



**July 14 & 15**

**Featuring**

***Alphonse Mucha: Inspirations of Art Nouveau***

**Five Exhibits, Music, Dancing,  
Food and Fun for Everyone**

## **Festive Weekend Planned**

Action-packed and offering something for everyone best describes the Grand Opening festivities! Entertainment, food, beverages and activities will take place inside the new museum and outside in the amphitheatre and under tents. Three exceptional exhibitions will inaugurate the galleries. Presentations will be held in Heritage Hall. The Theatre will feature footage of the museum's incredible move to its new location and a documentary film about Alphonse Mucha. In the new classroom, children and families will have a chance to discover

their inner Mucha, play with motifs found on *kroje* (costumes) and create their own Czech and Slovak-inspired puppet. And, the entire building will be open for tours — every nook and cranny.

Outdoors, the lawn will be abuzz with a beer garden and food tent where hogs will be slow-roasted on a spit. Soft drinks, water and other snacks will also be available for purchase.

In the outdoor amphitheatre, Czech and Slovak groups from across the United States will demonstrate their talents — instrumental, vocal, dance, puppetry and more. Saturday night, enjoy a concert and spectacular light show as the beer garden and food tents remain open.

Sunday begins with a blessing of the building. The afternoon features two performances of the Czechoslovak-American Marionette Theatre from New York City. Festival fare with pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs and ice cream will keep everyone energized while kids get their faces painted and meet Papa Balloon.

Keep your eye on [www.NCSML.org](http://www.NCSML.org) as more Grand Opening details are revealed.

*More details on page 6.*





# NATIONAL CZECH & SLOVAK MUSEUM & LIBRARY

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by a grant from the Cultural  
Enrichment Partnership Program  
administered by the Iowa  
Department of Cultural Affairs.

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT



**T**he day is almost here!  
The day we open the  
doors to the new National  
Czech & Slovak Museum &  
Library. On that day wonders  
will be revealed — a theatre  
that seats 50, a program  
space with room for myriad  
possibilities, a dedicated  
classroom where it's ok for  
kids to make a mess, a library  
with comfortable chairs that  
beckon readers, three galleries  
for exhibitions, a glittering  
museum store, an outdoor  
terrace that overlooks the city  
and, wonder of all wonders, a  
freight elevator!

Some days it seems like it  
was only yesterday when the  
building was flooded to the  
rafters, on others it seems like  
we have been climbing up a  
very long hill for a very long  
time. But for every bump  
along the way, there have  
been many more cheers and  
bell-ringers. The open-hearted  
generosity of spirit from  
people next door and all  
over the world has been a  
symphony of ringing bells.

You find out what you're  
made of when faced with  
a disaster that changes  
everything. Czechs and  
Slovaks have known for a  
long time that they are made  
of stern stuff, after facing  
many disasters during their  
tumultuous history. The same  
determination and sensibility  
that have led to survival and  
triumph of the Czech and  
Slovak people have inspired  
us to do the same.

Having been with him  
only 10 weeks before, it  
was especially sad to learn  
of Vaclav Havel's death in  
December. Even though his  
frail condition was apparent,  
you couldn't help but feel  
the moral force and inner  
strength that demanded  
respect around the globe for a  
nation emerging from 41 years  
of Soviet domination. As Paul  
Wilson said of Havel in a piece  
for the *New York Review of  
Books*, "Havel insisted on the  
importance of truth, but with  
a difference. 'Truth and love,'  
he was fond of saying, 'must  
prevail over lies and hatred.'  
... Truth by itself is not  
enough: it needs a guarantor,  
someone to stand behind it.  
It must be uttered with no  
thought for gain, that is, in  
Havel's words, with a love  
that seeks nothing for itself  
and everything for others."

That's what it's all been  
about. Making a space where  
the truths can be told, where  
everything has been done for  
others who will follow us:  
for children, for adults, for  
those who know their heritage  
and for those who have yet  
to learn.

