**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact**:

Erika Holst
217-782-7152
erika.holst@illinois.gov

**Illinois State Museum Seeks Photos for Exhibit on Immigrants**

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Who was the first person in your family to come to Illinois? The Illinois State Museum invites you to share their story by sharing family photos.

In preparation for a new exhibition highlighting immigrants to Illinois from the 18th century to today, the Illinois State Museum invites residents of Illinois to share a photo and brief biography of the first person in their family to come to this state.  Photographs received will be printed and posted on a photo mural at the museum. Photos will also be viewable electronically through the Illinois State Museum’s Facebook page.

Photos should be submitted, via email, by December 15, 2018 to exhibit curator Erika Holst at erika.holst@illinois.gov. Those submitting photos should include the following information: immigrant’s name, birth and death dates, country of origin, year arrived in Illinois, occupation, and nominator’s name.  Please feel free to write a brief biography or share additional information, as well. Photos should be between 150 and 300 dpi (dots per inch) at 100 percent.

The “We Are Illinoisans” exhibit will open February 23, 2019 and run through mid-June, 2019 at the Illinois State Museum in Springfield.