nation.



Humanities Iowa is a non-profit organization funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Join other Iowans and support Humanities Iowa. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Humanities Iowa also accepts gifts of stock or securities. To make a donation or receive more information please contact our office at 319-335-4153, at info@humanitiesiowa.org, or through our website at www.humanitiesiowa.org.

Humanities Iowa is having an open call for new board nominations. We welcome nominations for board members at any time. Please call or email with nominations.

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And of course find news and information on speakers, library programs, and other ways to get involved with Humanities Iowa on our home page @
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About the Cover: Bridge and Flood
 © Larry Stone. Turkey River flooding in Elkader, Iowa.

Rivers, Floods, and Living in Iowa

Introducing Humanities Iowa Flood Speakers

Mission: This program will allow communities easy access to humanists and scientists who have thought deeply about the value of waterways and the dangers they present to human communities, as well as how the waterways themselves might be endangered. The program will operate on a speakers bureau model, which nonprofit organizations will use to tailor a program to their own community that will explore how people in Iowa might expect to live by and use waterways that have become increasingly flood-prone.

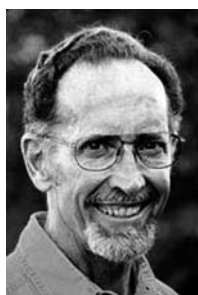
Because this program is a speakers bureau, communities have the flexibility to engage one or more speakers for presentations or panels when and where they wish. While any nonprofit organization in Iowa will be able to use this speakers bureau, we will work especially with organizations in more flood-prone communities to create programs that speak to their particular needs in a variety of formats. In one community, it might be a series of presentations over time, and in another a one-time event involving a panel of scholars in conversation with one another and the audience.

Meet Our Flood Speakers



Ecologist **Connie Mutel** is an archivist and historian of science and engineering at the University of Iowa's Institute for Hydraulic Research, home of the Iowa Flood Center. She has written about Iowa's natural history and environmental change issues for many years, and is active in efforts to preserve Iowa's remaining natural areas and native plants.

Her most recent books include *The Emerald Horizon: The History of Nature in Iowa* (2008), Iowa's first comprehensive natural and environmental history, and *A Watershed Year: Anatomy of Iowa's 2008 Floods* (2010). This edited volume on the science of Iowa's 2008 floods has been called the most comprehensive analysis of Iowa's largest natural disaster. She is also the author of *Fragile Giants: A Natural History of the Loess Hills* (1989), which was instrumental in focusing attention on restoration of western Iowa's unique ecological features, and editor of *The Tallgrass Restoration Handbook* (2005), which has been used extensively for restoring woodlands and prairies throughout the Midwest. Connie lives in rural Iowa City with her husband and dog.



Larry Stone's boyhood fascination with the creeks and woodlots on his family's southern Iowa farm brings authenticity to his nature photography, writing, and lectures. With degrees in biology and journalism, he understands the natural world and can communicate the wonders of outdoor experiences. During a 25-year career with the *Des Moines Register*, from 1972 to 1997, Larry traveled throughout Iowa, sharing stories and photos of the state's natural treasures.

His work also has appeared in *The Iowan*, *Iowa Natural Heritage*, *Pheasants Forever*, *Our Iowa* and other magazines. Larry has received awards from the Iowa Wildlife Federation, the Iowa Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Iowa Sportsmen's Federation, the Iowa Division of the Izaak Walton League of America, the Association of Earth Science Editors, the International Regional Magazine Association, and the Outdoor Writers Association of America. He is a member of the Clayton

County Conservation Board. Larry and his wife, Margaret, live near Elkader, where they manage woodlands, native prairie, and reconstructed prairie on a farm along the Turkey River. Larry also operates a small business specializing in natural history books.



Frederick L. Kirschenmann is a professor in the ISU Department of Religion and Philosophy, the Distinguished Fellow for the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture at Iowa State University, and

president of Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture in Pocantico Hills, New York. He is a board member for the Food Alliance, Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area and the Nature Institute. He oversees management of his family's 3,500-acre certified organic farm in south central North Dakota.

