Iowa Museums, By the Numbers!

The Iowa Museum Association collected data about Iowa's museums. Here's a look at the 174 Museums who responded to the survey:

5.4 Million Documents, photographs, pieces of art, natural history specimens, animals, trees, plants, and exhibits collected and preserved that interpret who we are as Iowans.

11,105 Public programs conducted in 2010.

1,464 Employees in Iowa Museums (596 full-time, 868 part-time employees)

28,416 Volunteers in Iowa Museums.

138,679 People contributed financial support through donations or memberships in 2010.

4.2 million people visited or used museum services in 2010.

$57 million represents the total operating budget expenditures in 2010. Of the total budget expenditures, $3.2 million derived from federal sources; $11,342,000 from state sources; $1.6 million from county sources; and $7.4 million from city sources.

$9 Museums that are not owned by the state had budget expenditures of $48 million and received $4.7 million in state grants, including significant one-time investments from IJOBS and CAT (over $2.5 million of this support). Each state dollar leveraged nine additional dollars in non-state spending. That's a 1021% return on investment in state grant dollars provided to non-profit museums.

$15 Museums not owned by cities had budget expenditures of $50.3 million and received $3 million in municipal grants, mostly through hotel-motel revenues. Each city dollar to private museums leveraged fifteen additional dollars. That's a 1677% return on investment.

How do museums leverage state dollars? Through individual and corporate donations, memberships, admissions, gift shops, revenue from traveling exhibits, programs (such as summer camps), and any other creative way they can.

Invaluable Museums are public treasures. Not a pirate treasure, to be raided for immediate gain, or a royal treasure, to be used to foist ideologies on people, but the kind of treasure that educates, creates pride, opens eyes and imagination, and generates real economic impact through employment, tourism, and local spending.

Museums responding to the survey:

Adair County Historical Society Museum, African American Museum of Iowa, Allamakee Historical Society, Altoona Area Historical Society, Amana Heritage Society, American Gothic House Center, Anamosa Penitentiary Museum Association, Ankeny Area Historical Society, Ankeny Art Center, Antique Car Museum of Iowa, Appanoose County Historical Society, Atlantic Coca-Cola Center & Museum, Belle Plaine Historical Society, Belmond Historical Society, Bickelhauapt Arboretum, Blanden Art Museum, Blank Park Zoo Foundation, Buchanan County Historical Society, Buena Vista County Historical Society, Buffalo Bill Museum of LeClaire, Cambridge Historical Association, Camp Algona POW Project, Inc., Carnegie Historical Museum, Carter House Museum, Catich Gallery, Cedar County Historical Society, Cedar Falls Historical Society, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Center Point Community Historical Society, Central Community Historical Society, Central Iowa Art Association, Charles H. MacNider Museum, Clinton County Historical Society, Clive Historical Society, Commemorative Air Force Museum, Dallas County Conservation Board, Danish Immigrant Museum , Delaware County Historical Society, Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines County Historical Society, Des Moines Historical Society, DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge, Dickinson County Historical Museum, Dubuque Museum of Art, Dumont Museum of Dreamworld Collectibles, Dysart Historical Society, Earlham Historical Society, Effigy Mounds National Monument, Ellston Pioneer Museum, Ely Historical Project, Emmet County Historical Society, F-Troop Historical Association, Family Museum of Arts and Sciences, Faulconer Gallery, Figge Art Museum, Floyd County Museum, Fort Des Moines Museum, Fort Museum & Frontier Village, French Icarian Colony Foundation, George Maier Rural Heritage Center, Gladbrook Museum, Glenn Miller Birthplace Society, Greater Shenandoah Historical Society, Greene County Historical Society, Grinnell Historical Museum, Grout Museum District, Guthrie County Historical Village, Hancock County Historical Soc, Hardin Co. Historical Society, Hardin County Farm Museum, Harker Foundation, Harlan-Lincoln House, Harrison County Historical Village & Iowa Welcome Center, Heartland Acres Agribition Center, Heartland Museum, Hemken Collection , Heritage Town Center Museum, Higgins Museum of National Bank Notes, Historical Society of Marshall County, Hitchcock Nature Center, Hobo Foundation, Humboldt County Historical Association, Ida County Historical Society, Indian Creek Nature Center, Iowa 80 Trucking Museum, Iowa Arboretum, Iowa Aviation Museum, Iowa Children's Museum , Iowa Gold Star Military Museum, Iowa Jewish Historical Society, Iowa Masonic Library and Museum, Iowa Railroad Historical Society, Iowa RockNRoll Music Association, Iowa Transportation Museum, James & Meryl Hearst Center for the Arts, John L. Lewis Commission, Inc., Jones County Historical Society, Kalona Historical Village, Kinney Pioneer Museum, La Porte City FFA Historical & Ag Museum, Lansing Stone School Corporation, Laura Ingalls Wilder Park and Museum, Lewelling Quaker Museum Inc., Linn County Historical Society, Littleton & Chatham Historical Society, Living History Farms, Lone Tree Historical Society, Lucas County Historical Society, Lynnville Historical Society, Madison County Historical Society, Madrid Historical Museum, Meskwaki Historical Preservation, Midwest Old Threshers, Mills County Historical Society, Montgomery County History Center, Muscatine Art Center, Muscatine History and Industry Center, National Balloon Museum, National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library, National Farm Toy Museum, National Motorcycle Museum, National Sprint Car Hall of Fame & Museum, National Wrestling Hall of Fame Dan Gable Museum, Nishna Heritage Museum/Oakland Historical Society, Nodaway Valley Historical Society, Norway Baseball Museum, Oelwein Area Historical Society, Old Capitol Museum & Museum of Natural History, Olson/Linn and Ax Murder House, Oxford Junction Heritage Museum, Parker Historical Society of Clay County, Pella Historical Society, Plymouth County Historical Museum, Porter House Museum, Prairie City Historical Society, Putnam Museum of History and Natural Science, Reiman Gardens, Iowa State University, Russell Iowa Historical Society, Salisbury House & Gardens, Sanford Museum, Science Center of Iowa, Seed Savers Exchange Garden, Seminole Valley Farm Museum, Shell Rock Community Historical Society, Sioux City Art Center, Sioux City Public Museum, Slater Area Historical Association, Solon History Group, Stanton Historical Society, State Historical Society of Iowa, Steamboat Rock Historical Society, Story City Historical Society, Theatre Museum, Traer Historical Museum, Union Pacific Museum, University of Iowa Hall of Fame & Museum, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Project Art, University of Northern Iowa Gallery of Art, University of Northern Iowa Museums, University Museums--Iowa State University, University of Iowa Museum of Art, University of Iowa Museum of Natural History, Ushers Ferry Historic Village, Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum, Walker Historical Society, Wallace Centers of Iowa, Waterloo Center for the Arts, Wayne County Historical Society, Webster County Museum, West Bend Historical Society, Wilder Memorial Museum, Winterset Art Center, Inc., Wyoming Historical Museum