

IOWA ARTS FORUM

1:00 p.m.

Welcome

Chris Kramer, Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
Robert Lynch, Americans for the Arts
Leon Kuehner, Iowa Alliance for Arts Education
Tom Smull, Iowa Cultural Coalition

1:30 p.m.

Advocacy Training

Hear about current arts-friendly policy initiatives at the federal, state and local levels. Sharpen your strategies to engage and educate candidates and policy makers about the importance of the arts and the creative economy.

Nina Ozlu Tunceli, Americans for the Arts Action Fund
David Reid, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck
Leon Kuehner, Iowa Alliance for Arts Education
Tom Smull, Iowa Cultural Coalition

2:15 p.m.

Break

2:30 p.m.

ArtsVote 2020: Candidates and Conversation with Ben Folds

Presidential candidates are invited to join singer-songwriter and ArtsVote 2020 chair Ben Folds to share their views and policies on the arts and arts education. ArtsVote 2020 is a nationwide initiative of the Americans for the Arts Action Fund that works to share the value of the creative economy with our nation's political candidates.

4:00 p.m.

Reception

Meet fellow Iowa arts advocates at a networking reception featuring Iowa musicians.



The **Arts Action Fund** is a nonpartisan 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization, whose 400,000 members are dedicated to educating federal candidates about policies to advance the arts in communities, arts education in schools, and charitable tax policies in the nonprofit sector. ArtsVote2020 is a nationwide, two-year initiative of the Arts Action Fund that advocates for better public policies for the arts and arts education and helps political candidates understand the role the creative economy plays in the overall economic, educational and social welfare of our nation.

artsactionfund.org | [@artsactionfund](https://twitter.com/artsactionfund)



The mission of **Americans for the Arts** is to build recognition and support for the extraordinary and dynamic value of the arts and to lead, serve, and advance the diverse networks of organizations and individuals who cultivate the arts in America. Connecting your best ideas with leaders from the arts, communities, and businesses, together we can work to ensure that every American has access to the transformative power of the arts.

americansforthearts.org | [@americans4arts](https://twitter.com/americans4arts)



The **Iowa Cultural Coalition** is a statewide nonprofit that serves as the main advocacy organization, communications network, and technical-assistance resource for arts, cultural, heritage, museum, and historic-preservation endeavors in Iowa. ICC supports people and organizations who create and appreciate all forms of performance and visual art, historic preservation, museums, science, and cultural endeavors in Iowa. ICC serves the needs of every Iowan by supporting the people and resources that make living here a joy.

iowaculturalcoalition.com | [@iowaculturalcoalition](https://twitter.com/iowaculturalcoalition)



The **Iowa Alliance for Arts Education** increases awareness, recognition and support of policies, practices and partnerships that ensure and advance quality arts education for all Iowans. The alliance was founded in 1988 and has become a unified and consistent voice for the arts and arts education in Iowa.

iowaalliance4artsed.org | [@iaalliancearted](https://twitter.com/iaalliancearted)



The **Iowa Arts Council**, a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, empowers Iowans to build and sustain culturally vibrant communities by cultivating creativity, learning and participation in the arts. Established in 1967, the council serves as Iowa's state arts agency and works in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts to build the capacity of Iowa's arts ecosystem. The Iowa Arts Council creates opportunities for the arts to flourish, nurtures cultural leadership and invests in projects that provide access to arts experiences in communities throughout Iowa.

iowaculture.gov/arts | [@iowaartscouncil](https://twitter.com/iowaartscouncil)

Ben Folds is widely regarded as one of the major music influencers of our time. His genre-bending music includes pop albums with Ben Folds Five, multiple solo albums, and numerous collaborative records, including his latest album, which blended pop songs and a piano concerto and soared to No. 1 on both the Billboard classical and classical crossover charts.

An outspoken champion for arts education and music therapy in schools, Ben was the only artist to advocate for arts education at both major parties' national political conventions in 2016 and has actively served for more than five years as a member of the distinguished Artists Committee of Americans for the Arts.

benfolds.com