He holds a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Chicago, and has written extensively about ethics and agriculture. He has held numerous appointments, including the USDA's National Organic Standards Board and the National Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production operated by the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts.

In April 2010, the University Press of Kentucky published a book of Kirschenmann's essays, *Cultivating an Ecological Conscience: Essays from a Farmer Philosopher*, which collects his writing on farming, philosophy, and sustainability. He has published articles in other books including *Farm Aid: A Song for America*, *Agroecosystems Analysis* and *Sustainable Agroecosystem Management*.

In 2001, Kirschenmann received the Seventh Generation Research Award from the Center for Rural Affairs for his work in sustainable food and farming systems. He was also named a 2002 Leader of the Year in Agriculture by *Progressive Farmer* publications.



Ron Deiss is a historic archaeologist and historian with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District. He earned degrees in anthropology (B.A.) and historic archaeology (M.S.) at Illinois State University. He has over 30 years of professional experience and is a member of the Register of Professional Archaeologists, Society of Historical Archaeology, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Association of Iowa Archaeologists, Iowa Archeological Society, and Illinois Archaeological Survey.

His career in the United States includes field work in the Midwest, Southeast, Northwest, and East and has resulted in over 50 papers presented at professional meetings and over 100 requested presentations at clubs, meetings, and other organizations. His areas of expertise include cultural resource management, environmental assessment, environmental impact, National Register of Historic Places eligibility, historic property management, prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, and architectural sites.



David Hamilton was born in Illinois and grew up mostly in central Missouri. His family farmed in the Missouri River bottoms, where he had an early and intimate knowledge of floods. He has lived in Iowa City since 1975 and has experienced several more floods since childhood.

He holds degrees from Amherst College and the University of Virginia, and is professor of English at the University of Iowa. He taught in Colombia for two early post-graduate years, and spent a year in Spain as a Fulbright Professor. He edited *The Iowa Review* for over thirty years. His books include *Deep River: A Memoir of a Missouri Farm* (2001) and *Ossabaw*, a volume of poems (2006).



Laura Rigal is associate professor of American studies and English at the University of Iowa, where she has been teaching since 1997. She earned

her Ph.D. in English at Stanford University. She has published widely in the fields of 18th- and 19th-century American history and culture, with a special emphasis on the cultural history of U.S. industrialization and national expansion west. Her teaching includes such subjects as American Gothic literature, the “culture of nature” in the United States, environmental criticism, and technology and American culture.

She is the author of *The American Manufactory: Art, Labor, and the World of Things in the Early Republic* and is currently working on a book entitled *Forgetting Ralston Creek: The Environmental History of an Urban Waterway*. This book tells the history of the founding and development of Iowa City from the point of view of Ralston Creek, one of the countless urban and small-town creeks that drain into the Iowa River, and from there into the Mississippi and to the Gulf of Mexico. Ralston Creek flows virtually everywhere in Iowa City, where some 65 bridges cross its many tributaries and two major branches. *Forgetting Ralston Creek* analyzes how urban creeks are “forgotten” or viewed as dirty, dangerous, and troublesome—prone to flooding, or a mere ditch for waste, despite their centrality to the human communities that developed and thrived because of their water, their flow, and even their flooding.



Robert Sayre taught in the University of Iowa English department from 1965 to 1998. His specialties were American autobiography and American

Indian literature. With Professor John Huntley, he also taught the University’s first class in Afro-American literature. His book *The Examined Self: Benjamin Franklin, Henry Adams and Henry James* was the first modern study of American autobiography. He won a Guggenheim Fellowship to do his study of Thoreau and the American Indians.

On retiring he began to do more travel and environmental writing, eventually editing a book of essays by authorities on the Iowa landscape, *Take the Next Exit*. His essay “Iowa’s Lost Lakes,” included in the book, is a short history of agricultural drainage in Iowa and its enormous impact on the land and its waters. He also edited a collection of essays written for a conference on paintings and photographs of the American prairie, *Recovering the Prairie*. His recent essays have been in response to the 2008 floods, including “The Dam: Cause or Cure” (*Watershed Year*, Cornelia Mutel, ed., 2010) and “Learning the Iowa River” (*The Iowa Review*, Fall, 2009).



