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**The Third Annual Iowa Humanities Festival
and Photography Contest**

Des Moines, IA (December 18, 2014) — The Salisbury House Foundation is pleased to announce plans for the third annual Iowa Humanities Festival that will be held at Salisbury House on Saturday, April 11, 2015.

Curated by the Obermann Center for Advanced Studies at the University of Iowa, hosted by the Salisbury House Foundation and the Des Moines Art Center, this year's Iowa Humanities Festival will be themed: "The Elusive Prairie." The event brings together Iowa-based scholars, museum directors, librarians, and collectors for a public event celebrating the continued importance of art, literature, libraries and museums with an emphasis on our state's cultural heritage.

The Iowa Humanities Festival is hosting a photography contest and is seeking artist submissions that depict the prairie. Artists from Iowa and prairie states bordering Iowa (Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska and South Dakota) are asked to submit up to five images of the contemporary prairie and its history, ecology, future, people, adaptation, flora and fauna. The submission deadline for artwork is February 15, 2015. Additional details and submission information for the Iowa Humanities Festival photography contest can be found on the [Iowa Humanities Festival website](#).

Additional co-sponsors of the Iowa Humanities Festival include: Des Moines Public Library, Drake University Center for Humanities, Grinnell College, Humanities Iowa, Center for Excellence in the Arts & Humanities Iowa State University, Mount Mercy University, and the University of Iowa Center for Advanced Studies.

The Iowa Humanities Festival will be held at Salisbury House, 4025 Tonawanda Drive in Des Moines, Iowa on Saturday, April 11th from 9 am to 6 pm. Admission is \$10, which includes a box lunch and a day-end reception at the Des Moines Art Center. To purchase tickets for the event, please visit the [Salisbury House website](#).

Salisbury House is a 42-room manor estate built in the 1920s by cosmetics magnate Carl Weeks and his wife, Edith. The house is filled with the Weeks Family's worldly collections, ranging from rare editions of literature from William Shakespeare, Charles Dickens, James Joyce and D.H. Lawrence, early edition Bibles and Books of Mormon, art collections spanning the globe from Renaissance Europe to Midwestern modernism, Native American art, musical instruments, and more.

