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IPR Welcomes The Moth to Des Moines at Hoyt Sherman Place on April 21

DES MOINES (January 22, 2016) – The Moth Mainstage comes to Hoyt Sherman Place for a celebrated night of storytelling on April 21. Tickets go on sale today.

This is The Moth’s first visit to Central Iowa.

The Moth – hailed as “New York’s hottest and hippest literary ticket” by the *Wall Street Journal* – is dedicated to the art and craft of storytelling. The Moth has presented more than 17,000 true stories told live – without notes – since 1997 and sparked a renewed interest in the art of oral storytelling. The Moth podcast is downloaded over 27 million times a year, and the Peabody Award-winning *The Moth Radio Hour*, produced by Jay Allison and presented by PRX, The Public Radio Exchange, airs weekly on over 500 radio stations nationwide.

The Moth Mainstage is its flagship program. It features true, personal stories by luminaries in the arts and sciences. Over the years, audiences have heard from an astronaut, an undertaker, a voodoo priestess and a retired NYPD detective, among many others. Each show features five carefully selected storytellers who develop and shape their stories with The Moth’s directors. The Moth Mainstage is a staple of the literary and art scenes in New York City, Los Angeles, and Boston, and a continuing presence across the U.S. and beyond.

The Moth began on a back porch in small-town Georgia, where Moth founder—poet and best-selling novelist George Dawes Green—would spend sultry summer evenings swapping spellbinding tales with a small circle of friends. There was a hole in the screen, which let in moths that were attracted to the light, and the group started calling themselves “The Moths.”

The Moth show in Des Moines will be held Thursday, April 21 at 7:30 p.m. at Hoyt Sherman Place, located at 1501 Woodland Avenue in Des Moines. Tickets are \$25, \$40 and \$75 and can be purchased at the Hoyt Sherman Place box office or online at www.ticketmaster.com. Student tickets are \$15 and must be purchased at the Hoyt Sherman Place box office.

Presented in Des Moines by Iowa Public Radio.

The Moth Radio Hour can be heard every Sunday at 10 a.m. on all Iowa Public Radio News and Studio One FM stations and News AM stations, or streamed online at IowaPublicRadio.org.

About Iowa Public Radio

Iowa Public Radio informs, enriches and engages Iowans through high-quality news and cultural programming. IPR was organized in 2004 to manage stations licensed to Iowa State University, University of Iowa and University of Northern Iowa. This statewide public radio network, comprised of 24 stations, now serves 200,000 listeners weekly with three programming streams: News, News/Studio One and Classical. IPR programming, including our new 24-hour Studio One stream, can also be found at www.iowapublicradio.org or via the IPR app for iOS or Android. For more information about Iowa Public Radio, contact us at 515-725-1700 or visit iowapublicradio.org.