

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

February 2, 2024

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Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

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Updates from Local History Services



[Black History Observance, 1984](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

U.S. 250 MEETING SERIES

The Indiana Historical Society's Local History Services Department and Indiana Humanities have teamed up to bring you a series of FREE virtual and in-person meetings throughout this year as we begin to prepare for the U.S. Semiquincentennial.

Each virtual brown bag meeting will feature an in-depth discussion on a topic related to the U.S. 250th commemoration, and the in-person regional meetings will include news about planning at the state and national level and the chance to brainstorm local ideas (more details coming soon). Join us in February as we kick off the series!

VIRTUAL BROWN BAG

[The U.S. 250th: Doing History](#)

Feb. 22, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (Eastern) – Join us on Zoom for a moderated panel discussion on the topic of how we do history – what history is, the many ways it is done, and why it matters. The discussion will last approximately one hour, with an additional half hour for audience Q&A. [RSVP here](#).

Around Indiana



[300 Block of Indiana Avenue Looking Northwest, ca. 1950s-60s](#) (City of Indianapolis, Department of Metropolitan Development, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

Submissions are due **Feb. 9** for the [2024 Indiana Eclipse Poetry Contest](#). Cash prizes are

available. (Indiana Humanities)

Promising Progress – in 2023, encouraging progress signaled a [safer future for formerly threatened historic sites](#) in Bedford, Columbus, Gary, and Delphi. (Indiana Landmarks)

IN-PERSON EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

PLEASE NOTE: For in-person programs, please check with the hosting organization regarding any COVID-19 restrictions and/or requirements.

[First Friday Art Show – Black History Month: Then & Now](#)

Feb. 2, Indianapolis – A group show curated by InSight Art highlights Indiana artists' expressions of Black heritage. (Indiana Landmarks)

[A History of Women of Color in Junior League](#)

Feb. 4, Evansville – This special Black History Month presentation about the history of women of color in Junior League will be presented by Zena Martin. (Evansville African American Museum)

[Black Baseball in the Summit City](#)

Feb. 4, Fort Wayne – Tim Tassler will talk about the rich history of black baseball in Fort Wayne. (The History Center)

[Exhibition: Unmasked: The Anti-Lynching Exhibits of 1935 and Community Remembrance in Indiana](#)

Feb. 6-16, South Bend – This exhibition offers a powerful look into two competing artistic responses to racial violence during the 1930s, with lessons for our world today. (Civil Rights Heritage Center)

[Valentines Workshop](#)

Feb. 10, Franklin – Learn about the history of Valentine's Day, see beautiful historic valentines for inspiration, and then create a holiday masterpiece of your own. (Johnson County Museum of History)

[Conversations in Indiana African American History and Culture](#)

Feb. 15, Indianapolis – Leon Bates, local historian, veteran, and educator, will present a talk on the life of Lieutenant Colonel Joseph H. Ward, M.D. (Freetown Village; event at Indiana Landmarks Center)

[Chew on This: What's on Your Plate?](#)

Feb. 21, multiple locations – Share a meal from a local restaurant at one of eight locations for a fun, insightful conversation about what we consume, how we consume, and the impact of what we put on our plates. (Indiana Humanities)

[Victorian Tea](#)

March 2, Franklin – Take part in an afternoon tea and enjoy a presentation from Marsha Miller about the suffragists of Indiana. (Johnson County Museum of History)

[Whitewater Canal Symposium and CSI Annual Meeting](#)

April 13, Connersville – The day will feature an exciting program lineup that explores the Whitewater valley, canal and railroad. (Canal Society of Indiana; event at the Fayette County Historical Museum)

TRAVELING EXHIBITS

Indiana organizations can borrow professional-quality [traveling exhibits](#) from the Indiana Historical Society.

You can visit exhibits at the sites below. Please check with the hosting organization regarding any on-site COVID-19 restrictions.

Securing the Vote: Women's Suffrage in Indiana

Through Feb. 25, Clinton ([Clinton Public Library](#))

Groundbreaking Black Hoosiers

Through Feb. 25, Rensselaer ([Jasper County Public Library](#))

Local Speech, Global Reach

Through Feb. 29, Indianapolis ([St. Luke's United Methodist Church](#))

Indiana Through the Mapmaker's Eye

Through March 3, Columbia City ([Whitley County Historical Museum](#))

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

NEW EXHIBIT

[The Past in our Present – Protest](#)

Feb. 3-Oct. 25 – The newest display in the Past in our Present rotating gallery explores the history of “protest” in our state.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Power and Impact of the Black Press](#)

Feb. 6 – Join prominent historians in a panel discussion on the importance of Black newspapers to the construction of the historical narrative.

