Reached **58,634** people

**17,579** people attended programs

Received **12,606** paid admissions

Volunteers gave **7,334** hours

Increased national membership by **9%**

Shared **11** temporary exhibits

Welcomed **14,010** people to events hosted at the Museum
MISSION
We inspire people from every background to connect to Czech and Slovak history and culture.

2019 OFFICERS
George Drost, JD, Chair
Steve Michalicek, Vice Chair
Lee Freeman, JD, Secretary
Tom DeBoom, JD, Past Chair
Ron Detweiler, CPA, Treasurer

2019 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Kim Becicka, Ph.D.  Karel Pacak, MD, Ph.D.
Brad Buck, Ph.D.  Michael Seng, JD
Terri Christoffersen  Kyle Skogman
Denver Dvorsky  Allison Stanger, Ph.D.
Charles Heller, Ph.D.  Martin Valko, JD
Joyce Langlas  Craig Van Dyke
Mary Kay McGrath  Doug Wenzel, JD
Ernie Melichar  Steve Zlatos, JD

2019 NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
The Honorable Madeline Albright
The Honorable William and Mrs. Catherine Cabaniss
Pavol Demeš, Ph.D.
His Excellency Hynek Kmonicek, Ambassador of the Czech Republic
His Excellency Ivan Korčok, Ambassador of the Slovak Republic
Wendy Luers
Michal Lukeš, PhDr., The National Museum in Prague
Sally Mason, Ph.D.
Sue Plotz Olson
Chuck Peters
The Honorable Tom Ridge
Gary Rozek
Dr. Jan and Marcia Višček
The Honorable Michal Žantovský

A LETTER FROM NCSML PRESIDENT AND CEO

Dear Friends of Our Cherished NCSML,

It is hard to believe that I completed my first full year in Cedar Rapids. There was so much to do, so many wonderful programs and exhibits to attend, an amazing staff to work with, and most special of all, so many incredible people to meet, during which the memories and the love for the NCSML radiated everywhere. The year 2019 started with a significant accomplishment: we became an affiliate of the Smithsonian. This designation is a recognition of our excellence and it establishes partnerships within the Smithsonian for us to share collections, exhibitions, and educational strategies, as well as conduct joint research.

We commemorated the 1989 Velvet Revolution with a major exhibit designed by NCSML Curator Stefanie Kohn. It was a detailed remembrance of the November 1989 International Students Day when thousands of students gathered in Prague and Bratislava for a peaceful demonstration. These students did not realize that their innocuous protest would lead to the end of communism 10 days later. The impact of the Velvet Revolution can never be forgotten, and we must continue to teach generations about the sentinel event that changed the world. We built a replica of the Berlin Wall as part of our educational offerings for students, tearing it down several months later. Many of today’s youths are unaware of this time in history, and I’m grateful for the creativity of our NCSML staff and community partners for finding such an innovative way to commemorate this world-changing event and how it impacted their ancestors.

We celebrated a major addition to the permanent collection with the dedication of a bronze bust of General Milan Rastislav Štefánik. A program and dedication ceremony took place in November with attendees from the area, Europe, and Washington, DC.

A great joy for me this past year was the presence of students and scholars from the Czech Republic and Slovakia. We hosted our first Ph.D. student studying Czech history from Palacky University, along with one undergraduate student who studied at Coe College. Our Ph.D. student spent three months working in our Library doing archival research, and assisting library visitors in translations and genealogy.

I have so much pride in the NCSML that I could write a book – and this is just an annual report! Thank you so much for your support. As the figures of this report show, your generosity makes us who we are. I am honored to serve a role in this institution and am excited to keep the momentum going in 2020. We will commemorate the 25th anniversary of our dedication by the three presidents this year. We have much to look forward to as we celebrate the brightness of this Silver Anniversary.

Děkuji! Upřímně se těším na spolnráci svami v roce 2020!

Ďakiyem! Úprimne sa teším na spoluprdcu s vami v rok u 2020!

Thank you! I sincerely look forward to working with you in 2020!

