

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

December 13, 2024

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Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

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Updates from Local History Services



[Infant in a Sled, ca. 1920](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0469)

WINTER READING

Warm up with a good book! The winter season can be a great time to catch up on some reading and reflect on our work in the history field. Below you'll find a sampling of books from our [Lending Resource Center](#). Indiana history organizations can borrow these and other books at no charge, and we'll even ship them to you. To borrow a book, email localhistoryservices@indianahistory.org.

- *Building Smart Nonprofits: A Roadmap for Mission Success*
- *Creating Signature Stories: Strategic Messaging That Persuades, Energizes and Inspires*
- *Educational Programs: Innovative Practices for Archives and Special Collections*
- *Interpretive Master Planning: A Framework for Historical Sites*
- *Inventoring Cultural Heritage Collections: A Guide for Museums and Historical Societies*
- *Mastering Civic Engagement: A Challenge to Museums*
- *Reinventing the Museum: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on the Paradigm Shift*

Around Indiana



["Brother It's Cold Outside". 1972](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

A new touring exhibit, [The American Revolution Experience](#), will travel to four sites in Indiana in early 2025. The exhibit is a collaborative project of the American Battlefield Trust and the Daughters of the American Revolution. The exhibit will visit these Indiana sites:

- **Jan. 9-18, Alexandria** – Madison County Farm Bureau 4-H Building
- **Feb. 3-12, Brookville** – Franklin County Courthouse
- **Feb. 14-28, Franklin** – Johnson County Museum of History
- **March 1-12, Madison** – Madison-Jefferson County Public Library

The Canal Society of Indiana has created a [website](#) with information about state and local history connected to the canal era, including free classroom materials, lesson plans, interactive maps, biographies, audio visuals, and more. Questions may be directed to RVMorris@BSU.edu.

The Indiana Lincoln Highway Association has launched [four new detailed turn-by-turn road guides of the 1913 and 1928 routes](#) of the Indiana Lincoln Highway Byway. (Indiana Lincoln Highway Association)

The historic [Spring Mill Inn has reopened](#) after two years of renovations. (Indiana Public Media)

The Indiana Music History Project has [received a substantial project grant](#) from the Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation. The grant will fund an oral history collection program to document the stories of at least 50 people who have played a significant part in Indiana's music history. (Waynedale News)

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.

[Prancer Film Exhibit](#)

Now-Dec. 28, La Porte – Learn about the classic Christmas film Prancer and its connection to La Porte, and see props and other memorabilia on display. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

[A Visit with Santa](#)

Dec. 14, Franklin – Meet Santa and get one free 4x6 photograph with him, and enjoy a free craft activity. (Johnson County Museum of History)

[Christmas on the Avenue Historic Homes Tour](#)

Dec. 14, Greendale – Visit five homes on historic Ridge Avenue in Greendale and one bonus home in Lawrenceburg. (Dearborn County Historical Society)

[Christmas Open House](#)

Dec. 14, Greensburg – Tour the museum and enjoy holiday decorations from yesteryear, hear live musical performances, take your picture with the iconic Minear's Department Store Santa, and more. (Historical Society of Decatur County)

[Historic Posey House Holiday Tours](#)

Dec. 15, Corydon – Visit the Historic Posey House and see wooden models built by local woodworker Charles Schaffer which will be decorated with lights for the holidays. (Historical Society of Harrison County)

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

SIGN UP TO JUDGE FOR NATIONAL HISTORY DAY IN INDIANA 2025

We are seeking [judges for National History Day in Indiana 2025](#) regional competitions.

Competitions take place on Saturdays from mid-February to mid-March and judges are needed from about 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Volunteer hours and PGP points for teachers are available. [Sign up here.](#)

FROM THE BLOG

[Once Upon a Tie: National Tie Month](#)

According to National Day Calendar, December is National Tie Month. In celebration of this month and the classic gift, explore fun images of people donning their neckties.

UNBOUND PODCAST

[Down The Rabbit Hole: Photographic Rabbit Holes: What, Where, and Who is That](#)

Hear about tips and tricks our staff have used to provide a better description or answer questions about photographs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[2024 Festival of Trees](#)

Now-Jan. 4 – This year's Festival of Trees features a winter wonderland of more than 80 trees representing individuals, families and companies from around Indiana.

[Library Show-and-Tell](#)

Dec. 14 – Join the librarians of the William H. Smith Memorial Library for an informal conversation about unique objects in the Indiana Historical Society Collections.

[Good Cheers and Ugly Sweaters](#)

Dec. 20 – Don your gay apparel and join us for a special happy hour!

[Stories from the Stacks: Hoosier Holidays](#)

Dec. 21 – Stories spring to life in this special look at the collections of the Indiana Historical Society.

