

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

May 9, 2025

In this Issue:

- [Updates from LHS](#)
- [Around Indiana](#)
- [What We're Reading This Week](#)
- [Learning Opportunities](#)
- [Funding Available](#)
- [Job Openings](#)

Connect with us!

[Local history services](#)



Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

[Learn more](#)

Updates from Local History Services



[*Barbara January and Pamela, n.d.*](#) (Madam C.J. Walker Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

A WELL-DRESSED COLLECTION

It's that time of year when we start changing out our winter wear for spring and summer fashions, and it is a great time to consider the textile and clothing items in our museum collections. Here are some tips and resources to consider as we care for these historical items:

Collections Advisors

- [Tips for your Historic Costume Collection](#)
- [Synthetic Fibers in Textiles](#)
- [Fur and Feathers in Costume Collections](#)
- [Caring for Jewelry](#)

Timely Tips on YouTube

Check out this fun short video from Local History Services on handling and storing textiles and costumes in museum collections.

- [Timely Tips: Handling and Storing Textiles](#)

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.

- *The Care and Display of Historic Clothing*
- *A Practical Guide to Costume Mounting*
- *Caring for Your Family Treasures*

For Fun: Historical Underwear

Enjoy these recorded presentations from the Indiana Historical Society on the history of underwear!

- [Underwear Through the Ages](#)
- [Another Brief History of Underwear](#)

MINI GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE JULY 31

[Heritage Support Mini Grants from \\$500 to \\$4,999](#) are available for projects that will help Indiana's local history organizations meet high-priority needs in areas of: Collections Stewardship; Capacity Building; Sustainability; and Planning.

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

Around Indiana



[*Women in Three-Seat Automobile, ca. 1910*](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0173)

NEWS

400 students from schools across the state took part in the [2025 National History Day in Indiana State Contest](#) on April 26. All first- and second-place state finishers in each junior and senior category are now eligible to compete in the National Contest this summer. See the complete list of contest winners [here](#). (Indiana Historical Society)

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.

[The Shipwreck! Reenactment](#)

May 9, Cannelton – See the reenactment of the Marquis de Lafayette's shipwreck of the Steamboat Mechanic 200 years ago, using a model built by the Historical Society of Harrison County. (The American Friends of Lafayette)

[Midwest Archives: Worthy of More than Just a Flyover](#)

May 10, Frankfort – This session will explore important Midwest archives while highlighting select records found within each repository. (Frankfort Community Public Library)

[Bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour Visits Jeffersonville](#)

May 12, Jeffersonville – Lafayette and his entourage will be escorted by U.S. Army The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corp over the Big Four bridge from Louisville to Jeffersonville, with ceremonies to follow. (The American Friends of Lafayette)

[The History of the Purdue State Bank with Nick Schenkel](#)

May 13, West Lafayette – Learn about the Purdue State Bank, one of architect Louis Sullivan's "Jewel Box" banks. (West Lafayette 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)

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

May 15, Indianapolis – Learn about Polly Strong, an enslaved woman who sued for her freedom and ultimately won a landmark Supreme Court ruling. (Freetown Village; event at Indiana Landmarks Center)

[Hoosier Women Escape Room](#)

May 15, Indianapolis – Gather your team for an escape room featuring amazing Hoosier women throughout history. (Indiana State Library)

[Historic Trades Classes](#)

Various dates, May 17-June 14, Delphi – Learn how to weave, cook, work wool, and much more from skilled artisans in a historic village setting. (Wabash and Erie Canal)

[Etiquette Tea](#)

May 18, Elkhart – Enjoy an afternoon tea and learn etiquette from DaVonne Kramer, founder of Regality, Inc. (Ruthmere)

[Genealogy for Night Owls](#)

May 21, Indianapolis – This free genealogy research event features extended hours and one-on-one consultation sessions. (Indiana State Library)

[Indiana Landmarks Speaker Series: Hidden Gems of Indiana](#)

May 24, Michigan City – Take an insider's journey through Indiana's most unique historic places. (The Barker Mansion)

[U.S. Highway 421: Then and Now](#)

May 27, Frankfort – Learn about the history of the highway and its importance to the Indiana communities along its route. (Clinton County Genealogical Society; event at the Frankfort Community Public Library)

[What is Historic Preservation? with Dr. Ashima Krishna](#)

May 29, West Lafayette – Hear about the basics of historic preservation in a community, including what defines a historic district, what structures are protected, and more. (West Lafayette Public Library)

[Historic Landscape Tour at Marian University](#)

May 31, Indianapolis – See the work of landscape architect Jens Jensen on a two-hour guided hike covering the grounds of Marian University's historic Allison estate. (Indiana Landmarks)

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.