Cecilia Rokusek, Ed.D., M.Sc., RDN
NCSML President and CEO

Pictured on the front cover (top to bottom):
- Temporary installation Revolution Starts in the Streets located adjacent to the NCSML.
- Opening of Lullaby: Babies in Slovak Folk Dress.
We added two new exhibitions to our collection of traveling exhibits: Twists & Turns: The Story of Sokol and Guts & Glory: The War Train that Shaped a Nation. Our traveling exhibits were on display at 16 venues in multiple states. Our partners in Mahoning Valley hosted Tragedy of the Slovak Jews for a month as the centerpiece for many events. Witness to the Revolution is on display at the German-American Museum in Davenport, Iowa, through March 2020. Several artifacts from NCSML's collection traveled with the panels, which is not the norm, but opens the door for more artifact accompaniment. Combined, the traveling exhibits reached 17,992 people.

NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR GROWING COLLECTION

Our online collection doubled, expanding our national presence. More than 500 artifacts were photographed and will go live in 2020.

953 total artifacts were donated, including a complete puppet theater with puppets, a chandelier, two Preissig posters, and a piece of a B-17 bomber.
2019 DONORS

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

$10,000 - $49,999
Joyce Anderson
George & Beth Drost
Dr. Anthony & Cathy Korvas
Dr. Robert Petrik
Henrietta Pons
Peter & Cynthia Winkler

$5,000 - $9,999
Terri Christoffersen
Kim Kazimour
John & Wende Kotouc
Ernest & Rose Marie Melichar
Michael Seng
Ludvik & Katherine Svoboda
Leora Zahorik Estate

$1,000 - $4,999
Secretary Madeleine Korbel Albright
Anonymous
Robert Becker & Diane Handler
Leroy & Paula Bradway
Wendy & Alex Brzezny
David & Lijun Chadima
Wendy & Alex Brzezny

$100 - $999
Bill & Dorothy Ackermann
Jared & Kelsey Adam
Ingrid Aiello
Gregg Albert
June C. Alexander
Roger & Carolyn Allen
Richard & Candy Altorfer
Joy & Eugene Anderson
Blanche Babcock
Anonymous
Dan Baldwin
Josef & Kathe Bartusek
Paul & Susan H Bazelides
Kenneth Becicka
H. Frank Bellon Jr.
Donna Berger
Arlon & Tara Berkhof
Linda & Dennis Besick
Angela Billman
James C Bonk III
Joshua Boyle
Toni A Brendel
Jacqueline Bryant
Brad & Traci Buck
Chris & Michele Burke
Jessica Bush
Lyle Campbell
Amy Jo Carbaugh
Patrice & Thomas Carroll
Vera Caslavsky

Charles & Barbara Cerny
Joseph Cerny
Marilyn Cerny
John Chaida
Susan Chemler
Mary Chesbro
Sandra & Patrick Cobb
Chris Quinn & Tracey Cosgrove
Kelly Cosgrove
Amy Cox
Loretta & Stuart Crippen
Lyn Curry
JoAn Dake Mann
Thomas & Kathryn Davis
Patricia & Mark Dohnalek
Robert Dubek
Tris Dows
Elizabeth Dummermuth
Jon & Dina Dusek
Dale Dvorak
Ken Dvosky
Marti A. Dvorsky
John & Dana Ehrrhart
Jan Elias
Kenneth & Amy Elias
Rex & Kathy Eno
Cal Ernst
Dale & Sarah Ermy
Kimberly S Erusha
Jack & Nancy Evans
Jeffrey & Julie Evans
David & JoAnn Faribault
Vlasta & Diana Fedinec
Rick & Nancy Fehr
Bonita Fillmore
Kerry Finley
Carl & Mary Ellen Flaks
Dudley & Wendy Fleck
Frederick & Gilda Karu Foy
John & Jean Frana
Robert & Sue Frederick
Dr. Zoltan Combos
Linda Groah
Mike & Lisa Guge
Paul & Jane Hahn
Beach & Marianne Hall
Donald & Sandra Hansen
Beverly Hansing
Julie Hanson
Ronald & Denise Harriman
Clem & Jan Havlik
Robert E. Hejkal
Dr. Charles & Susan Heller
Martin & Michelle Hendren
Eldon & Dorothy Hensch
Joanne & Gerald Herber
Diane Higgins
Rick & Rhonda Hill
Anonymous
Mark & Mary Hogenson
Richard & Debra Homa

