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Local history services

Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations
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Updates from Local History Services
FREE 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.
NEWS
The DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archeology has announced the 2024 Historic Preservation Month Photo Contest. Grab your camera and take photos of your favorite historic place in Indiana! **Submissions are due April 5.**

Indiana Landmarks is accepting nominations for the Sandi Servaas Memorial Award, which recognizes outstanding achievement in historic preservation. **Nominations are due April 15,** and self-nominations are welcome.

Venerable venues: Inside Indiana’s most historic state basketball tournament sites. (Wane.com)
Communique Online

Baptisttown, the neighborhood surrounding the Evansville African American Museum, is now on the National Register of Historic Places. (Evansville Living)

Evansville’s USS LST-325 left its dock on Jan. 14 for a one-week voyage to Texas for a Coast Guard inspection. (Evansville Living)

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.

Black History Month Exhibit
Now-Feb. 29, La Porte – This exhibit celebrates black businesses and influential black residents of La Porte County. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

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)

Pioneer Land Spinners
Feb. 10, La Porte – Learn how pioneers made their textiles from these knowledgeable women. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

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)

No Rolling Stones: A Landscape Perspective of the Dry Stack Stone Walls of Monroe County
Feb. 17, Bloomington – Join Susan Snider Salmon as we look at the stories of what is known and examine what remains to be rediscovered. (Monroe County History Center)

Documentary Screening: Reviving the West Baden Colored Church
Feb. 22, Indianapolis – See a 2023 documentary that chronicles the growth, decline, and restoration of West Baden Springs’ First Baptist (Colored) Church. (Indiana Landmarks Center)

Hidden Figures: Celebrating Notable African American Women of Delaware County
Feb. 22, Muncie – Hear stories about some of the bold and amazing women who made history but were hidden from the history books. (Muncie Public Library)

Roberts Settlement: Our Roots, Our Legacy
Feb. 23, Carmel – Learn about the fascinating history behind Hamilton County's Roberts Settlement, a community founded by free Black families in the 1830s. (Carmel Clay Public Library)

Ancestry 101
Feb. 24, Frankfort – FCPL Genealogy Manager Jill Garrison will talk about the variety of records found on Ancestry.com as well as the different types of subscriptions available. (Frankfort Community Public Library)

Gallery Talk: The Curious History of Cursive Writing
March 5, Elkhart – Beth Hall, Docent, will present this Gallery Talk on the topic of cursive writing. (Ruthmere)
Kickoff to St. Patrick's Day at St. Michael's
March 10, Madison – Enjoy the historic space, learn a little history of the building and the people who once frequented it, and taste a selection of Irish teas. (Historic Madison Inc.; event at St. Michael the Archangel)

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

FROM THE BLOG
Why is there a China, Indiana? (And Other Questions Answered)
Learn about some of the places and names in Indiana that were inspired by the cities and countries of Asia.

Gene Stratton-Porter: A Hoosier Renaissance Woman
As an outspoken naturalist, Stratton-Porter advocated for the preservation of Indiana's Limberlost Swamp through her photography and stories.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Library Show-and-Tell

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!

What We're Reading This Week
RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD
Applications are due Feb. 15 for the Museum Assessment Program, a one-year process of self-assessment, institutional activities, and consultative peer review with a site visit and recommendations. (AAM)

The free virtual Interpreting African American History and Culture Resource Kit features a collection of recorded conference sessions, webinars, History News articles, books, and other resources. (AASLH)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION
Seizing the moment: how museum outreach and programming can champion overlooked communities. (AAM)

AUDIENCE AND COMMUNITY
Nonprofit Advertising 101: what it is & how it helps. (Nonprofit Learning Lab)

FUNDRAISING
10 strategies to celebrate nonprofit donors on Valentine’s Day. (Clairification)
How nonprofits can leverage organic social media to increase fundraising. (Nonprofit Tech for Good)

How to plan a fundraising gala: 12 planning tips + 5 elegant ideas. (Wild Apricot)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
Five lessons for creating an effective (and accountable) nonprofit board. (Blue Avocado)

Three types of overthinking – and how to overcome them. (Harvard Business Review)