Lisa Knopp grew up near the Mississippi River in Burlington and Keokuk. She is the author of four collections of essays: *Field of Vision* (1996)

and *Flight Dreams: A Life in the Midwestern Landscape* (1998) were published by the University of Iowa Press; *The Nature of Home* (2002) and *Interior Places* (2008) were published by the University of Nebraska Press. Her essays have appeared in numerous literary quarterlies, and six have been listed as “notable essays” in the *Best American Essays* series (1990, 1994, 2001, 2002, 2008, and 2010).

Currently, Lisa is completing a collection of essays called *Three Rivers: Journeys and Junctions*, about the Mississippi, Missouri, and Platte rivers. Included in this collection are essays about Mississippi River catfish lore; Muscatine’s pearl button industry and current efforts to restore mussel populations in the Mississippi; hiking at Effigy Mounds National Monument in northeastern Iowa; Henry Lewis’s Mississippi River paintings; the devastating effects of the 2008 Mississippi River flood; fishing at Boyer Chute, a recently restored side channel on the Missouri; the various forms of music associated with the Missouri; efforts to grow ancient varieties of Pawnee corn and watermelon at the Great Platte

River Road Archway near Kearney, Nebraska; and a celebration of the sandhill cranes that stage on the central Platte.



Dr. Larry J. Weber is Edwin B. Green Chair in Hydraulics, professor of civil and environmental engineering, and director of the Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research (IIHR)—Hydrosience & Engineering at The University of Iowa. Dr. Weber oversees the three major areas that comprise IIHR: water and air resources, environmental hydraulics, and fluid mechanics. Dr. Weber serves as a science panel member of the Upper Mississippi River Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program charged with developing an adaptive ecosystem management plan, and he was appointed a member of the Governor’s Water Resources Coordinating Council. He is co-founder of the Iowa Flood Center and leads a research program focused on river mechanics, river restoration, watershed management and mathematical modeling. **h**

Humanities Iowa Flood Speakers

A River Guide Among Us

—Steven Semken

A conversation with **Patrick Nunnally** quickly moves in multiple directions including, but not limited to facts, myths, watersheds, erosion, and river literature. Each way of knowing a river plays a vital role and before long you understand that Patrick Nunnally is moved and immersed in all things water—much like a good river guide who is able to read the flow of water, predict eddies, spot overhangs, steer clear of submerged logs, and then ease you to the perfect sand bar. Nunnally is a river guide of the highest sort, he guides communities and cultures, exploring the questions of our times: how can we best live with water in our day and age? What can we learn from recurring floods, how is the climate changing, what is the new “normal” with rivers, what can we decipher from the breaking of dams? It becomes evident, while listening to Nunnally talk, that there are no easy answers. What is clear is that the best ideas regarding positive change will emerge from the graceful synthesis of many ways of thinking, will come about only by utilizing many sources

“Rivers represent perhaps the most complex biological and physical systems in the world.”

—Institute on the Environment

In 2010 Humanities Iowa sponsored over 125 public history programs across the state—programs that showcased Iowa’s wealth of home grown knowledge and talent to over 4,500 people. Be a part of history! Make a gift to HI—mail us your check, or make your contribution through our secure website, HumanitiesIowa.org. Thank you for your support!

of information. The Institute on the Environment, where Nunnally is the coordinator of the River Life partnership, says, “Rivers represent perhaps the most complex biological and physical systems in the world.” Thankfully, Patrick Nunnally is up to the task of complex problem solving.

As with many, Pat could tell a story or two of living near the Cumberland River and a small creek nearby in his homeland of Tennessee, as a child, but really, it wasn’t until he worked on the “Expedition to the Fourth Coast,” produced by Bill Morrish and Catherine Brown at the University of Minnesota in 1990 that he really found his calling. “The Expedition introduced students, journalists, designers, and all kinds of other folks to the ways in which river cities meet the river as spatial forms. This work predated, or at least was contemporary with, very early work on riverfront redevelopment and revitalization, he explains.

