



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Muscatine History and Industry Center Names New Executive Director**

February 1, 2009 – (Muscatine, Iowa) – The Board of Directors of Historic Muscatine Inc., which oversees the Muscatine History and Industry Center, today announced the appointment of Kristin McHugh-Johnston as the new executive director. She succeeds Richard Durschlag, who has taken a position in El Paso, Texas.

McHugh-Johnston, an international award winning journalist and community volunteer, is completing her sixth year as president of the Friends of the Muscatine Art Center, and is currently working on a pictorial book of Muscatine history. She also chaired the community art committee of the Riverfront Implementation Team, which was instrumental in the installation of the “Mississippi Harvest” sculpture in Muscatine’s Riverview Park. She formerly worked for the Stanley Foundation and served as the news director for KWPC radio from 1995 to 1999.

“I am excited to continue the preservation and promotion of Muscatine’s rich history,” says McHugh-Johnston. “I look forward to creating new opportunities to tell the story of the area businesses, men, and women who have, and continue to leave a legacy of work ethic that defines the Midwest.”

McHugh-Johnston will join the History and Industry Center full time in July, and will serve in a part time capacity as she completes her current position with the State of Iowa.

“Kristin will do a great job in promoting the Center both with the industries represented there as well as with the public,” says Board President Dr. Clyde Evans. “She is a tireless worker who is reputed to always carry through on targeted projects.”

