

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

May 2, 2025

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Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

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Updates from Local History Services



[Cabin at Wildflower Woods \(aka Limberlost North\). "Black Bass Hole." ca. 1915](#) (Indiana Historical Society, M1520)

SPRINGTIME AT THE MUSUEM

It's springtime! With rain and sunshine come blooming flowers, pollen, and critters emerging from winter slumber. For museums, it's a great time to brush up on cleaning methods, pest management protocols, and building maintenance. Here are some articles to help get started!

Collections Advisors

- [Spring is in the Air: Dust and Air Pollutants in Museums](#)
- [April Showers Bring May Flowers: Caring for Flora and Fauna Collections](#)
- [Integrated Pest Management for Collections](#)
- [Drying Out Basements in Historic Buildings](#)

National Resources

- [Collection Housekeeping Guide](#) (Conservation Center for Art and Historical Artifacts)
- [Safer Cleaning Alternatives for the Museum & Visitor Center](#) (National Park Service Conserve O Gram)
- [Integrated Pest Management for Cultural Heritage](#) (MuseumPests.net)
- [Identify Your Pest](#) (and other insect management resources) (Insects Limited)
- [Holding the Line: Controlling Unwanted Moisture in Historic Buildings](#) (National Park Service Preservation Brief 39)

Around Indiana



[*Umbrella Falls in Frisz Ravine, Trail 4, "The Shades" Scenic Park, ca. 1920*](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0408)

NEWS

The Indiana State Library has [digitized almost all of the historic county maps showing landowners](#) held in its collections, and they are organized by county. The library's next map digitization initiative will focus on maps showing Indiana cities and towns. (ISL)

The IU South Bend Civil Rights Heritage Center has recently processed and added more [oral history interviews and transcriptions](#) to their local history archive on the Internet Archive. (IU)

Milestone: [300th National Register nomination](#) authored by Kurt West Garner, principal/owner of K. W. Garner Consulting & Design and Marshall County Historian. All but four of the nominations were in Indiana. (Marshall County Post)

A new Indiana State [historical marker commemorating the Indianapolis Phyllis Wheatley YWCA](#) was dedicated on April 26. (Indianapolis Recorder)

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.

[Miami Indian Heritage Days – Finger Weaving](#)

May 3, Fort Wayne – Jared Nally will offer a demonstration on Finger Weaving. (Chief

Richardville House, or *akima pinšīwa awiiki*)

[Derby Day](#)

May 3, Elkhart – Enjoy gourmet hors d'oeuvres, mint juleps, a Fancy Hat Fashion Show with prizes, and more as you watch live races from Churchill Downs all afternoon. (Ruthmere)

[Earth Day](#)

May 3, Knox – Celebrate Earth Day and learn more about pollinators. (Starke County History Center)

[Bicentennial Walking Tours: Greenbush Cemetery](#)

May 3, Lafayette – Learn more about the earliest Lafayette residents buried in Greenbush Cemetery in celebration of Lafayette's Bicentennial. (Tippecanoe County Historical Association)

[Logs to Lustrons Tour 2025](#)

May 3, Porter – From rustic landmarks to Mid-Century Modern, experience a century of architecture at Indiana Dunes National Park. (Indiana Landmarks)

[Early Transportation of Central Indiana](#)

May 4, Fairland – Nancy VanArendonk, President of the Franklin Township Historical Society, will give a presentation on early transportation in central Indiana, including the railroads that changed our communities. (Fairland Historical Society; event at the Moral Township Government Center)

[Tracing the Paths: Indiana Migration and Discoveries](#)

May 4, Fort Wayne – Allison DePrey Singleton will discuss the rich history of migration to and within Indiana. (The History Center)

[Saving our Historic Places One Video at a Time](#)

May 8, Aurora – Joe Himali, a raconteur and content creator who specializes in history, architecture and design, will share about his experience as a content creator of historic architecture. (Veraestau Historic Site)

[Spring Concert Series](#)

May 8-June 18, Elkhart – Enjoy the beauty of spring with four musical performances – two in May and two in June. (Ruthmere)

[Force Majeure: Indiana Disasters Annual Event and Meeting](#)

May 9, Frankfort – Hear presentations from authors, meteorologists, and storm chasers, see historical extreme weather footage, visit educational booths, and see the IHS traveling exhibit *Indiana Disasters*. (Frankfort Community Public Library)

[Exhibit: Behind the Badge: Johnson County's First Responders](#)

Opening May 15, Franklin – This exhibit will explore the history of police, Sheriff's department, fire, and paramedics. (Johnson County Museum of History)

[Exhibit: Flora & Fauna Juried Art Show](#)

Opening May 17, Zionsville – See works by 34 artists from across the state celebrating the beauty and diversity of the natural world. (SullivanMunce Cultural Center)

[Historical Society Meeting with Local Author James P. Barber](#)

May 20, La Porte – Local author James P. Barber will be giving a talk on his fascinating books, which focus on his family members that lived in La Porte County. (La Porte County Historical Society 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.

Be Heard: Latino Experiences in Indiana

Through June 2, South Bend ([German Township Branch, St. Joseph County Public Library](#))

Faces of the Civil War

Through May 29, Petersburg ([Pike County Historical Society](#))

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

FROM THE BLOG

[Autism in Indiana](#)

Learn how Indiana has approached and raised awareness for this condition which affects approximately 1 in 36 children in the U.S. today.

NEW UNBOXED EPISODE

[Civilian Conservation Corps](#)

Join us as we unbox stories from two Indiana CCC camps and the impact of service on its members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Walking the Electric Rail](#)

May 8 – Join us on a walk along the interurban lines that connected key locations through Indianapolis.

