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NEWS RELEASE

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Alleyne Named Arts & Cultural Affairs Coordinator

DUBUQUE, Iowa — City of Dubuque Economic Development Director Maurice Jones has named Debra Alleyne as the City's new arts and cultural affairs coordinator, effective April 13, 2015.

“The arts and culture industry is an economic driver in our community – it’s a growth industry that supports jobs, generates revenue, and is the cornerstone of tourism. Nationally, the arts and culture industry generates billions in economic activity every year,” said Jones. “We have an opportunity to identify and to build community assets and improve the aesthetic environment in Dubuque through a well-defined arts and culture master plan. The plan, the development and implementation of which Debra will facilitate, is critical to our success in these aspirations.”

As the City's part-time arts and cultural affairs coordinator, Alleyne is responsible for providing support for the City's arts and cultural affairs activities, including promotion and administration of the City's arts and culture operating and project support grants, management of the Art on the River outdoor sculpture exhibition, and developing an inventory and conservation plan for other City public art. The arts and cultural affairs coordinator also provides staff support to and works closely with the Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission to further the City's arts and cultural goals, prepares grant applications and coordinates administration and implementation of grant-funded projects with multi-disciplinary teams.

Alleyne earned a master of arts degree in communications with a concentration in organizational and strategic corporate communications from the University of Dubuque. She

holds a bachelor's degree from St. Francis College in New York where she majored in communication arts and minored in international cultural studies.

Her previous experience includes a graduate internship at the University of Dubuque's Heritage Center where she conducted market research, assisted with programming development and curation, and prepared grant proposals. Alleyne also worked as a graduate administrative assistant for the university's Department of Natural and Applied Science.

Alleyne previously served as the lead graduate intern for the National Information Communication and Technology Company (iGovTT) in Trinidad & Tobago where she directed interns in the planning and hosting of inter-ministry conferences and charity events, reported intern cohort progress and achievements, and drafted internal policies. She also served a graduate consultant to DuRide and the Riverview Center, both in Dubuque, where she conducted qualitative and quantitative research for the organizations and developed recommendations for communication and management strategies.

Alleyne also spent seven years in Japan where she served as an instructor, coordinator and assistant branch manager over three years at the NOVA Language School in Asahi City. She was also an English language instructor at the Narita High School in Narita City for four years.

She served on the board for the Nash Gallery in 2013 and was a volunteer audience engagement and development researcher for Voices from the Warehouse District, also in 2013. She most recently served as the creative consultant, website designer, and social media content manager for The Gretel Project at the University of Dubuque, an artistic collaboration exploring the much told and the re-imagined journeys of Gretel, the heroine of the classic folktale.

Alleyne's office is located in the Economic Development Department at City Hall. She can be reached at 563-690-6059 or dalleyn@cityofdubuque.org.

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Debra Alleyne