Nunnally emphasizes how important it is that we consider all sides of the future of river work. He cites the Army Corps of Engineers developing two-hundred-year visions and how the Corps is actively soliciting the views of a broad and diverse array of interested parties. He points out that in many ways dams are only in the experimental stages, since we've only used them as a way of trying to tame rivers for relatively few years. He also stresses out how vital it is to really know the science of rivers. In this regard he recommended the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation's work on water, especially how we deal with what is a now being thought of as the new "normal" regarding floods.

It was good to hear Nunnally speak on the narrative of place. He spoke of how young children these days may view rivers as strong, damaging mythic creatures—flowing fast and wide, resulting in danger and destruction. Patrick Nunnally recognizes the elaborate issues before us. He understands that rivers are many things. They carry our drinking water, for example, and provide us with power. We must have water for food and transportation and much more. How well we learn to balance and respect water and the variables regarding water quality, climate, rainfall, and riverbanks, will really explain the story of who and how we live in the Midwest. **h**

Flood and River Resources

A sampling of resources.

National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium—Dubuque, Iowa
www.mississippirivermuseum.com

The Iowa Review

Volume 39, Number 2: Fall 2009
A fascinating collection of flood related writing.

Books recommended by Patrick Nunnally

- River Notes*, Barry Lopez
- Goodbye to a River*, John Graves
- Up on the River*, John Madson
- The River Reader*, John Murray, editor
- Mostly Mississippi*, Harold Speakman
- Mississippi Writings*, Mark Twain

A Watershed Year

Anatomy of the Iowa Floods of 2008
Cornelia Mutel, editor

Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

www.inhf.org
Especially the articles: *Iowa Floods: the 'new normal'?* and *New Policies for the 'new normal'*

Institute on the Environment

<http://environment.umn.edu>



As the coordinator for the Institute on the Environment's River Life program, **Pat Nunnally** works to establish lasting relationships between the University of Minnesota and communities engaged in riverfront revitalization along the Mississippi River.

In the past two decades, Nunnally has developed a unique practice as a consulting historian, communications manager, and interpretive planner, with a focus on rivers, trails, and scenic

byways. He has organized several events and conferences with a Mississippi River connection, and has presented his work at numerous academic and professional meetings. He's also worked with public agencies and private firms on many planning projects for culturally sensitive sites.

Nunnally's writings have appeared in a variety of history journals. His latest published work is a chapter in the book, *Grand Geographical Excursions* (University of Iowa Press). In the book, Nunnally examines how participants in the 1854 Grand Excursion viewed the Mississippi River and its valley as they traveled by boat from the Quad Cities to St. Paul, Minnesota.

Since 1999, Nunnally has served on the University of Minnesota faculty, teaching classes in landscape planning and urban studies. He holds a master's degree and a doctorate in American studies from the University of Iowa, a master's degree in English from Vanderbilt University, and a master's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Minnesota. **h**

We're Pleased to Welcome Four New Board Members



George Barlow is a native Californian who received his B.A. in English from California State University in 1970. He is the recipient of a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship and is a graduate of the University

of Iowa's Writers' Workshop, earning an M.F.A. in 1972 and an M.A. in American Studies in 1992. He was a Ford Foundation Advanced Study Fellow in 1972–1973 and has taught at the University of California–Berkeley, DeAnza College in Cupertino, and Mount Mercy College in Cedar Rapids. Currently, he is an associate professor of English and American studies at Grinnell College.

He published his first book of poems in 1974 and has continued to publish poetry in magazines and anthologies. His second collection of poems was selected for the National Poetry Series in 1981. In 2000, he and two other Iowa poets were featured readers at the Des Moines National Poetry Festival. Professor Barlow has twice served on the Iowa Poet Laureate nomination committee.



Graciela Caneiro-Livingston, Ph.D., is dean of undergraduate studies at Clarke University. She chaired the college's Academic Advising Committee, is a member and past-chair of the Retention Committee, and sits on the Retention Staffing Committee. Previously, Caneiro-Livingston

served as a faculty member in the college's Spanish department and was Clarke's study abroad coordinator. She continues to hold the rank of associate professor of Spanish.