Indiana Disasters

Through June 1, Frankfort ([Frankfort Community Public Library](#))

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

FROM THE BLOG

[The Making of the Documentary, "Beyond El Barrio"](#)

Learn about the process that went into creating the documentary about El Barrio, a vibrant Latino community in the 1960s in Indianapolis, and [watch the full documentary on YouTube](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

[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



[Ebony Fashion Fair, 1984](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD

The Association of Midwest Museums invites [nominations for the 2025 Awards](#) to recognize organizations and individuals throughout the Midwest region for their leadership, career achievements, creativity, and best practices. **Nominations are due May 23.** (AMM)

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has announced the list of [America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places for 2025](#). (Saving Places)

Interpreting historic house museums today: [reflections, big ideas, and findings](#) from the 2025 AASLH Summit. (Engaging Places)

The 2025 American Alliance of Museums Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo is happening this week, and you can see highlights, interviews, and more [live with AAM TV](#) on YouTube. (AAM)

A new leaflet, [Celebrating with Collections](#), discusses ways to harness the many benefits of anniversary programming while protecting your collections. (NEDCC)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

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

AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

Strategies for building community: [lessons from the "Gallery Guide Guide."](#) (AAM)

Building bridges through history: [The Youth Guide Project](#). (MuseumNext)

FUNDRAISING

How to [build a diverse funding strategy](#) for nonprofits. (Nonprofit Learning Lab)

Fundraising success: [10 tactics to grow repeat donors](#). (Nonprofit Tech for Good)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

The [power of mattering](#) at work. (Harvard Business Review)

How can [onboarding](#) help create a positive culture? (Museum Questions)

The importance of the nonprofit [CEO and board partnership](#). (The NonProfit Times)

NEED A BREAK?

Best dressed: explore [fashion trends and famous wearers](#) from the Smithsonian collection, and the [gorgeous styles](#) in the Costume Institute collection. (Smithsonian; The Met)

[12 famous fashion designers](#) in history. (Glam Observer)

9 times the [history of art inspired fashion designers](#). (The Collector)

Page through beautiful patterns in a [French Silk Sample Book](#) and a collection of [designs from Kimono patterns](#). (Public Domain Review)

Learning Opportunities



[Style Show circa 1918](#) (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

[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)

[Some Good \(Museum\) News - Spring 2025 Edition](#)

May 21 – Hear inspirational and uplifting stories and programs of our nation's museums. Share your own story [here](#). (Council of Regional Museum Associations)

[No Budget Preservation Tips](#)

May 22 – Learn about methods and projects that require no additional funding or supplies. (NEDCC)

[AASLH History Hour: The Gender Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Task Force Report](#)

May 27 – Join other AASLH members and friends for this free and informal conversation and community-building event. (AASLH)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

[Digitizing Oversized Materials](#)

May 13 – This webinar will explore the role that conservation plays to ensure the best quality

capture. \$55. (NEDCC)

[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)

[How to Talk to Grantmakers](#)

May 15 – Learn how to cultivate relationships with all of your funding partners and supporters. \$69. (GrantStation)

[Putting It All Together: Preparing for 2026 at Small History Organizations](#)

May 20 – In this virtual workshop, learn about the *Making History at 250* field guide and how to effectively apply these tools to your site or organization. \$65; \$45 members. (AASLH)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

