



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gary Stoppelman, Executive Director

gstoppelman@dbqart.org

(563) 557-1851 ext. 112

dbqart.org

### **DUBUQUE MUSEUM OF ART RECEIVES \$8 MILLION GRANT FROM STATE OF IOWA**

Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds and the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) announced a grant of \$8 million to the Dubuque Museum of Art (DuMA) today to support the building of a new and expanded art museum and sculpture garden at 7<sup>th</sup> and Locust. The grant is part of a \$115 million Destination Iowa investment in transformational capital projects that attract visitors and new residents to the state.

“IEDA support is essential to launch a project of this magnitude,” said DuMA’s Executive Director Gary Stoppelman. “This grant is a catalyst that helps stakeholders see the project’s diverse impacts, from attracting new employees to the area, retaining population, and drawing tourists, to providing an environment in which families can grow and thrive. We are grateful to Governor Reynolds and IEDA Director Durham as well as the Dubuque City Council who unanimously supported this application. This grant is a testament to the generosity and vision of the community members who provided the matching funds that made this state support possible.”

“DuMA has reimagined its place within the community,” said Mayor Brad Cavanagh. “The project is strongly tied to the opportunities defined by the City’s master plan for arts and culture and strengthening and expanding economic and community vitality. Along with Destination Iowa’s support for Schmitt Island, this is a powerful acknowledgement of Dubuque’s momentum.”

“The new Museum will triple the number of students served,” said Board President Andrew Butler. “For the first time, we’ll have galleries that immerse students with work by the artists from our region who made and changed history. The new Museum will incorporate purpose-built galleries for student exhibitions and student curators, provide space for art-making workshops, screenings, and lectures, increase new culturally relevant extracurricular

activities, and ultimately increase the number of students with college and career experience.”

The Museum plans call for architectural designs to begin this summer and for work to be substantially completed by the fourth quarter of 2026.

**About the Dubuque Museum of Art**

The Dubuque Museum of Art (DuMA), founded in 1874 and accredited by the American Alliance of Museums in 2004, is Iowa’s oldest cultural institution. Named a national affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution in 2016, DuMA’s mission is to create engaging art experiences that excite, inspire, and connect our community. The Museum is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10am to 4pm and Sunday from 1pm to 4pm. More information can be found at [dbqart.org](http://dbqart.org).

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