Joseph R. Horacek
Doris Hubschman
Patti & John Huey
Jim & Marge Iversen
James & Marion Jirsa
Lorna Jones
Daryl & Leslie Julich
James & Doris Kaehler
Phil & Mary Kasik
Marilynn Keller
Bruce & Susan Kelley
Keith & Donna Kolar
Joseph & Patricia Korman
Carol Koura-Lovelady
Beth Kucera
Marit Lee Kucera
Robert & Carey Kucera
Richard Kutille
TOM & Joanne Lautenschlager
Peter & Kathleen Layden
Lisa Lepic
Thea Leslie
Dr. Leonard A Levy
Collum & Martha Liska
Marcia & Cedric Lofdahl
Donald & Eleanor Longer
Lynch Ford
Gary Macke
Gary & Irene Marecek
Kent Mattison
James & Carolyn McAluliffe
Kate McClain
Quinton & Ana McClain
Mary McDill
James McGrew
Jane & Michael Melloy
Donna Merkle
Susan Mihal-Melvin
June Miller
Jack & Linda Minder
John & Cynthia Monroe
Jeff & Heidi Nassif
Gail & Dennis Naughton
Bill & Diana Nepl
Cerry & Terri Niedert
Marla Joan Nikodim
Scott & Penny Olson
Sue Plotz Olson & Ron Olson
Katie Orliges
Ken & Arlene Otto
Dr. Karel Pacak
Dr. John Palka
Gerald Pecinovsky
Richard & Joyce Pekarek
Joyce Pencoak
Louis & Colleen Picek
Paul Pitlick
Marilynn Pohlman
Ernest Pokorny
Steven Pokorny
Don & Marcia Primus
Eliot & Barb Protsch  
Michael & Donna Puk  
Sherry Purdie  
David & Mary Jo Rater  
Jim & Carol Renz  
Edward Resovsky  
David & Mary Rettig  
Debbie Reynolds  
Sigrid & Curt Reynolds  
Thomas Ridge  
Barbara Rocarek  
Henry & Ann Royer  
David Miller & Deborah Rubner  
Cindy & Paul Sale  
Michael & Leslee Sandberg  
Joan Sanders  
Sandra Sciaia  
Bob Schaffer  
Duffy & Belva Schamberger  
Dusan Schejbal  
Judith Schendlinger  
Lynda Schimberg  
Bryan Schlottfelt  
Keith & Justine Schulte  
Russell & Gail Scott  
Matthew & Gloria Secl  
Deborah A Sedlacek  
Pete & Joy Seyfer  
Kathy Sheldon  
Beverly Sherman  
Kyle & Susan Skogman  
Rick & Marilyn Skogman  
Christine Smith  
Ray L. Snitil  
Richard Sova  
Susan & Daryl Spivey  
Peter & Susan Stamats  
Joseph Stambaugh  
Marcia L Stark  
Kathryn Steen  
Esther Belle E Steinbach  
Dagmar Horna Stock  
Gary & Susan Streit  
Milton Sues  
Anna Svehla  
Greg & Lisa Thirnbeck  
Steven Tokarz  
Terry & Pamela Trimpe  
Anton Vanicek  
James W Verba  
Marilyn Vitek  
William Vochoska  
Adeline L Volesky  
Mark & Wendy Votroubek  
Patricia Vyce  
Steven & JoAnn Wahle  
Selma Wakeham  
George Waters  
Jim & Elaine Watkins-Miller  
Julie Vane Watts  
Norma Wenzel  
Dave & Marcia Wewers  
Lizbeth Wilson  
John & Virginia Wilts  
Sharon Wisted  
Connie Wolf  
Janet Womachka  

**CORPORATE DONORS**

$10,000 - $49,999

AEGON Transamerica Foundation  
Basepoint Wealth  
The City of Cedar Rapids - Hotel Motel Tax  
Collins Aerospace  
CRST International  
GreatAmerica Financial Services  
Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation  
Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs  
McIntyre Foundation  
United Fire Group  
Western Fraternal Life - Cedar Rapids, IA

$5,000 - $9,999

Bankers Trust  
Executive Benefit Services  
ITC Charitable Giving Program  
Pat McGrath Cheyland  
Skogman Companies