It's a remarkable journey  
we have all been on, a true  
partnership of staff, board of  
directors, members, friends,  
donors and Czechs and  
Slovaks everywhere. We need  
to celebrate together. Even  
though many changes will  
greet you, the Grand Hall with  
its chandelier will still be the  
welcoming entry. And we may  
even give rides on the shiny  
new freight elevator.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gail Naughton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Gail Naughton

## From our Board Chair

I'm thrilled to serve as Chairwoman of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library during this exciting time in the museum's



history. Following the great work of Sue Olson, outgoing board chair, I have the honor of opening the doors of our extraordinary new museum and library on July 14 and 15. We are preparing an exciting array of events for

your enjoyment and hope that everyone everywhere will join us for a fun and inspiring weekend of celebration.

Serving as chair is a special privilege for me. My own Barta family history and my husband's maternal Czech heritage have

enriched our life and influenced our family. So much so that our son has chosen to live and work in Prague over the past six years.

After the grand opening celebration, the board will continue to work on all fronts as we move ahead to fulfill our new vision and expand our mission delivery, both regionally and nationwide.

So I hope your calendar is now marked and your travel plans confirmed to join us for the Grand Opening of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library!

Sincerely,



Lu Barta Barron

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## New Board Members Elected



Kyle Skogman

**KYLE SKOGMAN** is president of Skogman Homes, a company that has built 7,000 homes in Eastern Iowa. He was recently inducted into the Homebuilders Hall of Fame. Kyle also serves on the United Fire and Casualty Company Board of Directors and is past chair of Priority One. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Iowa, where he also played football for three years.



Wilford "Bill" Stone

**WILFORD "BILL" STONE** is an attorney with Lynch Dallas, P.C. law firm specializing in public and corporate employment law and business litigation. Before moving back to Cedar Rapids, he worked as an attorney in Washington, D.C. and attended Georgetown University Law School. Bill is originally from Marion, Iowa and was taught Czech language and culture by his parents Bob and Marge Stone.



Ted Townsend

**TED TOWNSEND** is the President and CEO of St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids, an affiliate of the Iowa Health System. A healthcare professional since 1979, he has worked on developing integrated delivery systems and provider collaboration initiatives in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Iowa. Ted holds a bachelor's degree in English from Western Michigan University and a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration from the Medical College of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University. Ted's Slovak family roots are in Pennsylvania.



## New Staff Bring More Expertise



Leroy Bradway joined the staff in February as the cataloging librarian. Previously he worked in Bratislava, Slovakia for four years as the cataloging librarian at the Lutheran Seminary at Comenius University. He has a bachelor's

degree from Luther College, a master's degree from Northwestern Lutheran Theological Seminary and a master's degree from the University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science.



Amy Lyness joined the staff in January as facility rental & group sales manager. She has more than 12 years of experience in sales and event planning and will work with the museum's rental clients on special events, receptions and group tours. Amy holds a Travel and Tourism Diploma from The McConnell School, Inc.



Elizabeth Schlegel has joined the development team as the database manager/membership coordinator. Elizabeth most recently worked at Orchestra Iowa as a development associate. Elizabeth is a 2011 graduate of the

University of Iowa where she earned her bachelor's degree in communications studies.



Katie Shaffer is the new oral history video editor and library collections manager. Katie previously worked as the health science librarian at St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids and as the coordinator of the Maryland Room at

the University of Maryland Libraries. She has a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in Library Science from the University of Maryland.

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## Free Admission at Kosek

**A**dmission to the exhibition, *Rising Above: the Story of a People and the Flood*, is now FREE thanks to the generous sponsorship provided by CRST International. This gift to all visitors continues through Friday, July 13.

"We are grateful for the generosity of Dyan and John Smith and CRST in making the NCSML accessible to everyone. This will help bring new people to the NCSML and build momentum for the opening of the new museum," said Gail Naughton, president/CEO.