Professionally, she is a member of the National Academic Advisors Association and its professional development committee. She is also a past-member of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, the Modern Language Association, and the Society of Spanish and Spanish-American Studies.

In the community, Dr. Caneiro-Livingston is a volunteer at the Multicultural Family Center in Dubuque and has served as an interpreter for the Dubuque

County Sheriff's Office, the Dubuque Public Defender's Office, and other area organizations. Dr. Caneiro-Livingston earned a B.A. degree from the Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, in Spain, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Colorado–Boulder.



Sam Mulgrew was born and raised in Dubuque. There he attended Wahlert High School and Loras College. He also attended Hunter College in New York City and has a B.A. degree in intellectual history. He

worked in the financial sector in New York City and for 12 years was a rancher in Jackson County. He returned to Dubuque to serve as the executive director of the Four Mounds Foundation. He founded Mineral Crossing Retreat Center and is currently the general manager of Trappist Caskets at New Melleray Abbey in Peosta. He has served on boards and committees of arts agencies and museums, and is a former board member of the Jackson County Historical Society. He is married and has two daughters.



Sally Phelps is a lifelong resident of northwest Iowa. She is a native of Forest City, but moved to Spencer when she was 12. She graduated from the University of South Dakota with a B.A. in science, specializing in medical technology. She also did special course training at the University of Iowa.

Ms. Phelps is active in the Spencer civic community, serving formerly as president of the local elementary parent teacher association and the YMCA swim team. She is active in the First Congregational Church in Spencer. She is vice president of the Spencer Community Schools Foundation.

Currently, she is the Child Health Specialty Clinics service coordinator for the Spencer Regional Center, a division of the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. She specializes in service and care for children with special health needs from birth to age three. She is a proud mother of four children, all of whom live in Iowa. **h**



**Meet
Fiona Valentine
Humanities
Iowa's New
President**

HI: What inspires you the most about the humanities in Iowa?

Fiona: I am inspired by the “human ties” that are at the core of the subject matter. Whether it’s history, poetry, literature, or film, or whatever else we may include, the humanities are not dry fields of study, but a celebration of that which makes us human.

HI: What role do the humanities play in our everyday lives as Iowans?

Fiona: The humanities tell the story of Iowa’s people and places. They help us understand who we are, where we have come from, and where we may be going.

Many of the projects that Humanities Iowa has funded, or initiated, during my years as a grant recipient and then as a board member explore the role of place in people’s identity. For example, a couple of years ago, Humanities Iowa purchased the rights to create a multi-media exhibition of Peter Feldstein and Stephen Bloom’s book, *The Oxford Project: Who We Are*. The book and the exhibition were an amazing meditation on the interaction between place and personality and how that evolves over time.

Fiona Valentine, of Sioux City, is the Coordinator of Public Relations at Western Iowa Tech Community College (WIT); coordinator of WIT’s Institute for Lifelong Learning for older adults and residency programs featuring visiting artists and scholars. Ms. Valentine is a former development officer for private and non profit organizations in the Greater Siouxland area; former Director of Public Affairs and Special Events for Northwestern University’s School of Communication; former college instructor, Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College, UK; B.A. (Sociology) Manchester University; M.Phil. (Sociology), Durham University; author of *A Study of the Female Office Worker* (Macmillan: St. Martin’s Press, 1979); author of numerous articles on film, travel and other topics for local, regional, and national publications. **h**

Flood Thoughts

with Larry Stone

Desperation, as volunteers pile sandbags in a futile attempt to hold back the surge. Awe, at the incomprehensible expanse of water stretching across the valley. The heartache, of seeing people’s homes washed away, or buried in silt. Repugnance, for the slime and goo that suck at your boots as you help shovel out a neighbor’s house after the water has receded.

A flood assaults your mind, your body, your senses. And you never forget the smell: that stale, moldy, earthy essence that hangs in the spray over the churning brown water. It permeates your hair, your clothing, your consciousness. That unique stench forever says, “flood.”

To experience a flood drains you, exhausts you—emotionally as well as physically.