[Library Show-and-Tell](#)

Feb. 10 – Join the librarians of the William H. Smith Memorial Library for an informal conversation about unique objects in the Indiana Historical Society collections.

[Stories from the Stacks: Indiana's Circus History](#)

Feb. 17 – Get a special look at the collections of the Indiana Historical Society on the topic of circus history.

VOLUNTEER FOR NATIONAL HISTORY DAY IN INDIANA

The 2024 National History Day in Indiana contests begin around the state in February, and we are seeking volunteer judges. [Learn more and sign up today!](#) Stop by the St. Joseph County Public Library **South Bend on Feb. 3** between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. to meet the NHDI team and learn more about judging for NHDI.

What We're Reading This Week



[The Commodore, Vol. 40, No. 7, January 13, 1983](#) (Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Nominations are due March 1 for the [2024 Leadership in History Awards](#) that recognize excellence and innovative achievements in projects, programs, exhibits, publications, and people in state and local history. (AASLH)

A Spanish translation of *Making History at 250: The Field Guide for the Semiquincentennial* is now available. This resource includes guiding themes to help the history community prepare exhibits, programs, and events for 2026. Download the Field Guide in [Spanish](#) or [English](#).

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

Out of sight: How museums can harness [the blind perspective to enrich visitor experiences](#). (AAM)

AUDIENCE AND COMMUNITY

The power of [event legacy](#) and how to create one. (Nonprofit Learning Lab)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

[Three strategies for introducing new technology](#) in your nonprofit. (Nonprofit Leadership Alliance)

Navigating your life with [purposeful leadership](#). (Forbes)

NEED A BREAK?

This Groundhog Day, find out the [ancient origins of the modern celebration](#). (Library of Congress)

Craving the sun? This collection offers [prismatic ways of understanding our relationship to the sun](#) from art to astronomy to solar energy. (Smithsonian)

An astounding composite of 90,000 images unveils the [sun's hidden atmosphere](#). (This is Colossal)

Learning Opportunities



[Prepare for 'Black History Month'. 1983](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

[Sharing Our Human-Centered Workplace Practices Will Uplift Us All](#)

Feb. 7 – Micah Parzen, CEO of the Museum of Us, will lead a webinar/workshop combo to share his recent work on the creation of a human-centered workplace. (MuseumExpert)

[How to Build Resilience: Climate Impacts and Cultural Heritage](#)

Feb. 8 – This webinar will share the framework and tools you need to get started on your own climate resilience strategy. (CCAHA)

[AACHAF Conversation Series: Institution & Stewardship](#)

Feb. 13 – Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. unpacks the legacy work of stewarding historic Black churches alongside four Action Fund partners representing sacred sites across the country. (National Trust for Historic Preservation)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

[Doing History in Polarized Times – Virtual Summit](#)

Feb. 8-9 – This virtual summit will explore recent research, emerging strategies, and case studies to help history practitioners work more effectively in today’s fractious discourse. \$75. (AASLH)

[Donor Engagement, Donor Retention](#)

Feb. 8 – This webinar will explore a range of practical, effective strategies designed to engage your donors meaningfully. \$19.74. (Lilly Family School of Philanthropy)

[Strategies for Born-Digital Collections](#)

Feb. 8 – Learn about how to develop or refine your organization’s collecting and preservation practices for content originating in a digital form. \$95. (NEDCC)

[Mexican and Chicano Genealogy Webinar](#)

Feb. 10 – Dive into records from Mexico and the American Southwest and learn key research strategies in this all-day genealogy seminar. \$40. (Wisconsin Historical Society)

[Fundraising for Small Nonprofits](#)

Feb. 12-March 3 – Learn about effective fundraising practices for smaller nonprofits. Also offered in-person in Indianapolis March 18-19. \$199. (Lilly Family School of Philanthropy)

[Digitization for Small Institutions](#)

