

Dumont Museum recognized by Iowa Tourism Office

In honor of National Travel and Tourism Week, the Iowa Tourism Office recognized Dumont Museum recently for contributing to the state's \$8.06 billion tourism industry.

National Travel and Tourism Week (May 7-13), now in its 34th year, unites communities across the country to celebrate what travel means to employment, economic growth and personal well-being.

"We value and appreciate our partners for the work they do year-round to enhance the state's economy through tourism," said Shawna Lode, manager of the Iowa Tourism Office. "We're taking this special week to recognize communities, events, attractions, restaurants and lodging facilities in all 99 counties and thank them for those efforts."

Dumont Museum opened in 2000 and has greeted visitors from foreign countries and most every state in the US. Local clubs, schools, groups are also encouraged to visit. The Museum is operated by Lyle & Helen Dumont and is located 3 miles so of Sigourney on Hwy 149 and 1/8 mi west on 255th St. Hours of operation is 10am-4pm on weekends May-Oct and by appointment on weekdays.

Travel is an integral part of the state's economy because people



Helen Dumont was visited by Jenna Beary, Partnerships Manager at Iowa Tourism Office, recognizing Dumont Museum for contributing to state's \$8.06 billion tourism industry.

who visit Iowa annually generate more than \$450 million in state tax revenue that pays for programs that benefit residents. The industry also supports the jobs of more than 67,000 Iowans – jobs that can never be outsourced to another location.

Local numbers:

20 jobs are supported by travel and tourism in Keokuk County

Travel and tourism generates \$50,000 in local tax revenue for Keokuk County

In addition to its benefits for

the local economy, travel can also have a positive effect on personal well-being for residents of and visitors to Iowa. Numerous research studies have confirmed the positive health effects of travel and time off, from reducing the risk of heart disease to decreasing depression. Using time off to travel with family is good for everyone, especially our children—kids who travel with their families are more likely to attend college and earn more as adults.