*Rising Above: the Story of a People and the Flood* opened in April of 2010 in the Kosek Building, at 87 Sixteenth Ave. SW. It depicts the story of the Czechs and Slovaks who came to Cedar Rapids, overcoming wave after wave of adversity to leave their homeland. The multi-media exhibition then continues with the story of the epic flood of 2008 and the ongoing recovery efforts in the community.





## Bill Severa Visits the Future Severa Board Room

**B**ill is the grandson of W.F. Severa who was a pharmaceutical businessman in Cedar Rapids, and a very influential member of the Czech community. Bill is very interested in his heritage and has been immeasurably supportive of the museum and library over the years.

Interested in a naming opportunity like the Severa Board Room? Contact Jason Wright, vice president for development at [jwright@NCSML.org](mailto:jwright@NCSML.org).

*Bill Severa, a donor to the NCSML's Rebuilding the Future Capital Campaign, is pictured here in the doorway of the room that will become the Severa Board Room.*

## New Street, New Location

**R**epeat visitors to the expanded National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library will discover that not only has the building been moved 480 feet, but it's also located on a new street. In August of last year, the museum and library sponsored a street naming contest to replace A Street SW between 16th and 15th Avenues SW. Suggestions were submitted online and at the museum store.

More than 100 entries were received and two winners were selected. Julie Cross of Swisher, IA suggested Inspiration Boulevard, and Josh Hlibichuk of Cedar Rapids suggested



Inspiration Street. Each winner received a one-year family membership, along with a \$100 Monumental Move gift package. So look for the museum and library at 1400 Inspiration Place SW in Cedar Rapids!

## Havel Remembered

**T**he NCSML joined the world in December mourning the death of Václav Havel, who, in one of his many appearances as President, helped dedicate the museum on October 17, 1995. His words from that memorable day have been a source of inspiration for us ever since. Here are a few:



Václav Havel

"During the 100 years which have passed since Dvorak's visit to Iowa, the people in which the local Czech settlers have their roots have gone a long way as well. It was a journey

in time rather than in space. But the goals were the same — freedom, tolerance and prosperity. After decades of oppression and absence of freedom, we have now reached a situation when we, too, can say in our home, "this is the land." It seems that our



*On October 21, 1995 presidents (l to r) Michal Kováč of the Slovak Republic, Bill Clinton of the United States and Václav Havel of the Czech Republic presided over the original building's dedication, underscoring the international significance of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library.*

respective pasts have brought us to the same or at least a similar point. We are united by the same ideals. We believe in the same values. And we share the desire to cherish and protect them. Our experience, often a bitter one, has taught us that they cannot be simply taken for granted as something that will just be there forever...."



Weekend Festivities Schedule



© Mucha Trust 2012

Saturday, July 14

- 9 a.m.**  
Parade of States Pageant sponsored by Rockwell Collins
- 10 a.m.**  
Opening Ceremony and Ribbon Cutting
- 11 a.m.**  
Museum, Library, Gallery Exhibits Open  
John and Sarah Mucha welcome visitors to Mucha exhibition  
Mucha film and Monumental Move films inside theatre  
Babi's Bakery, *Kavá & Koláče* on terrace sponsored by the NCSML Guild  
Library tours  
Hog roast & food tent sponsored by University of Iowa Community Credit Union  
Beer tent & garden sponsored by Staropramen & 7G Distributing  
Live dancing and music in Amphitheatre sponsored by Guaranty Bank  
Creation Station activities for children sponsored by Cedar Rapids Museum of Art
- 1 p.m.**  
Presentation by John Mucha and Curator Tomoko Sato from the Mucha Foundation — Lecture Series sponsored by CRB&T

- 4 p.m.**  
Staropramen tasting and presentation — Lecture Series sponsored by CRB&T
- 7-10 p.m.**  
Gypsy jazz by Caravan of Thieves  
Light show sponsored by St. Luke's Hospital  
Food tent and beer garden remain open  
Galleries, library, store and classroom close at 8 p.m.

