



IOWA HISTORY CENTER

at SIMPSON COLLEGE

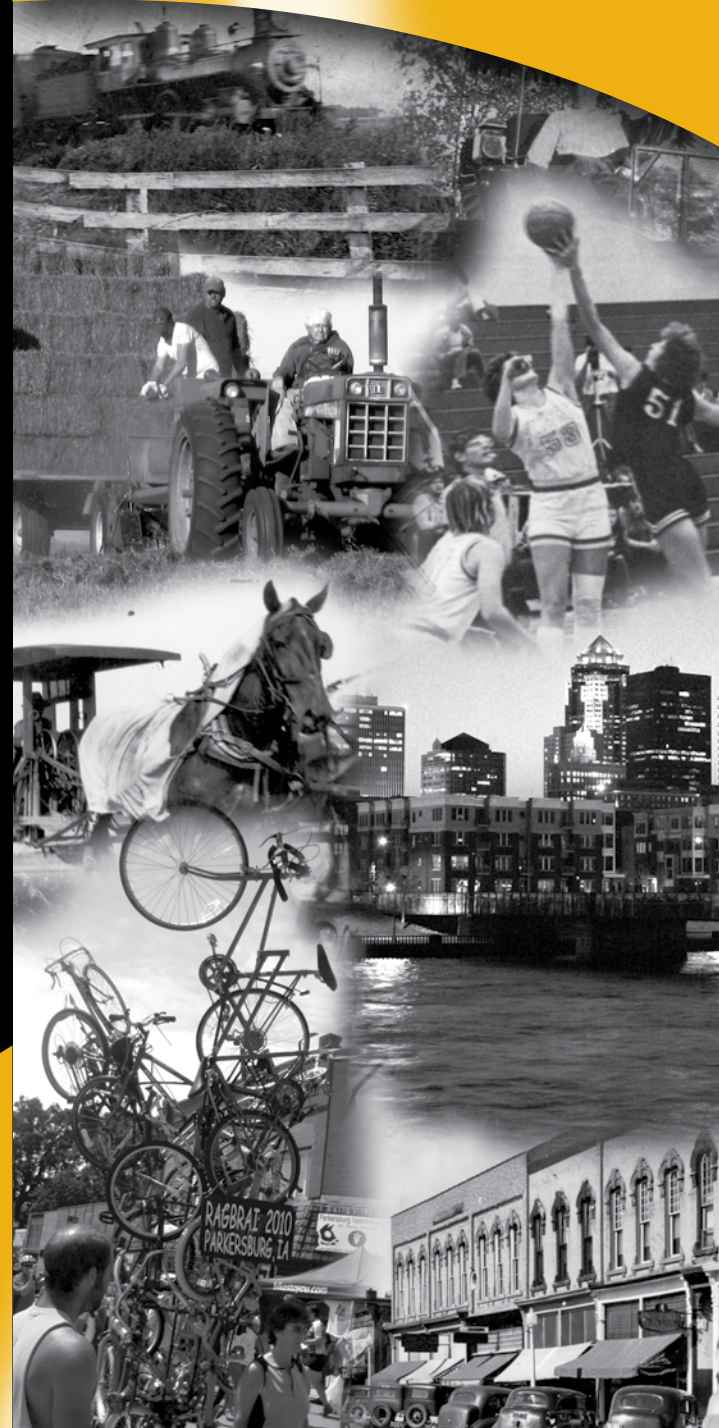
“Iowa history is important—it connects us to our national history and helps create a sense of identity and place. Unfortunately, this history is not being emphasized or preserved for future generations. That’s why we at Simpson founded the Iowa History Center. We want to advance the study and discussion of Iowa history and make it available to the widest possible audience.”

BILL FRIEDRICKS, director

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www.simpson.edu/iowahistory



The Iowa History Center at Simpson College was founded in 2006 to address serious deficiencies in the preserving, teaching, and recording of our state's history. Few colleges or universities in the state now teach Iowa history, the State Historical Society of Iowa has faced serious cutbacks over the past decade, and when Iowa State University Press—once the major publisher of books in Iowa history—was taken over by a commercial press, it dropped its line of Iowa history. Moreover, little Iowa history is included in the K-12 school curriculum.

Knowledge of this past illuminates Iowa's distinctiveness and affords a context for understanding our present circumstances. We have established a number of programs designed to heighten public awareness and interest in Iowa history, expand educational opportunities in Iowa history and make this history more widely available.

The mission of the Iowa History Center is to advance the understanding and appreciation of Iowa history among our state's students, scholars and the general public.