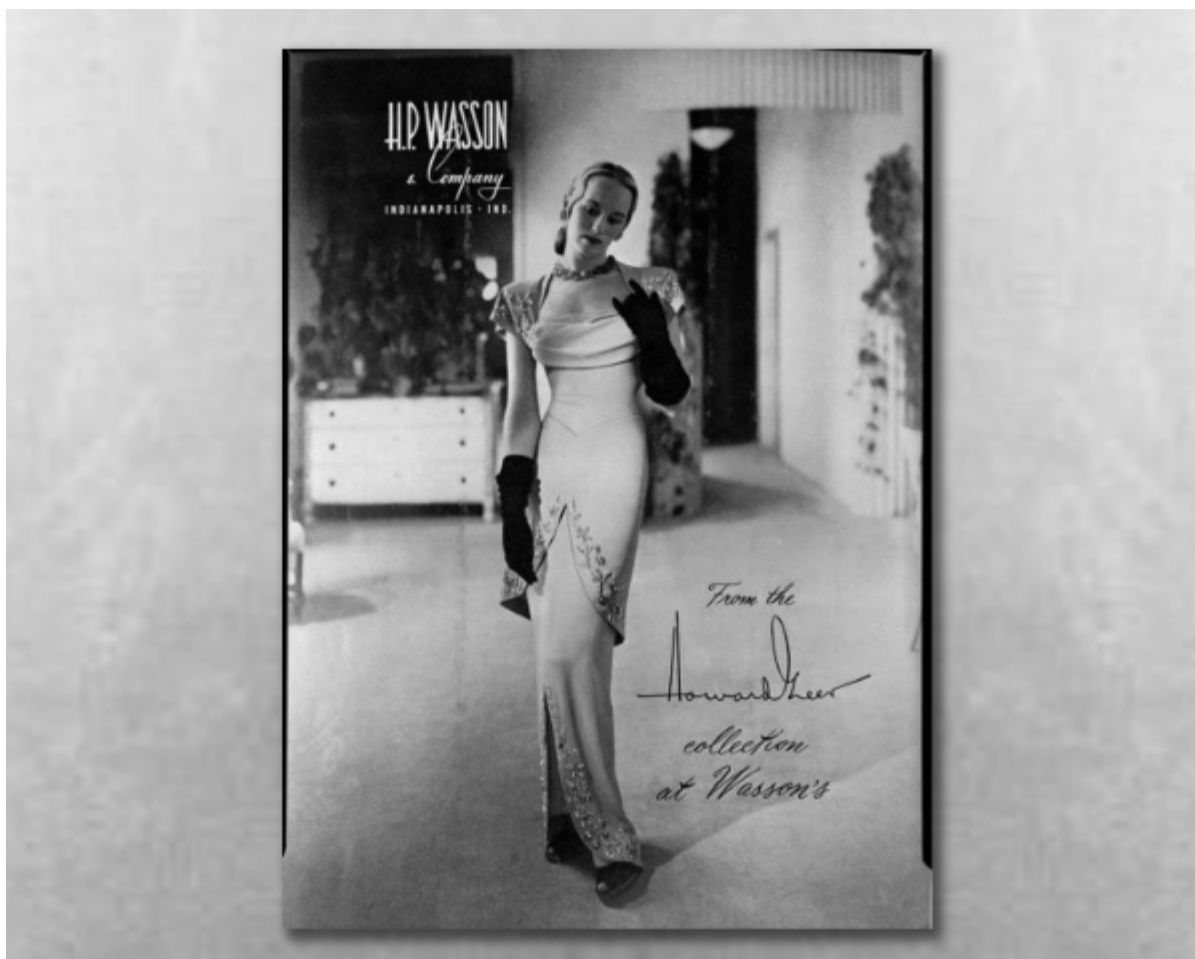
[Presidents and Political Parties Seminar for Teachers](#)

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)

[Preserving History Networking Seminar](#)

May 29, Cedar Lake – Join professionals and volunteers from preservation and historical organizations to learn, brainstorm, and network. (Cedar Lake Historical Association)

Funding Available



[*H.P. Wasson and Company Advertisement, 1946*](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0569)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPOTLIGHT

[Costume Society of America Stella Blum Student Research Grant](#)

Due June 1 – \$3,000 grant, funded by the CSA Endowment, is intended to assist the research of a current undergraduate or graduate student who is a member of the Costume Society of America and conducting original research in the field of North American costume. (CSA)

[PreservINg Main Street](#)

Due July 17 – This program is designed to create a sustainable historic preservation model, while building local capacity and a comprehensive downtown revitalization plan. Additionally, the program provides funding for the preservation of downtown Main Street buildings. (Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs)

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)

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

Due June 17 (NEH)

[Celebrate America! Grants in Honor of America's 250th Anniversary](#)

Applications accepted on a rolling basis (NEH)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Norell Design Sketches. Slides. 1961-1965. Slide #30](#) (Indiana Historical Society, M1028)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Director, Northeast Regional Office](#)

Fort Wayne – Indiana Landmarks

[Adult and Studio Programs Manager](#)

Muncie – Minnetrista Museum & Gardens

REGIONAL

[Associate Director](#)

Lewiston, Ill. – Illinois State Museum-Dickson Mounds

[State Curator/Museum Curator](#)

Des Moines, Iowa – State Historical Society of Iowa

[Archivist](#)

Frankfort, Ky. – Kentucky Historical Society

[Executive Director](#)

Frankenmuth, Mich. – Frankenmuth Historical Association

[Editor in Chief, HSM Publications](#)

Lansing, Mich. – Historical Society of Michigan

[Manager of Collections and Visitor Experience](#)

International Falls, Minn. – Koochiching County Historical Society

[Executive Director – Ohio Holocaust and Genocide Education and Memorial Commission](#)

Columbus, Ohio – Ohio History Connection

[General Manager, Experience and Events](#)

Eagle, Wis. – Wisconsin Historical Society

[Guest Services Manager](#)

Eagle, Wis. – Wisconsin Historical Society

[Exhibit Builder and Project Coordinator – Museums](#)

Kenosha, Wis. – Wisconsin Public Museums

REGIONAL

[Summer Archives Intern](#)

Cincinnati, Ohio – Mariemont Preservation Foundation

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.

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