Sunday, July 15

- Noon**  
Museum, Library and Exhibits Open  
Service & Museum Blessing, amphitheater outdoors  
Babi's Bakery, *Kavá & Koláče* on terrace sponsored by the NCSML Guild  
Creation Station activities for children sponsored by Cedar Rapids Museum of Art  
Mucha film and Monumental Move films inside theatre  
Library tours  
Ice cream social & activity tent featuring Papa Balloon, face painting & caricatures sponsored by Cedar Memorial  
Food & Beverage tent featuring Dostals Catering
- 1 p.m.**  
Czechoslovak-American Marionette Theater of NYC presents *The White Doe*
- 3 p.m.**  
Czechoslovak-American Marionette Theater of NYC presents *The White Doe*
- 5 p.m.**  
Grand Opening Festival and Museum closes

*Times subject to change, please check [www.NCSML.org](http://www.NCSML.org) for updates.*

Group Rates Now Available

Motor coach and group tours can now be accommodated. Any organization or group attending the Grand Opening, please contact Amy Lyness, [alyness@NCSML.org](mailto:alyness@NCSML.org), who is happy to assist in recommending hotels, lunch locations and scheduling tour times at the NCSML. There are special group discounts on admission (for groups of 10 or more), but organizers will need to call ahead to take advantage of these discounts.



## Opening Exhibits

### Stunning Alphonse Mucha Exhibition Launches New Museum

The life and work of world-renowned artist Alphonse Mucha will be the spectacular opening exhibition for the NCSML. Exquisite paintings, jewelry, sculptures and lithographs comprise *Alphonse Mucha: Inspirations of Art Nouveau*. This must-see exhibition is comprised of more than 230 pieces, including both well-loved and rare pieces from the Mucha Foundation in Prague and in London. Not since 1999 has a Mucha exhibit of this size and caliber appeared in the United States and it is the first of its type to appear in the Midwest region.

"We have been working with the Mucha Foundation for more than a year in order to bring this exquisite exhibit to

the U.S. for the opening of our national museum. The lush beauty of art nouveau, its architecture and influence, is recognized by people all over the world," said curator Stefanie Kohn.

The exhibit, *Alphonse Mucha: Inspirations of Art Nouveau*, is divided into six sections and explores Mucha not just as the father of art nouveau, but also Mucha's Moravian roots, his family, his photography and his devotion to the Slav people. He was born Alphonse Maria Mucha (1860-1939) in Ivančice, Moravia, and studied art in Austria and Germany before moving in 1887 to Paris. Mucha returned to Moravia in 1910, where he dedicated the remainder of his life to the production of the *Slav Epic*, a series of 20 paintings depicting the history of the Slav people. The exhibition will be on display through Dec. 31, 2012.

**Special admission fees:** Members free. Adults \$12; Seniors \$10; Students 13 & above (with I.D.) and active military \$5; youngsters 6-12 \$3; and 5 and under free. Admission also includes the exhibit *Rising Above: the Story of a People and the Flood* located in the Kosek building, 87 Sixteenth Ave. SW.



Alphonse Mucha



*La Dame aux Camélias*, 1896, color lithograph Sarah Bernhardt starred in the play by Alexandre Dumas. The English translation is *Camille*.

## Expanded Museum Store will Feature Authentic Merchandise

Museum Store Manager Douglas Smith just returned from a buying trip to the Czech Republic in search of unique items for the new store. He visited with artists and craftsmen, and toured studios and factories. "I made many new connections for fabulous merchandise visitors won't find anywhere else," Douglas said.

New items at the opening will shine, including distinctive jewelry, beautiful glass vases, bowls, figurines — both contemporary and traditional — a stunning selection of Christmas ornaments, souvenirs, stationery, books and Czech food-related items.

Also for sale is a dazzling collection of Mucha-related merchandise ranging from music boxes and jewelry to post-cards, note-cards and posters. There will be something for all ages and pocketbooks.

In addition, the décor of the store will "wow" visitors. Friendly, helpful staff and volunteers will make this a unique regional gift store.





