

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

January 24, 2025

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Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

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Updates from Local History Services



[Lowe Brothers Paint Store. 1949](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0569)

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR HERITAGE SUPPORT GRANTS

Grant applications are now open for projects that will help Indiana's local history organizations meet high-priority needs in areas of: Collections Stewardship; Diversity, Equity, Access and Inclusion; Sustainability; and Planning.

- [Mini Grants](#) (\$500 to \$4,999)
Due March 28
- [Project Grants](#) (\$5,000 to \$50,000)
Due April 30 (Summary of Proposal)

[LEARN MORE AND APPLY](#)

Heritage Support Grants are provided by the Indiana Historical Society and made possible by Lilly Endowment Inc.

Around Indiana



[Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana \(Near the Mouth of the Great Miami\). 1856](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0211)

NEWS

Applications are due Jan. 31 to host the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street exhibition [Voices and Votes: Democracy in America](#) for six weeks in 2026 or 2027. Organizations in towns of under 10,000 residents are eligible to apply. (Indiana Humanities)

Lt. Gov. Micah Beckwith and the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs have announced that [three Indiana Main Street organizations have earned the designation of Nationally Accredited Main Streets](#): Corydon Main Street, Main Street Greensburg, and Heart

of Jasper. (OCRA)

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.

[Exhibit: Infinite Gauge: Makenzie Goodman and Adam Stacey](#)

Now-Feb. 22, New Harmony – This presentation of artworks mounts a dialogue with the waterways of Indiana, specifically the Wabash and White Rivers, as a lens through which time might be considered in a comprehensive sense. (New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art)

[Curated Tour with Quinn](#)

Jan. 25, Valparaiso – This in-depth tour will include additional local stories and feature other objects not normally on display. (Porter County Museum)

[January Quarterly Event with Dr. Ronald Van Stockum](#)

Jan. 28, Corydon – Dr. Ronald Van Stockum will speak about his recent publication *Surrounding Fort Knox Including Southern Indiana*. (Historical Society of Harrison County; event at the Harrison County Community Foundation)

[Symposium: Frederick Douglass and Benjamin Harrison Confront the Late 19th Century Problems of Race and Expansion](#)

Jan. 30-31, Indianapolis – This two-day symposium investigates the intertwined legacies of racism and imperialism in late nineteenth-century America. (IU Indianapolis Arts & Humanities Institute and Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site)

[Family History Show and Tell](#)

Feb. 25, Frankfort – Bring a family photograph or heirloom to share with the group. Open to the public. (Clinton County Genealogical Society; Frankfort Community Public Library)

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

FROM THE BLOG

[Surprises from the Archives](#)

An IHS staffer learns that there are photos of her Mamaw in our collection.

UNBOUND PODCAST

[Off to the Races: Indiana's Colored Speedway Association and Hot Air Balloon Racing](#)

Casey and Regan explore the rich history of African American racers and the Colored Speedway Association, plus the races that took place in the air at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Homeschool Workshop: Eva Kor Education Day](#)

Jan. 28 – Join us to celebrate, honor and learn about the legacy of Holocaust Survivor, Eva Kor.

[Love Letters – Early Childhood](#)

Feb. 7 and 8 – For children ages 2-5: Join Ms. Beth and the team as we explore the letters of the alphabet and create valentines for our friends!

[Flavors of the Heartland – February](#)

Feb. 12 – Join us for a monthly taste of history as we highlight the food culture that has shaped and continues to shape the Heartland.

What We're Reading This Week



[Julia Graydon Sharpe Bookplate, 1917](#) (Indiana Historical Society, M0673)

RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Explore a [new collection of 10,046 out-of-copyright works](#), free for all to browse, download, and reuse. [Learn more here](#). (Public Domain Image Archive; Colossal)

Can you [read this cursive handwriting?](#) The National Archives wants your help. (Smithsonian Magazine)

[Place-based learning ideas](#) that can help high school students discover more about their community as they learn to use the historical method. (Edutopia)

The program lead for the British Museum's Where We Are... program discusses [the impact of their youth-led initiative](#). (Museums Association – UK)

Here's how [your cat](#) can be part of the Field Museum's Cats: Predators to Pets exhibit. (Block Club Chicago)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

Stress-free museum visits? How ['quiet hours' are changing the game](#). (MuseumNext)

AUDIENCE AND COMMUNITY

[Engaging museum visitors](#) with "weenies" and "MacGuffins." (Engaging Places)

The blind spots in [museum listening](#). (Museums as Progress)

How nonprofits can [be authentic](#) on social media. (Candid)

FUNDRAISING

[Digital fundraising trends](#) nonprofits need to know for 2025. (Forbes)

[Endowment fundraising](#) is for you. (First Day Podcast from The Fund Raising School)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Authentic leadership: [breaking the cycle of museum politics](#). (Museum 411)

Making the right connections: [16 tips](#) for young and new nonprofit professionals. (Forbes)

NEED A BREAK?