[Asian Fest 2025](#)

May 10 – Experience Asian culture, food and arts in Central Indiana this Spring!

[Flavors of the Heartland – Jean Lee, making Korean Gimbap](#)

May 14 – Take a break and enjoy the stories and smells of the dishes that make up our food heritage.

[Amalia Kussner, the Gilded Age Miniature Painter: Book Talk with Kathleen Langone](#)

May 17 – Learn about Amalia Kussner, the famed Gilded Age artist who gained notoriety for her miniature paintings of social elites in the 1890s.

What We're Reading This Week



[*Brandt Steele. Floral Sketches. n.d.*](#) (Indiana Historical Society, M1078)

RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD

May is [Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#) – find [resources, podcasts, and collection items](#) to learn more about AANHPI contributions to our nation. (Federal Asian Pacific American Council; Smithsonian)

This May, for [Preservation Month](#), celebrate the power of place. Find resources to help you celebrate, including a marketing kit with ready-to-use copy and preservation-themed GIPHY Stickers for social media. (National Trust for Historic Preservation)

Museums can sign up to participate in the [Blue Star Museums program](#), offering free admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their families, from Armed Forces Day (May 17) to Labor Day (Sept. 1). (National Endowment for the Arts and Blue Star Families)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

Making historic properties [accessible](#). (National Park Service Preservation Brief 32)

AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

Gen Z perspective: how museums can [cultivate civic wellness](#). (Museum Education Roundtable)

How to prepare the perfect [volunteer recruitment email](#) + template. (Wild Apricot)

FUNDRAISING

Four steps to building [provable fundraising impact](#). (The NonProfit Times)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

[Lead forward](#), even when the path isn't clear. (Leadership Now)

How to [bring out the best](#) in your team. (HBR on Leadership podcast)

NEED A BREAK?

In this beautiful library, [bats guard the books](#) and provide pest control. (Atlas Obscura)

Artists across America are [creating stunning floral arrangements](#) inspired by paintings, sculptures and artifacts. (Smithsonian Magazine)

Macro photographs composed of nearly ten thousand images show [the incredible detail of insect specimens](#). (This is Colossal)

15 amazing [underwater cities](#) around the world, plus 18 [slightly submerged architectural wonders](#). (Fodor's; Atlas Obscura)

Learning Opportunities



[Japanese American Citizens League. Children's Dance Performance, ca. 1980](#) (Indiana Historical Society, M1491)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

[So Now What? Disposal of Materials After a Disaster](#)

May 6 – Learn how to deal with health and safety for people and the safe disposal of

collection materials after a disaster. (Connecting to Collections Care)

[AAPI Heritage Month Digital Public History Project Showcase](#)

May 14 – This virtual event will spotlight digital projects from AAPI public history organizations. (National Trust for Historic Preservation)

[NAGPRA Steps to Repatriation-Inventories](#)

May 16 – This is part of a series of 10 webinars on the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. (National Park Service)

[Grantseeking Solo: Secure Awards with Limited Staff](#)

May 27 – Learn about practical strategies to generate additional funding requests for nonprofit organizations with limited staff. (GrantStation)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

[Donors' Perspective on AI & Fundraising](#)

May 8 – Learn more about the donor perspective on artificial intelligence and fundraising. \$19.74 (Lilly Family School of Philanthropy)

[The Power of 3: Preparing for a Successful Capital Campaign](#)

May 14, June 18, and July 23 – Over the course of three webinars, you'll learn what it takes to be successful throughout your entire capital campaign. \$159. (GrantStation)

[Caring for Museum Collections Online Course](#)

June 16-Aug. 10 – This eight-week course will deal with the physical care and preservation of your museum collections. \$330; \$230 members. (AASLH)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

[2025 Upper Midwest Digital Collections Conference and Minnesota Digital Library Annual Meeting](#)

May 6-7, St. Paul, Minn. and online – The theme of this year's conference is "Digital Directions: Lessons Learned and Future Pathways." \$45; \$30 streaming. (UMDCC)

[Presidents and Political Parties Seminar for Teachers](#)

May 13, Frankton – This seminar discussion will focus on primary source documents on the history of presidents and political parties. Free. (Teaching American History; event at Frankton High School)

Funding Available



[Wilma Rudolph, 1980](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPOTLIGHT

[American Heritage Program Grants](#)

Applications accepted on a rolling basis – Grants are available to support projects and programs across the U.S. that seek to broaden the inclusivity of early American art and the early American historical narrative to “tell the full story of” the American experience. (The Americana Foundation)

[Preservation and Access Education and Training Grants](#)

Due June 17 – This program supports projects that develop and implement educational programs for professionals who preserve and provide access to humanities collections. (NEH)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

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

Due May 16 (Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs)

[Exhibit Professionals Fellowship to Attend the AMM Conference](#)

Due May 19 (AMM and Museum EXP)

Local & Regional Job Openings



The Dam, North Vernon, Ind.

884 S. E. WILLIAMS, PHOTOGRAPHER, BLOOMINGTON, ILL.

[Dam, North Vernon, Indiana, 1909](#) (Indiana Historical Society. P0391)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Camp Program Manager](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

[Senior Youth Program Manager](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

[Adult and Studio Programs Manager](#)

Muncie – Minnetrista Museum & Gardens

REGIONAL

[Director of Education Programs and Resources](#)

Chicago, Ill. – Frank Lloyd Wright Trust

[Cultural Resource Historian](#)

St. Paul, Minn. – Minnesota Department of Transportation

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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