

#### LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR & SUMMER PROGRAMMING

#### **EXHIBITS ON DISPLAY**



### D-DAY: FROM NORMANDY TO BERLIN ON DISPLAY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

2024 marked the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings at Normandy in northern France.

Many lowans were involved in those landings, the liberation of Europe and the ending of the Holocaust. Nearly 227,000 lowans served in the war and almost 8,400 died.

In commemoration of that struggle for liberty, the exhibit showcases the D-Day landings and the year-long struggle through northern Europe.

View the corresponding D-Day Planetarium show every Tuesday-Saturday at 3PM.



#### **BLACK STORIES COLLECTIVE**

ON THE BALLOT: CEDAR VALLEY AFRICAN
AMERICANS IN POLITICS
ON DISPLAY THROUGH OCTOBER 18, 2025

Learn about local African American politicians throughout the history of the Cedar Valley and their impact on the political landscape.

This installment will include artifacts from the Collection and the community, newspaper clippings, Voices of Iowa Black Stories Collective interviews, archival photographs and more.



#### WHO WE ARE: CELEBRATIONS

ON DISPLAY THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2026 | GROUT MUSEUM

Visit the Museum's second installment of the ongoing Bosnian exhibit series "Who We Are: Celebrations."

Learn about traditional Bosnian clothing such as Dimije/Shalvari, food like Bosanska Kafa (Bosnian Coffee), and local organizations like the Krajisnik Soccer Club and the K.U.D Kolo Dance Troupe.

View photographs and items from the Museum's Collection and from area community members. Clips from local event Krajiški Teferič are also on display.

Pictured Above: Coffee display from Krajiški Teferič on August 16, 2024 in Waterloo.



RT AT \$35 (Margaret 9)

Grout Museum District Executive Director

Warmer weather is finally here. Longer days and bright sunshine always help me feel invigorated. As we embrace this change in seasons, I can't help but focus on one word in particular CHANGE.

We have seen a lot of things change in our world recently, both at the Grout and in the nation. There have been several changes on our staff, so you will see new friendly faces the next time you visit us. In these moments of transition, we are also seizing the opportunity to review and update policies, procedures, and workflow. We get to assess what is working well and consider the ways we can offer our services better for our community. We can harness the strengths, skills, and creativity of our amazing staff to continue doing great things through more efficient processes and workflows. We can update what we do to stay relevant in our ever-changing world. The opportunities created by these changes are usually easier to recognize and embrace once the initial shock to the change ebbs.

It is much more challenging to see what opportunities are created with recent national policy changes. Changes to funding sources that organizations like the Grout depend on to further our mission. The dismantling of systems now puts undue burdens on cultural, educational, and creative endeavors because of which priorities leaders hold. These changes have a direct impact on our local community and our neighbors. We have experienced their impact here at the Grout, with the termination of the lowa Humanities Project grant after the funds of the National Endowment for the Humanities were no longer available. This \$20,000 grant funded our continued gathering of oral history interviews as part of the "Black Stories Collective" permanent exhibit. "Black Stories Collective" is an essential piece of the Grout Museum District's aim to preserve the complete history of Waterloo and the Cedar Valley and acknowledge the contributions of all people in the unfolding of that history.

What opportunities could possibly arise from such loss and dismantling? It is in these moments when local communities realize what is important. They recognize how local nonprofits meet their specific local needs. Citizens UNITE, ACTIVATE, and ADVOCATE in partnership with these local entities. It will take all these actions to support what is threatened or has already been lost. Yet the collective voice of communities to stand in solidarity with organizations experiencing these cuts can make a difference. As the Sullivan Brothers said, "We Stick Together" and in so doing, we will PERSEVERE.

#### SUMMER PROGRAMS

#### STAR PARTIES

MAY 31, JUNE 28, JULY 26, AUGUST 30 | 9PM Join the Grout Museum District and Black Hawk Astronomy Club for a Star Party in Prairie Grove Park, Waterloo. Star Parties are free of charge.

#### SUMMER PLANETARIUM SHOWS

**EVERY TUESDAY - SATURDAY** 

11AM: Live in Person Show (30 minutes)
1:30PM: Stellar Moments (30 minutes)
3:00PM: Voices of Iowa: D-Day (46 minutes)

#### MEMBERSHIP MEETING & POTLUCK

JUNE 30 | 6-8PM | GROUT MUSEUM

Bring your own table service and a dish to pass.
Water, lemonade, coffee, and tea will be provided.
This is also a great time to bring any prospective members with you. Hear annual updates from the Grout before enjoying a program. Program will be held at 7:00PM. Speaker TBD.

## FRIENDS OF THE GROUT HISTORIC HOUSES SUMMER FUNDRAISERS

#### **GARDEN TOURS & PLANT SALE**

JUNE 21 | 1-5 PM

PLANT SALE BEGINS AT 9AM at SNOWDEN HOUSE

COST: \$15, 12 & UNDER FREE

GMDISTRICT.ORG/GARDENTOURS2025

Tour beautiful gardens in the Cedar Valley

Ascension Lutheran Church
2211 Maynard Ave., Waterloo

(rain or shine!) This year's tour includes:

Bob & Pam Durrwachter 827 Sunrise Blvd., Waterloo

Micalea Lorenz
1141 Independence Ave., Waterloo

Gail & Don Miller
5630 Miller Creek Rd., LaPorte City

Ginny & Randy Platte 3042 N. Elk Run Rd., Elk Run Heights

Gaylord Stauffer

1893 Sunnyside Dr., Cedar Falls

Unity Point Prairie Parkway Community Garden
5100 Prairie Parkway, Cedar Falls

#### **TOUR OF HOMES**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23 | 1-5 PM
Homes to be announced.



# JUNE 7TH SUMMER CLEARANCE SALE!

Visit the Grout Museum/Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum's Museum Store and find some great deals on deeply discounted items.

Don't forget! Museum Members receive an additional 10% off all purchases made in the Museum Store!

Stopping in to shop is always free of charge!