## Enduring Textiles

Beautifully-embellished textiles from the NCSML's extensive collection will be featured in the exhibition *It All Comes Out in the Wash*. Each piece in this exhibit was damaged in the flood of 2008 and painstakingly restored at the Chicago Conservation Center. This unique exhibition will show the beauty of the treasured textiles and the extensive work that has brought them back to their original splendor. About 25 costumes plus many other examples of decorated textiles will be on exhibit once again.

*Pictured clockwise from left: man's kroj from Ždiar, Slovakia; fish scale apron from Blata, Bohemia; close-up view of apron; and from Milotice, Moravia, a woman's cap.*



## For the Young and Young-Spirited



Engaging, wacky and witty is what visitors will find in *Weird & Wonderful: Award-Winning Art for Children's Books*. This exhibition features award-winning illustrations from the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava (BIB). Ranging from whimsical to avant-garde, the 76 artworks are sure to delight all ages.

The BIB is an international competitive exhibition of children's book illustrations which has been held in Bratislava every

other year since 1967. Three types of awards are presented: The Grand Prix, the Golden Apple and the BIB Plaque. This exhibit will feature three sets of winners: All award winners from 2011, the most recent year of the BIB; Slovak winners since 1967; and Grand Prix winners since 1967. These talented artists represent more than 15 countries, including Czech Republic, Slovakia, Germany, Japan and Iran.

Additionally, visitors may peruse copies of some of the books that feature the award-winning illustrations. We appreciate the assistance of the Embassy of the Slovak Republic, Washington, DC, in bringing this exhibition to the museum.



## Immigrant Home Gets Lifted and Restored

A clear blue sky greeted Expert House Movers on Monday, Nov. 28, when they began the process of placing steel beams under the immigrant home in preparation for the move to its new location. Measuring just 540 square feet, the two-room structure housed five generations of the Sleger family beginning in the 1880s through 1984. On Tuesday, Nov. 29, the 22-ton wood framed house rolled a short distance next to the expanded museum. It was then hoisted in the air via crane and placed onto the new foundation that had been poured during the warmer months.

[www.NCSML.org](http://www.NCSML.org)

The house now sits 11 feet higher than before the flood of 2008. Restored plaster, refinished floors, a new window and a refurbished stove were all part of the extensive work undertaken during the cold winter months. Roger Gwinnup, an expert in historic house restoration, uncovered what we believe to be the original paint colors both inside and out. By opening day, the Sleger Home will have an authentic new exterior paint scheme and will be furnished once again to reflect the life of the Slegers, an immigrant family in 1900.



## Meet John and Sarah Mucha

Visitors to the museum and library will have a rare and outstanding opportunity to visit with John and Sarah Mucha during the grand opening on Saturday, July 14. The couple will be available to answer questions about the Alphonse Mucha exhibition and to discuss their work in Prague.



John Mucha

John dedicates his time to the Mucha Foundation and is working in Prague to arrange to exhibit Mucha's monumental cycle of paintings, the *Slav Epic*, and its associated materials, including the Bosnian Pavilion.

Sarah Mucha is British-born. She trained and worked in theatre in London and Dorset for many years. Following the establishment of the Mucha Foundation in 1992, Sarah has worked alongside John promoting the work of Alphonse Mucha through the activities of the Foundation. John and Sarah have three children.

### Grandson and Curator Discuss Alphonse Mucha

On Saturday, July 14, at 1 p.m. John Mucha and Curator Tomoko



Sato will discuss Alphonse Mucha, his work and life, in Heritage Hall. Their presentation will be followed by a question and answer session.

Tomoko Sato joined the Mucha Foundation in 2007. Previously she was a curator at the Barbican Art Gallery (Barbican Centre, London), where she curated numerous exhibitions, including the first major retrospective of Alphonse Mucha presented by the Foundation in 1993.

## Parade, Perform, be a Part of the Celebration!

On Saturday, July 14, the ribbon-cutting festivities will begin with a Parade of States. Individuals and groups are invited to represent their states in this unique pageant showcasing Czechs and Slovaks and Czech- and Slovak-Americans from all 50 states. Wear your *kroj*, bring a float, march, dance, perform a routine, or just walk, but most of all, have fun!

