



Steve Hansen, Museum Director  
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**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Local sports history featured in new permanent exhibit**

Uniforms, trophies, and a variety of sports gear will be featured in the upcoming **Sioux City Sports** exhibit. A sneak peek of the interactive exhibit was provided by Steve Hansen, Museum Director, during the City Manager's press conference today. The installation of the new display marks the first new exhibit to be added to the permanent gallery since the Sioux City Public Museum's opening in 2011.

"The exhibit highlights the community's diversity and passion for sports throughout the years," explained Hansen. "The overriding theme is the community pride reflected in our teams, high schools, and individuals."

The vast array of sports memorabilia will spotlight the history of local amateur, semi-pro, and pro sports from high school teams to sponsored clubs. Along with depicting how sports reflect the range of diversity in our community, women's sports and the implementation of Title IX are also underscored. Eventually, the exhibit will include an interactive kiosk. The media components will showcase school accomplishments, individual athletes, and other local sports history. Among the highlights will be an interactive version of the Sioux City Sports Hall of Fame.

Major funding for the exhibit was provided by the Sioux City Museum & Historical Association and the Siouxland Heritage Foundation along with the Cultural Leadership Partnership (CLP) Grant. The Museum Association received a \$20,000 grant award from the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) for FY23. CLP funds were leveraged with private dollars to create a customized computer database and provide for the security needs of the new exhibit.

Cultural Leadership Partners represent arts and cultural organizations that demonstrate an exemplary record of programming and managerial excellence and community service on a year-round basis to the citizens of Iowa. The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs believes these partnerships are a shared investment in a vigorous and rich cultural environment that improves the quality of life for all Iowans.

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Much of the Museum's summer programming will focus on introducing the exhibit. Among the activities:

**Free Family Programs:**

**Let's Play – Sports and Games in Sioux City**

Explore the new exhibit with games and activities for families with children ages 6 and up. Discover the gear, uniforms, and people featured in this new interactive permanent exhibit.

Saturday, June 24 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, July 18 6 – 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday family tours:** June 4, June 25, July 16, and July 23 at 2 p.m.

A weekend **scavenger hunt** activity will be available in June & July

**Free Adult Program:**

**History at High Noon: How Iowa Met Baseball**

Over the past century, the setting for the spring passion of many Iowans has been the ballpark. This presentation by Humanities Iowa speaker John Liepa explores the myths of baseball's origins, the early history and evolution of the game, baseball's journey to Iowa, and the role of the Civil War in spreading its popularity. Audiences will learn about some of Iowa's baseball pioneers and view an extensive collection of baseball memorabilia featuring Iowa players.

**About the exhibit design team:**

For the exhibit design, the Museum selected the same firm that designed the initial permanent gallery exhibits, Hilferty & Associates. Split Rock Studios was contracted for the fabrication and installation. Split Rock subcontracted with local firms L & L Builders and Blankenship Paint & Glass for portions of the work.

The Sioux City Public Museum is located at 607 4th Street in downtown Sioux City.

Hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

Admission is free. For more information, call 712-279-6174 or visit

[SiouxCityMuseum.org](http://SiouxCityMuseum.org).

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