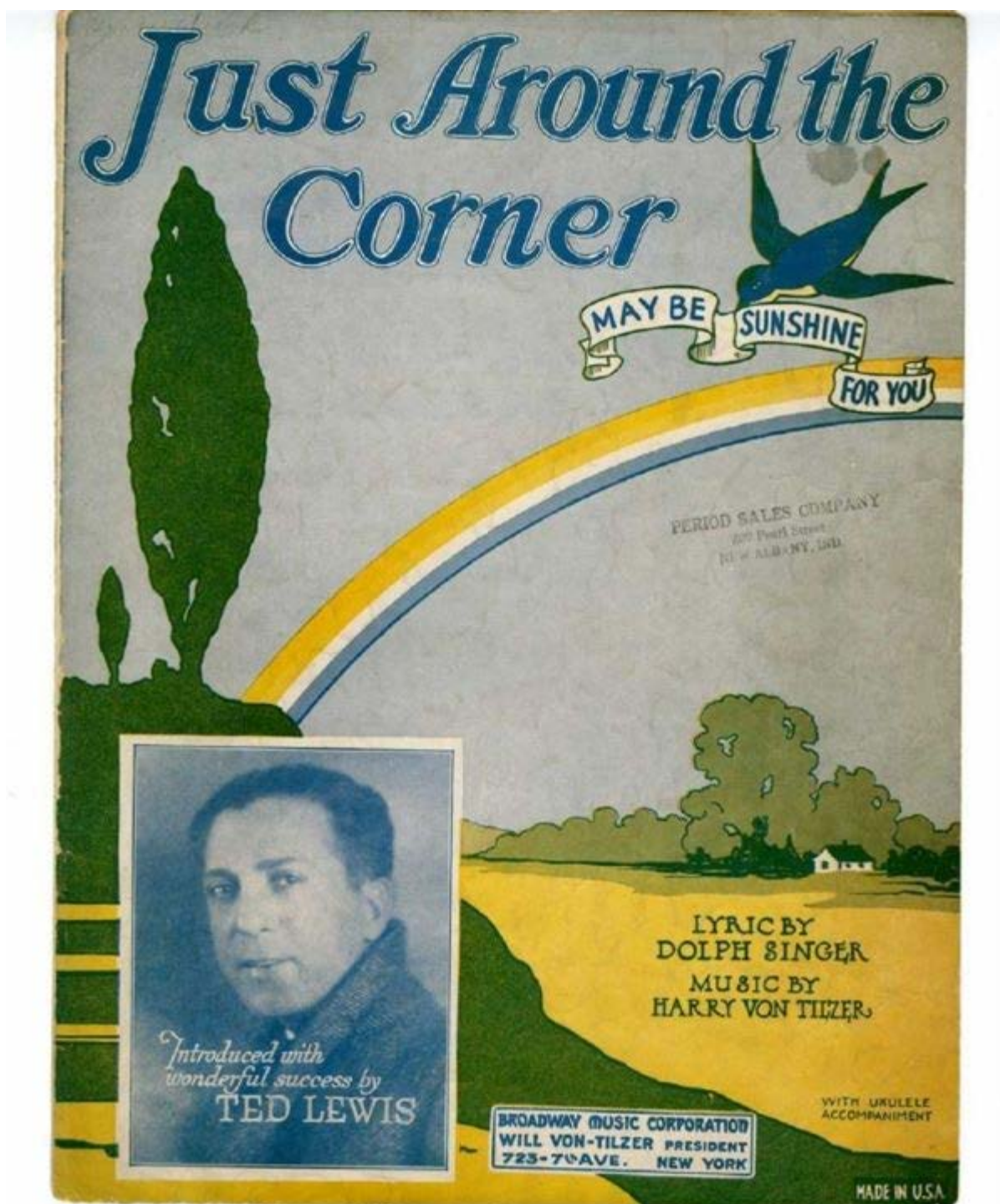
Feb. 15 – This session covers the basics of project planning, equipment selection, digitization preparation, and more. \$125; \$100 members. (Lyrasis)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

[Small Museum Association Annual Conference](#)

Feb. 19-21, Richmond, Va. – Attend sessions on topics ranging from collections and education to staffing and board issues. \$300. (SMA)

Funding Available



[Just around the corner. ca. 1925](#) (Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPOTLIGHT

[Challenge America Grants](#)

Due April 25 – Challenge America offers support primarily to small organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved groups/communities. Challenge America features an abbreviated application, a robust structure of technical assistance, and grants for a set amount of \$10,000. (National Endowment for the Arts)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[2024 AAM Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo Scholarships](#)

Due Feb. 2 (AAM)

[Community Development Block Grants: Planning Grants](#)

Due Feb. 16 (Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs)

[Collections Assessment for Preservation Program](#)

Due Feb. 28 (American Institute for Conservation)

[Historic Preservation Education Grants](#)

Due Feb. 29 (Indiana Humanities and Indiana Landmarks)

[Uncommon Grants](#)

Due Feb. 29 (Indiana Humanities)