**Calling all musicians, dancers, puppeteers and folk artists who are keeping Czech and Slovak traditions alive:** Show off your talents during the weekend. Be part of a once-in-a-lifetime event. Don't miss the opportunity to be part of your national museum's Grand Opening. Contact Jan Stoffer at 319-362-8500 or [Jan@NCSML.org](mailto:Jan@NCSML.org) to learn more.

## Construction Means More than Bricks and Mortar



President Tom Amosson

After an extensive search process, in February 2010 the NCSML Board of Directors awarded the contract for construction management of the new museum and library to Rinderknecht Associates of Cedar Rapids. Executive Vice President Scott Friauf said, "When word of the Museum project spread, the employees at Rinderknecht Associates knew they wanted to be involved. Many had been personally affected by the flood, while others had great pride in their Czech heritage."

Since the project began, Site Superintendent Al Bries and Project Manager John Baker have worked diligently to ensure outstanding communication and coordination of the numerous subcontractors and the complicated move of the building. Their expertise has kept the project on track and is bringing it to a successful completion on schedule.

"In the 39 years I've been with Rinderknecht, the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library has been the highest profile project I've ever worked on," said President Tom Amosson. "The move has created interest throughout Iowa, around the county and the world."

It's been important for the city, as well, said Friauf. "The museum has truly become an icon of flood recovery for Cedar Rapids."

www.NCSML.org



## Free Gift with Membership!

Membership to the NCSML has always had its perks...

- Award-winning journal, *Slovo*
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- Free admission to NCSML exhibits
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... but join, renew or give a gift of membership NOW and receive a free gift!

## Go on, be a joiner. There's so much more to love!

Join online, [store.NCSML.org](http://store.NCSML.org), by phone call 319-362-8500 or in-store.

**Become a member before July 13 to receive member benefits during our spectacular grand opening!**

\*Offer expires July 30, 2012



## Library Introduces New Space and Expanded Services

Library Director David Muhlena will be proud to proclaim the library "Open for Business!" on July 14. "Expansive with room-to-grow best describes the 5,300-sq.-ft. space," said Dave. "The library has been designed to accommodate all of our existing materials and to provide space for research and exploration."

In the reading room visitors will find the library's collection of books written in English about Czech and Slovak history and culture, as well as current periodicals and newspapers. Looking for a particular book? Search the library's new online catalog on one of the computer stations. Are you a fan of Czech and Slovak cinema? The library will house a collection of newly-acquired Czech and Slovak movies and documentaries on DVD. Interested in learning more about your family history? A special collection of books, maps and online resources offering a wealth of genealogical information will be available. Need help with a question? Library staff will be ready to help at the information desk.

Foreign language books, bound periodicals, phonograph records and archival materials will be housed in a limited access area and available upon request. Visitors may watch a movie, view an oral history interview, or listen to one of our phonograph records in a dedicated media room. A research room can be reserved for the use of rare or delicate materials. Other amenities include comfortable seating, Wi-Fi access to the Internet and special exhibits.

In conjunction with the new permanent exhibit that debuts in 2013, the library will feature a station for visitors to record personal statements on what their ethnic heritage means to them.

Behind the scenes, library staff and volunteers are working to ensure that new acquisitions and long-held materials are in the new online catalog. We look forward to serving the public and making our rich collections available once again.

## Win a \$50 Gift Certificate

In return, you receive timely information about the NCSML . . . and we won't have to slap a stamp on it!

If you haven't already provided an email address, please send it to [eschlegel@NCSML.org](mailto:eschlegel@NCSML.org). Include your

name and postal address in the body of the email (to confirm it's you).

Every email we receive to this request goes into a drawing for a \$50 Museum Store gift certificate. Email must be received by May 1, 2012. The drawing will be held on May 2, 2012.



