

Staff Picks: Podcasts

Check out the list of podcast episodes related to moments in history that affected Iowans or celebrate the cultural diversity of the state that were recommended by staff from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.



Inside the Velvet Revolution: A One-On-One Interview with Dr. Josef Jařab

Czech Us Out

On this episode of *Czech It Out*, a podcast that showcases the events, people and artifacts featured in programming at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, focuses on Dr. Josef Jařab's role in the Velvet Revolution. This historic event was a non-violent transition of power in what was then Czechoslovakia, occurring from November 17 to December 29, 1989. Popular demonstrations against the one-party government of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia included students and older dissidents.

[Listen Here](#)



Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of Iowa's Statehood

Iowa Public Radio

On this episode of *Talk of Iowa*, host Charity Nebbe speaks with historians Leo Landis and Susan Kloewer about some of the people, events and forces that have shaped the state of Iowa through the new Iowa's People & Places exhibit at the State Historical Museum of Iowa. The exhibit covers 13,000 years of history.

[Listen Here](#)



Marking Donna Reed's 100th Birthday

Iowa Public Radio

January 27, 2021, marked the 100th anniversary of the birth of iconic actress Donna Reed. Originally from Denison, Iowa, Reed's career spanned 40 years. She was beloved for "The Donna Reed Show," on television, her Academy Award-winning role in "From Here to Eternity," and the classic holiday film "It's A Wonderful Life." Reed played Mary Hatch Bailey. On this edition of *Talk of Iowa*, host Charity Nebbe speaks with Donna Reed's daughter, Mary Owen, to help us get to know the life and legacy Reed has left behind.

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Celebrating 100 Years of Iowa State Parks

Iowa Public Radio

On this edition of *Talk of Iowa*, host Charity Nebbe looks back at how the parks were created. Because of the pandemic, the centennial celebration hasn't been exactly what it was planned to be, but with more and more people turning to nature for recreation and solace, state parks are more important and beloved than ever. This spring the book "Iowa State Parks: A Century of Stewardship 1920-2020" was released by author Rebecca Conard as one of the many ways to celebrate this anniversary.

[Listen Here](#)