

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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Cultural Affairs announces “Blockbuster Summer” at State Historical Museum *Iowa native Brandon Routh featured at “Hollywood Backstories” June 12*

DES MOINES – The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) today announced a schedule of family-friendly summer blockbuster events and programs at the State Historical Museum of Iowa, including a “Super” guest appearance by Hollywood actor and Iowa native Brandon Routh.

The Museum’s “Blockbuster Summer” features a dynamic line-up of programming 11 a.m.-2 p.m. every Saturday beginning June 6 through Aug. 8, 2015, except for the Independence Day holiday on July 4. The State Historical Museum is located at 600 E. Locust Street in Des Moines.

“We’re excited that the State Historical Museum’s Blockbuster Summer programs will connect families to authentic stories about our state’s past,” said Susan Kloewer, administrator of DCA’s State Historical Society of Iowa. “By creating an Iowa history experience for all ages, we can inspire the next generation of historians.”

“We are very pleased and grateful Brandon Routh will be joining us to discuss his career, current projects and the contributions he’s made to our ‘Hollywood in the Heartland’ exhibition,” said Liz Gilman, executive producer of DCA’s Produce Iowa – State Office of Media Production. “We’ll hear some fun life-stories and show our appreciation for this talented actor who has never forgotten his community. I invite Iowans to attend this program and our Blockbuster Summer activities.”

Blockbuster Summer kicks off June 6 by rolling out the red carpet with history-based programs for the entire family, including exhibits, family-friendly movies with Iowa ties, crafts and takeaway activities for kids, and fun giveaways and prizes. The schedule concludes on Aug. 8 with the start of the Iowa State Fair.

The [The Blockbuster Summer schedule for June](#) follows:

Blockbuster Summer Kick-Off

Saturday, June 6 – 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Help make a community sculpture with Artist Cyndi O’Hern, face painting, and tour the *Making Art Public* exhibition. First 50 kids to enter at 11 a.m. receive a free cookie from Baratta’s Catering. Movie: “Big Hero 6” at 1 p.m.

“SUPER” EVENT: Hollywood Backstories with Brandon Routh

Friday, June 12 – 1 p.m.

Get to know Norwalk, Iowa, native and on-screen superhero Brandon Routh as he visits his home state. Join Produce Iowa – State Office of Media Production for a Questions & Answers session with Routh about his current projects, previous roles and being an Iowan. Enjoy a special handprint ceremony for Routh to leave his mark on Iowa and a free screening of “Superman Returns.” This special event is free and open to the public. [More information and bio.](#)

Celebrate Iowa Museum Week

Saturday, June 13 – 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Enjoy a complimentary General Collections Tours at 10 a.m., tour the *Hollywood in the Heartland* exhibit and make a Hollywood star. Movie: “The Music Man” at 1 p.m.

Grand Slam Fun

Saturday, June 20 – 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

See a Bob Feller display and decorate your own sports pendant. Win a Javy Baez jersey shirt and four tickets to an Iowa Cubs game. Meet Cubbie Bear 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and spin the Iowa baseball trivia wheel for prizes. Movie: “Field of Dreams” at 1 p.m.

Celebrate Iowa’s Half Birthday

Saturday, June 27 – 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Experience an interactive performance from Flying Pig Fiddle & Banjo and decorate an Iowa Flag or create a flag that represents Iowa. Tour the *Iowa in the Civil War* and *Battle Flag Hall* exhibits with Museum Volunteer and Civil War re-enactor Frank Hanna. Movie: “Ice Age: The Meltdown” at 1 p.m.

More details about the June schedule are available at <http://www.iowahistory.org/summer/>. Themes for Blockbuster Summer programs in July and August include:

- July 11: Happy 80th Birthday, Iowa State Patrol – Safety Awareness Day
- July 18: Ramp Up for RAGBRAI – Bike Safety
- July 25: Making Art Public
- August 1: Hollywood in the Heartland
- August 8: State Fair

More information about July/August Blockbuster Summer programming will be released as it is confirmed. Visit www.iowahistory.org or call 515-281-5111 for more information.

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The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs and its three divisions – the Iowa Arts Council, Produce Iowa-State Office of Media Production and the State Historical Society of Iowa – empower Iowa to build and sustain culturally vibrant communities by connecting Iowans to the people, places and points of pride that define our state. The department’s work enables Iowa to be recognized as a state that fosters creativity and serves as a catalyst for innovation where the stories of Iowa are preserved and communicated to connect past, present and future generations. www.culturalaffairs.org.