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# NEWS RELEASE

*Oct. 5, 2017 -- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## Annual Luncheon Connects Arts and Business Communities

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The City of Dubuque’s Second Annual Arts and Business Luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 2, at the Grand River Center at 500 Bell Street. Local businesses and arts organizations are invited to attend to learn more about the relationship between arts and business and the shared impact they have on the community.

The event is being coordinated by the City of Dubuque Arts and Cultural Affairs Office and Economic Development Department and members of an Arts and Business Steering Committee. The luncheon is sponsored by the Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce and Bell Tower Theater.

The theme for the event is, “From Philanthropy to Investment: Aligning Arts and Business Strategies to Support Economic Vitality and Growth” and it will feature a keynote address by Kristin Larsen, executive director of the Arts and Business Council of Chicago, and Linda Carlisle, corporate communications manager for Elkay Manufacturing of Oak Brook, Ill. Their presentation will explore how businesses can engage with creative organizations while increasing workforce retention and engagement.

“More than 20 organizations participated in the inaugural Arts and Business Luncheon last year and we hope to build on that momentum,” said Debra Alleyne, arts and cultural affairs coordinator for the City of Dubuque. “As we continue to grow these partnerships, the goal is a stronger focus on relationship building, cooperation, and leveraging the individual strengths of two thriving sectors, the business and arts communities, to create a better Dubuque.”

The cost for the luncheon is \$25 per person. Space is limited. Please RSVP by Friday, Oct. 27, at [www.cityofdubuque.org/artsandculture](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/artsandculture). For additional information, contact City of Dubuque Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator Debra Alleyne at 563-690-6059 or [dalleyne@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:dalleyne@cityofdubuque.org).

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