

## **National History Day® 2026: *Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History***

### **Topics in Iowa History**

Welcome to National History Day in Iowa! This curated list is designed to introduce you to a few of the many topics in Iowa history that would be a great fit for the 2026 theme, *Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History*. Topics are organized by subject headings (although many span more than one subject)!

Good luck, and happy History Day!

#### **Science and Technology**

- John Vincent Atanasoff and Invention of the Computer
- Clifford Edward Berry and the Invention of the Computer
- Iowa State University's contribution to Manhattan Project

#### **Indigenous People of Iowa**

- Black Hawk War
- Keokuk (Sauk Leader)
- The Meskwaki Settlement
- Maria Pearson and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)
- Meskwaki Food Sovereignty Initiatives

#### **African American Civil Rights in Iowa**

- Alexander Clark
- Susan Clark and School Integration in the 1860s
- *The Case of Ralph*
- *Daggs v. Frazier*
- *Coger v. Northwestern Union Packet Co.*
- *The Bystander* and the Black Press
- *State of Iowa vs. Katz*

#### **Iowans and Agriculture and the Environment**

- George Washington Carver
- Roswell Garst
- Ada Hayden
- Aldo Leopold
- The Farmers' Holiday Movement
- Norman Borlaug and the Green Revolution
- The Hog Lift
- The Farm Crisis of the 1980s
- Louis H. Pammel
- Althea Sherman
- Henry A. Wallace and Hybrid Seed
- Tama Jim Wilson

#### **Iowans and the Civil War**

- John Brown and Abolitionism
- Copperheads and Anti-Abolitionism
- Josiah Grinnell and the Underground Railroad
- General Grenville Dodge and Civil War Spy Craft
- Governor Samuel J. Kirkwood
- Annie Wittenmyer
- 60th United States Colored Infantry

### **Iowans and Education**

- *Clark v. Board of Directors*
- Creation of the Iowa Board of Education
- Rural School Consolidation
- Jessie Field Shambaugh
- *Tinker v. Des Moines*

### **Iowans and Labor Movements**

- Buxton and the Consolidation Coal Company
- Lost Creek Mine Disaster
- Factory Act of 1902 and Child Labor Laws
- John L. Lewis and the American Federation of Labor

### **Iowans in Politics**

- James Weaver
- President Herbert Hoover
- Vice President Henry A. Wallace
- Harry Hopkins
- Governor Robert D. Ray
- Ambassador Terry Branstad
- Senator Tom Harkin

### **Iowans and Religion**

- George Herron and the Social Gospel
- Abner Kneeland and Utopian Communities
- Latter-Day Saint movement in Iowa
- Establishment of the Amana Colonies
- *State of Iowa v. Amana Society*
- Billy Sunday
- The Mother Mosque

### **Iowans in the World Wars**

- Phyllis Fowle and Women in the JAG Corps
- Camp Dodge
- Babel Proclamation
- Scattergood Hostel
- George L. Stout

- The Sullivan Brothers
- German POWs in Algona and Clarinda
- Fort Des Moines
  - WAC and African American soldiers

### **Women's Rights in Iowa**

- Amelia Bloomer
- Carrie Chapman Catt
- Mount Pleasant Woman Suffrage Convention
- Arabella Mansfield
- Iowa Federation of Colored Women's Clubs
- Ola Babcock Miller
- Louise Rosefield Noun