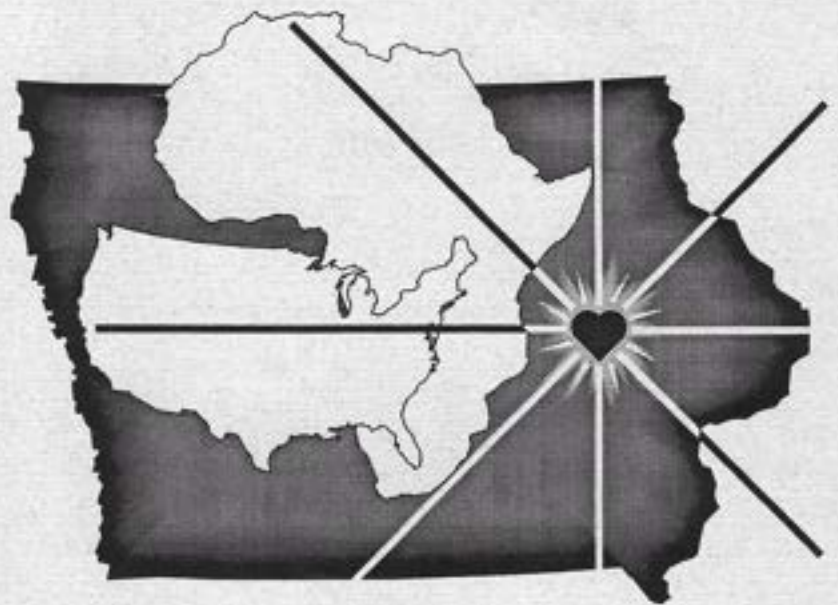




# **HISTORIC GROUND BREAKING CELEBRATION**

**December 11, 1999**

**First Street & Twelfth Ave. SE  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa**

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**AFRICAN AMERICAN  
HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND  
CULTURAL CENTER OF IOWA**

*Attended by Bruce Koerber*

# GROUND BREAKING EVENT

10:30 a.m.

## PROGRAM

|                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Music .....                             | Isiserettes Drill & Drum Corps<br>Des Moines                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Welcome .....                           | Rick Coleman, Master of Ceremonies<br>Sports Anchor, KWWL                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Star Spangled Banner .....              | Pearl Scott-Gill, Ascott Transcriptions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Invocation .....                        | Pastor Duane Hicks<br>Kenwood Park Presbyterian Church                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Introduction of<br>Special Guests ..... | Rick Coleman, MC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Honored Speakers .....                  | Joseph McGill, Jr., Executive Director<br>African American Historical Museum<br>and Cultural Center of Iowa<br><br>Thomas Moore, President<br>African American Heritage<br>Foundation of Iowa<br><br>Lois Eichacker, Chair of the<br>Iowa Department of Economic<br>Development Board<br><br>Mayor Lee Clancey<br>Mayor of Cedar Rapids<br><br>Lumir Dostal, Supervisor<br>Linn County Board of Supervisors<br><br>Rep. Wayne Ford<br>Representative, State of Iowa<br><br>Congressman Jim Leach<br>U.S. House of Representatives |
| Lift Every Voice and Sing .....         | Pearl Scott-Gill                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Closing Remarks .....                   | Rick Coleman, MC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Benediction .....                       | Father Charles Lang<br>All Saints Catholic Church                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Ground Breaking .....                   | Assisted by Ambassadors from Cedar<br>Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |



**Ellen Taylor**

*Today, we honor Ellen Taylor, the first known settler in Cedar Rapids of African descent. She was born into slavery in the first half of the 19th century, and in 1865, Ellen Taylor came to Iowa and made Cedar Rapids her home. Her spirit is with us in celebration of this very special occasion.*

### **From the office of the Governor...**

As Governor, one of my primary goals is to assure that Iowans are offered the very best education available. The African American Heritage Foundation of Iowa assists me to achieve this goal with their vision of a magnificent new learning center.

The African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa is unique in its mission. World-class exhibits, educational programming and cooperative teaching efforts will provide Iowans an important resource and valuable learning environment. By incorporating such state-of-the-art educational tools as the ICN (Iowa Communication Network) to provide the first ever, statewide multi-cultural outreach network, Iowa's rich cultural history will be available for all Iowans.

I am please to promote the creation of the African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa.

Sincerely,  
Thomas J. Vilsack  
Governor

## **STAR SPANGLED BANNER**

O say can you see by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hall'd at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thru the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watch'd, were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof thru the night that our flag was still there,  
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

## **LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING**

Lift every voice and sing, Till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith  
that the dark past has taught us;  
Sing a song full of the hope  
that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on till victory is won.  
Stony the road we trod,  
Bitter the chast'ning rod.  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that  
with tears has been watered,  
We have come, treading our path  
through the blood of the slaughtered.  
Out from the gloomy past,  
Till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who has by Thy might  
Led us into the light.  
Keep us forever in the path we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places,  
our God, where we met Thee,  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world,  
we forget Thee,  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
May we forever stand.  
True to our God  
True to our native land.