NEED A BREAK?
The ornate, the aromatic, the cruel – see a stunning collection of treasured Valentine’s cards from the Victoria and Albert Museum. (Aeon)

Valentine’s Day and cacao, the food of the gods. (New York Public Library)

A short and sweet history of the Whitman’s Sampler. (Mental Floss)

These 20 Indiana sweets & candy shops will satisfy any sweet tooth. (Visit Indiana)
FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

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)

Creative Solutions for Accessibility
Feb. 15 – This webinar will present case studies demonstrating how organizations can find unique approaches to advancing access for people with disabilities. (CCAHA)

Deep dive into Subpart C of NAGPRA
Feb. 16 – This webinar is part of the National NAGPRA Program’s series of 10 webinars on the new regulations. (National Park Service)
Controlled Vocabularies
Feb. 19 – Learn how structured and standardized vocabularies enhance search precision, streamline data categorization, and improve overall information management. (Backlog)

Working with Facilities to Create a Fuller Picture of Your Collection Environment
Feb. 29 – Learn how you can work with facilities to create a better understanding of your building. (Connecting to Collections Care)

VIRTUAL TRAINING
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)

Caring for Scrapbooks
Feb. 15 – Learn how to provide the best level of care for scrapbook collections. $70. (NEDCC)

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

Visitor Motivations for Selecting Programs
March 4-30 – Learn how to do research into what motivates your visitors. $499. (Northern States Conservation Center)

Introduction to Museum Endowments
March 11-April 12 – Learn about the structure, benefits, and challenges of endowment fund management. $275; $175 members. (AASLH)

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)

Project Management for History Professionals
Feb. 29-March 1, Overland Park, Kan. – Learn how to implement internationally recognized project management principles in a history context. $475; $350 members. (AASLH)

Funding Available
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPOTLIGHT

Collections Assessment for Preservation Program
Due Feb. 28 – The CAP program provides small and mid-sized museums with partial funding toward a general conservation assessment. The assessment is a study of all the institution's collections, buildings, and building systems, as well as its policies and procedures relating to collections care.

Wilma Gibbs Moore Fellowships
Due April 30 – Wilma Gibbs Moore Fellowships of $5,000 will support humanities scholars as they conduct new research that explores anti-Black racial injustice and structural racism in Indiana and considers how Black Hoosiers have responded. (Indiana Humanities)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

Community Development Block Grants: Planning Grants
Due Feb. 16 (Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs)

Historic Preservation Education Grants
Due Feb. 29 (Indiana Humanities and Indiana Landmarks)

Incommon Grants
Due Feb. 29 (Indiana Humanities)

Center for Collections Care at Beloit College Scholarships
Due March 1 (Beloit College – Beloit, Wis.)
21st Century Museum Professionals Program  
Due March 1 (IMLS)

Historic Preservation Fund – Semiquincentennial Grant Program  
Due March 5 (National Park Service)

Local & Regional Job Openings

Atkins Flower Shop, 1928 (Indiana Historical Society, M0634)

LOCAL
The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!
See open positions here.

Director, Southwest Field Office
Evansville – Indiana Landmarks

Museum Curator
Sullivan – Sullivan County Public Library

REGIONAL
Associate Director of Education
Springfield, Ill. – Illinois State Museum
Collections Specialist

Collections Specialist – Cataloger

Collections Processing & Cataloging Manager
St. Paul, Minn. – Minnesota Historical Society

Site Manager
St. Paul, Minn. – Minnesota Historical Society

Archivist
Nashville, Tenn. – Tennessee State Library and Archives

Executive Director
Milwaukee, Wis. – Jewish Museum Milwaukee

PAID INTERNSHIPS
Summer Internships
Indianapolis, Ind. – Indiana Landmarks

Education Assistant Internship
Lincoln City, Ind. – American Conservation Experience: Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

2024 Historic Sites' Internship
Decatur, Ill. – Macon County Conservation District

Education Assistant Internship
Hodgenville, Ky. – American Conservation Experience: Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park

Archives & Library Graduate Intern
Dearborn, Mich. – The Henry Ford

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