



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

January 9, 2012

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**Happy 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Julien Dubuque!**

*DUBUQUE, Iowa- Jan. 9, 2012* – Julien Dubuque was born on Jan. 10, 1762, and 2012 marks the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the city's founder's birth. The Dubuque County Historical Society will celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of Julien Dubuque's birth with the city by presenting an exhibit on Julien Dubuque at the Old Jail Museum. The exhibit will open in late May and will run through Fall 2012.

"It is fitting that on the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dubuque's birth that we explore the fascinating life of the founder of our city," said museum executive director, Jerry Enzler.

The exhibit will use items from the collections of the Dubuque County Historical Society, audio-visual components, hands-on interactive activities, and educational panels. The exhibit will focus on the many mysteries and lore of Julien Dubuque's life including information on his life and times, his family, his friendships with the Native Americans, and an exploration into the many depictions of his physical appearance. The history of area lead mining and the early European settlement of Dubuque will also be included.

The highlight of the exhibit will be a scientific recreation of what Julien Dubuque actually looked like. Most Dubuquers know who Julien Dubuque was, but do we really know what he looked like? Many artistic renderings of Dubuque exist, but the accuracy of those depictions is suspect. In one case, the image of Julien Dubuque bears a striking similarity to the artist. To honor Julien Dubuque on the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth, the Historical Society is going put an end to the mystery.

With a grant from Mediacom, the Museum & Aquarium has contracted forensic artist, Karen Taylor. Using images of Julien Dubuque's skull, Taylor will be able to recreate a scientific and realistic image of Dubuque's appearance. Taylor's crime-fighting artwork for law enforcement agencies and FOX television's *America's Most Wanted* has involved a variety of art services to aid in the apprehension and conviction of criminal offenders or promote the identification of unknown deceased persons. Her work has been featured on FOX, ABC, CBS, the BBC, CNN, Court TV, the Discovery Channel, the History Channel, and Telemundo. Popular CBS crime drama *CSI*: created a character based on Taylor and Taylor's artwork and hands at work have appeared on the show.

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Taylor will collaborate with an anthropologist to construct the facial features of the Dubuque skull on the basis of the underlying cranial structure. Representative drawings will be made from those findings. Taylor pioneered this specific method in the early 1980s. She began teaching her technique at the FBI Academy in 1987. Training in Taylor's method has been sought by Royal Canadian Mounted Police, MVD Laboratory in Moscow and others internationally.

The Old Jail Museum is located adjacent to Dubuque County Courthouse on the edge of the Millwork District in Dubuque, Iowa. The Old Jail Museum is a Smithsonian Institution Affiliate and is accredited by the American Association of Museums. For more information, visit [www.rivermuseum.com](http://www.rivermuseum.com).

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