



**CONTACTS:**

Dan LoBianco, Executive Director  
Dubuque Main Street  
563-588-4400, dan@dubuquemainstreet.org

# NEWS RELEASE

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## National Endowment for the Arts Chairman to visit Historic Millwork District

Dubuque, Iowa - Rocco Landesman, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), will visit Dubuque's Historic Millwork District on Monday, Nov. 14, to conduct a site visit for the \$100,000 NEA Our Town Grant, a partnership between Dubuque Main Street and the City of Dubuque.

Landesman will also view future plans for the district and appear at an arts community and media welcoming event from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. at the second floor Mixer Room of the Wilmac Building at 120 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Dubuque. Landesman will make brief remarks, meet community leaders, and be available for media interviews. **The event is free and open to the public.** Refreshments will be served.

Dubuque is the only Iowa community among the 51 projects (from 547 grant requests) in 34 states to receive Our Town funding in this grant period. The Historic Millwork District project will work with several arts collaborating agencies to help to design not-for-profit art space, new or expanded arts events in the district, and management of the emerging art district.

The Our Town grant program was designed to fund innovative projects in which communities, together with their arts and design organizations and artists, intend to create livable, sustainable neighborhoods with enhanced quality of life, increased creative activity, distinct identities, a sense of place, and revitalized local economies. Our Town grants support creative placemaking projects in communities across the United States.

Landesman was confirmed by the United States Senate on August 7, 2009, as the tenth chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. Prior to joining the NEA, he was a Broadway theater producer. Raised in St. Louis, Missouri, he pursued his undergraduate education at Colby College and the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and earned a doctorate in Dramatic Literature at the Yale School of Drama.

**(More)**

The Wilmac Building is located between 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> streets, bounded by Central and Washington. The Mixer Room is accessed through the courtyard of the building via the door closest to 9<sup>th</sup> street. Parking will be available in the Wilmac parking lot at the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Central or on the street surrounding the property.

For more information, contact Dan LoBianco, executive director of Dubuque Main Street, 563-488-4400 or at [dan@dubuquemainstreet.org](mailto:dan@dubuquemainstreet.org).

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