



2026 Fall Symposium



Welcome to the 2026 CGSI Symposium at the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids. We are looking forward to an incredible day of learning, discovery, and community as we cap off a wonderful week of heritage programming. Today features a robust program designed to expand your genealogy toolkit:

	Start	End	A	B
Start	9:00 AM	9:15	Welcome	
1	9:30	10:30	Brainstorming your Family History, Getting Started and Finishing with Success. <i>Karen Cervený Cermak</i>	Researching with Czech and Slovak Newspapers. <i>Jason Cadek</i>
2	10:45	11:45	From Broken to Belonging: How Replacing Victor's Headstone Reconnected My Family. <i>April Earle</i>	Artificial Intelligence (AI): Friend or Foe? <i>Jason Cadek</i>
Lunch	12:00	1:00 PM	Lunch	
3	1:15	2:15	When AI Becomes a Genealogist's Collaborator: Tracing a 1917 Refugee Escape. <i>Gil Bardige</i>	
4	2:30	3:30	Local Resources available from the Linn County Genealogy Society. <i>Judi Pohorsky</i>	Using DNA to Break Through "Brick Walls" <i>Jason Cadek</i>
5	3:45	4:45	CGSI & NCSML Archives: <i>Jason Cadek & Dave Muhlana</i>	
End	4:45	5:00 PM	Closing	

A huge thank you to NCSML, especially Dave, Anna, Chelsey and Cecilia for hosting us. And thanks to each of you in sharing the day with us – together we hope to Learn, Share and Connect. Special thanks to our speakers.