$1,000 - $4,999

ACT, Inc.  
Benchmark, Inc.  
Czech Heritage Foundation  
Czech Society of Oregon  
Drost Kivlahan McMahon & O’Connor P.L.C.  
Friends of Slovakia  
GreenState Credit Union  
Humanities Iowa  
Hy-Vee Food Store #3  
International Paper  
Iowa Arts Council  
King’s Material & Hawkeye Ready Mix  
Merrill Lynch Wealth Management  
Morgan Stanley  
Randy’s Flooring  
River Products Company Inc  
Robert F. & Janis L. Kazimour Charitable Lead Trust  
Shuttleworth & Ingersoll, P.L.C.  
Thaler Holocaust Memorial Foundation  
US Bank  

Walter A. and Ida K. Kansky Charitable Fund  
Wells Fargo Foundation  

$100 - $999

3A, Inc.  
Alliant Energy Foundation  
Amperage  
Benevity, Inc.  
Boeing Company Gift Matching Program  
CBF Packaging  
Cedar Rapids Area Association of Realtors  
Cedar Rapids Fire Foundation  
Cedar Rapids Kernels  
Chicago Cubs  
Claire M. Stewart Jr. Rev. Trust  
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP  
Collins Aerospace Matching Gift Program  
Czech Catholic Union  
De Novo Alternative Marketing, LLC  
Doug & Pat Sedlacek Donor-Advised Fund (GCRCF)  
Edward Jones Investments F & M Bank  
FinnOak & Co.  
Focal Point Interiors  
Frond  
Frontier Co-Op  
Gray, Stefani & Mitvalsky P.L.C.  
Herteen & Stocker Jewelers  
Kenneth K. Kinsey Family Foundation  
Lodge Queensdale CSA No. 422  
MidAmerican Energy Company  
My Mom’s Bakery  
Paulson Electric/PEC Communications Fund (GCRCF)  
Preciosa  
Simmons Perrine Moyer Bergman P.L.C.  
SOKO Outfitters  
Sokol Cedar Rapids  
Sokol Naperville Tyrs Filipello  
Sokol USA  
Structural Design Group  
Table for One  
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Toyink Toys  
United Way of East Central Iowa  
Valenta Plumbing & Heating, Inc.  
WFLA Lodge Hawkeye No. 423 - Cedar Rapids

Our success is made possible by your generosity, and we are truly thankful and grateful for your continued support.

To view a complete donor list, visit ncsml.org/donate.

THANK YOU!
Each day, I come to work believing we must embed museums into their communities in the most useful and necessary ways,” says Sarah Henderson, NCSML’s K-12 Learning Specialist. “That is what we set out to do when we began the Revolution Starts in the Streets program, known to many involved as the ‘Berlin Wall project’.

Area high school students collaborated with multiple local professionals, including business leaders, trade professionals, and architects, to design and build a replica 60-foot Berlin Wall on Museum grounds. They worked with local artist Paco Rosic to create the wall’s first mural: a series of elephants charging through a brick wall, representing the will of the people to address “the elephant in the room”. Students also met with the current Slovak Ambassador to hear a firsthand account of life under communist rule.

The project was awarded the 2019 Iowa Cultural Corridor Alliance Reaching Out Award. This award recognizes an ICCA Partner who worked with a non-partner organization(s) to put together an outstanding project or program.

“One thing is for certain: this project taught them the power of their own voices, and I am confident they will use them with intention and purpose,” Henderson said. “To make a young person feel valued and important is really an incredible achievement for a museum.”

Dedicated to reaching our community and beyond, our education department’s outreach efforts impacted 1,621 people.

Nicholas Hartmann, NCSML’s Director of Learning and Civic Engagement, worked with schools throughout the region to provide an immersive in-school museum experience for nearly 500 K-12 students. He gave multiple public talks and led professional development sessions for educators around the U.S. These groups included the Fulbright Commission of the Slovak Republic, the American Folklore Society, and the Iowa Department of Education.

Welcomed 25 small business and corporate education collaborators.

The museum hosted 320 teachers in the building for professional development opportunities.

Hosted free study trips for 2,720 students.

Collaborated with Foundation 2, a nonprofit human service agency offering crisis prevention and intervention programs in Cedar Rapids, and YES (Youth Empowered to Serve) in Iowa City to provide hands-on activities about Czech and Slovak culture to youth living in temporary housing.
The NCSML partnered with 70 organizations to bring a variety of programs to the Museum, including Movin’ at the Museum, History on Tap, Immigrant Foodways, and Summer Art Workshops.

