

CHRIS KRAMER, DIRECTOR

Iowa Arts Council Board of Directors Special Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, 2022
10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Marion Chamber of Commerce
1070 7th Avenue
Marion, IA 52302

Video Conference Information

Join online: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81186532352>

Or join via telephone: 1-312-626-6799
Meeting ID: 811 8653 2352

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
 - A. Welcome
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Review Meeting Agenda
- II. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. June 9, 2022
- III. Report from Chair**
 - A. Outgoing Board Member Acknowledgements
 - B. Next Board Meeting - November 3 at 10:00 a.m., Mason City
- IV. Report from Department Director**
 - A. Strategic Plan + Updates
 - B. Celebrate Iowa Gala
- V. Report from the Iowa Cultural Coalition**
- VI. Report from Division Administrator**
- VII. Board Discussion**
- VIII. Community Updates**
- IX. Public Comment**

A public comment period will be held at 11:50 a.m. Advance notice to Board Administrator Sarah Florian (sarah.florian@iowa.gov or 515-281-5773) is encouraged, but all public comments will be heard.
- X. Adjournment – Regular Meeting**
- XI. Special Meeting and Community Tour**
 - A. Noon - 1:30 p.m.: Special Meeting and Discussion. Lunch provided.
Location: Goldfinch Tap + Eatery, 740 10th St, Marion
 - B. 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.: Community Tour

CHRIS KRAMER, DIRECTOR

Iowa Arts Council Board of Directors Meeting

June 9, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: Robin Anderson, Amber Danielson, Donna Dostal, Jennifer Dutcher, Karen Hoyt, Akwi Nji (arrived at 10:17 a.m.), Andre Perry, Jaron Rosisen, Frank Sposeto

Board Members Present on Zoom/Phone: Michelle Hargrave, John Mayne, Claudia Rivera

Board Members Absent: Brandon Paulsen

Staff Present: DCA Director Chris Kramer; Arts Division Administrator David Schmitz; Program Manager Jon Berg; Senior Program Manager Veronica O'Hern (Zoom); Program Manager Jennie Knoebel (Zoom); Program Manager Lindsay Keast (Zoom); and Board Administrator Sarah Florian

Call to Order

Welcome

Rosien called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Rosien shared that he was not successful in primary run for state house, but felt his time as chair of this board has been successful because of the good work of the entire board. Rosien shared that his term, as well as three other board member's terms, are expiring. Kramer shared her gratitude for Rosien's work as chair and his leadership in his community. Schmitz shared his gratitude for Rosien's tenure of service.

Schmitz introduced that Vice Chair Danielson is willing to step in and serve as the incoming Chair.

Jaron motioned to nominate Amber Danielson as the Chair of the Iowa Arts Council Board of Directors. Anderson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Roll Call

Florian called the roll and determined a quorum was present.

Review Meeting Agenda

The agenda was reviewed. No changes were made.

Approval of Minutes

Anderson moved to approve the March 22, 2022 Minutes. Sposeto seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Report from Chair

Danielson shared that the next board meeting will be held on September 13, 2022 in Marion and acknowledged Hoyt's involvement in the upcoming meeting. Danielson extended an additional welcome to Arts Midwest.

Report from Department Director

Kramer welcomed Torrie Allen from Arts Midwest and gave an introduction to the Iowa Arts Council Board of Directors. We've been working on creative placemaking and quality of life initiatives, so we were pleased with the

Destination Iowa announcement by Governor Reynolds, a \$100 million investment in infrastructure focused on these areas. The Iowa Economic Development Authority is managing the program and field questions now. Additionally, a \$20 million grant program for nonprofits was added. Please reach out to staff with any questions you may have. During the Legislative Session, the Community Attraction and Tourism grants that have been historically funded at the \$5 million level, have been increased to \$10 million. These are through Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Funds. The Iowa Great Places program was funded again at \$1 million and are currently vetting applications for new designations.

Last week, the Department of Cultural Affairs was in Mason City, as well as Clear Lake in North Iowa, for the Preserve Iowa Summit. The event included 200 leaders from across the state as well as amazing projects that received recognition. Kramer thanked Anderson for her part in this professional development opportunity and also recognized the realized efforts and projects in Mason City. Kramer also mentioned the trip to the Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake; during the pandemic we hosted the Secretary of Interior for an official visit in conjunction with the National Historic Landmark program.

The Iowa Arts Summit will be held this summer in August.

We've wrapped up the strategic planning process and we look forward to the continued work on these priorities. Kramer shared the efforts in the leadership development priority, which includes the Creativity and Innovation Taskforce and a leadership cohort for small to midsize organizations.

Kramer also shared an update on the Field of Dreams project, which has a project budget of \$25-30 million which will be spent in Iowa. A PA Bootcamp was held recently in conjunction with the project. The project will be a seven episode television type series streamed on NBC Universal products, including Peacock. Rosien asked what category this series will be. Kramer shared this will be a drama and a prequel to the film.