Ambassador Ken Quinn and Governor Robert Ray speak at an Iowa History Center event

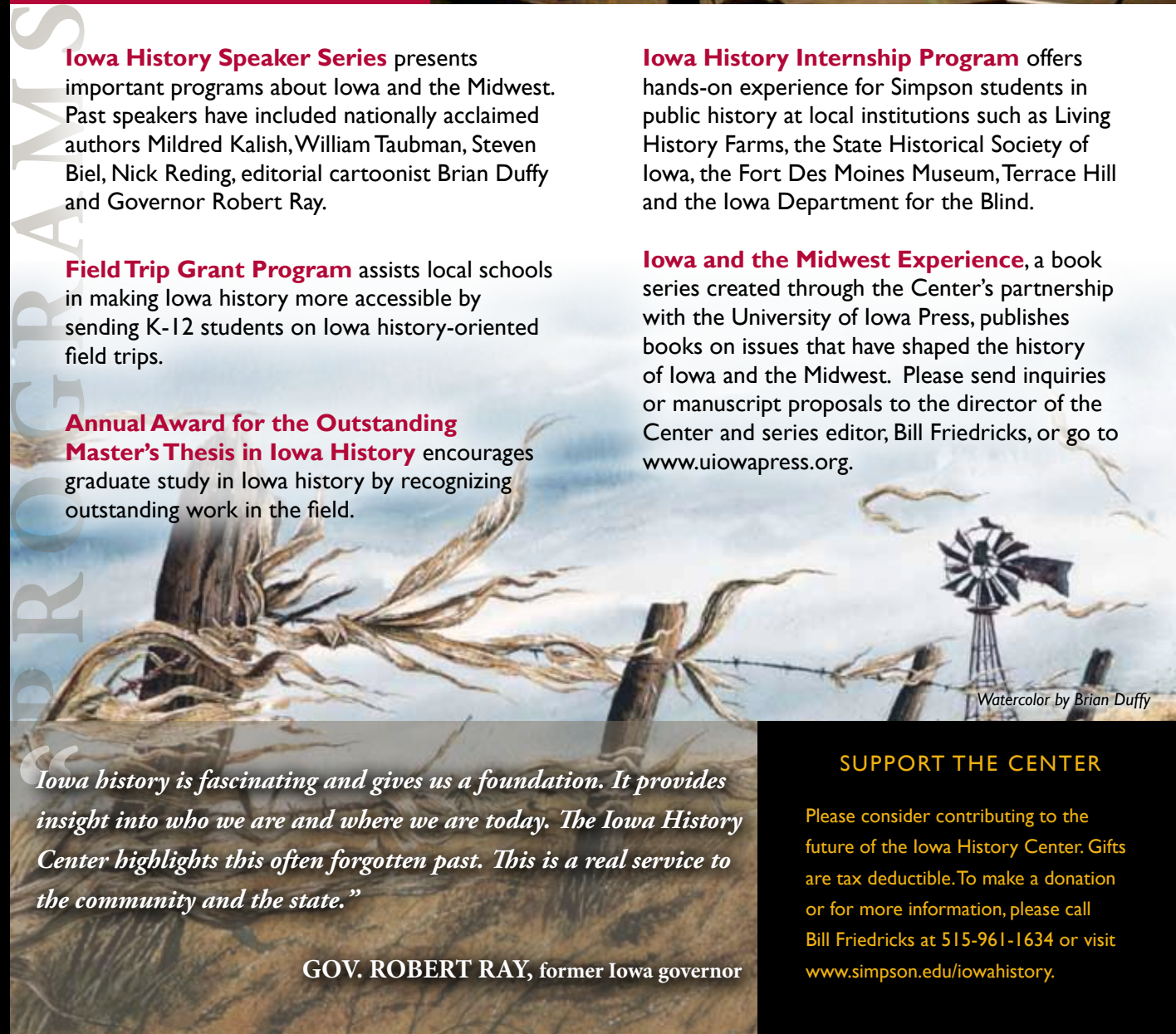
Iowa History Speaker Series presents important programs about Iowa and the Midwest. Past speakers have included nationally acclaimed authors Mildred Kalish, William Taubman, Steven Biel, Nick Reding, editorial cartoonist Brian Duffy and Governor Robert Ray.

Field Trip Grant Program assists local schools in making Iowa history more accessible by sending K-12 students on Iowa history-oriented field trips.

Annual Award for the Outstanding Master's Thesis in Iowa History encourages graduate study in Iowa history by recognizing outstanding work in the field.

Iowa History Internship Program offers hands-on experience for Simpson students in public history at local institutions such as Living History Farms, the State Historical Society of Iowa, the Fort Des Moines Museum, Terrace Hill and the Iowa Department for the Blind.

Iowa and the Midwest Experience, a book series created through the Center's partnership with the University of Iowa Press, publishes books on issues that have shaped the history of Iowa and the Midwest. Please send inquiries or manuscript proposals to the director of the Center and series editor, Bill Friedrichs, or go to www.uiowapress.org.



Watercolor by Brian Duffy

"Iowa history is fascinating and gives us a foundation. It provides insight into who we are and where we are today. The Iowa History Center highlights this often forgotten past. This is a real service to the community and the state."

GOV. ROBERT RAY, former Iowa governor

SUPPORT THE CENTER

Please consider contributing to the future of the Iowa History Center. Gifts are tax deductible. To make a donation or for more information, please call Bill Friedrichs at 515-961-1634 or visit www.simpson.edu/iowahistory.