

May 2-3, 2024

Economic Summit

Understanding the Past to Build the Future

organized by

**The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids,
Iowa**

and co-organized by

**Embassy of the Czech Republic in Washington, DC
Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Washington, DC
Vaclav Havel Program for Human Rights and Democracy, Steven J. Green
School of International and Public Affairs, FIU, Miami
Friends of Slovakia, Washington, DC
American Friends of the Czech Republic, Washington, DC
Czech North American Chamber of Commerce & Culture (CNACCC Inc.)
The Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance
Czech Center NEW YORK, et al.**

A unique forum for delegations from the USA, Czech Republic and Slovakia building on the consequences of modern history related to the period of WWI, WWII, 1968, 1989 and the recent times, with **the participation of Miloslav Stašek, Czech ambassador to the U.S. and Radovan Javorčík, Slovak ambassador to the U.S.**, will be held at NCSML on Thursday and Friday, **May 2-3, 2024**. This gathering will provide an opportunity to learn more about the present-day possibilities related to specific industry clusters, university research areas, topics of freedom, democracy and immigration in the concerned states and regions. The ambassadors will be joined by other high level American, Czech and Slovak business leaders, university leaders, state policy makers, local policy makers, governmental representatives, politicians, artists, scholars and educators visiting the area to attend **NCSML's annual President's Gala on Saturday, May 4, 2024**.

The year 2024 marks the **50th anniversary of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, the Smithsonian Affiliate**, which will be recognized and celebrated all year long. The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa is looking forward to building more Transatlantic partnerships.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

May 2, 2024, 4 pm-8 pm

Registration and Pre-Event Networking, 4pm-5pm

Vaclav Havel: From Dissident to President, 5pm

Exhibit Ribbon Cutting, 5pm Anderson Gallery, with

Keynote Address by Dr. Martin Palouš,

Director of the Vaclav Havel Program for Human Rights and Democracy at Florida International University, Miami

A Night at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

May 3, 2024, 10am-5pm

Economic Summit

Understanding the Past to Build the Future

Registration, Rozek Grand Hall, 9am-10am

10am

Welcome Remarks by

Embassy of the Czech Republic in Washington, DC

Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Washington, DC

US Official Representatives

State of Iowa Representatives

City of Cedar Rapids Representatives

Keynote Address by Dr. Jan Svejnar,

Richard N. Gardner Professor of Economics and International Affairs and
Director of the Center on Global Economic Governance at Columbia University,
New York

Debi Durham,

Director of the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) and the Iowa
Finance Authority (IFA), Des Moines

Doing Business in Central and Eastern Europe - Brno as a Gateway

Jan Kubata, CEO, BVV, Brno, Czech Republic

**Slovak-American Collaboration and Doing Business through Slovak PRO
Activities**

Vladimir Lackovic, Slovak PRO, New York

**Unlocking Potential - Exploring Investment Opportunities in Czechia
Jakub Utěšený, Consul General of the Czech Republic in Chicago**

**Sharing Best Practices – Czech Direct Investment in the USA
Jan Vintřlik, COO, ALBAform Inc., Atlanta, Georgia**

**Business Opportunities in the Olomouc Region, Czech Republic
Josef Tetera, Head of Tourism and International Relations, Olomouc Region**

**Connecting Iowa to the World and the World to Iowa: The University of Iowa's
Links to the Czech Republic and Slovakia
Russell Ganim, Associate Provost and Dean, International Programs, University
of Iowa, Iowa City**

**Prague-Style Astronomical Clock (Orloj) in the US. A Transatlantic Project
Fostering Education, Science, Culture and Tourism Opportunities.
Bruce Hamous, NCSML Board of Trustees**

**Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance Opportunities in 2024
Ron Corbett, Vice President of Economic Development**

**Sharing Community Impact Data and Advancing the Economic Development
Goals of the Region
Amy Alice Chastain, Executive Director, Global Ties Iowa, Iowa City**

**The Role of Philanthropy in Civil Society. Czech and American Reality through
HEI Experience.
Salvatore Alaimo, Indiana University, Professor, Grand Valley State University;
Lisa Dietlin, Philanthropy&Develop. Lecturer, DePaul University, Chicago**



CID: Growth, Vision, Impact
Martin Lenss, Airport Director at The Eastern Iowa Airport

NCSML TV - Opportunity for Utilizing Positions in the Digital Space
Logan Adam Schultz, CEO, Upload Media Group, Cedar Rapids

May 3, 2024
Noon Buffet Luncheon
Rozek Grand Hall

May 3, 2024, 5.30pm
Furdek Special Collection, Grand Opening
Skala Bartizal Library

May 3, 2024, 7pm
Performance by Czech Mezzo-Soprano Ester Pavlů
Rozek Grand Hall

Concurrent NCSML Temporary Exhibits/Events:

The National Collection: 50 Years of NCSML,
March 2024 - January, 2025, Smith Gallery
Postmark Czechoslovakia: Every Stamp Tells a Story,
March – May, Skala Bartizal Library
Vaclav Havel: From Dissident to President,
May - September, Anderson Gallery
Groundbreaking Ceremony, NCSML Clock Tower Renovation
May 3, Ribbon Cutting at 1pm, by the Clock Tower
Alphonse Mucha: Master of Art Nouveau,
May 4, Ribbon Cutting
May – September, Petrik Gallery
President’s Society Preciosa Gala,
May 4, Rozek Grand Hall & WFLA/ZCJB Heritage Hall

Venue:
National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library
1400 Inspiration Place SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404

50th NATIONAL
CZECH &
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1974 ♦♦♦ 2024

