



TO: Iowa Secondary School Educators, Counselors, Diversity Coordinators, Administrators and Youth Organizations
FROM: Betty C. Andrews, Executive Director, *I'll Make Me a World in Iowa*
CONTACT: 515-288-7171, betty@bettyandrewsmedia.com, worldiniowa.org
DATE: December 18, 2026

RE: Invitation to *I'll Make Me a World in Iowa* Education Day on Saturday February 7, 2026

Location: Horizon Events Center 2100 NW 100th Street, Clive, IA (Des Moines)

Activities: Black History Game Show, STEM Festival, Cultural Workshops, College Fair, & More!

I'll Make Me a World in Iowa (Iowa's African American Festival) is pleased to offer its Education Day programming to middle and high school students with the important goal of promoting education, awareness and preservation around African American history in our state. Now in our 27th year, we invite you and your students to join us once again for a day of inspiration, education, and celebration—because history comes alive at Education Day!

About Education Day: Attended each year by hundreds of students from across Iowa, IMMAWII Education Day includes a series of workshops and learning activities for youth in grades 6-12. Educators and Youth Organizations Leaders are encouraged to bring their students Saturday, February 7th, 9am to 2pm to be a part of this historic learning experience.

Please Note: This year, Education Day will be held on Saturday instead of Friday. After lunch, students will experience two hours of overlap with our signature event, Celebration Day, offering a unique opportunity to enjoy cultural exhibits, performances, and festival activities. Students must remain fully chaperoned throughout the entire day. This change has been requested by several educators, and we thank you for your flexibility. We are excited for students to participate with their peers in Education Day and experience Celebration Day with the whole community this year.

Who Should Attend: Education Day is a must for educators and organizational leaders looking to enrich their students' experiences in social studies, world history, cultures, or government. It's also perfect for extracurricular groups like debate teams, social studies clubs, or diversity organizations. **Education Day is for ALL students regardless of heritage, grade point average, or special needs.**

What To Expect: Join schools and youth organizations from across Iowa at this one-of-a-kind celebration featuring:

- **Black History Game Show:** An Education Day favorite! Teams of 6-10 students in grades 6-12 compete for prizes (\$300 for 1st place, \$150 for 2nd place) in middle and high school divisions. Cheer for your school and celebrate academic success! Our 2026 study guide will be provided upon registration.
- **Workshops, Art, STEM Fest & College & Resource Fair:** Dive into hands-on learning with art, history and dance workshops, cultural displays, and STEM activities. Connect with colleges and explore paths to higher education.
- **Commemorative Poster:** Explore our annual Black History Poster, a tribute to Iowa's rich African American legacy.
- **More:** This jam-packed day will also include historical exhibits, performances, group activities, prizes, swag bags and more.

Why Attend: Education Day isn't just a program—it's a bridge to learning more about culture in our state, where students can explore history, embrace diversity, and imagine their future. This engaging experience fosters cultural awareness and personal growth in a supportive and celebratory environment.

Register Your Students TODAY! Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of this great day that punctuates the fact **African American history is every American's history.** The registration deadline is **January 30, 2026 or once we reach capacity.** Early registration is encouraged, especially for Game Show participants, with study guides available starting December 20, 2025.