But what about your friends and neighbors whose lives and possessions have been torn apart? Must they endure such flooding again...and again?

Why do rivers repeatedly pound our communities? On the Turkey and Volga rivers, near my home in Clayton County, I lose track as I recall the floods of 1990, 1991, 1993, 1999, 2004, 2008. (Let’s see; did I forget some?)

Those recurring torrents could be trying to tell us something about what we’re doing to our land. As we bulldoze more trees and pastures, tile more fields, plant more corn (and even soybeans!) on our erodible northeast Iowa hills, and pave more parking lots, why are we surprised when more water runs off to swell our creeks and rivers? When that water overflows onto the floodplains?

Perhaps we’ve altered the landscape too much? We’ve planted three-fourths of our state into two crops: corn and beans. Most of these harvested fields lie barren and lifeless from November through April—at least half the year.

Shouldn’t we at least consider another model of agriculture? Some progressive farmers are putting back perennial crops, which hold the water (and the soil!) in place on the land. Grass-fed livestock could help reverse the trend toward more annual grain crops grown on erodible fields.

What about our cities? Why do we insist on building in the floodplains? Can’t we begin to refocus on the uplands, and to encourage developments where the rain soaks into lawns and permeable parking lots, rather than being shunted away into a storm sewer?

Will we learn from our tragedies? Can we finally stop fighting natural forces? Might we yet aspire to Aldo Leopold’s vision of living in harmony with the land? **h**

Humanities Iowa Events

For up-to-date event information check the calendar on our website.

December

Saturday, December 4, 1:30 PM

Lisa Ossian: The Early Depression Dilemmas of Rural Iowa, October 1929 to November 1932

Carl & Mary Koehler History Center, 615 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA

January

Tuesday, January 20, 7 PM

Layton Zbornik: Juke Boxes, Pool Halls and Ducktails

Cresco Public Library, 320 N Elm St, Cresco, IA

Friday, January 28, 6 PM

Mary Swander: Discussions, Readings, and Maybe a Banjo
Iowa City/Johnson County Senior Center, 28 S. Linn St, Iowa City, IA

February

Tuesday, February 8, 6 PM

Layton Zbornik: Juke Boxes, Pool Halls and Ducktails

Hudson Public Library, 401 5th St, Hudson, IA

Tuesday, February 22, 7 PM

Denny Rehder: Grass Between the Rails

Independence Public Library, 805 1st St E, Independence, IA

Friday, February 25, 1 PM

Galín Berrier: The Underground Railroad in Iowa

Waukee Public Library, 950 Warrior Ln, Waukee, IA

March

Friday, March 4, 10 AM

Martin Kelly: Hollywood Cowboys

Burlington Public Library, 210 Court St, Burlington, IA

Saturday, March 5, 10 AM

Lisa Ossian: The Home Fronts of Iowa, 1940-45

Ames Public Library, 515 Douglas Ave, Ames, IA

Sunday, March 27, 2 PM

Tom Milligan: Grant Wood: Prairie Rebel

English Valleys History Center, 108 N. Main St, North English, IA

April

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Roy R. Behrens: Remembering Iowa's Buffalo Bill: Never Missed and He Never Will

Jester Park Lodge, 11407 NW Jester Park Dr, Granger, IA

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Living History Farms Historical Interpreter: A Year in the Life of a Prairie Family

Hoyt Sherman Place, 1501 Woodland Ave, Des Moines, IA

Thursday, April 21, 2011

Rich Tyler: Your Grampa and Gramma's Farm

Carl & Mary Kochler History Center, 615 1st Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA

Library Reading and Discussion Series:

Tuesday, December 7, 7 PM

"An American Experience"
The Devil in the White City, by Erik Larson

Led by Allison McNesse
James Kennedy Public Library, 320 1st Ave. E., Dyersville, Iowa

Grant Events

Sunday, December 12, 2 PM

Country School: One Room – One Nation (film screening)
Ohnward Fine Arts Center, 1215 East Platt Street, Maquoketa, Iowa

Thursday, February 24, 7 PM

Peace through Corn (play)
Lekberg Hall, Simpson College, 701 North C Street Indianola, IA

