## Eddie Bowles's Blues

## The Exhibition

Welcome to *Eddie Bowles's Blues*, an exhibit celebrating the life, work and music of Eddie Bowles (1884-1984), one of Cedar Falls's most unique citizens. Throughout the exhibit, you will see several displays that contain QR codes (like the one to the right) that will allow you to access musical excerpts or audio interviews directly from your phone. Simply open your phone's camera, point it at the QR code and wait for the camera to recognize the code. Once recognized, you should be prompted to open up a web browser where you can listen to the file. If that doesn't work (or if you don't have a phone with a camera) just ask for a device at the front desk. While it isn't necessary to listen to the music and interviews to enjoy the exhibit, it will enhance your experience.

If you enjoy the exhibit, consider attending events as part of the **Eddie Bowles Blues Celebration**:

- Thursday, March 3 at 7:00 p.m. (Hearst Center for the Arts)—Screening and discussion of *Getting That Note Out*, a documentary on the Waterloo-based blues guitarist, Ethleen Morehead Wright (57 min). Director Francesca Soans leads a post-film discussion.
- Friday, March 4—Tentative release date for the *Best of Eddie Bowles* album on a variety of music streaming services.
- Saturday, March 5 at 8:00 p.m. (Octopus, 2205 College St.)—Local Blues Showcase featuring the Rush Cleveland Trio and Special Guests.

Finally, later in the spring, keep an eye out for the Eddie Bowles Historical Tour, an augmented reality walking/biking tour that will take you to sites in Cedar Falls that played an important role in Eddie Bowles's experience.

Eddie Bowles's Blues has been a collaborative effort, and there are many people to thank. The primary work on this exhibit was undertaken by students in



Scan here to listen to Eddie Bowles's "Strolling Blues" (1:55)

the Fall 2021 UNI English Senior Seminar. Over the course of a semester, students became immersed in all things related to Eddie Bowles and played a major role in shaping the scope and form of this exhibit. Much thanks to the efforts of Claire Bathurst, Evelyn Brown, Isabell Christensen,

Celeste Eddy, Jennifer Ellingson, Jessica Finer, Garic Hjerleid, Kersten Kahley, Nolan Rochford, Kellen Schmidt, Ashley Webb, and Macy Wunschel.

A number of others also deserve recognition for sharing stories about Eddie Bowles, helping with research or providing access to recordings. Thanks to Thomas Berry, Denny Bowman, Bill Cagley, Rush Cleveland, Lee Geisinger, Dave Gibson, Lucas Gray, Sadie Hilton, Julie Huffman-Klinkowitz, Karen Im-

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