# Spring and Summer Events

Tuesday, April 17, **Lace-making Demonstration.** The Doris Southard Lace Guild demonstrates the art and craft of bobbin lace-making. 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Kosek Building. Repeated May 15, June 19, July 17, Aug. 21. Same time and location.

Saturday, April 21, **Czech Masculinities**, by Cary Speck of Grinnell College. Presentation about the changing attitudes of Czech masculinity among Czech males. Discussion on how nationalist, socialist and pan-European notions of manhood have shaped Czechs' understanding of male gender roles. 2 p.m. Kosek Building.

## Houby Days

**Saturday, May 19**

**Rising Above Gallery Tour** with Curator Stefanie Kohn. 10 a.m. Kosek Building.

**May Pole Dance.** Learn how to do two May Pole dances with Jan Stoffer, Czech Village.

**Houby Days Parade.** 1 p.m., hosted by the Czech Village Association.

## St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers to Perform

The **National Bohemian, Moravian and Slovak Folk Dance Festival** will feature the well-known St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers who are celebrating their 40th anniversary in 2012. In addition to enjoying authentic folk dances, spectators can join the fun and learn circle and other group dances as part of the performance.

**Sunday, May 20**

**Puppet Show** featuring Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre Company presenting *Queen of Hearts*. Afternoon performance in front of the Kosek Building.

July 14 & 15, **Grand Opening Celebration**, at 1400 Inspiration Place SW. See details on page six.

Saturday, July 28, **Walking Tour of Historic New Bohemia.** Join Mark Stoffer Hunter and Jan Stoffer as they lead a walking tour of the recently-streetscaped New Bohemia neighborhood. 10 a.m. Fee \$6 for members of the NCSML or The History Center, \$7 for non-members. Tour begins in the museum's Grand Hall. Repeated Sept. 29.

Saturday, July 28, **Walking Tour of Historic Czech Village.** Join Jan Stoffer as she leads a tour of Historic Czech Village. Learn the history of this unique Cedar Rapids neighborhood, its businesses and buildings. 1 p.m. Fee \$6 for members, \$7 for non-members. Tour begins in Grand Hall. Tour repeated Sept. 29.

Saturday, Aug. 4, **Alphonse Mucha: Inspirations of Art Nouveau** tour with Curator Stefanie Kohn. 2 p.m. Included with paid admission, free for members. Tour repeated Sept. 6.

Thursday, Aug. 9, **It All Comes Out in the Wash** tour with Curator Stefanie Kohn. 2 p.m. Included with paid admission, free for members. Tour repeated Sept. 1.

## Friday, Oct. 26, 2012

*"A fine beer may be judged with only one sip, but it's better to be thoroughly sure"*

— Famous Czech Proverb



**An International Beer Tasting to Benefit the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library**

**In our 9th year of Partnership with the Beer Guys at John's Grocery**

We're back on NCSML grounds as we invite the community to join us at our newly-expanded facility for the best party of the year.

Lightly imbibe on an expanded assortment of premium international beer styles. Savor flavorful food pairings by talented local chefs. Shop two event favorites — the Silent Auction of unique regional & international items and Babi's Bakery — a taste of Czech & Slovak baked goods. And music for dancing!





### National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

87 Sixteenth Avenue SW  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404

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## Challenge Grant Awarded

On Thursday, November 17, Jason Wright, vice president for development, took a call with a 202 area code. The caller was from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in Washington, D.C., who informed him that the NEH had awarded a \$425,000 challenge grant to the NCSML. The purpose is to provide endowment funds to support education initiatives. "I'm glad I was sitting down. This type of call doesn't come every day," said Jason. "The number of organizations that apply for this NEH money is huge, and the NEH's vetting process is

extremely rigorous, so we are tremendously honored by this expression of support for the NCSML's mission. It really gives a national 'seal of approval' to our institution."

The grant award is contingent upon the NCSML raising \$1.275 million in endowment funds in the next five years. Jason added, "We applied for this grant in response to the board-approved strategic plan that calls for increasing the endowment five-fold over the next five years. So the plan is in place, and this is the first giant step to achieve our goal."

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