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IOWA CITY Press-Citizen

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Digital public art map launches



Drew Etienne painted "Campfire Stories" in 2020. The mural is located on the Pedestrian Mall in Iowa City.

PARIS BARRAZA/IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN

New online map locates all 165 works of public art in Iowa City

Paris Barraza

Iowa City Press-Citizen
USA TODAY NETWORK

There are 165 pieces of art in Iowa City, according to a new online public art map created by the city's Public Art Advisory Committee that is intended to help visitors locate them all.

The comprehensive map, available for anyone to view online, allows users to explore the city's vibrant art scene — and possibly discover new art.

The map includes art from eastside Iowa City to the Iowa City Kickers Soccer Park in the south.

Users can click on each pin to see an image of the art located there, complete with information like the name, the art-

ist who created it, the year it was completed and a description of the piece.

The map is separated into the following categories:

- Temporary Sculptor's Showcase
- Iowa City Public Art Program: Sculpture
- Iowa City Public Art Program: Murals — full or partial funding
- Iowa City Downtown District murals and art installations
- Literary Walks
- Neighborhood art
- Iowa City Public Parks
- Miscellaneous

Marcia Bollinger, Iowa City's neighborhood outreach coordinator, told the Press-Citizen that the online map can be updated regularly. That will be nec-

essary for programs like PAAC's sculpture showcase project, which began last year.

The first showcase featured five sculptures from three Iowa-based artists displayed across Mercer Park, Riverfront Crossings Park and Terry Trueblood Recreation Area. The sculptures will be on display until July. After, a new set of sculptures will be installed.

The sculptor's showcase program creates more opportunities for artists due to its displays in multiple locations, one of the "key concepts" that came out of PAAC's 2019 strategic plan for the public art program, Bollinger told the Press-Citizen in August.

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IOWA POLL

Majority oppose cuts to jobless benefits

Reynolds' proposal more popular among GOP

Tyler Jett

Des Moines Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

The majority of Iowans oppose cuts to unemployment insurance, although the idea has become more popular among Republicans.

Fifty-three percent of respondents to the Des Moines Register/Mediacom Iowa Poll oppose proposed cuts to benefits for laid-off workers, while 38% favor the plan. Another 9% of respondents are undecided.

A bill backed by Gov. Kim Reynolds in the Legislature this year would decrease how long Iowans can receive weekly payments, from 26 weeks to 16 weeks. The bill also would require claimants to wait a week before receiving funds and require them to accept lower-paying job offers than the current law demands.

The proposal marks Republican leaders' second attempt in as many years to cut unemployment payments. Last year's version, which failed, did not propose reducing how long claimants could receive benefits, but the bill would have decreased the amount of money Iowans could receive every week — a proposal not in this year's edition.

Last year, an Iowa Poll found that 75% of respondents opposed cutting benefits in a similar question, 22 percentage points higher than this year. Majorities of Republicans, Democrats and independents opposed the proposed cuts. But the most recent poll showed greater divisions along party lines.

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What if there's no basement?

It's key factor in tornado survival, but Iowa homes increasingly lack them

Tim Webber

Des Moines Register | USA TODAY NETWORK

For Midwesterners, it's a familiar routine: When tornado sirens sound, head to the lowest level of your home until the danger passes.

That's what residents did along Winterset's Carver Road to survive the March 5 EF4 tornado that leveled their rural neighborhood.

Wendy Burkett said she and her husband, Tony, stood in front of their house, watching the storm approach. When they realized it was headed in their direction, they huddled in their basement with their two daughters. Within seconds, their house was shredded, but "we didn't have a scratch on us,"

"Most of our soils in Iowa will allow for basements. If we're trying to keep costs down or the size of a home down, that's when basements might not be included."

Dan Knoup

Executive officer, Home Builders Association of Greater Des Moines

Wendy said.

Nearby, Chad Carter and his daughter Josie likewise sheltered in their home's basement as the structure above was reduced to rubble. Theresa and Don Houg, who live farther west along Carver, also

See BASEMENT, Page 2A



Chad Carter and his daughter Josie sort through the wreckage of their family's home along Carver Road near Winterset. When a tornado threatened, they rode it out in their basement. PHILIP JOENS/ THE DES MOINES REGISTER

USA TODAY

President Joe Biden's attempt to adjust foreign policy is complicated by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. **Nation & World, 4A**

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