Kramer then moved into sharing a Legislative Session update. Additionally, Kramer encouraged board members to reach out to elected officials and invite them to attend what is going on in their respective communities, which dovetails with the Iowa Cultural Coalition's efforts. As mentioned before, the Iowa Great Places program was funded again; YMCA grant update; Historic Resource Development Program grants; the Historic Preservation Tax Credits update. At the Federal level, the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities did pass slight increases in their budgets; 40% of NEA budget goes to states and regions and 60% is available for direct grants. We are happy to assist in any way that we can. On the NEH side, we became the interim council two years ago and has provided additional funding; we will have at least one more year with funding as the interim humanities council.

Anderson added that candidates for elected office are also important to reach out to at this time to share the impact of arts and culture. Kramer echoed this at the congressional level as well. Also, if you are interested in having the Governor come to your community, please let us know and we can work with you.

Report from the Iowa Cultural Coalition

Bergren shared this meeting is her last official duty as the President of the Iowa Cultural Coalition (ICC). The goal of ICC is to organize advocacy across the state. More specifically, the three pillars of the organization are to bring awareness that arts and culture attract and retain talent; arts and culture promotes economic development; and, arts and culture build strong Iowa communities. Earlier this year, the ICC issued it's first public investment report showing the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs funding awards across Iowa Senate and House districts. 49 arts organizations and chambers of commerce requested copies of this report for their districts; this report is available on ICC's website. Individual reports were also sent to every Iowa senator and representative showing the public investment in their own district. The ICC has annual meetings with Senator Grassley and Senator Ernst. The ICC social media account reaches approximately 1,200 people, which has grown to this number over the last three years. The ICC has a monthly newsletter.

Rosien echoed Bergren's note about the report.

Bergren shared a brief update about her efforts in Clarinda.

Report from Division Administrator

Schmitz encouraged board members to continue to review board meeting packets and the Iowa Arts Council newsletters. He highlighted the NEA's increase in support, noting our state award is increasing from approximately \$709,000 to \$751,000. Schmitz shared that this demonstrates arts advocacy at work and echoed the arts advocacy points already made during the meeting.

Schmitz then gave an update on the current grant cycle, for which we received more than 200 applications in total. Schmitz highlighted the quarterly grant opportunities this year including Artist Catalyst grants, School Arts Experience grants, and Creative Places Project grants. Grant decisions will be released in late June.

The Iowa Arts Council hosted a series of Meet the Artist events in April and May, in conjunction with the Iowa Artist Fellowship program. Recordings of these events are located on our department YouTube channel, which Schmitz encouraged board members to explore. Schmitz then shared a more in depth overview of the fellowship program.

Schmitz shared that this is the fourth year of the Greenlight Grants program, in partnership with Produce Iowa, which continues to grow.

Schmitz shared an update from the Humanities partnership, which included a note that we are closing out one award and have good news about additional funding coming. With the additional funding we currently have left, we are offering a Humanities Partnership Grant. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jennie Knoebel.

Recently, we held a Public Art Fundamentals webinar series. We get so many questions on this topic, which drove the creation of this series. Schmitz also shared an update on the Iowa Great Places program, including the designation and site visit process. Dostal asked if board members have the opportunity to participate in site visits in their geographic area. Schmitz clarified that only Iowa Great Places board members score and review, but board members are certainly welcomed to attend. Dostal noted she would be interested in attending the Woodbine site visit.

The Iowa Arts Summit is coming up on August 10-12. Visit iowaartssummit.com for more information. The summit this year is focused on the intersection of artists and creative community development; how to build strong support systems in your communities to make them more attractive to artists. There will be some virtual pre-conferences dates on August 10-11.

In the Folk Arts area, we named four inaugural apprentices. Lastly, the Iowa Culture Leadership Cohort deadline to apply is coming up on June 17. This was created out of feedback from the strategic plan, which illuminated that small to midsize organizations would like intensive-like support on a variety of topics. This cohort will be a two year program for approximately ten organizations, ranging from arts, culture, history and humanities. Bergren asked a question about a similar past program, but David clarified that this is a new program.

Danielson shared her excitement for the Iowa Arts Summit and encouraged board members to attend.

Arts Midwest Report

Kramer introduced President and CEO Torrie Allen. Allen shared his tenure and experience in the arts industry. Allen then shared that the new focus of Arts Midwest is how we show up and add value to the midwest. Allen shared an overview of the six Regional Arts Organizations, and the structure of the state and national partners. Allen then shared about the Arts Midwest Strategy Frame, a one page frame to inform the work. The primary focus of Arts Midwest going forward is supporting, informing, and celebrating midwestern creativity. The vision is that midwestern creativity powers thriving, entrepreneurial, and welcoming communities. Allen shared the strong value propositions which were serving as a megaphone for the arts, creativity undergirding community prosperity, and arts and health. Allen then explored the focus areas more in depth: support, inform, and celebrate. Allen shared how Arts Midwest is currently collaborating with state arts agencies and shared more about the reports that Arts Midwest creates that are accessible at artsmidwest.org. Torrie entertained questions from board members and engaged in a dialogue with them.

Schmitz thanked Allen for his time and knowledge sharing.

Community Updates

Board members gave updates from their communities, which included highlights from the arts and culture sector around the state.

Public Comment

Danielson asked for public comment. No members of the public were present to comment.

Schmitz shared the logistics and details for the board lunch and community tour following the regular meeting.

Adjournment

Rosien moved to adjourn the meeting. Dostal seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.