Tuesday, March 8, 4 PM

Evelyn Birkby lecture
Simpson College's West Des Moines Campus, Century Building II, 1415 28th St., West Des Moines, IA

Monday, April 11, 7 PM

Hollowing Out the Middle: The Rural Brain Drain and What It Means for America
Des Moines Public Library, 1000 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA

Now Showing on Humanities Iowa YouTube



On the Fly

Humanities Iowa Voices from the Prairie: The Annual Iowa Writers' Celebration 2010 featured David Plowden, essayist and renowned documentary photographer of small towns, farmlands, and steam engines. Mr. Plowden appeared in Sioux City, Iowa, on Thursday, October 14 at 6:30 PM at Cargill Auditorium at Western Iowa Tech Community College, in which this video took place. Watch @ www.youtube.com/humanitiesiowa

a joint project of Iowa City UNESCO City of Literature and Humanities Iowa. *On the Fly* is a series of video interviews with nationally known writers who travel to Iowa City. This project premiered with Bo Caldwell, author of *The Distant Land of My Father*; Antonya Nelson, author of short stories and three novels; Literature professor and fiction writer, Eduardo Halfon; and Salvadoran novelist and short story writer, Horacio Castellanos Moya. Watch @ www.youtube.com/humanitiesiowa

Grants Awarded Since August 2010

continued from back page

Iowa City

Recipient: University of Iowa Department of Cinema and Comparative Literature
Amount: \$600
Project: Tolstoy and Chekhov Celebration

Keokuk

Recipient: Keokuk Area Convention

and Tourism Bureau
Amount: \$1,812
Project: Bald Eagle Appreciation Days

Ottumwa

Recipient: Indian Hills Community College
Amount: \$5,000
Project: Bridges to Diversity

Pella

Recipient: Central College

Amount: \$500
Project: Residency with Ellen Bryant Voigt

Recipient: Central College
Amount: \$7,000
Project: Central College Writers Reading Series

Rock Island

Recipient: CommUniversity, Inc.

Amount: \$4,000
Project: 32nd Annual Celebration of Lifelong Learning

Sioux City

Recipient: Great Plains Radio Theatre Project
Amount: \$300
Project: The Mercury Theatre on the Air

Washington

Recipient: Washington Free Public Library
Amount: \$5,000
Project: Native American Art & Artifacts

Washington, D.C.

Recipient: Middle East Policy Council
Amount: \$6,500
Project: Understanding the Middle East and Islam



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Grants Awarded Since August 2010

Cedar Falls

Recipient: University of Northern Iowa
Amount: \$8,000
Project: Costumes as Performance and Activism

Cedar Rapids

Recipient: African American Museum of Iowa
Amount: \$11,282
Project: Unconditional Loyalty: African Americans in the Military

Recipient: Linn County Historical Society
Amount: \$6,564

Project: Main Streets of Linn County

Recipient: Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

Amount: \$1,000
Project: China: Insights Lecture Series

Clinton

Recipient: YWCA Clinton
Amount: \$3,000
Project: Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

Coralville

Recipient: Johnson County Historical Society

Amount: \$10,000
Project: The Only One: Being a Minority in Iowa

Decorah

Recipient: Pepperfield Project
Amount: \$7,200
Project: Creating a Sustainable Decorah

Recipient: Luther College
Amount: \$3,000
Project: The Luther College History Walk

Des Moines

Recipient: Iowa Department for the Blind

Amount: \$14,975
Project: History of Blindness in Iowa

Recipient: Des Moines Public Library Foundation
Amount: \$7,500
Project: AViD 2011

Recipient: Drake University
Amount: \$500
Project: Urban Youth in China Exhibit

Elk Horn

Recipient: Danish Immigrant Museum
Amount: \$7,000
Project: Danish-

American Missions Here and Abroad

Fairfield

Recipient: Maasdam Barn Preservation Committee
Amount: \$10,000
Project: Maasdam Barns Exhibits

Hiawatha

Recipient: Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center
Amount: \$1,000
Project: 2010 Cedar Rapids Area Environmental Film Festival

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