What We're Reading This Week



[*Giant Snowman in Backyard. n.d.*](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0468)

RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD

How museums preserve history: [maintenance secrets](#). (FacilitiesNet)

The Dutch Rijksmuseum has [launched an AI tool](#) to help make connections in 800,000-strong collection. The [“art explorer” project](#) allows the Dutch museum's vast holdings to be more searchable. (The Art Newspaper)

The USDA Forest Service is seeking assistance in the protection and management of significant cultural resources on public lands through its [Heritage Program](#). Submit an Outreach of Interest form to signal your interest in the USDA Forest Service exploring with you your ideas/projects/programs and federal funding opportunities. (Grants.gov)

U.S. 250 NEWS AND RESOURCES

Celebrating 250: [creative inspiration](#) for U.S. Semiquincentennial museum programs. (Museum 411)

In Fall 2025, PBS will premiere [The American Revolution](#), a six-part film from Ken Burns, Sarah Botstein, and David Schmidt. If your organization is interested in learning more about this initiative and potentially partnering with a PBS member station, [learn more here](#). (PBS; Ken Burns)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

Engaging older adults: successful [museum programs that combat social isolation and](#)

[ageism](#). (Museum 411)

AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

Your go-to [volunteer management guide](#): tips for nonprofits. (Bloomerang)

FUNDRAISING

What is [the secret to successful grant writing](#)? (Blue Avocado)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

How to write an outstanding [nonprofit annual report](#). (Firespring)

You can learn anything through [reverse engineering](#). (Harvard Business Review)

NEED A BREAK?

“How he came to life one day”: check out these 19th and early 20th century [photographs of snowmen](#). (Public Domain Review)

Here are [25 things you might not know about sledding](#); plus explore the interesting story of [the Flexible Flyer: “the sled that steers.”](#) (Mental Floss; U.S. Patent and Trademark Office)

Warm up with a [brief history of hot chocolate](#), explore a historical collection of [gorgeous chocolate pots](#), and then try these nine heavenly [hot chocolate recipes from around the world](#). (The Spruce Eats; The Met; WorldStrides)

Learning Opportunities



Kids Sledding at Strawberry Hill, 1943 (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

[Removing Barriers and Opening Doors: Finding Ways to Improve Accessibility and Inclusion](#)

Dec. 13 – Hear practical advice for working toward a more open and welcoming museum no matter what the size of the organization. (Museum Association of New York)

[Accounting for Nonprofits](#)

Dec. 18 – Learn how to outsource your accounting to help save time in advancing your nonprofit's mission. (TechSoup)

[Care of Newspaper Clippings](#)

Jan. 7 – Learn about why newsprint deteriorates so rapidly and discover a range of different approaches to newspaper preservation. (Connecting to Collections Care)

[How to Create a 2025 Fundraising Game Plan](#)

Jan. 14 – Gain actionable tools and insights to confidently close out last year, reflect on successes and challenges, and hit the ground running to achieve your goals in 2025. (GrantStation)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

[Digital Exhibitions Summit](#)

Dec. 16-17 – The summit will share important trends, the latest strategies and inspiring projects from around the globe. \$165. (MuseumNext)

[Designing Accessible Online and In-Person Presentations](#)

Jan. 30 – Learn the basics of accessible presentation design for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing

and Blind/Low Vision communities. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

[The Indiana Association of Historians is accepting presentation proposals](#) for the 45th Annual Conference to be held April 4-5, 2025, at Hanover College. The 2025 theme is "Revolutionary Eras: Long Past, Gone Astray, and Still Underway." **Proposals are due Dec. 15.** (IAH)

Funding Available



[War Camp Community Service, soldiers, sailors and women at General Omar Bundy Club, interior, 1919](#)
(Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPOTLIGHT

[Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections Grants](#)

Jan. 10 – There are three levels of funding for this program: Planning grants provide funding to develop and assess environmentally sustainable preventive care strategies in collection spaces; and Implementation Level I and Level II grants provide funding for institutions to implement environmentally sustainable preventive care projects. (NEH)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[Advancing Informal STEM Learning Grants](#)

Due Jan. 8 (U.S. National Science Foundation)

[Media Projects Grants](#)

Due Jan. 8 (NEH)

[Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions](#)

Due Jan. 9 (NEH)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Opening of Hook Drugs at 11th Street. ca. 1955](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Director of Marketing and Community Relations](#)

South Bend – The History Museum

[Archivist/Assistant Professor](#)

Terre Haute – Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College

[Executive Director](#)

Indiana Statewide – Indiana Barn Foundation

REGIONAL

[Director of Advancement](#)

Newaygo, Mich. – Heritage Museum of Newaygo County

[Historic Incentives Coordinator](#)

Lincoln, Neb. – History Nebraska

[Review & Compliance Coordinator: Standing Structures](#)

Lincoln, Neb. – History Nebraska

[Museum Archivist](#)

Milwaukee, Wis. – Harley-Davidson Museum

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!

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Some exceptions may apply.

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[Local History Services](#)

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