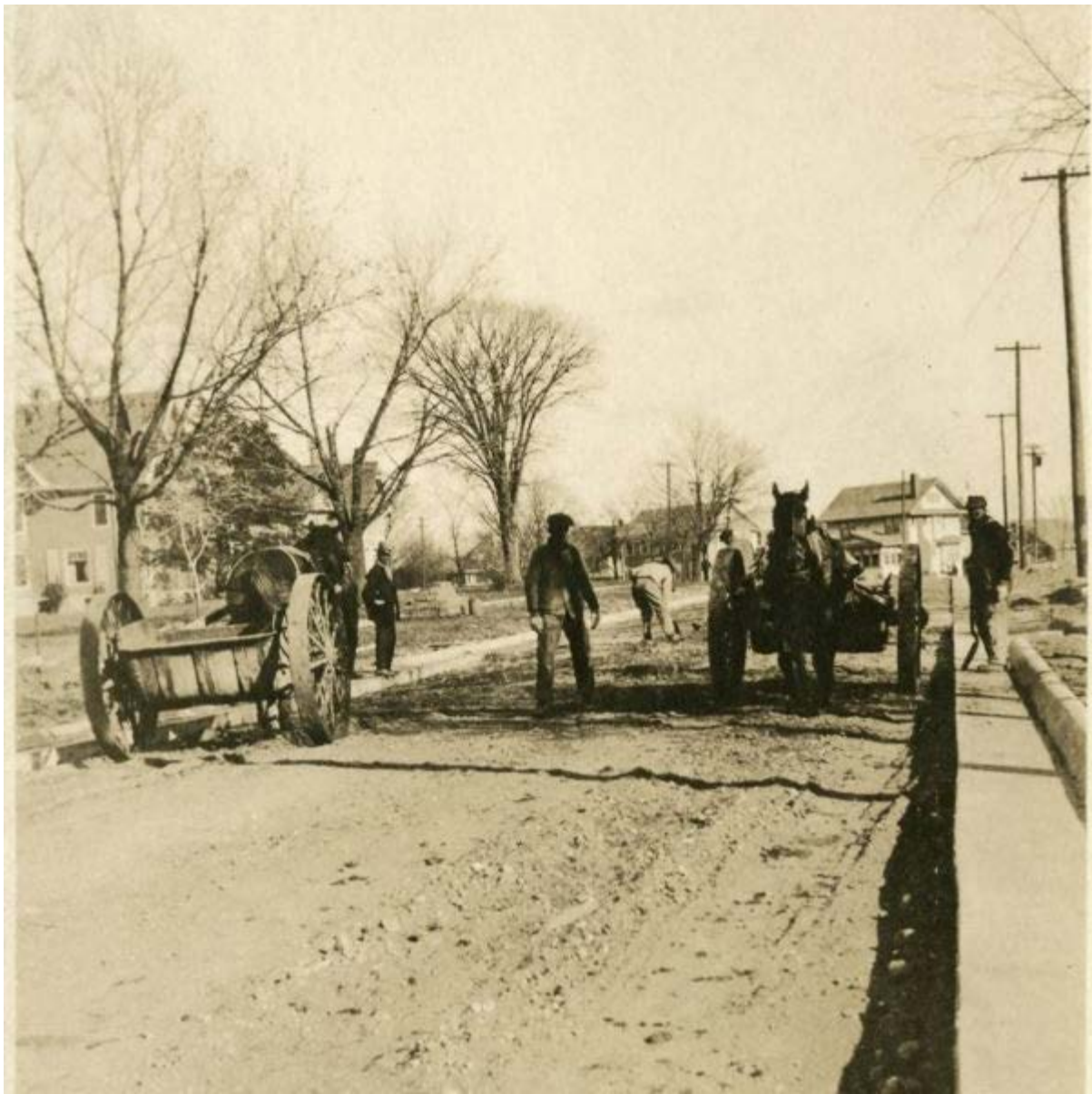
[Center for Collections Care at Beloit College Scholarships](#)

Due March 1 (Beloit College – Beloit, Wis.)

[Historic Preservation Fund – Semiquincentennial Grant Program](#)

Due March 5 (National Park Service)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Asphalt Paving, ca. 1910](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0411)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Mennonite Historical Library Curator](#)

Goshen – Goshen College

[Director of Archives and Special Collections](#)

Muncie – Ball State University-University Libraries

REGIONAL

[Associate Director of Education](#)

Springfield, Ill. – Illinois State Museum

[KHS America250KY Commission Manager](#)

Frankfort, Ky. – Kentucky Historical Society

[Historian](#)

Hodgenville, Ky. – Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park, National Park Service

[Communications Coordinator](#)

St. Louis, Mo. – Missouri Historical Society

[Community Programs and Engagement Manager](#)

Milwaukee, Wis. – Milwaukee County Historical Society

Orphans Corner

Do you have an item you would like to donate to an Indiana museum or nonprofit? We'll list it here! Email us at col@indianahistory.org and we'll list it for you!

This is a free publication. Anyone may subscribe.

To submit a news release, email col@indianahistory.org by noon Wednesday for same-week publication. Some exceptions may apply.

We'd love your input on this e-newsletter! [Use this form](#) to give us your feedback.

[Local History Services](#)

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