The [surprisingly long history](#) of coloring books. (Time)

Scroll through a [gorgeous 19th-century "painting book"](#) by Golden Age Illustrator Walter Crane. (Public Domain Review)

An interesting short [history of colour photography](#). (National Science and Media Museum, UK)

271 years before Pantone, an artist mixed and described [every color imaginable](#) in an 800-page book – and you can view the entire book online. (Colossal)

Learning Opportunities



[*Children Coloring, 1970*](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0572)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

[Annual Reports: Simplifying the Process for Maximum Donor Engagement](#)

Jan. 29 – Learn how to design an annual report that donors actually want to read. (Productive Fundraising)

[Inviting Our Littlest Learners: How to Create Space and Activities for Early Childhood Education in Your Museum Spaces](#)

Jan. 30 – Learn how the Indiana Historical Society engages with a new, young audience – children ages 2-5. (Texas Historical Commission)

[Maximizing Retail Performance: Units Per Transaction and Average Sales](#)

Feb. 12 – Learn how to drive customer engagement, enhance sales strategies, and optimize your retail operations. (Museum Store Association)

[Big Idea, Big Bucks: Education and Interpretive Planning to Support Fundraising](#)

Feb. 12 – Learn how to translate the work you may already do in planning an exhibition or collection installation into the language of fundraising. (Texas Historical Commission)

[Starting Over After a Strategic Miss](#)

Feb. 19 – Join fellow MaP community members to explore moments when we've had to do a strategic reset or renewal. (Museums as Progress)

[National NAGPRA Program: Definitions of Human Remains and Cultural Items](#)

Feb. 21 – This is part of a series of 10 webinars on the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. (National Park Service: National NAGPRA Program)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

[Activating Environmental Care and Strength at Museums and Historic Sites](#)

Jan. 28-29 – This virtual summit will address how museums and historic sites are impacted by the environment and contribute to greater environmental sustainability. \$75; \$60 members. (AASLH)

[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)

[Makerspaces for Museums and Historic Sites](#)

Feb. 6 – Learn how interactive environments can enhance visitor engagement, spark creativity, and deepen connections to history and culture. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

[Plaster Repair 101](#)

Feb. 5, South Bend – Learn the basics of plaster repair and patching for historic buildings. \$25; \$20 Indiana Landmarks Members. (Indiana Landmarks and South Bend TradeWorks)

[Painting Your Historic House Workshop](#)

Feb. 8, La Porte – Whether you plan to DIY or hire a pro, this workshop will answer all your questions about painting a historic building. \$15; \$10 Indiana Landmarks members; free for Preserve Historic La Porte members. (Indiana Landmarks and Preserve Historic La Porte)

[Building Museums™ Symposium 2025](#)

March 5-7, St. Louis, Mo. – Building Museums™ is a national symposium on the process, promise, and pitfalls of planning and managing museum building projects. Cost varies. (Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums)

[2024 Historic House Museum Summit](#)

April 22-23, Grosse Pointe Shores, Mich. – The 2024 Summit will bring together leaders in the field to discuss the scope and the future of historic house interpretation. \$255; \$215 members. (AASLH)

Funding Available



[*Crescent Products Company Catalog Illustration, 1934*](#) (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPOTLIGHT

[IN Indiana Placemaking Activation Grants](#)

Due Feb. 7 – This grant program looks to create community activations of the IN Indiana identifier throughout the state of Indiana. Potential projects include but are not limited to park enhancements, street beautification projects, historical or decorative statues, community gateway signage, water towers, overpass transformations and more. (Indiana Destination Development Corporation)

[Indiana Destination Development Grants](#)

Due Feb. 7 – Funding is available for high-impact projects that raise Indiana’s capacity for attracting visitors and providing new and unique tourism experiences, while enhancing the quality of life for residents. (Indiana Destination Development Corporation)

[Grants for Arts Projects](#)

Due Feb. 13 (part 1: grants.gov submission) – Funding is available for public engagement with the arts and arts education, for the integration of the arts with strategies promoting the health and well-being of people and communities, and for the improvement of overall capacity and capabilities within the arts sector. (National Endowment for the Arts)

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

Due Feb. 21 – Grants are available for planning, including Historic Preservation plans and Downtown Revitalization plans. The goal of the program is to encourage communities to plan for long-term holistic community development. (Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[Latinos in Heritage Conservation Grants](#)

Due Feb. 15 (Latinos in Heritage Conservation)

[Historic Preservation Education Grants](#)

Due Feb. 28 (Indiana Humanities)

[Wilma Gibbs Moore Fellowships](#)

Draft applications due Feb. 28; final applications due April 30 (Indiana Humanities)

[Arts Project Support Grants](#)

Due March 4 (Indiana Arts Commission)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Students Paint the Walls of School 55 Dining Room. 1910](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0559)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Special Exhibits Engagement Specialist](#) (Intermittent)
Indianapolis – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

[Early Childhood Intermittent Program Specialist](#) (Intermittent)
Indianapolis – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

REGIONAL

[Archival Program Administrator](#)
Springfield, Ill. – Illinois Records Management Division

[Director of Development](#)
Davenport, Iowa – The German American Heritage Center and Museum

[Senior Manager for Sales](#)
Lansing, Mich. – Historical Society of Michigan

[Executive Director](#)
South Haven, Mich. – Michigan Maritime Museum

[Collections Manager](#)
Chisholm, Minn. – Minnesota Discovery Center

[Executive Director](#)
Moorhead, Minn. – Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County

[Director](#)
Walnut Grove, Minn. – Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum

[Archivist](#)
St. Louis, Mo. – Gateway Arch National Park, Jefferson National Parks Association

PAID INTERNSHIPS

[Kristen Fuhs Wells Communications Intern](#)
Indianapolis – Indiana Humanities

[Collections Internship](#)
Decatur, Ill. – Hieronymus Mueller Museum

[Internship at Historic Sites/Museum](#)
Decatur, Ill. – Macon County Conservation District

[Cultural Resources Intern](#)
Madison, Wis. – Mead & Hunt

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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