“We started Immigrant Foodways to go along with our Heritage Garden on our campus with the hopes that we would be able to use our own produce for these workshops,” Family Program Manager Kaitlin Schlotfelt said.

The public’s response was enthusiastic, prompting Schlotfelt to expand the program with great success.

“At the end of our third year of Immigrant Foodways, we’ve had 17 programs with a total of 209 attendees covering topics such as bee keeping in Iowa to fried cheese,” she said. “We have seven workshops scheduled in 2020 covering Easter Cabbage Rolls, Czech/Slovak mushroom sauce with dumplings, and much more!”

President’s Society Gala
Our inaugural Preciosa Gala was held on May 31. This special event brought in friends from as far away as New York, Montana, and Florida. We honored our 2019 Board of Trustees Chair, George Drost, with the first President’s Award for outstanding contributions to the cultural preservation and leadership in the promotion of democratic and free societies.

Summer Family Free Day
Over 700 people visited our July 27 event where it was the 1980s all over again. This decade was a time of change from increased technology to the fall of communism, which we celebrated with a range of fun activities, including a SPY Alley Obstacle Course! Participants honed their skills in our training course with the goal of taking down the Berlin Wall.

Old World Christmas Market
We celebrated 10 years of the Old World Christmas Market by making it our most successful to date! We had 3,600 visitors during the two-day celebration Dec. 7 and 8, during which they indulged in seasonal treats, shopped for special presents from guest vendors, enjoyed free admission to the galleries, and experienced Czech and Slovak Christmas traditions.

8,360 people attended programs at the Museum and 1,640 attended outreach events. Staff spent 30 hours at 10 outreach events in the community.

4,000+ crafts or pieces of art were made with participants in our programs.

3 podcasts highlighting educational and historical programs will be available in 2020, broadening NCSML’s reach on a global scale.

47 speakers, artists, and performers were hosted by the NCSML, including six international guests.

13,979 Learner Hours provided across 100 programs, an average of 139.8 Learner Hours per program.
OUR 120 VOLUNTEERS CONTRIBUTED 7,334 HOURS OF SERVICE.

We also have many one-time volunteers who help at major events, for without them those events would not happen. We would also like to celebrate those volunteers who reached milestones in 2019:

45 years:  
- Marj Nejdl

20 years or more:  
- Don & Barb Pulkrab  
- Joyce Langlas  
- Ann Kloubec  
- Irene Hamous  
- Marie Webster  
- Mel & Carolyn Holubar  
- Margaret Kenney  
- Shirley Alexander  
- Suzanne Charipar

15 to 19 years:  
- 6 people

10 to 14 years:  
- 5 people

5 to 9 years:  
- 44 people

Less than 5 years:  
- 25 people

In October, the Museum Store was named Museum Store of the Month by the Museum Store Association and will be considered for the honor of Museum Store of the Year at the annual conference in Cleveland in May 2020. The award recognizes the unique qualities and outstanding achievements of museum stores within the organization, and their successful support of their institution's mission.

In October, the Museum Store was named Museum Store of the Month by the Museum Store Association and will be considered for the honor of Museum Store of the Year at the annual conference in Cleveland in May 2020. The award recognizes the unique qualities and outstanding achievements of museum stores within the organization, and their successful support of their institution's mission.

SKALA BARITZAL LIBRARY

- Welcomed 2,441 visitors.
- Answered 406 reference questions.
- Received 839 donated items.

MUSEUM STORE

In October, the Museum Store was named Museum Store of the Month by the Museum Store Association and will be considered for the honor of Museum Store of the Year at the annual conference in Cleveland in May 2020. The award recognizes the unique qualities and outstanding achievements of museum stores within the organization, and their successful support of their institution's mission.

Marj Nejdl personalizing ornaments during Old World Christmas Market.

FOLLOW US  
SOURCES OF FUNDING

- 46% — Donations
- 34% — Endowment Draw
- 8% — Event Services
- 8% — Museum Store
- 4% — Admissions & Programs

National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library  
1400 Inspiration Place SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404  
319-362-8500 | NCSML.ORG