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NEWS RELEASE

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Third Annual Arts and Business events set for Dec. 13 in Dubuque

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Dubuque’s third annual Arts and Business Luncheon and Business of the Arts Academy events will be held Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018. Both events are 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 Arts and Business luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Grand River Center at 500 Bell St. Admission to the luncheon is \$25 per person and registrations are required by Friday, Nov. 30. The Business of the Arts Academy will follow that evening from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at The Smokestack at 62 E. Seventh St. Admission to the evening academy is \$5 per person. To register for these events, please visit www.cityofdubuque.org/artsbiz or contact City of Dubuque Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator Debra Alleyne at 563-690-6059 or dalleyne@cityofdubuque.org.

This year’s luncheon keynote speaker and academy lecturer is Stephanie Pruitt, chairperson elect of the Arts and Business Council of Greater Nashville, a TEDx presenter on the subject of arts and business, and a member of the TEDx Board of Directors. Pruitt holds a master’s degree in fine art, creative writing from Vanderbilt University, is a published author, and founder of No Starving Artist Academy where she coaches artists and creatives in the business of the arts. “I am an artist at heart with the strategic mind and grit of an entrepreneur,” she says. The Business of the Arts Academy at The Smokestack will feature Pruitt’s lecture and workshop entitled “No Starving Artists Allowed” and focused on supporting local artists in sustainable practices.

The theme of this luncheon is timely for the Dubuque community and will focus on “Development as a Creative Process: The Practice, the Players, and the Profit.” “Development and the smart growth of a city is a process of envisioning, strategizing, crafting, and revising. Those are the same steps most artists work through every day. The process might look a little different, but artists, businesses, and city planners can learn a lot from one another. The synergy of corporates and creatives can be a win-win-win. The ultimate winners are the community as a whole,” Says Pruitt. Her keynote will discuss the parallels

between businesses and creatives, will include examples from her community in Nashville, and successful models that foster a more vibrant cultural, economic, and diverse community.

This year's local speakers will be from Creative Adventure Lab and they will engage attendees around the theme of "Innovation as a community effort: Using IDEAthons to solve real challenges." Creative Adventure Lab is a local nonprofit that fosters creativity and innovation in order to generate value in the community. Their programming encompasses arts, education, entrepreneurship, and innovation services. In this talk, Creative Adventure Lab describes how IDEAthons bring nonprofits and businesses together to solve problems. Attendees will also be invited to participate in a special Arts & Culture IDEAthon.

Debra Alleyne, arts and cultural affairs coordinator for the City of Dubuque, added, "If we look around our community, we can see that there is exponential growth, investment, and development. Conversations are being had everywhere about how we as a community and as a city see ourselves amidst this change. The arts have always been precious to this community and an intuitive change agent. I am eager to hear Stephanie explore the topic and share insight on how a vibrant artistic community like Nashville marries arts and business for optimal impact."

For additional information, contact City of Dubuque Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator Debra Alleyne at 563-690-6059 or dalleyne@cityofdubuque.org.

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